

**Daniel 7:1 AMPC**

*1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions in his head as he was lying upon his bed. Then he wrote down the dream and told the gist of the matter.*

We see this is dated at the beginning of the reign of Belshazzar, but it is not the dream of Belshazzar. This is Daniel's own dream and visions that he has written down This first year represents a flashback (to 533 B.C.), 14 years before the feast (of 5:1-3).

**Note:** Ch. 7 and 8 occur after chapter 4, but before chapter 5.

The dream of Daniel 7 moves far beyond Daniel's day to the coming of Israel's king to end all Gentile kingdoms and to establish His eternal kingdom.

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**Daniel 7:2 AMPC**

*2 Daniel said, I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of the heavens [political and social agitations] were stirring up the great sea [the nations of the world].*

In this dream/vision of Daniel's, he saw the wind coming from 4 directions at once. This would create a tornado or turmoil upon the earth. The great sea is speaking of nations of the world and it will affect everyone.

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### **Daniel 7:3 AMPC**

*3 And four great beasts came up out of the sea in succession, and different from one another.*

These 4 beasts are the kingdoms from the image in chapter 2 of Daniel). Those were the kingdoms of Babylon, Medes-Persia, Greeks and Romans. Notice, these 4 beasts came up out of the people (sea). These beasts, empires, or kingdoms are different from one another.

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### **Daniel 7:4 AMPC**

*4 The first [the Babylonian empire under Nebuchadnezzar] was like a lion and had eagle's wings. I looked till the wings of it were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand upon two feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.*

This first beast like a lion with eagle wings is speaking of Babylon and its most famous king, Nebuchadnezzar. The eagle's wings, many times, symbolize aggressiveness. (the swiftness of its victories). The Babylonians had been very fierce in their conquests. They had settled down, and become a more civilized nation. This could be the meaning of the wings being plucked.

***“Stand upon the feet as a man”***. This represents the restored character of Nebuchadnezzar in his later years. The kingdom of Babylon became more like a man (not a beast), when their viciousness was gone. Some of the kings even recognized God for His mighty feats. I would believe the heart of a man would mean that it was possible to reach it. Note: Babylon then would be Iraq now as its main base (with parts of Syria and Lebanon).

### **Daniel 7:5AMPC**

*5 And behold another beast, a second one **[the Medo-Persian empire], was like a bear,** and it raised up itself on one side [or one dominion] and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, Arise, devour much flesh.*

In the image, this would be the Media Persian Empire with the greater side being Persia. Persia then is Iran now (1935), is the very same place and the ribs are referring were Media, Persia and Babylon. We read in Ezekiel that Iran or Persia will be attacking Israel prior to the 7 year Tribulation and this attack cause the 7 year peace treat to be signed.

### **Ezekiel 38:1-6 AMPC**

*1 And the word of the Lord came to me, saying,*

*2 Son of man, set your face against **Gog, of the land of Magog,** the prince of Rosh, of Meshech, and of Tubal, and prophesy against him,*

*3 And say, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, O **Gog, chief prince (ruler) of Rosh, of Meshech, and of Tubal.***

*4 And I will turn you back and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you forth and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed in full armor, a great company with buckler and shield, all of them handling swords—*

*5 **Persia, Cush, and Put or Libya with them,** all of them with shield and helmet,*

*6 **Gomer and all his hordes,** the house of Togarmah in the uttermost parts of the north and all his hordes—many people are with you.*

### **Daniel 7:6 AMPC**

*6 After this I looked, and behold, another **[the Grecian empire of Alexander the Great], like a leopard** which had four wings of a bird on its back. The beast had also four heads [Alexander's generals, his successors], and dominion was given to it.*

The leopard depicts Greece. Though naturally a swift animal, this leopard had four wings in addition to its native agility. This speaks of the lightning speed with which Alexander the Great (336-323 B.C.), conquered the ancient world. The number four represents the four generals/divisions that were divided in Alexander's kingdom after his death at the age of 33. They ruled Macedonia, Asia Minor, Iraq/Syria, and Egypt.

## **The Leopard, the Lion and the Bear**

### **Revelation 13 AMPC**

1 [As] I stood on the sandy beach, I saw a beast coming up out of the sea with ten horns and seven heads. On his horns he had ten royal crowns (diadems) and blasphemous titles (names) on his heads.

2 And the beast that I saw resembled a **leopard**, but his feet were like those of a **bear** and his mouth was like that of a **lion**. And to him the dragon gave his [own] might and power and his [own] throne and great dominion.

3 And one of his heads seemed to have a deadly wound. But his death stroke was healed (*stump from Daniel 4*); and the whole earth went after the beast in amazement and admiration.

