



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

God Shares His World Game Plan (Daniel 7)

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Family members share their plans. God told His friend Abraham what He was going to do (Genesis 18:17). Jesus explained this close relationship with His followers (John 15:15). Daniel served in the top leadership of three successive world empires, providing God's vision for their administration. Daniel could explain God's game plan. Do feel less drama when seeing reruns of spectacular sports events?

INTRODUCTION

God scattered descendants of Noah's sons throughout what became known as Asia (Genesis 11). God called out Abraham to settle in what was called the land of Canaan, now mostly Israel and Jordan (Genesis 12). Abraham's son Jacob was called to move his family to Egypt, about 1875 B.C. This put God's chosen people under the protective custody of powerful pharaohs for 430 years. Moses led the million-member family of Hebrews back to Canaan. During this forty-year trek, God instructed them on how to live in the theocratic nation called Israel. The nation grew to prominence then fell from favor between 1400 B.C. and 605 B.C. God judged His people by giving them over to be conquered by Babylon, the world power of the time. **Have seen some leaders, even nations rise to prominence then fall from favor?**

GOD'S PLAN FOR THE NATIONS INTO ETERNITY

Daniel 7:2-3 Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. "And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other." (NKJV)

Daniel wrote this in 533 B.C., long before the kingdoms of Persia, Greece, and Rome were formed. He saw the kingdoms that ruled over Israel into eternity.

The sea represented multitudes of people; winds and darkness refer to evil, perhaps satanic activity.

The lion represented Babylon with its great power and speed in conquering. Winged lion statues were at the gates of Babylon palaces.

A second beast, a bear, was what started as co-rule of Medes and Persians. The three ribs in its mouth referred to the kingdoms of Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt.

A leopard represented the Greek Empire of Alexander the Great. He died at the age of thirty-three, after conquering the world (323 B.C.). The four heads represented the four generals who divided the empire.

A fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, was not like any others. Its iron teeth devoured and crushed everything in sight. It had ten horns, then a little one grew up among them, speaking pompous words, persecuting God's saints. This vision represented the revived Roman empire, with ten kings, then an eleventh; the Antichrist, who rules for a season (Revelation 13:1-10).

What signs show this season may be near?

THE ANCIENT OF DAYS REIGNS IN JUDGMENT

Daniel 7:26-27 "But the judgment will be set, and they will take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it to the end. The kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole sky, will be given to the people of the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions will serve and obey him." (WEB)

The vision of a fourth and final human kingdom is of a worldwide empire. The ruler may be powerful yet is only a man who faces judgment. This judgment is pictured as the rock which would smash the ten toes of the statue in God's vision given to King Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 2:31-35). The "rock" is a picture of Jesus, who is called the Son-Of-Man.

How do we get listed in the Book of Life and avoid judgment? (Luke 23:39-43)

Where are the non-Jewish people in God's game plan for the world? (Romans 11:25-27)

A PRAYER

Almighty God, thank You for revealing how my life fits into Your plan for the remainder of time. Please include my name in Your Book of Life and rescue me before the tribulation of the last days. I pray in the Name of Jesus. Amen!