

Daniel 7 Vision of *The Four Beasts*



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The Purpose: To Give Evidence to the Saints
That **NOTHING** will overpower GOD!



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Dan 7:1 In the first year of *Belshazzar king of Babylon* Daniel saw a dream.

- Nebuchadnezzar Dan 1-4.
- **Belshazzar** Dan 5.
- Darius Dan 6.

**FLASH
BACK** ←

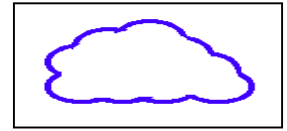
To Babylonian Empire

Reason:

All Daniel's **OWN** visions are grouped together.

Daniel 7 Vision of The *Four Beasts*

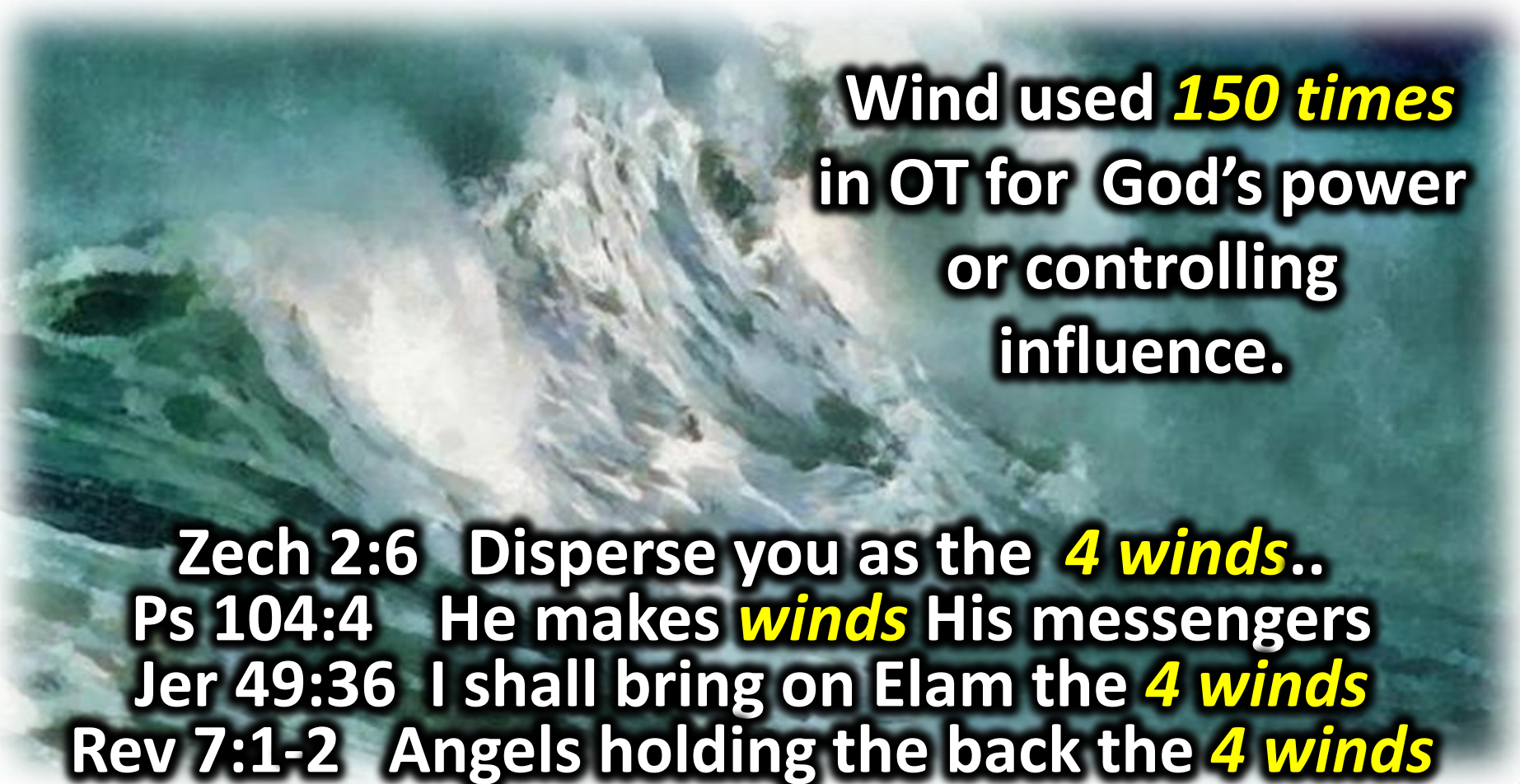
Dan 7:1 “Daniel *saw a dream* & visions in his mind as he lay on his bed; then *he wrote the dream down...*”



Dan 7 *Daniel records his dream* of Four Beasts

Daniel 7 Vision of The *Four Beasts*

Dan 7:2 Daniel said, "I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven *were stirring up the great sea.*"



Wind used **150 times** in OT for God's power or controlling influence.