### **Daniel 7:7 AMPC**

*7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast [the Roman empire]—terrible, powerful and dreadful, and exceedingly strong. And it had great iron teeth; it devoured and crushed and trampled what was left with its feet. And it was different from all the beasts that came before it, and it had ten horns [symbolizing ten kings].*

The fourth beast is the Roman Empire. The ten horns are 10 kings (verse 24), and the little horn (verse 8), is another king who will arise after the 10 and be coexistent with them.

The 10 kingdoms/kings represented by the 10 horns will be divided up in the future: 5 nations from the Old Western Roman Empire and 5 nations from the old Eastern Roman Empire.

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### **Daniel 7:8 AMPC**

*8 I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth speaking great things.*

This little horn or little one represents the antichrist (this identification is not limited to verse 8) His mouth speaking great things refers to him as a spokesman for the entire group. The description of the antichrist in that passage gives you and I the picture of what this leader will do.. he will unite the people from the Old Western and Eastern Roman Empires. Many Bible scholars believe that the three horns are:Libya, Ethiopia/Sudan and Egypt - we will break this down as we continue in Daniel.

Daniel writes that this leader had eyes like of a man and his mouth speaks great things... John tells us about the man who comes to power 42 months into the 7 year tribulation.

### **Revelation 13:1,5-6 AMPC**

*13 [As] I stood on the sandy beach, I saw a beast coming up out of the sea with ten horns and seven heads. On his horns he had ten royal crowns (diadems) and **blasphemous titles (names) on his heads.***

*5 And the beast was given the power of speech, uttering boastful and blasphemous words, and **he was given freedom to exert his authority and to exercise his will during forty-two months (three and a half years).***

*6 And he opened his mouth to speak slanders against God, blaspheming His name and His abode, **[even vilifying] those who live in heaven.***

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### **Daniel 7:9 AMPC**

*9 I kept looking until thrones were placed [for the assessors with the Judge], and the Ancient of Days [God, the eternal Father] took His seat, Whose garment was white as snow and the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne was like the fiery flame; its wheels were burning fire.*

There is a time coming, when the thrones will be thrown down. Daniel's vision flashes forward to the divine throne from which judgment will come. "Ancient of days" speaks of God and His eternal, uncreated nature. God predates time and human history, possessing ultimate wisdom, dignity, and authority to judge the world. The "white as snow" speaks of the righteousness of God and is a picture of His holiness... Our God is a consuming Fire.

### **Daniel 7:10 AMPC**

*10 A stream of fire came forth from before Him; a thousand thousands ministered to Him and ten thousand times ten thousand rose up and stood before Him; the Judge was seated [the court was in session] and the books were opened.*

There are those who are ministering to Him and those standing before Him to be judged. God keeps a record in heaven and that is what is spoken of by the books were opened.

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### **Daniel 7:11 AMPC**

*11 I looked then because of the sound of the great words which the horn was speaking. I watched until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.*

“The beast was slain” is a reference to the “little horn” or Antichrist. He will be destroyed at Christ’s second coming to earth and the end of the 7 year Tribulation.

### **Revelation 19:20 AMPC**

*20 And **the beast was seized and overpowered, and with him the false prophet** who in his presence had worked wonders and performed miracles by which **he led astray those who had accepted or permitted to be placed upon them the stamp (mark) of the beast** and those who paid homage and gave divine honors to his statue. **Both of them were hurled alive into the fiery lake that burns and blazes with brimstone.***

**Revelation 19:20 GNT**...*The beast and the false prophet were both thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.*

**Daniel 7:12 AMPC**

*12 And as for the rest of the beasts, their power of dominion was taken away; yet their lives were prolonged [for the duration of their lives was fixed] for a season and a time.*

These beasts were speaking of Babylon (Iraq), Persia (Iran), and Greece. They were no longer ruling powers as they had been represented in their place in the image. The kingdoms of this world have fallen but they were not totally destroyed, but lost all power. These earlier beasts each successively lost its chief dominance when it was conquered in history.

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**Daniel 7:13 AMPC**

*13 I saw in the night visions, and behold, on the clouds of the heavens came One like a Son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him.*

This Son of man is Jesus “the Messiah”. This is the same that we read about as the Stone which destroyed the image. He is distinct from the Ancient of Days, or Eternal One, the Father.

