

1. Last week I taught Dan 7:13 and when time ran out I was teaching verse fourteen.
2. Before continuing I want to provide an expanded translation of Dan 7:1-13.

Dan 7:1 In the first year of the Babylonian co-regency of Nabonidus and Belshazzar in approximately 550 B.C., Daniel had a dream; he was lying on his bed when he saw several visions. He recorded the visions in summary fashion in his diary.

Dan 7:2 I Daniel was lying in my bed, I looked up and saw the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea - the Mediterranean Sea.

Dan 7:3 Four dreadful creatures, each different from the other, arose out of the sea; the sea represented the vast confused gentile world.

Dan 7:4 The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle; this first creature represented Babylon; I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a man, and the heart of a man was given to it; here we have a reference to Nebuchadnezzar's bout with his zoanthropic malady, his temporary demise as ruler of Babylon and his recovery after his regeneration.

Dan 7:5 And then I saw a second awful creature, it looked like a bear. The beast represented the Medo Persian Empire. The giant grizzly had raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs protruding between its teeth. The three ribs represented Babylon, Lydia and Egypt; these were three nations recently conquered. A command from one standing near-by said, Get up and eat more!

Dan 7:6 And then I saw another beast rise out of the sea, one that looked like a leopard. On its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule; the nature of the leopard and its winged back spoke of Alexander the Great's speed of conquest when he would conquer the world in 12 short years. The four heads given authority represented his four generals who would rule the Hellenistic Empires; the four generals being Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy and Seleucid.

Dan 7:7 As I slept in my bed I saw a fourth beast more terrifying and frightening and powerful than the other three. It had huge iron teeth and what it didn't grind with its teeth it smashed with its feet. It was different from all the former beasts and it had ten horns coming out of its head.

Dan 7:8 Just as I was thinking about these horns a little horn appeared before me; and three of the other horns were pulled up by the roots to make room for it. This horn had the eyes of a human and its mouth spoke boastfully of the things which he would do; he was particularly critical of God.

Dan 7:9 Suddenly my eyes were lifted toward heaven. I saw thrones being set in place by none other than the Father, the Ancient of Days, Who took His seat in the middle of the Throne Room of Heaven. He wore a robe as white as snow signifying His absolute Righteousness; the hair of His head was white a sign of His earned respect. His throne was surrounded by flaming fire, the throne had wheels which were all ablaze to describe His omnipresent nature and severe judgment upon all who deny His rule and protocol.

Dan 7:10 I saw a river of fire flowing like a sea of lava from the throne room of God. Vast numbers of angels stood before him; I estimate their numbers in the billions. It was announced that the Supreme Court of Heaven would soon be in session; a large set of books were brought into the heavenly court room.

Dan 7:11 I watched in amazement as the little horn, the Antichrist, boasted of his greatness and power. I kept on watching until he was slain at the Second Advent of Christ; I watched further as Christ had the Antichrist's body thrown into the blazing fire of Hades.

Dan 7:12 Satan and his demons however were allowed to live but were chained for the greater part of 1000 years in Sheol and then they were released for a short period of time at the end of Christ's Millennial reign.

Dan 7:13 As I slept I continued to dream and there before me was the Christ, He looked like the Son of Man, the Incarnate Christ; He came clothed in the clouds of heaven. He approached the Throne of the Ancient of Days being led into his presence in the middle of the Throne Room in the middle of the Third Heaven.

3. Now let's continue our analysis of Dan 7:14. We will begin with new material at point 14 but first a brief review of some of that learned.

