

DAY 39: THE FOURTH BEAST IN DANIEL AND REVELATION

I. THE ISRAEL-CENTRIC BIBLICAL NARRATIVE

- A. The primary battles that are described in the Book of Revelation take place within the nations that surround Israel
 - 1. The Bible is very quiet about other nations (like Australia or Canada) and the role they will play in these events, but that does not mean they will not be involved
- B. There are specific nations that are named and will be judged and destroyed by Jesus when He returns for their mistreatment of Israel

II. NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM: THE METALLIC SOLDIER

- A. Nebuchadnezzar has a dream about a metallic statue ([Daniel 2](#))
- B. Most would argue that the dream is interpreted as:
 - 1. The head of gold represents Babylon ([v. 37](#))
 - a) The terms “king” and “kingdom” / “emperor” and “empire” can sometimes be used interchangeably
 - 2. The chest and arms of silver are Medo-Persia ([v. 39](#))
 - a) The next three kingdoms will replace Babylon
 - 3. Kingdom of bronze represents Greece ([v. 39](#))
 - 4. The legs of iron represent Rome ([v. 40](#))
 - 5. The feet of mixed iron and clay represent a last-days, revived Roman Empire ([v. 41-42](#))

III. AN ALTERNATE INTERPRETATION

- A. However; the alternate theory is that the dream could be interpreted as:
 - 1. The head of gold represents Babylon
 - 2. The next three regions are the three regions that rose up and conquered Babylon (Medo-Persia, Greece, the Islamic Caliphate)
 - 3. Ending with a revived Islamic Caliphate
- B. When Jesus returns, He will judge and destroy this final kingdom in the “time of the feet” (the revived Islamic Caliphate) ([Daniel 2:34](#))
- C. All are crushed at the same time, suddenly and completely ([v. 35](#))

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- D. When examine the two options, the Islamic Caliphate meets the biblical criteria much better than the Roman Empire
 - 1. Crushed and conquered the other empires when it rose
 - 2. If Jesus returned today, the first three empires would be destroyed at the same time
- E. Roman conquerors typically build up culture, infrastructure, etc.
- F. Islamic conquerors would typically tear down, and replace culture, language, etc.

IV. DANIEL'S VISION: THE FOUR BEASTS

- A. Nebuchadnezzar's dream ([Daniel 2](#)) and Daniel's vision ([Daniel 7](#)) essentially describe the same prophecy in two different ways
- B. The four beasts in Daniel's dream align with the sections of the metallic soldier
 - 1. The Lion: Babylon
 - 2. The Bear: Medo-Persia
 - 3. The Leopard with wings: Greece
 - 4. Mysterious Beast: correlate to the feet of iron and clay
 - a) 10 horns come up out of him
- C. Out of the beast kingdom, three are 10 kingdoms, comes the little horn who is the Antichrist ([Daniel 7:7-8](#))
- D. The fourth beast represents a kingdom ([Daniel 7:22-25](#))
- E. The little horn speaks against the God of the Bible and shall wear out the saints for a given time of 3.5 years ([v. 25](#))
 - 1. The Lord will give the saints over to the Antichrist for a set time
- F. The final, fourth beast, is far more aggressive than any of the first three kingdoms

V. DANIEL'S VISION: THE RAM AND THE GOAT

- A. There is unity to the scriptures; the same story is described from different angles and in different ways to better our understanding
- B. We again see four beasts and a "small horn" ([Daniel 8:9-12](#))
- C. Each story is speaking of a Middle Eastern antichrist
- D. Again, we see that the Antichrist is described as speaking against the God of the Bible ([Daniel 11:36-38](#))
 - 1. The Antichrist does not claim to be God ([v. 36-37](#))
 - 2. He shows no regard for the Father or the Son, but he has a god ([v. 38](#))

VI. NEW TESTAMENT CONNECTIONS

- A. The Antichrist mocks the God of the Bible ([2 Thessalonians 2:3-5](#))
- B. The Antichrist denies the Father and the Son ([1 John 2:22-23](#))

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- C. The Dragon (who is Satan) is described as having seven heads, 10 horns, and seven crowns ([Revelation 12:3](#))
- D. The Beast is a mirror image of Satan ([Revelation 13:1-3](#))
 - 1. "Like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth" (v. 2)
 - 2. This is exactly what was described in Daniel
- E. The Beast is given authority for 3.5 years, speaks blasphemies against God (v. 6-8)
- F. Again, we see this same imagery in [Revelation 17](#)
 - 1. Mountains represent kingdoms, the woman is the king (v. 9)
 - 2. 10 kings come up out of these kingdoms (v. 12)