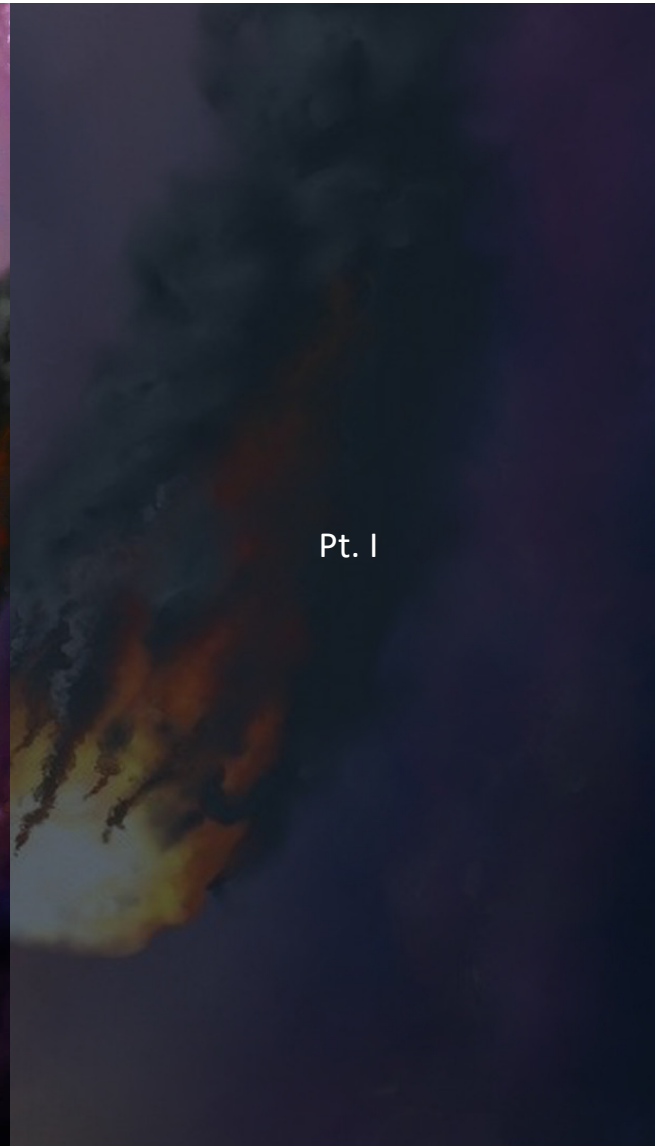


# DANIEL

~ Lesson 7 ~  
“Four Beasts - One God!”

WEDNESDAY CONNECT STUDY  
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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH



Pt. I



## Facts in Daniel

- The first half of the book of Daniel (Chapters 1-6), focus history (narrative). The second half focuses on prophecy.
- Daniel contains information that continually builds on one another.
  - Daniel 7 builds on Daniel 2
  - Daniel 8 builds on Daniel 2 and 7
  - Daniel 9 Builds builds on 8 and 7
  - Daniel 10 and 11 builds on Daniel 2, 7, 8, and 9
  - In other words:
    - There is unity
    - Prophecy repeats and expands



## Facts in Daniel

- Prophetic scenes reveal activity in the Heavenly Sanctuary.
- Symbols are understood within the book of Daniel and in other Books of the Bible.



## Facts in Daniel

- Daniel answered and said: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. And HE changes the times and the seasons; HE removes kings and raises up kings; HE gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.

Daniel 2:20b-21



Facts in Daniel

God is in control!



## Daniel 7: Outline

- Scene 1: The Beasts on Earth
- Scene 2: The King in Heaven
- Scene 3: The Beasts on Earth Explained
- Scene 4: The King in Heaven Explained



# Daniel 7: The Beasts

## Where do the beasts come from?

- Daniel spoke, saying, “I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. <sup>3</sup> And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.