KJV

Dan 7:14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

NIV

Dan 7:14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Principles:

1. That the verse refers to the Second Advent and His Millennial reign is a given.
2. Christ as David's Son will sit upon the throne of David with David as his Executive Officer. Jer 30:9; Eze 34:23-24; Eze 37:24-25 and Hos 3:5
3. God's faithfulness to perform what He has promised to David and believing Israel is emphasized in Jer 33:20-21.
4. The rule of Christ shall be over the entire earth, far beyond the boundaries of any prior kingdoms of either Judah or Israel; and it will be a forever kingdom. Dan 2:44-45
5. Christ's reign will be universal. Mic 4:1-2

6. Christ will rule with a rod of iron in absolute power. Psa 2:8-9 and Rev 19:15
7. All who disrupt His permanent environment will be punished for His government shall be one of righteousness and peace. Isa 11:2-4
8. The Promised Land will again be the garden spot of the world, the center of God's kingdom in the earth, and the place of unusual blessing.
9. The millennial Kingdom will be the golden age, the climax of earth's history, and the fulfillment of God's purpose to establish His Son as the supreme ruler over the universe. Isa 45:23; Rom 14:11
10. In Dan 7:14 the statement "his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed" extends the visions parameters beyond the 1000 years of the Millennium.
11. The event ending the Millennium is the Great White Throne when all unbelievers are judged.
12. The age of perfection begins with the Second Advent and ends with the Gog revolution.
13. The Gog revolution is put down by the Lord Jesus Christ. Rev 20:1-10
14. The Great White Throne Judgment is preceded by the destruction of planet earth when a new perfect environment without Satan and his demons is established.

Rev 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them.

2Pe 3:7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

2Pe 3:8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

2Pe 3:11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives

2Pe 3:12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

2Pe 3:13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

15. Now let's look at an expanded translation of Dan 7:13-14.

Dan 7:13 As I slept I continued to dream and there before me was the Christ, He looked like the Son of Man, the Incarnate Christ; He came clothed in the clouds of heaven. He approached the Throne of the Ancient of Days being led into his presence in the middle of the Throne Room in the middle of the Third Heaven.

Dan 7:14 The Ancient of Days gave Christ all authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language were required to worship Him. The dominion given Him was an everlasting one; one which would not pass away, and one which would never be destroyed.

16. Daniel records his reaction to what he has seen.

KJV

Dan 7:15 I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

NIV

Dan 7:15 "I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit, and the visions that passed through my mind disturbed me.

1. Daniel does not understand what he has seen.
2. In fact he is disturbed by the visions.
3. And why not? Had Israel not looked forward to a return to the land, the reconstruction of the Temple and Jerusalem God's city.
4. All of this in anticipation of the return of the Messiah but now Daniel sees these strange visions which imply trouble for Israel.
5. Not knowing the nature of the trouble precipitates concern and anxiety in the soul of Daniel.
6. He cries out "what does all this mean and when will all this occur?"
7. Now let me give you an expanded translation of verse fifteen.

Expanded Translation:

Dan 7:15 In my vision I saw and felt myself being over wrought with great anxiety; I was greatly troubled and fearful for I did not understand the meaning of what I had dreamt and worse, I felt terrible pain for my people Israel.

8. Now let's see to whom he turns for an interpretation:

KJV

Dan 7:16 I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

NIV

Dan 7:16 I approached one of those standing there and asked him the true meaning of all this. "So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things:

1. Wycliffe has written: "Very strangely, an angel who is himself a part of the vision but likewise a real personal being, later identified as Gabriel becomes the interpreter here and throughout the remainder of the book."

Dan 8:16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision.

Dan 9:21 Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.

2. Though treated briefly by Daniel, this is an important feature.

3. We have the vision interpreted for Daniel by an angel.

4. This is quite a change for Daniel; in times past it is Daniel who interprets the visions and dreams of others.

5. Now for an expanded translation:

Dan 7:16 I then asked one of the angels in the vision "what is the meaning of what I had dreamt?" The angel Gabriel began an extensive explanation of what had earlier troubled me so greatly.

6. Now for the explanation:

KJV

Dan 7:17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.

Dan 7:18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even for ever and ever.

NIV

Dan 7:17 The four great beasts are four kingdoms that will rise from the earth.

Dan 7:18 But the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever--yes, for ever and ever.

1. The four beasts are said to be four kingdoms or empires.

1.1 Babylon 612-539 B.C.

1.2 Persia 539-328 B.C.

1.3 Greece 328-147 B.C.

1.4 Rome 200 B.C.-476 A.D.

2. Although the dates of the respective empires have certain overlaps and some are certainly therefore problematic; the end dates are generally accepted by most historians.

