

DANIEL SUMMARY PART 2

JAMIE MCNAB

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We are doing a brief review of the Book of Daniel.

Why the Book of Daniel in any case? Jesus and Matthew warned about the end-time events described in Daniel. Matthew added the words: “Let him who hears ... understand”.

CHAPTER 1: Captivity of many of the Jews to Babylon and faithfulness of Daniel and his friends.

CHAPTER 2: Nebuchadnezzar’s dream of a great statue of 4 metals — pictured 4 kingdoms up to the Kingdom of God being established.

CHAPTERS 2–7: Written in Aramaic — for the whole Gentile world to heed. (Designed to reach the whole world of that day)

CHAPTER 3: Although God has dealt with Nebuchadnezzar in a special way ... he’s still arrogant. Commands all the people that he ruled over ... to worship a great image. Daniel’s friends are thrown into a fiery furnace — but they are delivered.

Nebuchadnezzar is astonished. He issued a decree (in Aramaic) to the whole world to respect the God of Daniel and his friends.

Yet! He is still arrogant! So God escalates His involvement with Nebuchadnezzar.

CHAPTER 4: Has a dream of a great tree — cut down with just the stump left. The tree is Nebuchadnezzar.

He is driven out from mankind for 7 years ... to live like a beast in the wilderness.

Finally ... he comes to his senses and acknowledges the God of Heaven ... praises Him ... and ... now writes his personal testimony to the whole world ... in Aramaic.

He may have even turned to God?

CHAPTER 5: Another king ... Belshazzar — the last king of Babylon.

He refuses to learn the lessons of his father. He sees the writing on the wall ... and Daniel explains he has been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

He dies that night and Babylon falls to the Medes and the Persians.

It's worth noting here a curious literary structure across the six Aramaic chapters.

Chapters 2 and 7 correlate and echo each other

Chapters 3 and 6 correlate and echo each other

Chapters 4 and 5 correlate and echo each other

For example:

Chapter 2 = 4 metals — 4 kingdoms till the Kingdom of God

Chapter 7 = 4 beasts — 4 kingdoms till the Kingdom of God

Chapter 3 = the Saints thrown into a fiery pit ... delivered

Chapter 6 = Daniel ... the Saint thrown into a lions' pit ... delivered

Chapter 4 = the King repents and acknowledges God

Chapter 5 = the King rejects God ... and loses everything.

These chapters “pair up” with each other. Deliberate structure. Each chapter of each pair has similarities ... echoes ... differences.

Chapter 6 brings us to the pair of Chapter 3 — Daniel in the lion's den.

Lots of people are jealous of Daniel. They decide to trap him. They get the king to pass a law that no one can approach any other god for 30 days except King Darius ... or ... if they do ... be thrown into the pit of lions.

Of course Daniel is faithful (see Chapter 1) and gets caught praying to God despite the king's law.

Daniel 6:10-17

10 **Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.**

11 **Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.**

12 **And they went before the king, and spoke concerning the king's decree: "Have you not signed a decree that every man who petitions any god or man within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered and said, "The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter."**

13 **So they answered and said before the king, "That Daniel, who is one of the captives from Judah, does not show due regard for you, O king, or for the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day."**

14 **And the king, when he heard these words, was greatly displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.**

15 **Then these men approached the king, and said to the king, "Know, O king, that it is the law of the Medes and Persians that no decree or statute which the king establishes may be changed."**

16 **So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. But the king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you."**

17 Then a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signets of his lords, that the purpose concerning Daniel might not be changed.

So Daniel was thrown into the pit of the lions!

Daniel 6:19-24

19 **Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions.**

20 And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. **The king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?"**

21 Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever!

22 "My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you."

23 Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.

24 And the king gave the command, and they brought those men who had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions--them, their children, and their wives; and the lions overpowered them, and broke all their bones in pieces before they ever came to the bottom of the den.

Daniel was delivered.

Daniel 6:25-27

25 Then King Darius wrote:

To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth:

Peace be multiplied to you.

26 I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel.

For He is the living God,

And steadfast forever;

His kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed,

And His dominion shall endure to the end.

27 He delivers and rescues,

And He works signs and wonders

In heaven and on earth,

Who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

Now it's Darius' turn to issue his testimony to the whole world — in Aramaic — "make sure you respect and honour the God of Daniel!"

What with Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon and Darius of Medo-Persia ... so ... one way and another ... God is certainly getting His name and reputation out to the whole Gentile world!

SUMMARY: God's power revealed to the whole world as He delivers faithful Daniel from the pit of lions.

Daniel 7 is the final chapter in "Aramaic Daniel".

