

# HOPEcommunity.

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## Daniel Part 7 – *The Vision* Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### Daniel 7 NIV

#### Daniel's Dream of Four Beasts

7 In the **first year of Belshazzar** king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying in bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel said: "In my vision at night **I looked**, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. <sup>3</sup> Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea.

<sup>4</sup> "The **first was like a lion**, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a human being, and the mind of a human was given to it.

<sup>5</sup> "And there before me was a **second beast, which looked like a bear**. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your fill of flesh!'

<sup>6</sup> "After that, I looked, and there before me was **another beast, one that looked like a leopard**. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

<sup>7</sup> "After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was **a fourth beast**—terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and **it had ten horns**.

<sup>8</sup> "While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a human being and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

<sup>9</sup> "As I looked, "thrones were set in place, **and the Ancient of Days took his seat**. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. <sup>10</sup> A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.

The court was seated, and the books were opened.

<sup>11</sup> "Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. <sup>12</sup> (The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.)

<sup>13</sup> "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man,<sup>[a]</sup> coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. <sup>14</sup> **He was given** authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples 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**.

#### **The Interpretation of the Dream**

<sup>15</sup> "I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit, and the visions that passed through my mind disturbed me. <sup>16</sup> I approached one of those standing there and asked him the meaning of all this.

"So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things: <sup>17</sup> "The **four great beasts are four kings that will rise from the earth**.

<sup>18</sup> But **the holy people of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever—yes, for ever and ever.**'

<sup>19</sup> "Then I wanted to know the 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. <sup>20</sup> I also wanted to know about the ten horns on its head and about the other horn that came up, before which three of them fell—the horn that looked more imposing than the others and that had eyes and a mouth that spoke boastfully. <sup>21</sup> As I watched, this horn was waging war against the holy people and defeating them, <sup>22</sup> **until the Ancient of Days came and pronounced judgment in favor of the holy people of the Most High**, and the time came when they possessed the kingdom.

<sup>23</sup> "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. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>25</sup> **He will speak against the Most High and oppress his holy people and try to change the set times and the laws. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time.**<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>26</sup> "'But the court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. <sup>27</sup> **Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be handed over to the holy people of the Most High**. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.'

<sup>28</sup> "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."

### **When God speaks... 7:1-2, 16 & 28**

- Being open to God speaking to you in dreams in visions
- Active listening/looking
- Asking the meaning of a vision
- Visions can trouble & disturb you
- Keeping it to yourself until the Lord tells you what to do with it

### **The Vision & Interpretation:**

- It concerns the conflict between the kingdoms of this world (represented by the beasts) and the heavenly kingdom. God will defeat evil powers and establish His kingdom forever. Vs. 17-18
- Four Beasts Representing Kings, Kingdoms & Time Periods
  - Lion – Babylonia 626-539 BC
  - Bear – Medo-Persia 539-330 BC
  - Leopard – Greece 330-63BC
  - Terrifying Beast – Rome 63 BC-70 AD (Fall of Jerusalem)
- Fully fulfilled, partially fulfilled or mostly future?
- <sup>13</sup> “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, <sup>[a]</sup> coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. <sup>14</sup> **He was given** authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples 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**.
- **Colossians 2:13-15 NIV** <sup>13</sup> When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you <sup>[d]</sup> alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, <sup>14</sup> having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> And **having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.**
- **Matthew 28:18-20 NIV** <sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

### **Salvation Prayer (to ask God to forgive your sins and adopt you as His child):**

“Lord Jesus, I need You. Thank You dying on the cross and taking the punishment for my sins. I open the door of my life to you and receive You as my Lord and Saviour. Thank You for forgiving my sin and for giving me eternal life. I ask that You lead me, teach me and fill me with the Holy Spirit. Lord, transform me into a person who represents you well, in Jesus name I ask, amen.”

### **Giving \$ to God at Hope CCC: Donations/Tithes/Offerings**

1. **Giving Envelopes** (located on the chairs) are to be placed in one of the two **collection boxes on the wall**.
  - A year’s box of giving/tithing envelopes are available from our Envelope Secretary - Paul Corriveau.
2. **Monthly Withdrawal - Pre Authorized Remittance.** Registration forms beside the collection boxes.
3. **Online Giving** can be done on our website through Canada Helps.
4. **Text-2-Give** using your phone by texting **705-910-0962**. You can use Visa-Debit or a major credit card.
5. Cheques can be **Mailed** to the church.

## **Announcements:      [www.hopecommunitysite.com](http://www.hopecommunitysite.com) 705-812-2833**

**Small Group Bible Studies:** Contact **Craig Basaraba** for current groups or to start a group... 705-323-2628 & basarabac@yahoo.ca

**Morning Prayer** Monday to Friday 9 to 10 am at the church

**Mom's Hangout** – A time for Moms and kid's to hang out and get to know each other.

- During the summer months, meet up events will take place at area parks. Contact Barb Barton for more information 705-330-1451

**Good Food Box** – Fresh Fruit and Vegetables... Small box \$10, Large box \$15 ordered from and delivered to the church

- **Orders on the first Monday** of each month from 3-6 pm and **pick up on the third Tuesday** of each month from 3-6 pm.

