

Sermon Notes

The Rise and Fall of Empires
Daniel 7

Why are the same four empires referred to as metals in Nebuchadnezzar's dream and beasts in Daniel's dream?

The statue and metals of Nebuchadnezzar's dream show us the empires of the world as man sees them.

The beasts of Daniel's dream show the empires of the world as God sees them.

Summary statements that help us see Daniel 7 in perspective:

1. Daniel saw four beasts coming out of the sea of humanity. (v. 2-3)
2. The four beasts represent four great world empires: The Babylonian Empire The Medo-Persian Empire The Greek Empire The Roman Empire
3. The 4th empire will exist in various forms until the Last Days.
4. Ten kings will arise out of the 4th kingdom. (v. 24) 24 The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings.
5. One king will arise from among the ten kings and become dominant. (v.24) 24 The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings.
6. We commonly refer to this one king as the antichrist. (Matthew 24; 2 Thessalonians 2; Revelation 13-19)
7. According to Daniel 7:25 the antichrist will be an arrogant man who will persecute the saints and will blaspheme God. (v.25) 25He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.
8. Jesus Christ is the king who will defeat the antichrist and establish His Kingdom on the earth. (Rev19:11-20; Dan 7:21-22)
9. Revelation 19:11-20

11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns.

He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. 17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, 18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great." 19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. 20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Daniel 7:21-22 21 "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, 22 until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.

10. The saints of God will inherit the Kingdom and reign with King Jesus forever. (v. 27) Then the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him

Six things to watch for as we near the end of this age, based on Daniel 7:

1. A rise in spiritual counterfeits and false Christs.
2. Be on the alert for a leader who wants to bring the world together.
3. Look for more bloodshed and more violence among the nations.
4. Look for increasing hostility to Christians and the gospel message.
5. Look for a massive rejection of traditional morality.
6. Watch out for the apparent victory of evil.

APPLICATION: Be faithful to our mission!

What is our mission? To Know Christ and Make Him Known