**Daniel 2:34-36, 42-46 AMPC**

*34 As you looked, a Stone was cut out without human hands, which smote the image on its feet of iron and [baked] clay [of the potter] and broke them to pieces.*

*35 Then the iron, the [baked] clay [of the potter], the bronze, the silver, and the gold were broken and crushed together and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors,*

**(Verse 35 continued next page)**

*and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them could be found. And the Stone that smote the image became a great mountain or rock and filled the whole earth.*

*36 This was the dream, and we will tell the interpretation of it to the king.*

*42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of [baked] clay [of the potter], so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle and broken.*

*43 And as you saw the iron mixed with miry and earthen clay, so they shall mingle themselves in the seed of men [in marriage bonds]; but they will not hold together [for two such elements or ideologies can never harmonize], even as iron does not mingle itself with clay.*

*44 And in the days of these [final ten] kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall its sovereignty be left to another people; but it shall break and crush and consume all these kingdoms and it shall stand forever.*

*45 Just as you saw that the Stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter. The dream is certain and the interpretation of it is sure.*

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**Daniel 7:14 AMPC**

*14 And there was given Him [the Messiah] dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away, and His kingdom is one which shall not be destroyed.*

These distinctions are earthly and speak of the promise of an earthly kingdom, ruled by Christ that merges into the eternal kingdom.

**Isaiah 9:7 AMPC**

*7 Of the increase of His government and of peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from the [latter] time forth, even forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.*

**Philippians 2:9-11 AMPC**

*9 Therefore [because He stooped so low] God has highly exalted Him and has freely bestowed on Him the name that is above every name,*

*10 That in (at) the name of Jesus every knee [b]should (must) bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

*11 And every tongue [frankly and openly] confess and acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

There is no question at all, that this is the One we call Jesus who will be King of kings and Lord of lords. He is Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End.

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**Daniel 7:15 AMPC**

*15 As for me, Daniel, my spirit was grieved and anxious within me, and the visions of my head alarmed and agitated me.*

We could surely understand this, because his vision had jumped over 2500 years... he didn't know the day or the hour. Coming judgment made him sad, because it meant that history all the way to its end would be a story of sin and judgment.

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**Daniel 7:16 AMPC**

*16 I came near to one of those who stood there and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of the things.*

This is still part of the vision, or dream., one that stood by was an angel and he helped Daniel understand God's revelation.

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**Daniel 7:17 AMPC**

*17 These four great beasts are four kings who shall arise out of the earth.*

These empires depicted by the lion, bear, leopard, and "terrible" beasts are Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome. The kings are the most notable leaders over these empires, such as Nebuchadnezzar, Cyrus, Alexander the Great and finally the "little horn" or (Antichrist) at the end of the Eastern and Western Roman Empire reign when the 10 toes (5 from each) form an alliance to have the antichrist lead the charge against Israel.

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**Daniel 7:18 AMPC**

*18 But the saints of the Most High [God] shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.*

The “**Most High**”: God is referred to in this book as above all gods, as He was for Melchizedek and Abraham as well as Naaman. The “**saints**”: are those who trusted God and possess the kingdom headed up by the Son of Man, the Messiah.

**Revelation 2:26 AMPC**

*26 And he who overcomes (is victorious) and who obeys My commands to the [very] end [doing the works that please Me], I will give him authority and power over the nations;*

**Revelation 11:15 AMPC**

*15 The seventh angel then blew [his] trumpet, and there were mighty voices in heaven, shouting, The dominion (kingdom, sovereignty, rule) of the world has now come into the possession and become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ (the Messiah), and He shall reign forever and ever (for the eternities of the eternities)!*

You can see from the following Scripture, just how long we reign with Him.

**Revelation 22:5 AMPC**

*5 And there shall be no more night; they have no need for lamplight or sunlight, for the Lord God will illuminate them and be their light, and they shall reign [as kings] forever and ever (through the eternities of the eternities).*

### **Daniel 7:19 AMPC**

*19 Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast— which was different from all the others, exceedingly terrible and shocking, whose teeth were of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke and crushed, and trampled what was left with its feet—*

This fourth beast that Daniel was shown in his vision from Daniel 2 is brought to his mind again in Daniel 7. This beast/ empire or kingdom had a far greater diversity than previous empires, and its breath of conquest. This fourth beast or Rome, branches out into two great divisions (legs), then near the end into 10 horns (a confederacy of 10 nations - 5 in the West and 5 in the East), and even an 11th horn (Antichrist's kingdom), lasting until Christ's second coming to earth.

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### **Daniel 7:20 AMPC**

*20 And about the ten horns [representing kings] that were on its head, and the other horn which came up later and before which three of [the horns] fell, the horn which had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things and which looked greater than the others.*

This “other horn” is speaking of the antichrist. He is the other horn or the 11th horn (ruler and his realm). Early in the future tribulation period, it (he), grows to be “greater” or more powerful than any of the horns (rulers), in the group. Here in verse 20 Daniel refers to the other 3 horns, not beasts but horns or kings/nations that will be subdued or fall. Libya, Ethiopia/ Sudan and Egypt.