Zech 2:6 Disperse you as the **4 winds**..

Ps 104:4 He makes **winds** His messengers

Jer 49:36 I shall bring on Elam the **4 winds**

Rev 7:1-2 Angels holding the back the **4 winds**

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Dan 7:2 “The four winds of heaven were *stirring up the great sea.*”

The *Sea* is often used for a metaphor of ‘The Nations; or restless society’

Isa 17:12 Roaring of *sea* like the rushing of the nations..

Isa 57:20 Tossing *sea* like the wicked

Rev 17:15 the *waters* are peoples multitudes, nations, tongues..

Rev 13:1 I saw a beast coming out of the *sea*..

Rev 21:1 No longer any *sea* (restless society)

Compare **Daniel 2** and **Daniel 7**

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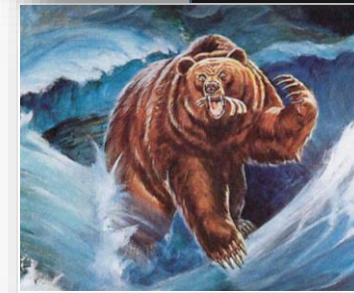
Gold

Babylonians
Dan 2:38



Silver

Medes
Dan 5:28



Bronze

Greeks
Dan 8:20-21



**Iron &
clay**

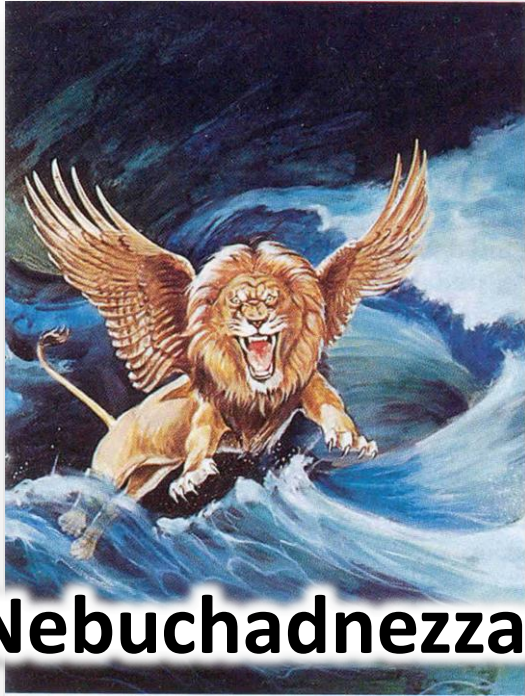
Romans
Luke 2:1



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Daniel 7 Vision of The *Four Beasts*



Dan 7:3 "*And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another.*

v4 "The first was like *a lion* and had the *wings of an eagle.*"

Nebuchadnezzar likened to a *lion* Jer 49:19,30; 50:17

Nebuchad.. like an *eagle* Jer 49: 22, 30; Ezk 17: 3, 12

Winged Lion a Babylonian symbol!

Daniel experienced his deportation *70 years ago* !



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Dan 7:4 I kept looking until its *wings were plucked*, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; *a human mind also was given to it.*

This mighty empire, with the *speed of an eagle*, and the *fierceness of a lion* would be checked. Its ferocity would be tamed, and it would be *characterized by comparative moderation & humanity.*

(Cf Barnes)



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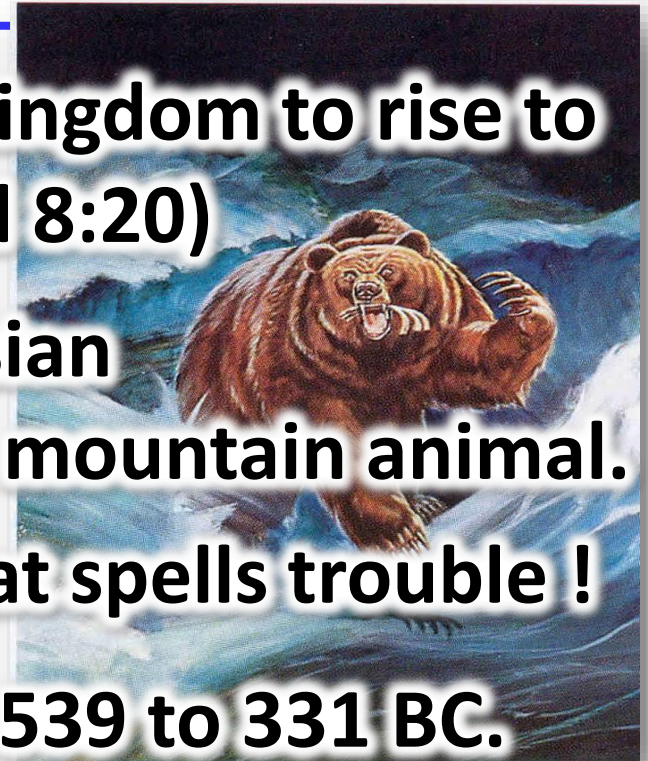
Dan 7:5 "And behold, another beast, a second one, *resembling a bear*. And it was raised up on one side, *and three ribs* were in its mouth between its teeth; and thus **they** said to it, *Arise, devour much meat!*"

