



Daniel

1

The Unfolding of World History Daniel 7:1-12:13

- Overview of history from Daniel's day until God's kingdom fully comes on earth. Daniel 7:1-28
 - This chapter marks the end of a chronological history of Daniel's life and ministry.
 - The vision related here goes back before the fall of Babylonia to the Medo-Persian Empire.
 - This vision occurred the first year of Belshazzar who was the king who encountered the handwriting on the wall.
 - The "Great Sea" in the Old Testament is always the Mediterranean Sea.

2

The Unfolding of World History Daniel 7:1-12:13

- Overview of history from Daniel's day until God's kingdom fully comes on earth. Daniel 7:1-28
 - The beasts from the sea largely parallel the image of Nebuchadnezzar in chapter 2.
 - The lion was Nebuchadnezzar's rule
 - The bear is the Medo-Persian Empire
 - The leopard with four wings and four heads is the empire of Alexander the great which is then divided among his four generals, Ptolemy, Cassander, Seleucus, and Antigones at his death

3

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 - The beasts from the sea largely parallel the image of Nebuchadnezzar in chapter 2.
 - The fourth and terrible beast is initially the Roman empire, but more detail is given here with the emergence of the "little horn".
 - The "little horn" with the accompanying terrible beast persists until their destruction by the kingdom of the Ancient of Days and the assumption of the kingdom by the Son of Man.
 - Note the parallel of the 'beast' thrown into the lake of fire at the return of Jesus. Revelation 19:19-20

4

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 - The beasts from the sea largely parallel the image of Nebuchadnezzar in chapter 2.
 - The coming of the ancient of days with the resulting overthrow of the earthly kingdoms parallels the stone cut out without hands that destroyed the statue of Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

5

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- Overview of history from Daniel's day until God's kingdom fully comes on earth. Daniel 7:1-28
 - The main thrust of the vision is to give the assurance that although powerful and even hostile kingdoms will arise, God's people will possess the kingdom that endures forever. 7:18

6

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 - In the interpretation the fourth beast goes beyond the legs and feet of Nebuchadnezzars statue.
 - Devours the whole earth
 - The kingdoms that arise out of it produce one that will: (see Revelation 13:5-10)
 - Stand in direct opposition to God
 - Have open and serious hostility to God's people.
 - Be ultimately defeated

7

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- Overview of history from Daniel's day until God's kingdom fully comes on earth. Daniel 7:1-28
 - In the interpretation the fourth beast goes beyond the legs and feet of Nebuchadnezzars statue.
 - The kingdoms that remain will be subject to the "saints of the Most High".
 - There will be a time when all the kingdoms will serve and obey God.

8

Lessons

- Live with the assurance of God's constant oversight of the world situation.
- Do not be caught off guard by the increasing hostility of the governments of the world toward the people of God.
- There will be a period of coexistence of kingdoms of this world and the reign of God on the earth. 7:14,27
- The day of judgment will come, and perfect justice will be applied.

9

Lessons

- God’s kingdom is the only kingdom that will endure forever.