Lesson 99 Book of Daniel 5-12-2002

1. Last week in the process of teaching Dan 7:24-25 I gave you a number of points relating to the role of the Antichrist in the international economy. When time expired I was about to teach of world ecumenicalism in the Tribulation.

2. Before continuing I want to provide an expanded translation of Dan 7:1-23

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 I looked toward heaven. I saw thrones being set in place by, the Ancient of Days, He took His seat in the middle of the Throne Room. He wore a robe as white as snow signifying His absolute Righteousness; His hair was white a sign of His earned respect. His throne was surrounded by fire; the throne had wheels which were all ablaze to describe His omnipresence and severe judgment upon all who deny His rule. 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.

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

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.

Dan 7:19 I was greatly puzzled and wanted to know more of the fourth beast, for this beast was different from all the others and in fact he was more terrifying than all the others combined; with its iron teeth and bronze claws it could be seen crushing and devouring its victims and trampling them underfoot. This beast showed no mercy whatsoever.

Dan 7:20 I, Daniel also wanted Gabriel to tell me more about the ten horns on its head and about the other horn that came up, before which three of them fell--I was interested particularly in knowing of the horn that looked more imposing than the others; the one who had eyes and a mouth that spoke boastfully against all authority.

Dan 7:21 While I was looking, this horn, the Antichrist, attacked God's chosen ones and at times seemed to be winning the battle.

Dan 7:22 Then God, the Most High, the Eternal One, came and judged in favor of his chosen ones, because the time had arrived for them to be given the kingdom.

Dan 7:23 Then I was told by the one standing there: "The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom to appear on earth. It will be different from all the others - it will trample the earth and crush it to pieces."

3. Dan 7:24-25 in the KJV has been translated:

KJV

Dan 7:24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

Dan 7:25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

World Ecumenicalism During the Tribulation

1. Notice in Revelation 13:8: "All that dwell upon the earth shall worship him."

2. The little horn will introduce a one world religion.

3. He will be assisted by the False Prophet.

4. He will perform many miracles just as did our Lord.

5. Paul in 2Th 2:4 says of the Antichrist "he opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

6. Whom did Jesus Christ claim to be when He came? God in the flesh!

7. What therefore will this one claim to be when he has assumed the political authority that rightly belongs to Christ?

8. He will proclaim himself to be God incarnate.

9. He then becomes an object of worship, representing himself to be the Savior of planet earth.

10. His rule will last until God in His sovereignty decides "enough is enough."

11. Now for an expanded translation of Dan 7:24-25

Expanded Translation:

Dan 7:24 The ten horns you saw are ten kings ruling ten sovereign nations. They align themselves by treaty to one another forming a Federation. From one of the lesser kingdoms the Antichrist arises; he quickly strikes and conquers two of his neighbors. His military and political genius result in his being elected as chairman of the powerful European Federation and it is from Rome that he directs the activities of the Ten Nation Federation of Europe. Dan 7:25 He speaks against God and oppresses those who profess Christianity; he even changes the calendar and replaces national laws with international laws. Under the permissive will of God the saints of planet earth are handed over to him for three and one-half years.

12. It is time now for the last three verses of our chapter and the demise of Satan's rulership of the planet:

KJV

Dan 7:26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

Dan 7:27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

Dan 7:28 Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

NIV

Dan 7:26 "But the court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever.

Dan 7:27 Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be handed over to the saints, the people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.'

Dan 7:28 "This is the end of the matter. I, Daniel, was deeply troubled by my thoughts, and my face turned pale, but I kept the matter to myself."

Principles:

1. The "court is said to sit;" this is a metaphor to teach Satan's evaluation.

2. The Supreme Court of Heaven consisting of God the Father and God the Holy Spirit decides "enough is enough." Christ is not a voting member at this time.

3. The indwelt Antichrist and his side kick the False Prophet are determined guilty as originally charged.

4. Their power is removed and they are destroyed; the destruction takes the form of each being cast into the Lake of Fire.

Rev 19:20 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.

5. This is not to be confused with the carrying out of Satan's sentence prophesied by both Ezekiel and Isaiah.

Eze 28:17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Eze 28:18 Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffic; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.

Eze 28:19 All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.

Isa 14:15 But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.

Isa 14:16 Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: "Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble,

Isa 14:17 the man who made the world a desert, who overthrew its cities and would not let his captives go home?"

Isa 14:18 All the kings of the nations lie in state, each in his own tomb.

Isa 14:19 But you are cast out of your tomb like a rejected branch; you are covered with the slain, with those pierced by the sword, those who descend to the stones of the pit. Like a corpse trampled underfoot,

6. Satan is first chained for the greater part of 1000 years and then at the end of the Millennium, just before the Great White Throne, he joins the Antichrist and False Prophet in the Lake of Fire.

Rev 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev 20:3 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.

Rev 20:7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,

Rev 20:8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.

Rev 20:9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

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.

7. Daniel sees a picture of the end time when Satan's puppet the Antichrist is put down and in his place will reign the Lord Jesus Christ.

8. Perfect rule will now follow as the Sovereign power of God is manifested.

9. The rulership of planet earth is handed over to the King of kings and Lord of lords and all His saints shall adore Him.

1Ti 6:15 Which in his times he shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

Rev 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

Rev 19:16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

10. The Christmas promises about which we have sung with gusto are about to become reality.

Isa 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isa 9:7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

11. Daniel is still perplexed; he does not as yet understand but in typical Daniel fashion he continues to ponder and meditate on that which he has been told.

12. The angelic interpreter has confirmed to Daniel the significance of the vision; it clearly describes a judgment upon the fourth beast and its ruler, the taking away of his power to rule, and how he is destroyed at the end.

13. At the destruction of the fourth empire the kingdom then becomes the possession of "the people of the saints of the most high.

14. In contrast to the preceding kingdoms, which terminate abruptly by God's judgment, the final kingdom will be an everlasting Kingdom, and in it all powers and peoples will serve and obey God.

15. Daniel then pens a postscript to the interpretation of the vision, "Hitherto is the end of the matter" or as Montgomery translates it, "At this point the end of the word."

16. Thus ends one of the great chapters of the Bible which conservative scholarship recognizes as a panoramic view of future events revealed to Daniel in the sixth century B.C.

16. Now for an expanded translation of Dan 7:26-28

Expanded Translation:

Dan 7:26 "The Antichrist establishes himself as military, political, religious and economic ruler of planet earth. But in the third heaven all attention has been directed to the throne room where the Supreme Court is called into session by God the Father. The Court rules that all power is to be taken away from the Antichrist and the False Prophet; the two are to be terminated and sentenced to the Lake of Fire.

Dan 7:27 The kingdoms of the earth are placed under the saints of the Most High. Christ is made ruler over both heaven and earth forever and all peoples and rulers will worship and obey him.

Dan 7:28 "Daniel is told 'this is the end.' I, Daniel, was deeply troubled by my thoughts, and my face turned pale, but I kept the matter to myself."

End Lesson Taught 5-12-2002