

Daniel's Vision in Chapter 7 and New Testament Visions

Chart 2

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"In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, *and* told the sum of the matters. ²Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. ³And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. ⁴The first *was* like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. ⁵And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and *it had* three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. ⁶After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it. ⁷After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it *was* diverse from all the beasts that *were* before it; and it had ten horns. ⁸I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn *were* eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. ⁹I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire. ¹⁰A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. ¹¹I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld *even* till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. ¹²As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time. ¹³I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. ¹⁴And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed. ¹⁵I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of *my* body, and the visions of my head troubled me. ¹⁶I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things. ¹⁷These great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings, *which* shall arise out of the earth. ¹⁸But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever. ¹⁹Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth *were of* iron, and his nails *of* brass; *which* devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; ²⁰And of the ten horns that *were* in his head, and *of* the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even *of* that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look *was* more stout than his fellows. ²¹I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; ²²Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom. ²³Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. ²⁴And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are* ten kings *that* shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. ²⁵And he shall speak *great* words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. ²⁶But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy *it* unto the end. ²⁷And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him. ²⁸Hitherto *is* the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart."

This vision in Chapter 7 is much the same in meaning as Daniel's interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's in chapter 2:36-45. They both speak of the same four Kingdoms, prior to God setting up His Kingdom upon the earth. Babylon is the Lion, vs 4; Media-Persia is the bear, vs 5; Greece is the Leopard of vs 6; and Rome is the terrible beast of verses 7-8.

There are absolutely NO Old Testament sightings of the "Son of man" in heaven, except in this vision! And it is important to notice that this "Son of man" did not approach the Ancient of days until *after* these "World Kingdoms" were cast down! The Roman Empire did not fall until 476 AD. However, in the vision from chapter 2, the Roman Empire was represented by two substances, Iron and Clay. Many feel that the political side of this Empire was the clay, and the Religious side of this Empire is the Iron (The Roman Catholic Church). This kingdom did not fall until the "God of heaven set up a kingdom." Dan 2:44-45.

So when did the "Son of man" approach the Ancient of days? It is amazing that NO other Old Testament Vision speaks about this "Son of man!" If the Son of God were indeed eternal, *where is he?* It was in 29 AD, that Jesus, speaking at his trial stated, "**Hereafter** shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." Notice that Jesus stated this would occur "hereafter!" In Acts 7:55-60, Stephen sees the first vision of heaven after the crucifixion. In verse 56, he said, "Behold I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." Saul (Paul) also saw Jesus in Acts 9:1-8, 1 Cor 15:8; Then of course, the last vision in the New Testament was by John, the writer of Revelation. Stephen is the only one to have a New Testament vision that speaks of this "right hand" place. There are however, many writers who tell about it. Ps. 110:1 is quoted many times in the NT. "The LORD said unto my Lord, sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool." The operative word in this verse is "UNTIL." There is coming a time when Jesus will not be in this right hand place, but it will be Jesus who reigns forever, as King of kings and Lord of lords! "Then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory." Mt 25:31; That "God may be all in all." 1 Cor. 15:24-28. Compare the description given to the Ancient of days in Dan. 7:9 and the one given to the Glorified Christ in Rev. 1:13-15!