Daniel 7:2-3

# Daniel 7: The Beasts

**Consult the Biblical Map: The Great Sea's Meaning**

- Then he said to me, “The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

Revelation 17:15



cf. Revelation 13:1





# Daniel 7: The Beasts

## Consult the Biblical Map: The Four Winds Meaning

- “Thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘Behold, I will break the bow of Elam, the foremost of their might.  
<sup>36</sup> Against Elam I will bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, And scatter them toward all those winds; there shall be no nations where the outcasts of Elam will not go.  
Jeremiah 49:35-37



cf. Revelation 7:1





## Daniel 7: The Beasts

### Consult the Biblical Map: The Four Winds Meaning

- For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies and before those who seek their life. I will bring disaster upon them, my fierce anger,' says the LORD; 'And I will send the sword after them until I have consumed them.

Jeremiah 49:35-37



cf. Revelation 7:1

# Daniel 7: The Beasts

Where do the beasts come from?

- Out of the war and strife between peoples of multitudes, nations and tongues.



cf. Revelation 13:1



# Daniel 7: The Beasts

What do these beasts represent?

- 'Those great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings *which* arise out of the earth.

Daniels 7:17





## Daniel 7: The Beasts

Where have we heard about a succession of kingdoms in Daniel?

- “This *is* the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king. <sup>37</sup> You, O king, *are* a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; <sup>38</sup> and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given *them* into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you *are* this head of gold. <sup>39</sup> But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. <sup>40</sup> And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as **iron**, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, *that kingdom* will break in pieces and crush all the others.

Daniels 2:36-40



Babylon  
605 - 539 BC

Medo-Persia  
539 - 331 BC

Greece  
331 - 168 BC

Rome  
168 - 476 BC



# Daniel 7: The Beasts



# Daniel 7: The Beasts

- The first *was* like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

Daniel 7:4



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Babylon

- You, O king, *are* a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;...  
<sup>38</sup>you *are* this head of gold.

Daniel 2:37,38

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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Babylon

- The lion is come up from his thicket, and the destroyer of the Gentiles is on his way; he is gone forth from his place to make thy land desolate; and thy cities shall be laid waste, without an inhabitant.

Jeremiah 4:7

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cf. Jeremiah 48:40, 50:17

# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Babylon

- Lion
  - Symbol of power, strength and glory
- Wings
  - Symbol of swift movement (Jer. 48:9, Rev 12:14)
- Wings were plucked off
  - Symbol of an Agent taking away the power of Babylon.
- Having a man's heart
  - Symbol of Nebuchadnezzar's conversion



# Daniel 7: The Beasts

- “And suddenly another beast, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and *had* three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: ‘Arise, devour much flesh!’

Daniel 7:5



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Medo-Persia

- Raised up on one side
  - The bear-like beast that is raised on one side draws attention to the sides of a bear. A bear having two, sides left and right, symbolizing an alliance of two powers. The side raised higher than the other indicates one in the alliance will be greater (higher) than the other



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Medo-Persia

- Three ribs between its teeth
  - Represents three nations that were devoured by this kingdom namely: Egypt in 535 B.C., Babylon (Iraq) in 539 B.C., and Lydia (Turkey) in 546 B.C.



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Cox, Kenneth. Daniel Pure and Simple . BookBaby. Kindle Edition.

# Daniel 7: The Beasts

- “After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

Daniel 7:6



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Greece

- Leopard
  - Symbol of swift movement
- Wings
  - Symbol of swift movement
- Four Heads
  - Divided power
  - Cassander reigned over Macedonia and Greece, Lysimachus ruled Thrace and Bithynia, Ptolomy controlled Egypt, and Seleucus ruled Syria.

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# Daniel 7: The Beasts

- “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It *was* different from all the beasts that *were* before it, and it had ten horns. <sup>8</sup>I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, *were* eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.

Daniel 7:5



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Pagan Rome

- ..A fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong
  - Unlike the three former there was no likeness to be compared to.
  - Potentially a mongrel of composed parts of a lion, bear and leopard (cf. Revelation 13:2)



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Pagan Rome

- Iron Teeth
  - Rome devoured both nations and peoples in its conquests. ...It was Rome's policy to subjugate its enemies permanently, until Roman laws, religion, language, and customs extended over the entire known world. Rome ruled until 476 A.D., the longest of any of these nations.