Medo-Persians were the next Kingdom to rise to power. (Dan 5:30-31; 6:8; and 8:20)

The bear represents Medo – Persian as generally (*not exclusively*) a mountain animal.

Bother a bear when *eating*—that spells trouble !

They were in power **200 years**; 539 to 331 BC.



Daniel 7 Vision of The *Four Beasts*

Dan 7:6 "After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, *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.

Greeks under Alexander the Great known for his *lightning-quick* speed
(Dan 2:32, 39 bronze; 8:21 *Greece*)

Alexander: the greatest military strategist in the world 334-323 BC

Leopard with 4 heads: *Alexander's 4 generals*.
Cassander, Ptolemy, Antigonus, and Seleucus.
They & successors ruled till about AD 64; 270 yrs. 11



Daniel 7 Vision of The *Four Beasts*

Dan 7:7 "After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong and *it had large iron teeth.*"

It devoured and crushed, and trampled down the remainder with its feet; & it was different from all the beasts that were before it, & it had 10 horns.



Rome had multiple Caesars & crushed every thing.

Rome conquered Palestine in 63BC under Pompey.

Rome is the iron legs & crumbly feet in Dan 2, a fierce beast here & the abomination of desolation in Dan 9.

Daniel 7 Vision of The *Four Beasts*

Dan 7:8 "While I was contemplating the horns, behold, *another horn, a little one, came up* among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it..

Emperor *Domitian*

v20

(McGuiggan; Daniel; p140f)

One of the kings of the 4th beast (v7-8; 24)

A braggart (v8; 20)

Persecutes saints (v21, 25)

Spoke against God (v25)

Claiming himself as *Deity*. (McGuiggan; p141-143)



v.9-14 THE THRONE SCENE

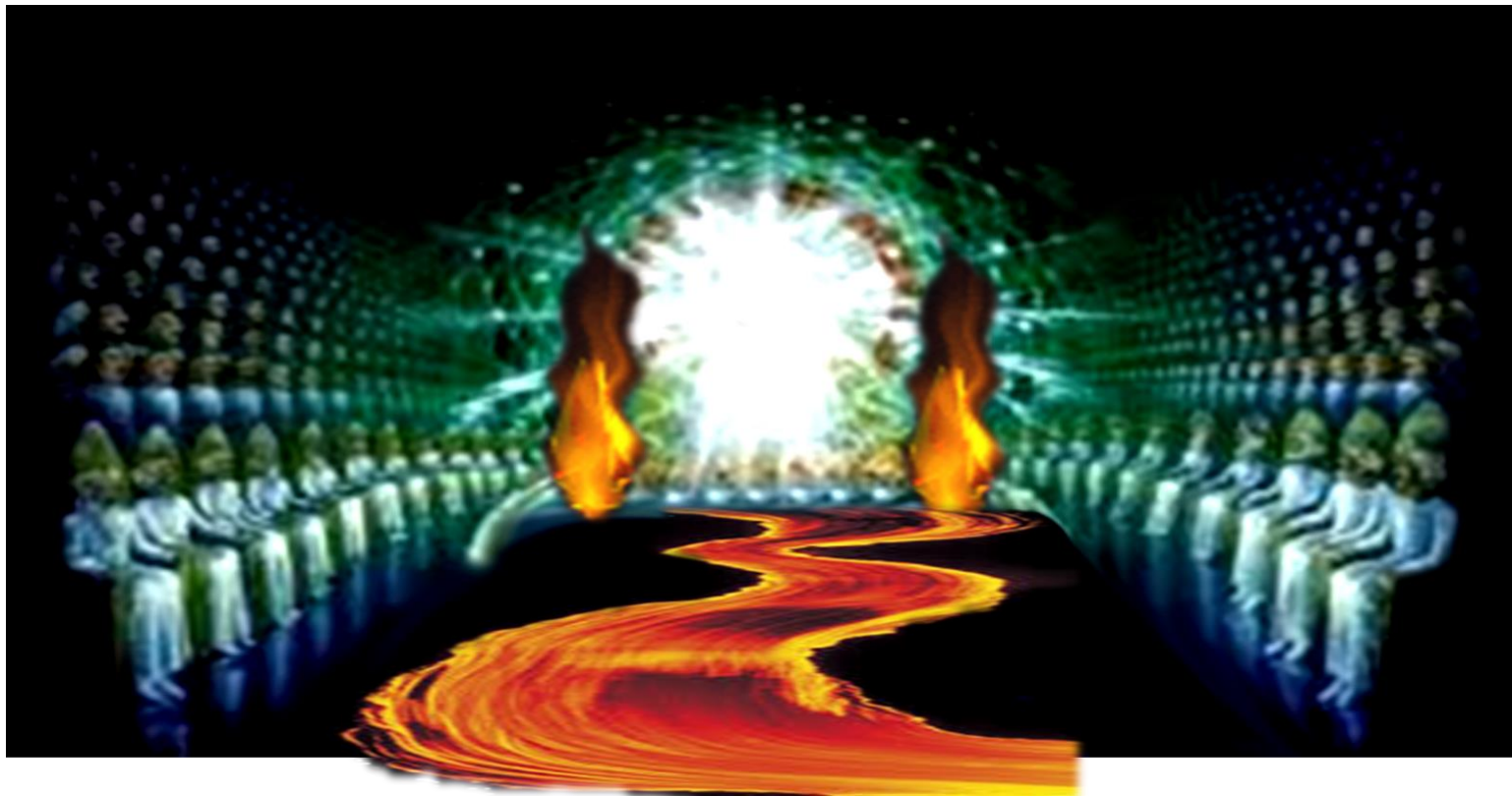
Dan 7:9 I kept looking Until thrones were set up,
And the *Ancient of Days took His seat*; His vesture
was like white snow, And the hair of His head like
pure wool. His throne was ablaze with flames,
Its wheels were a burning fire.