Four Beasts ... Four Kingdoms ... the Return of The Lord Jesus and the Kingdom of God being established.

This is an "echo" of Daniel 2 ... but not the same.

Daniel 2 started with Nebuchadnezzar and Ancient Babylon ... then all the way for 2,600 years till Jesus' return and God's Kingdom is established.

Daniel 7 is entirely END TIME.

Daniel 7:1, 17-18

1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts.

17 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which SHALL arise out of the earth.'

18 'But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

Belshazzar was the last king of Babylon — only reigned for 2-3 years — so we can't really say the "Kingdom of Babylon will arise" ... so Daniel Chapter 7 can't be said to include Ancient Babylon?

Daniel 7:17 (NASB)

17 'These great beasts, which are four in number, are four kings who will arise from the earth.'

Daniel 7:17 (AMP)

17 'These four great beasts are four kings who will arise from the earth.'

Daniel 7:17 (NIV)

17 'The four great beasts are four kings that will rise from the earth.'

"Will arise" — future. (This can't include Babylon).

So chapter 7 is not just repeating the events of chapter 2 ... though there are correlations ... and one helps to clarify the other.

Daniel 7:3-8, 11-12

3 "**And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.**

4 "**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.

5 "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!'. (*Gorge yourself*)

6 "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.**

7 "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.**

8 "**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.**

11 "I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame.

12 "**As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.** (*Lion ... Bear ... Leopard*)

Although the timing is different from Daniel Chapter 2 ... **the 4 Beasts represent the same 4 Kingdoms ... but in the end times.**

Lion	= Babylon	= Modern Iraq	<i>Muslim</i>
Bear	= Medo-Persia	= Modern Iran	<i>Muslim</i>
Leopard	= Greece/Javan	= Asia Minor	

<u>4 Heads</u>	Turkey)	
	Egypt)	<i>Muslim</i>
	Syria)	
	Albania)	

TERRIBLE

4th BEAST = Islamic Empire of the end-time *Muslim!*

Daniel 7:13-14

13 "I was watching in the night visions,

And behold, One like the Son of Man,

Coming with the clouds of heaven!

He came to the Ancient of Days, (*The Father*)

And they brought Him near before Him. (*Jesus*)

14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,

That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion,

Which shall not pass away,

And His kingdom the one

Which shall not be destroyed.

God's Kingdom established.

Daniel especially wants to know about the dreadful ... terrible ... destructive 4th Beast.

Daniel 7:19-27

19 "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;

20 "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.

21 "I was watching; and the same horn (the Antichrist) 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.

23 "Thus he 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,
Trample it and break it in pieces.** (*Aramaic = Deqaq = smash/break in pieces/pulverise*)

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.**

25 **He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, (Islamic Antichrist)
Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, (heaven help you if you are a
Christian in their country at this time)**

And shall intend to change times and law. (*Sharia law must come into being*)

**Then the saints shall be given into his hand
For a time and times and half a time.** (*3½ years*)

26 'But the court shall be seated,
And they shall take away his dominion,
To consume and destroy it forever.

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.'**

10 horns = 10 Kingdoms
Little Horn = "Antichrist"
3½ year war against the Saints
Times and Law = Sharia Law?

**SUMMARY: 4 Beasts representing end-time Islamic Nations at war ...
including war against the Saints.**

Daniel Chapter 8 returns to the Hebrew language.

Daniel has a vision of a Ram and a He-Goat fighting each other .

Crucially ... the vision is for the end-time.

Daniel 8:15-19

15 Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man.

16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "**Gabriel, make this man understand the vision.**"

17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but **he said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end."**

18 Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright.

19 And **he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be."**

The angel continues with the vision.

Daniel 8:26

26 "And **the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true;**

Therefore **seal up the vision, For it refers to many days in the future."**

Daniel 8:19 (NIV)

19 He said: "**I am going to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath, because the vision concerns the appointed time of the end.**"

Daniel 8:26 (NIV)

26 "**The vision of the evenings and mornings that has been given you is true, but seal up the vision, for it concerns the distant future.**"

So — assuming we're in the end-time —THIS VISION CONCERNS US!

Daniel 8:3-4

3 **Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and there, standing beside the river, was a ram which had two horns, and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last.**

4 **I saw the ram pushing westward, northward, and southward, so that no animal could withstand him**; nor was there any that could deliver from his hand, but he did according to his will and became great.

The ram attacks.

Who is the ram? Verse 20:

Daniel 8:20

20 **"The ram which you saw, having the two horns--they are the kings of Media and Persia. (Persia = Iran [Muslim])**

It attacks West ... North and South.

