

THE BOOK OF DANIEL
“As the World Turns”

2/28/10

Daniel 7:1-28

1. THE *IDENTIFICATION*: (vs. 1-8)

A. The Lion is the *Babylonian* Empire: (612 -539 B.C.)

“The first beast was like a lion with eagles’ wings. As I watched, its wings were pulled off, and it was left standing with its two hind feet on the ground, like a human being. And it was given a human mind.” (v. 4)

B. The Bear is the *Medo-Persian* Empire: (539-331 B.C.)

“And I saw a second beast, and it looked like a bear. It was rearing up on one side, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And I heard a voice saying to it, ‘Get up! Devour the flesh of many people.’” (v. 5)

C. The Leopard is the *Grecian* Empire: (331-63 B.C.)

“Then the third of these strange beasts appeared, and it looked like a leopard. It had four bird’s wings in its back, and it had four heads. Great authority was given to this beast.” (v. 6)

D. The Fourth Beast is the *Roman* Empire: (63 B.C. – 476 A.D.)

“Then in my vision that night, I saw a fourth beast---terrifying, dreadful, and very strong. It devoured and crushed its victims with huge iron teeth and trampled their remains beneath its feet. It was different from any of the other beasts, and it had ten horns.” (v. 7)

2. THE *INTERVENTION*: (vs. 8-14)

“I watched as thrones were put in place and the Ancient One sat down to judge. His clothing was white as snow, his hair like purest wool. He sat on a fiery throne with wheels of blazing fire, and a river of fire was pouring out, flowing from his presence.” (vs. 9-10a NLT)

A. God the Father is the *Judge*.

“Millions of angels ministered to him; many millions stood to attend him.” (v. 10b NLT)

“Then the court began its session, and the books were opened.” (v. 10c NLT)

B. God the Son Will Execute the *Judgment*.

“As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. He was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal---it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed.” (vs. 13-14 NLT)

“I continued to watch because I could hear the little horn’s boastful speech. I kept watching until the fourth beast was killed and its body was destroyed by fire.” (v. 11 NLT)

3. THE *INTERPRETATION*: (v. 15-27)

“This fourth beast is the fourth world power that will rule the earth. It will be different from all the others. It will devour the whole world, trampling and crushing everything in its path.” (v. 23 NLT)

“Its ten horns are ten kings who will rule that empire.” (v. 24 NLT)

“Then another king will rise, different from the other ten, who will subdue three of them.” (v. 25 NLT)

A. His Rise to *Power*. (v. 24)

“who will subdue three of them.”

B. His Supposed *Position*. (v. 25)

“He will defy the Most High...”

Rev. 13:1-8

2. Thess. 2:3-4

C. His *Persecution* of the Saints. (v. 25)

“and oppress the holy people of the Most High. He will try to change their sacred festivals and laws, and they will be placed under his control for a time, times, and half a time.” (v. 25b)

“But then the court will pass judgment, and all his power will be taken away and completely destroyed. Then the sovereignty, power, and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be given to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will last forever, and all rulers will serve and obey him.” (vs. 26-27 NLT)