God's fiery
judgment on
throne with
**WHEELS OF
FLAME.** (Ezk
1:18, 26-27)

v.9-14 THE THRONE SCENE

Dan 7:10 "*A river of fire was flowing* and coming out from before Him; *Thousands upon thousands* were attending Him, and myriads upon myriads were standing before Him; *The court sat, and the books were opened.*



v.9-14 THE THRONE SCENE

Dan 7:10 The court sat, *and the books* were opened.



Books: God' Word and their evil deeds. (Ex 32:32; Ps 69:28; Ps 139:16; Mal 3:16; **Rev. 20:10-12**)

Beast was slain : And it's body was destroyed (v.11). National judgment (Rev 19:20-21)

v.9-14 THE THRONE SCENE

Dan 7:13 “ I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven one like a Son of Man was coming, and *He came up* to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him.”

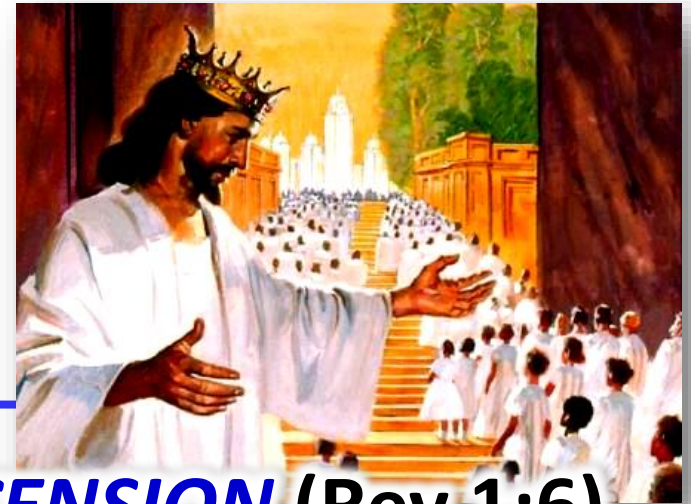
*This describes
Jesus' Ascension
Acts 1:9; 2:33-34*

*Not his return
to earth !*

v.9-14 THE THRONE SCENE

Dan 7:14 And to him was given dominion, glory *and a kingdom*, that all the peoples, nations, & men of every language might serve Him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion which will not pass away; and *His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed.*



His kingdom STARTED at his ASCENSION (Rev 1:6)

He has *Dominion* Now ! (Eph 1:19-21)

He has *Glory* Now ! (John 17:5)

He has *Kingdom* Now ! (Col 1:13; Lk 1:32-33)

Daniel 7 Vision of The *Four Beasts*

v.15-28 The Vision Explained

v.15-22 Daniels asks an explanation (read)

v.23-28 The Vision Explained

v.25 **Alteration in the times..** claiming to be deity (Dan 4:25)

v.25 **Time, times, half a time:** time of persecution **Not the complete Christian age.** (Dan 4:16; 12:7; Rev 13:5, 11:2-3)

v.27 **All Sovereignty:** All glory, power everything now possessed by the saints! **WE WIN !!!**