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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Pagan Rome

- Ten Horns
  - 10 Kingdoms (Daniel 2:24)
  - Alamanni, Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Franks, Vandals, Suevi, Burgundians, Heruli, Anglo-Saxons, and Lombards.



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts

- Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, *with its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet;* <sup>20</sup> and the ten horns that *were* on its head, and the other *horn* which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.

Daniel 7:19-20



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Papal Rome

- A little horn
  - An insignificant beginning
- Coming up from them
  - Symbolizing the place where this kingdom would emerge (i.e. Western Europe).
- Plucked out by the roots
  - Three kingdoms (Heruli, Vandals, and Ostrogoths) would be removed never to return again.



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Papal Rome

- Eyes of a man
  - Symbolizing intelligence and wisdom. Nevertheless, this wisdom does not come from the fear of the Lord, but rather is born from the mind of man –wise in his own eyes.
  - Central locus of power, namely one voice from one man.



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Papal Rome

- Speaking Pompous Words
  - The Hebrew is *rabrab*, meaning very great things.
  - Oxford defines pompous as, “affectedly and irritatingly grand, solemn, or self-important”.



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Papal Rome

- Speaking Pompous Words
  - “The pope is as it were God on earth, sole sovereign of the faithful of Christ, chief, king of kings, having plenitude of power” (Lucius Ferraris, Prompia Bibliotheca, Vol. VI, p. 29).



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Cox, Kenneth. Daniel Pure and Simple . BookBaby. Kindle Edition.



# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Papal Rome

- Speaking Pompous Words
  - *Furthermore, we declare, we proclaim, we define that it is absolutely necessary for salvation that every human creature be subject to the Roman Pontiff.*

1302 Pope Boniface



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# Daniel 7: The Beasts Explained

## Papal Rome

- Speaking Pompous Words
  - *Take care that we lose not that **salvation, that life and breath which thou hast given us, for thou art our shepherd, thou art our physician, thou art our governor, thou art our husbandman, thou art finally another God on earth** (emphasis added)*

1512 Christopher Marcellus

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Babylon  
605 - 539 BC

Medo-Persia  
539 - 331 BC

Greece  
331 - 168 BC

Rome  
168 - 476 BC



# Daniel 7: The Beasts



# Daniel 7: The King of Heaven

- “I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of His head *was* like pure wool. His throne *was* a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; <sup>10</sup> A fiery stream issued And came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, And the books were opened

Daniel 7:9-10



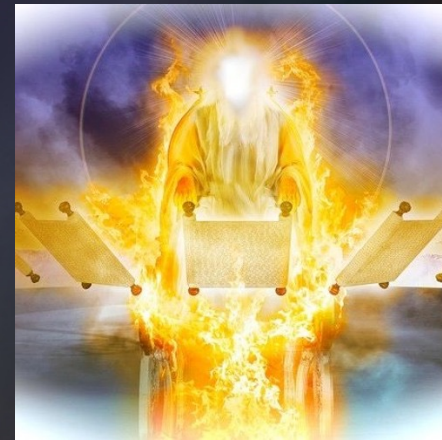
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# Daniel 7: The King of Heaven

## The Ancient of Days: The Sovereign God

- This is the God who Nebuchadnezzar and Darius had come to know.
- This is the God who changes the times and the seasons; **WHO** removes kings and raises up kings; **WHO** gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding. (Daniel 2:21)

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# Daniel 7: The King of Heaven

## The Ancient of Days: The Sovereign God

- Was seated
  - A symbol of authority and judgement
- White Hair and Clothing
  - A symbol of God's Holiness
- Fiery Throne
  - A symbol of God's radiant Glory
  - A symbol of God's judgement



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# Daniel 7: The King of Heaven

## The Ancient of Days: The Sovereign God

- Thousand and Ten Thousands before Him
  - A symbol of loyalty
  - A place of perpetual worship
- Books were opened
  - A reference to the universal review and judgement of one's stewardship



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## Daniel 7: The King of Heaven

<sup>17</sup> 'Those great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings *which* arise out of the earth. <sup>18</sup> But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

Daniel 7:17-18

The entrance of the Ancient of Days provides the assurance that the Kingdom of the Most High shall prove triumphant.

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