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DANIEL CHAPTER 7

The beasts in Daniel 7 parallel the image in chapter 2.

The 4 beasts (in 7:1-4) represent the rulers of the four world empires previously described in Nebuchadnezzar's dream in chapter 2.

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream Chapter 2	Daniel's Vision Chapter 7	Interpretation
Head of Gold	Lion	Babylon
Chest and Arms of Silver	Bear	Medo-Persia
Belly and Thighs of Brass	Leopard	Greece
Legs of Iron	Beast with iron teeth	Rome
10 Toes of Iron/Clay	10 horns	End Time League of 10 Nations

Specific Interpretations:

"The fourth Beast" (v. 7) = Rome

The "**10 horns**" = a confederacy of 10 kings (v. 24; cp. Rev. 17:12, 16; 19:19)

The "**Little horn with the big mouth**" (v. 8-11) = The future Anti-christ

--"**Eyes. . . mouth**" (v. 8) - identifies the "little horn" as a person, a human being.

--"**Little**" - speaks only of his beginnings; he starts off small, but through diplomacy he will during the first 3-1/2 years of the Tribulation exalt himself (with Satan's power) globally.

--"**The thrones were cast down**" (v. 9) - the Gentile thrones (kings and kingdoms) are destroyed ("cast down") (cp. 2:44)

--"**The voice of great words**" - Antichrist's blasphemy (v. 11) (Rev. 13:5, 6)

--"**The Beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame**" (v. 11) - Antichrist will be thrown alive into the Lake of Fire (Rev. 19:20; 20:10)

--"**The rest of the beasts**" (v. 12) - the previously mentioned 3 beasts (v. 4-6) had their kingdoms and power taken away successively; yet their worldly philosophies, systems, culture, and practices were absorbed (assimilated) by the kingdoms that took them over, and in this sense "their lives were prolonged."

Characteristics of the Antichrist

He will be:

1. **A fearsome leader** (v. 20). "More stout" = more imposing or fearsome. Antichrist will impress the godless world by his clout, power, personality, and boastful mouth.

2. **A cruel persecutor** (v. 21) - He will war against the saints (Jew & Christian) during the second half the Tribulation (cp. v. 25; Rev. 13:7, 12:11-13)

3. **An arrogant blasphemer** (v. 25 - He will talk about God with contempt and set himself up as God) - See Daniel 11:36

4. **A powerful despot** (v. 25 - He will attempt to change that which only God has the right to change).
He will rule globally for 3-1/2 years.

5. **A military-obsessed idolater** (Dan. 11:37-38)

6. **A Satanic deceiver** (II Thes. 2:9; Rev. 13:3, 4)

7. **A man of lawlessness** (II Th. 2:3)