**Summer Bible Study – Wednesday Nights, 7 pm from July 6<sup>th</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- Bring your Bible, a pen and a notebook as we study God’s Word together
- There will be time set aside for question answer

**Robin Mark Band Concert and Worship Seminar – July 19<sup>th</sup>**

- Seminar sessions: 10 am – 12:30 pm & 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm
- Concert: 7:00 pm
- Hosted by Jubilee Celebration Centre at the Emanuel Baptist Church location in Barrie (374 Salem Rd.)
- Tickets & Information [www.jubileecentres.org](http://www.jubileecentres.org)

**Pastor Ron Crouse Celebration of Life BBQ – Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00 pm**

- Ron passed away and went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, June 22nd.
- Come join Marlene and friends as we remember and celebrate our dear pastor with a backyard BBQ at the Barker's (2791 The Lane in Cumberland Beach). Hamburgers will be provided. **Please bring lawn chairs and appetizers/desserts to share.** Parking is limited and so you may park and walk/car pool from the church.

- 7:2 the great sea. The world of nations and peoples (see also vv. 3, 17).
- 7:4–7 The lion with an eagle’s wings is a cherub symbolizing the Neo-Babylonian Empire (see Ge 3:24 and note). The rest of v. 4 perhaps reflects the humbling of Nebuchadnezzar, as recorded in ch. 4.
- The bear (v. 5), “raised up on one of its sides,” refers to the superior status of the Persians in the Medo-Persian alliance. The three ribs may represent its three principal conquests: Lydia (546 bc), Babylon (539) and Egypt (525).
- The leopard with four wings (v. 6) represents the speedy conquests of Alexander the Great (334–330), and the four heads correspond to the four main divisions into which his empire fell after his untimely death in 323 (see 8:22): Macedon and Greece (under Antipater and Cassander), Thrace and Asia Minor (under Lysimachus), Syria (under Seleucus I), and the Holy Land and Egypt (under Ptolemy I; see chart).
- The fourth beast (v. 7), with its irresistible power surpassing all its predecessors, points to the Roman Empire (cf. 11:30 and note; in the Apocrypha, see 2 Esdras 12:11). Its ten horns correspond to the ten toes of 2:41–42
- 7:7 iron. See 2:40–43 and note on 2:32–43. ten horns. Indicative of the comprehensiveness of the beast’s sphere of authority (see note on 1:12).
- 7:8 another horn, a little one. The antichrist, or a world power sharing in the characteristics of the antichrist. mouth that spoke boastfully. See 11:36; 2Th 2:4 and notes; Rev 13:5–6.
- 7:9 Ancient of Days. God. hair of his head was white like wool. See Rev 1:14 and note. throne ... wheels. See Eze 1:15–21, 26–27.
- 7:10
- Thousands ... ten thousand. See 1Sa 18:7 and note. court was seated ... books were opened. John echoes the language of this judgment scene in Rev 20:12.
- 7:13 like a son of man. See Mk 8:31 and note; Rev 1:13. This is the first reference to the Messiah as the Son of Man, a title that Jesus applied to himself. He will be enthroned as ruler over the whole earth (previously misruled by the four kingdoms that oppose God’s kingdom), and his kingdom “will never be destroyed” (v. 14), whether on earth or in heaven (see v. 27 and note). coming with the clouds of heaven. See Mk 14:62 and note; Rev 1:7.
- 7:16 one of those standing there. An angel.
- 7:17 four kings. See 2:38–40 and note on 2:32–43. the earth. The world of nations and peoples—referred to as “the (great) sea” in vv. 2–3.

**Question: "What is the abomination of desolation?"**

<http://www.gotquestions.org/abomination-desolation.html>

**Answer:** The phrase “abomination of desolation” refers to [Matthew 24:15 \(KJV\)](#): “So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand.” This is referring to [Daniel 9:27](#), “He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.” In 167 B.C. a Greek ruler by the name of [Antiochus Epiphanies](#) set up an altar to Zeus over the altar of burnt offerings in the Jewish temple in Jerusalem. He also sacrificed a pig on the altar in the Temple in Jerusalem. This event is known as the abomination of desolation.

In [Matthew 24:15](#), Jesus was speaking some 200 years after the abomination of desolation described above had already occurred. So, Jesus must have been prophesying that some time in the future another abomination of desolation would occur in a Jewish temple in Jerusalem. Most Bible prophecy interpreters believe that Jesus was referring to the Antichrist who will do something very similar to what Antiochus Epiphanies did. This is confirmed by the fact that some of what Daniel prophesied in [Daniel 9:27](#) did not occur in 167 B.C. with Antiochus Epiphanies. Antiochus did not confirm a covenant with Israel for seven years. It is the Antichrist who, in the end times, will establish a covenant with Israel for seven years and then break it by doing something similar to the abomination of desolation in the Jewish temple in Jerusalem.

Whatever the future abomination of desolation is, it will leave no doubt in anyone’s mind that the one perpetrating it is the person known as the Antichrist. [Revelation 13:14](#) describes him making some kind of image which all are forced to worship. Turning the temple of the living God into a place of worship for the Antichrist is truly an “abomination.” Those who are alive and remain during the tribulation should be watchful and recognize that this event is the beginning of 3 1/2 years of the worst of the tribulation period and that the return of the Lord Jesus is imminent. “Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man” ([Luke 21:36](#)).

