

06 October

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Daniel – week 7



Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member what the meaning of the four beasts are in Daniel chapter 7?
2. What does vv.9 - 11 tell us will happen to the beast? **(God, as the Ancient of Days will judge, kill, destroy, and burn the beast.)**
3. Who is the Son of man in v.13? **(The Messiah, Jesus Christ. See Matt.26:64)**
4. What was given to the Son of man in v.14? **(Dominion, glory, a Kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him, His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His Kingdom shall not be destroyed.)**



Let's go deeper

5. Who told Daniel the interpretation of his vision in v.16? **(An angel or divine being, made known to Daniel the interpretation.)**
6. What will the saints of the Most High receive in v.18? **(They shall receive the Kingdom and possess the Kingdom forever and ever.)**
7. Which kingdom will endure forever according to v.27? **(The Kingdom of God shall be an everlasting Kingdom...)**
8. How can we enter God's forever Kingdom? **(Romans 10:9; If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.)**



Let's apply this

9. Daniel 7:14; And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

God knows and rules the future, and in the end, it is only the Kingdom of God that will last and endure forever, and ever.

- The beasts destroyed lives; Jesus Christ gave His life for us.
- The beasts wanted glory and power; Jesus shares His glory with us.
- The beasts will be destroyed in the end, but Jesus Christ lives forever.

SUMMARY:

Daniel: Week 7 – The vision of the four beasts

Read: Daniel 7:1 – 28

vv.1 – 8; God knows and rules the future.

The Bible uses imagery of dangerous beasts because behind these empires, these kings and kingdoms are demonic, supernatural, evil, spiritual forces. That is why kings and kingdoms times and places come and go but the same behaviour continues because the same evil spirits are at work behind the scenes. The Bible often speaks of dangerous beasts, both in the physical and the spirit realm to give us an indication that they are wild, untamed, and dangerous.

First image: The winged lion.

That is the nation of Babylon, and their symbol was a lion. The Babylonians would have understood that this image refers to them.

Second image: The bear.

This image refers to the Medo-Persian empire, who conquered Babylon and expanded its borders. The image of the bear is that one side is bigger than the other side, the Persian empire was much bigger and stronger than the Medo empire. Both the first and second image was fulfilled in Daniel's lifetime – God rules the future.

Third image: A leopard with wings and four heads.

This was a prophecy about the Greek empire led by historically Alexander the Great, he conquered the Medo-Persian empire and the entire known world within 10 years. He worked fast. When he died, he had no heir to take over from him and this empire was divided into four generals that ruled under Alexander.

Fourth image: A terrifying, dreadful, exceedingly strong beast with iron teeth and 10 horns.

This is the Roman empire, the largest and longest standing empire in the world, 1700 years. Jesus was born under the Roman empire. Scholars believe that the prophecies regarding Jesus's second coming points to a restored Roman empire, meaning the Roman empire will be restored before Jesus' second coming. v.8; tells us that among the Roman empire, a little horn would rise and the cross reference for this verse is Revelation 13 that speaks of the anti-Christ who will come before Jesus' second coming. Satan counterfeits what God creates.

vv.9 – 14; Daniel talks about the divine council of God, or the court in judgement.

Every person will stand before King Jesus. Psalm 82:1 reveals this court setting. Jesus Christ the Son of man is given dominion, glory, and an eternal Kingdom.

vv.15 – 28; The devil and his demons will be judged and destroyed. The saints who believe in Jesus Christ will possess, inherit, and enjoy the Kingdom of God, with God forever and ever. God knows the future, and God rules the future.