West of Iran	= Iraq and Syria (and Israel?)
North of Iran	= Eastern Turkey ... some of Russia
South of Iran	= Saudi Arabia ... etc

All Muslim — but SUNNI not SHIA like Iran.

Some time later ... a counter attack.

Daniel 8:5-7

5 And as I was considering, **suddenly a male goat came from the west, across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.**

6 **Then he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing beside the river, and ran at him with furious power.**

7 And **I saw him confronting the ram**; he was moved with rage against him, **attacked the ram, and broke his two horns. There was no power in the ram to withstand him**, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled him; and there was no one that could deliver the ram from his hand.

The He-Goat counter attacks!

Who? Verse 21:

Daniel 8:21

21 "And **the male goat is the kingdom of Greece.** The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king.

"Greece" = Javan (in Hebrew)
= Asia Minor
= Turkey

Is it surprising to consider Turkey as war-making in end-times? Look at its history. The Ottoman Empire was an Islamic Empire that ruled SE Europe ... Middle East ... North Africa for 600 years. The Ottoman Empire was a Turkish Empire — ruled from Constantinople — now Istanbul.

President Erdogan wants to restore the greatness of the Ottoman Empire to Turkey. **He is the man to watch?!** If it is soon ... he could be the notable horn?

Turkey is Sunni — see Iran as heretics.

SUMMARY: End-time war in the Middle East and Persian Gulf involving Iran and Turkey and allies.

Expect massive economic and financial devastation — worldwide.

(Lots of this is covered more ... in in-depth messages on the web site ... with notes to read ... so check those).

In Daniel Chapter 9 ... Daniel realises from the prophecies of Jeremiah that 70 years punishment on Jerusalem is about up. He prays for restoration of God's city and temple.

Daniel 9:1-6

1 **In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus,** of the lineage of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans--

2 **in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the LORD through Jeremiah the prophet, that *He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.***

3 **Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.**

4 And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments,

5 "we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments.

6 "Neither have we heeded Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings and our princes, to our fathers and all the people of the land.

Daniel 9:17-19

17 "Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate.

18 "O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies.

19 "O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name."

In response to Daniel's requests ... God sends the angel Gabriel with the "70 weeks" prophecy.

Daniel 9:24-27

24 "Seventy weeks are determined (70 x 7 = 490 years)

For your people and for your holy city,

To finish the transgression,

To make an end of sins,

To make reconciliation for iniquity,

To bring in everlasting righteousness,

To seal up vision and prophecy,

And to anoint the Most Holy.

25 "Know therefore and understand,

That from the going forth of the command

To restore and build Jerusalem

Until Messiah the Prince,

There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks;

The street shall be built again, and the wall,

Even in troublesome times.

26 "And **after the sixty-two weeks**
Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; (*Jesus's death*)
And the people of the prince who is to come (*Antichrist*)
shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.

The end of it shall be with a flood,
And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

27 **Then he** (*the prince who is to come*) **shall confirm a covenant with**
many for one week;
But in the middle of the week
He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.

And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate,
Even until the consummation, which is determined,
Is poured out on the desolate."

70 weeks = 70 Shabuas (sevens) = 490 years

7 weeks + 62 weeks (verse 25) can bring us to Jesus' baptism in 26/27 AD — and the start of Jesus' ministry — "until Messiah the Prince" ... some 483 years on.

Of particular relevance to us is the final week — the final 7 years.

A prince who is to come (Antichrist) will confirm a treaty or covenant for 7 years — but will break it after 3½ years and stop the sacrifices ... and set up the Abomination of Desolation.

Seventh Day Adventists ... WCG ... and some others ... teach that this final "prince" in verse 26 is Jesus. He died mid-week (we took that to be Wednesday) ... after 3½ year ministry ... and will confirm the New Covenant with some people for a further 3½ years (maybe in a Place of Safety ... or the World Tomorrow or ... ?)

Problems here. I believe this is grammatically wrong. I believe we are talking about the Antichrist. Also ... whilst on this point ... who said Jesus' ministry was 3½ years long? Some scholars think it was only 70 weeks or 2 years or? It's an assumption to say Christ's ministry was 3½ years long.

It appears that we can look out for a 7 year Covenant of Death (Isaiah 28) ... to be broken at the half-way point stopping the sacrifices in the temple ... along with the setting up of the Abomination of Desolation ... then 3½ years of Great Tribulation per Jesus in Matthew 24.

(Check earlier messages and notes for more detail!)

SUMMARY: The 70 weeks prophecy and the final 7 year treaty including the Abomination of Desolation.