

"Daniel's Vision"

Part 4

Daniel 7

Introduction: Last week in our study of Daniel we were looking at Daniel 7 and the part of the vision given to Daniel after he saw the 4 beasts. Last week I raised some questions about certain parts of the vision so tonight we are going to slow down and unpack that which Daniel was seeing in his vision.

➤ **The Ancient of Days**

Notice Daniel 7:7-10

The verses which we want to focus on are verses 9 and 10.

Notice Daniel 7:9 again.

The scene which Daniel sees here is in heaven. This is God the Father who is the Ancient of Days. There are thrones set up here, but the main focus is upon the Father. He was sitting on His throne, His garment was white as snow, His hair was like pure wool, His throne was like a fiery flame, and His wheels were as burning fire. What does all of this mean?

The white garment and His hair like pure wool speaks of the purity of God the Father. The fire speaks of the judgment of God.

Psalm 97:1-3

The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof.

² *Clouds and darkness are round about him: righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne.*

³ *A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about.*

Jesus Christ in all of His glory is seen in a very similar way.

Revelation 1:13-15

¹³ *And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.*

¹⁴ *His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire;*

¹⁵ *And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.*

Notice Daniel 7:9 again.

The wheels spoken of here are difficult to interpret. They are also mentioned in Ezekiel. Some say they speak of how God is always with us. Where we go, He is there. Some say that they speak of the fact that no one can outmaneuver God. He is omniscient and therefore He is always several steps ahead of man.

Ezekiel 10:15-17

¹⁵ *And the cherubims were lifted up. This is the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar.*

¹⁶ *And when the cherubims went, the wheels went by them: and when the cherubims lifted up their wings to mount up from the earth, the same wheels also turned not from beside them.*

¹⁷ *When they stood, these stood; and when they were lifted up, these lifted up themselves also: for the spirit of the living creature was in them.*

Psalm 139:1-5

O lord, thou hast searched me, and known me.

² *Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.*

³ *Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.*

⁴ *For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.*

⁵ *Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.*

Notice Daniel 7:10

The fiery stream issues from the Father as the judgment is set and the books are opened. The Father is ministered to by an innumerable number of saints and angels. There are

books that are mentioned here also. These would be books that contain the works of those being judged. Just as there will be books at the Great White Throne judgment.

Isaiah 65:6

⁶ Behold, it is written before me: I will not keep silence, but will recompense [REWARD], even recompense into their bosom,

⁷ Your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together, saith the LORD, which have burned incense upon the mountains, and blasphemed me upon the hills: therefore will I measure their former work into their bosom.

This is certainly a judgment, but what is the judgment? This is the hour of final decision upon the Gentile world powers namely on the 4th kingdom.

Notice Daniel 7:11

Here we see that because of the blasphemous words of the little horn the beast is destroyed. The question is, "Is the beast referred to here the 4th kingdom or the little horn?" The answer is, "YES!" I say, YES, because it refers to both. The beast and his kingdom will both fall at the same time. This is an event when the major ruler is killed and his government destroyed. It is a sudden event. We read about it in Revelation 19.

Revelation 19:17-21

¹⁷ And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

¹⁸ That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

¹⁹ And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

²⁰ And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

²¹ And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

There are a couple of points to consider here. First of all, this was determined by the Father in heaven. He determined the time and the way in which this kingdom would come to an end. This is a picture of what is recorded in Daniel 2.

Daniel 2:21

²¹ And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

The second point to be seen here is that God can quickly dispose of the mightiest of men and we also see how quickly circumstances can change. Wicked men see themselves as indestructible, but God can destroy their personal kingdoms in a matter of minutes and bring them to judgment.

Notice Daniel 7:12

Here we are told that the previous kingdoms did not end as this fourth kingdom. The previous kingdoms had their dominion taken away but their lives were prolonged. This means these kingdoms were destroyed but their characteristics still existed in the kingdom which conquered them. Notice the words of Walvoord.

"What verse 12 is saying is that the Babylonian, Medo-Persian, and Grecian empires were to some extent continued in their successors; that is, Gentile power shifted as to rulership but continued more or less in the same pattern: By contrast, at the second coming of Christ the fourth beast is completely destroyed, and a totally different kingdom which is from heaven succeeds the fourth empire. The destruction of the first three beasts is not stated directly in this chapter. Evidently the first three continue to survive in another form in the kingdom which replaces them."

We can see this in Revelation as John describes the Anti-Christ.

Revelation 13:1-2

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

² And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

➤ The Fifth Kingdom

Notice Daniel 7:13-14

Here in these verses we see Jesus come before the Father to receive the Kingdom. The Kingdom will be set up at the end of the Great Tribulation.

Revelation 20:1-6

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

² *And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,*

³ *And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.*

⁴ *And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.*

⁵ *But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.*

⁶ *Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.*

This is the Stone that Nebuchadnezzar saw in his dream.

Daniel 2:34-35

³⁴ *Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.*

³⁵ Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

Conclusion:

There are some who teach that in verse 13 we see a picture of the first coming of Jesus Christ. Then in verse 14 they teach that the church is the 5th Kingdom which will eventually fill the earth. We know this is not correct because the 5th Kingdom will destroy the Roman Empire and the 1st century church did not destroy the Roman Empire.

Notice Daniel 7:15-16

Daniel was troubled and he desired to know more. God will answer his prayer and give him the interpretation.

Let us learn that God desires to do the same for us if we will come and ask. But before we receive more Truth we must be willing to act upon the Truth that we have first of all. Then He will give more Truth.