

DANIEL'S DREAM
DANIEL'S VISION OF THE FOUR BEASTS
DANIEL 7:1-8

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I. WHAT WE SEE HERE IS THE INVISIBLE WORLD!

The attention is turned here **from the visible to the invisible!** When Daniel wrote, *"the four winds of heaven,"* he was referring to **the entire Gentile history from Babylon to the Second Advent.** He was reporting the mighty movement taking place in the invisible world. (Cf. *Ephesians 6:12*)

Daniel 2 was from an **earthly perspective**...from man's perspective. Daniel 7 is a vision of that same time period and the same empires as that first vision, but from a **heavenly perspective** showing the entire domination by the Gentile world during the *Times of the Gentiles*, depicted by four great beasts.

II. WHAT WE SEE HERE ARE THESE BEASTS LEADING THE NATIONS!

Here we see the **nations represented by demonic powers symbolized by animals.** Of course we know that this is the work of another figure that is also compared with an animal—Satan himself! (Cf. *Rev 12:9*)

We all know that **the distinction between man and animal is grounded in God's declaration** in *Genesis 1:26!* So, it should not surprise us that the more rebellious man becomes, the more increasingly he expresses his desire to behave like an animal in these end times! (That is the teaching of humanism and evolution!)

The Babylonian kingdom, represented by a lion, comes first; the Media-Persian kingdom, pictured as a bear, is next; the Grecian empire, depicted as a leopard, is third; and the final one is separated from the other three—"diverse". (Vs 7)

III. JUST HOW "DIVERSE" IS THE FOURTH BEAST?

Note the words that are used to describe the fourth beast in vs. 7 are: *"dreadful," "terrible," and "strong exceedingly."*

A. The Old Concept—Conquer And Divide!

The conquer-and-divide principle has been practiced until today! Now we see that a change is taking place for the first time in Gentile history!

**B. The Fourth Beast Examined—A New Concept!
It devours; breaks into pieces; stamps the residue!**

To *"devour"* means *to take possession of what has been conquered.*

To *"break into pieces"* means *to annihilate the conquered nation's laws, traditions and cultures.*

To *"stamp to residue with its feet"* means *to establish total dominion over the conquered ones.*

The entire world is presently living during the period of this fourth beast! Even our democratic civilization falls into the categories of *"dreadful," "terrible," "strong exceedingly"* and it devours... it breaks in pieces...and it stamps the residue with its feet!

IV. WHAT ARE THE TEN HORNS AND HOW DO THEY COME INTO PLAY? (Vs 7-8)

The number 10 stands for fullness or completion.

The ten horns represent the tenfold power structure of the last empire on planet Earth.

From a Biblical perspective, the Roman Empire never ceased to exist. Even in Daniel 2:35, we see that **the whole world will be involved when Jesus destroys the Gentile power structure!**

From God's perspective, there is only one world: that of the Gentiles domination! And our nation is part of that!

"A mouth speaking great things" may refer directly to the *"little horn,"* but he will represent the entire world — all 200-plus nations on all five continents!