2.1 For example the end of the Babylonian Empire occurred when Darius assaulted and conquered Babylon in 539 B.C.

2.2 Persia was defeated by Alexander in four years (328-324), the last battle occurring in about 328 B.C.

3. Macedonia was defeated by the Greeks in B.C. 197 but it was not until B.C. 147 that Greece became a Roman Province.

4. The four Beasts represent these empires with the "minor" exception of Rome which represents a Roman Empire and a future Revived Roman Empire.

5. Daniel in verse eighteen then introduces a comparative response; he contrasts the four or perhaps better said five empires and their activities on earth with what is about to occur.

Dan 7:18 But the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever--yes, for ever and ever.

6. The statement "saints of the most High ...possessed the kingdom" illustrates a sea change on planet earth.

6.1 Nothing is more sure than that all saints of all ages will share in Christ's ultimate triumph in His kingdom.

6.2 But this passage is affirming only a part of that truth.

7. Daniel's prophecy relates primarily to Israel, his people.

8. The perspective of the book, the meaning of the words, and the context here limit the application to Daniel's people, Israel is clearly identified in Dan 10:14.

Dan 10:14 Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come."

9. Wycliffe has written of these passages:

9.1 "By the 'people of the saints of the Most High' to whom dominion is to be given (Dan 7:18-27) ... Daniel evidently could only understand the people of Israel, as distinguished from the heathen nation and kingdoms, which were to rule up until then (Dan 2:44) ... nor have we, according to strict exegesis, a right to apply the expression to any other nation; hence we cannot apply it immediately to the Church ... The prophet's words refer to the re-establishment of the kingdom to Israel."

10. Daniel sees the coming of the Lord Jesus at His second advent when perfect environment will be administered for primarily Israel on earth and we raptured saints who will ultimately live in the New Jerusalem as the Bride of Christ.

11. Now let's take a look at an expanded translation of Dan 7:17 and 18:

Expanded Translation:

Dan 7:17 The four great beasts are four world empires which will arise out from the turmoil of planet earth to be ultimately destroyed

Dan 7:18 and then believing Israel will be given an earthly Kingdom; they will possess it forever and ever.

12. Now let's see what we can learn from verse nineteen:

KJV

Dan 7:19 Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

NIV

Dan 7:19 "Then I wanted to know the true meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others and most terrifying, with its iron teeth and bronze claws-- the beast that crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left.

1. As earlier noted, an angel who is himself a part of the vision, later identified as Gabriel, becomes the interpreter not only here but throughout the remainder of the book.

2. This is an important feature.

3. It is generally agreed that the succession of four Gentile dominions to be followed by the Messianic kingdom is the same here as that contemplated in Daniel Chapter 2.

3.1 But beginning at verse 19, the prophecy advances far beyond the dream of Nebuchadnezzar, here we have a prediction concerning the final Antichrist; we are introduced to a few of the predicted relationships between the Antichrist and the people of God in eschatological times.

4. The statement "I would know the truth of the fourth beast" is of special interest because the question will precipitate information about the "little horn," the Antichrist, as the leader of the final form of Gentile dominion.

5. Let's compare Dan 7:23-25 with Dan 2:40-43.

Dan 7:23 "He gave me this explanation: "The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth. It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it.

Dan 7:24 The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings.

Dan 7:25 He will speak against the Most High and oppress his saints and try to change the set times and the laws. The saints will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time.

Dan 2:43 And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay.

Dan 2:44 "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.

Dan 2:45 This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands-- a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces. "The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy."



6. The term "Antichrist" [Anticristos] appears only in 1Jo 2:18, 22; 4:3 and 2Jo 1:7.

1Jo 2:18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

1Jo 2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

1Jo 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

2Jo 1:7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

7. The concept of being against Christ and His program began with the "seed" of the serpent (Gen 3:15) and ends with "the beast." (Rev 20:10)

Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy "seed" and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Rev 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where "the beast" and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

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