

**Sunday, February 16, 2025**  
**Title:** “The Ancient of Days and the Son of Man”  
**Text:** Daniel 7  
**Series:** *The Book of Daniel*

## [Orienting Ourselves to Daniel 7–12](#)

- (1) Symbolic Pictures**
- (2) Glimpses into the Future (near and far)**
- (3) Clear and Unclear (e.g. Jesus’ Parables)**
- (4) Scripture Interprets Scripture**
- (5) Down the Spiral Staircase**

### **Daniel 7**

#### [The Vision in Dream](#)

**#1. In the first year of King Belshazzar’s reign, Daniel receives a dream, a vision from God (Daniel 7:1–8):**

- **4 winds of heaven (stirring the great sea) (v. 2)**
- **4 great beasts (came up out of the sea) (v. 3)**
  - First Beast = Lion with Eagles Wings but humbled (i.e. Nebuchadnezzar who represents the Kingdom of Babylon) (v. 4)
  - Second Beast = Bear with three ribs in mouth (v. 5)
  - Third Beast = Leopard with four wings on its back (v. 6)
    - Had four heads and dominion
  - Fourth Beast = Terrifying and Strong (iron teeth) (v. 7)
    - Different from others; 10 horns
      - 1 horn emerges “eyes of a man and a moth speaking great things” (v. 8)

## #2. A Vision of Heaven (7:9–14).

- **The Ancient of Days (seated, worshipped by thousands; sat in judgment)**
  - **“the beast was killed” and all the beasts dominion was taken away**

Daniel 7:12 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> *As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.*

- **The Son of Man**
  - **Came to the Ancient of Days—with the clouds of heaven—and receives glory, and an everlasting kingdom**

Daniel 7:13–14 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> *“I saw in the night visions,  
and behold, with the clouds of heaven  
there came one like a son of man,  
and he came to the Ancient of Days  
and was presented before him.*

<sup>14</sup> *And to him was given dominion  
and glory and a kingdom,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him;  
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,  
which shall not pass away,  
and his kingdom one  
that shall not be destroyed.*

## The Interpretation

### **#3. Daniel is troubled and requests the meaning, and it is given to him (vv. 15–16)**

#### **A. The 4 Great Beasts = 4 Great Kings (v. 17)**

1) The 4<sup>th</sup> Beast was different from the others and more terrifying (v. 19)

a) The Little Horn that rose above the rest and “spoke boastfully” waged war against and was defeating the “holy people” (v. 21)

b) Until the “Ancient of Days came and pronounced judgment (v. 22)

2) The Explanation:

- The 4<sup>th</sup> Beast = the 4<sup>th</sup> Kingdom (v. 23)
- The 10 Horns = 10 kings who come after the 4<sup>th</sup> kingdom (v. 24a)
- The Little Horn that Rises above the rest = A King who blasphemes the Most High God and oppresses his people for “a time, times, and half a time” (vv. 24b–25)
- In God’s timing, even the Little Horn King will lose all power and the Most High God will be universally worshipped and His people will inherit His forever kingdom (vv. 26–27)
- (Again, Daniel is troubled (v. 28).

#### **B. “The saints of the Most High shall receive” the forever kingdom (v. 18)**

### APPLICATIONS:

**1) God rules over all of the kingdoms of this world.**

**2) God has appointed times for earthly regimes.**

**3) God’s people will face hostility from the kingdom of this world.**

**4) God’s people will victoriously reign in God’s forever kingdom because of the Ancient of Days (cf. Daniel 7:18, 23).**