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**Daniel 7:21 AMPC**

*21 As I looked, this horn made war with the saints and prevailed over them*

The Antichrist will lead a great persecution of believers, especially in Israel who will come to believe who Jesus is, He was and is the Messiah. This take place 42 months or 3 1/2 years into the 7 year Tribulation. Remember, there are 2 witnesses or mouthpieces of God (Rev 11) preaching in Israel the first 42 months or 3 1/2 years into the 7 year Tribulation.

**Revelation 13:5-7 AMPC**

*5 And the beast was given the power of speech, uttering boastful and blasphemous words, and he was given freedom to exert his authority and to exercise his will during forty-two months (three and a half years).*

*6 And he opened his mouth to speak slanders against God, blaspheming His name and His abode, [even vilifying] those who live in heaven.*

*7 He was further permitted to wage war on God's holy people (the saints) and to overcome them. And power was given him to extend his authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation,*

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**Daniel 7:22 AMPC**

*22 Until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High [God], and the time came when the saints possessed the kingdom.*

“Ancient of days” refers to God the Eternal One, who confers the messianic kingdom on the Son to rule at His second coming to earth and following the battle of Armageddon. Judgment - reward is given for those who accepted Jesus as the Messiah, during the tribulation and against the Antichrist and Satan.

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**Daniel 7:23 AMPC**

*23 Thus [the angel] said, The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all other kingdoms and shall devour the whole earth, tread it down, and break it in pieces and crush it.*

Again, this is speaking of the Old Roman Empire, which has been revived. This power is really control and it will take over control of the entire world.

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**Daniel 7:24 AMPC**

*24 And as for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise; and another shall arise after them, and he shall be different from the former ones, and he shall subdue and put down three kings.*

Daniel makes it plain that these ten kings will “arise” (Western and Eastern Roman Empire) before the Antichrist makes his own rise to power. I believe the ten horns are actually ten nations, which have made an alliance.

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**Daniel 7:25 AMPC**

*25 And he shall speak words against the Most High [God] and shall wear out the saints of the Most High and think to change the time [of sacred feasts and holy days] and the law; and the saints shall be given into his hand for a time, two times, and half a time [three and one-half years].*

The antichrist has great power over all the peoples of the earth and he will speak and is blasphemous towards the God of the Bible. He will change the times or calendar from Gregorian to islamic which aligns with a different hold days and the law of islam. He will do this for the last 3 1/2 years of the 7 year tribulation which is the break down of:“time, times, and half time.

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**Daniel 7:26 AMPC**

*26 But the judgment shall be set [by the court of the Most High], and they shall take away his dominion to consume it [gradually] and to destroy it [suddenly] in the end.*

The judgment is taken away from him by King Jesus, and by His saints. He has been judged, and found guilty. God will remove the Antichrist’s rule and destroy him and his empire in eternal hell.

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**Daniel 7:27 AMPC**

*27 And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heavens shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions shall serve and obey Him.*

**“The kingdom” ... “given to” ... “the saints”:** God’s kingdom in both earthly (Rev. 20:4), and heavenly phases (Rev. 21:27; 22:3-4 and 14).

**Revelation 20:4 AMPC**

*4 Then I saw thrones, and sitting on them were those to whom authority to act as judges and to pass sentence was entrusted. Also I saw the souls of those who had been slain with axes [beheaded] for their witnessing to Jesus and [for preaching and testifying] for the Word of God, and who had refused to pay homage to the beast or his statue and had not accepted his mark or permitted it to be stamped on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived again and ruled with Christ (the Messiah) a thousand years.*

**Revelation 22:3-5 AMPC**

*3 There shall no longer exist there anything that is accursed (detestable, foul, offensive, impure, hateful, or horrible). But the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall worship Him [pay divine honors to Him and do Him holy service].*

*4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.*

*5 And there shall be no more night; they have no need for lamplight or sunlight, for the Lord God will illuminate them and be their light, and they shall reign [as kings] forever and ever (through the eternities of the eternities).*

### **Revelation 22:14 AMPC**

*14 Blessed (happy and to be envied) are those who cleanse their garments, that they may have the authority and right to [approach] the tree of life and to enter through the gates into the city.*

### **Hebrews 12:28 AMPC**

*28 Let us therefore, receiving a kingdom that is firm and stable and cannot be shaken, offer to God pleasing service and acceptable worship, with modesty and pious care and godly fear and awe;*

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### **Daniel 7:28 AMPC**

*28 Here is the end of the matter. As for me, Daniel, my [waking] thoughts troubled and alarmed me much and my cheerfulness of countenance was changed in me; but I kept the matter [of the interpreting angel's information] in my heart and mind.*

The details of Daniel's vision/dream would trouble anyone. He saw the rise and fall of the antichrist and it changed his countenance. More dreams/visions will make these previous dreams/visions more understandable for you and I while we keep what we know to heart and build upon it - just like Daniel.



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