

Daniel 7 – “The Coming Kingdom”

- I. **It's Never Boring – We live in interesting times...**
- You name the perspective (economic, political, geophysical), these are very interesting times
 - We also live in times where _____ theories are everywhere...
 - Who's running the world? Who's guiding its direction? Many theories... Daniel 7 gives the answer.
- II. **Significance of Daniel 7 – Connecting the Book of Daniel**
- Connected with the past (2-6) – written in _____ as well.
 - Connected with past (2-6) – chiasmic (X) structure
 - Connected with next (8-12) – 1st chapter of Daniel's visions (____ chronological visions)
 - Connected with next (8-12) – Daniel begins to refer to himself in the ____ person...
 - Anyway you look at it – this is a hinge chapter, bringing whole book together.
 - Also most comprehensive & detailed prophecy of future events found anywhere in the OT.
- III. **Setting the Stage: Placing the events in history... (Daniel 7:1)**
- Daniel is on the receiving end of the vision for the 1st time.
 - The events take place ~ ____ BC (Nabonidus has been king for 3 years; names son as co-regent)
 - Happens between chapters 4 & 5; Daniel ~ ____ - ____ years; King Neb been dead almost 10 years...
- IV. **The Perplexing Vision: 4 Beasts (Daniel 7:2-8)**
- Sea symbolic of the _____ (some see it as the Mediterranean Sea)
 - Beasts symbolic of kings and _____
 - Unrest, chaos, & turmoil due to the 4 winds of heaven stirring the sea up...
 - Winds come from all directions – there is no escape.
 - Judgments of God; Judgments with various other forces; tool of supernatural powers...
 - What is about to happen only occurs by the sovereign will & power of God...
 - Beast 1 – resembles a lion but with wings like an eagle
 - Places in Scripture where Babylon & King Neb referred to as a lion and an eagle...
 - Have statues of winged _____ found in ruins of Babylon.
 - Wings torn off – depicts events of chapter 4
 - Beast 2 – resembles bear but positioned quite strangely (raised on one side, 3 ribs in mouth...)
 - Either in attack mode &/or reflects that one side is stronger than the other.
 - 3 ribs probably refer to 3 _____ of the empire...
 - Medo-Persian Empire is Beast 2 (Persia dominates Mede...)
 - Beast 3 – resembles a leopard but it has 4 wings & 4 heads...
 - _____ Empire followed Medo-Persian Empire (Alexander the Great in 10 years...)
 - After Alexander died, empire split into ____ parts
 - Beast 4 – most detailed yet does not resemble any animal to speak of...
 - Terrifying, dreadful, exceedingly powerful & merciless.
 - 10 horns, another horn joins them & overpowers 3 of other horns – eyes like man, boasting...
 - _____ Empire and more; 10 horns represent 10 kings/kingdoms/nations
- V. **Now What? How do these beasts then matter to me now?**
- Depicts future events at a time when Jews wondered if God was still there for them...
 - For I am God... declaring the ____ from the _____
 - He reminds them He was still in control & working all things out...
 - All of Daniel thus far depicts that the Most High Living God is _____ over the nations...
 - God is working out His plan today in the midst of very trying times...
 - As our country continues to fall... God is still in control – bring us comfort.
 - In those difficult moments in your life, God is still working out His plan... He is at work...
 - God only causes things to work together for good to those who ____ Him, called according to His...
 - Passage reminds us of the veracity of Scripture – the Bible is authentic, true...
 - Wisdom of man pales in comparison to the wisdom of God... seek His wisdom in the Holy Bible
 - Only an omniscient, omnipotent, sovereign God could know & bring to pass – _____ Him!