



# CAPITOL COMMISSION<sup>®</sup>

## The Ancient of Days Rules

MAY 8-10, 2024

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**Daniel 7:9-12** *I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; 10) A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. 11) I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. 12) As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. (NKJV)*

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*IMMEDIATELY I WAS IN THE SPIRIT; AND BEHOLD, A THRONE SET IN HEAVEN, AND ONE SAT ON THE THRONE. AND HE WHO SAT THERE WAS LIKE A JASPER AND A SARDIUS STONE IN APPEARANCE; AND THERE WAS A RAINBOW AROUND THE THRONE, IN APPEARANCE LIKE AN EMERALD.*  
REVELATION 4:2-3

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Is this the first time that the title “*Ancient of Days*” appears in Scripture? What is the significance of all the white? Has any ruler ever had a throne of fire? Why the wheels? Does the Fiery stream point to His judgments? How many is a “*thousand thousands*”? How long would it take to count 10,000 times 10,000? Is the court in session? What is in the books? How did we move from the courtroom scene in heaven back to earth so quickly? Had the horn ever quit speaking? Did he realize he was creating his own demise? What about the other beasts?

### FOCUS ON FUTURE BIBLE STUDIES:

- MAY 15-17: DANIEL 7:13-18 *THE KINGDOM OF THE SAINTS*
- MAY 22-24: DANIEL 7:19-25 *THE FOURTH BEAST PERSECUTES THE SAINTS*

Daniel had just seen the startling phenomenon introducing the “*times of the Gentiles*” with four winds from each corner of the globe colliding in the midst of the sea with tsunami whitecaps crashing against one another and four predatory beasts arising out of this tumultuous sea. Each of these beasts were represented earlier in the image dream of King Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 2. The first was a lion with the wings of an eagle, representing the swift conquering of the first world empire—the Babylonian. Then it had its wings removed and was made to stand up like a man and was given the heart of a man. This head of gold was converted after eating grass for seven years and King Nebuchadnezzar proclaims it to all the world in Daniel 4. His empire is no longer predatory as it assumes a human posture and heart and he glorifies the “*King of heaven*” (4:37). Suddenly, another beast followed like a bear with one side raised picturing the dominance of the Persian rulers in the Medo-Persian empire. It is told to “*devour much flesh*” (7:5) and has three ribs in its mouth, resembling their major areas of expansion into Babylon, Lydia and Egypt. As Daniel continues to look, a leopard appears with four wings, picturing the lightning speed Alexander the Great conquered the world to expand the Greek empire when God gave him dominion. Daniel is most astounded by the fourth beast, most predatory in its description: “*dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong ... huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet*” (7:7). This Roman empire was excessively cruel, with crucifixion as its form of execution, which our Lord Jesus embraced to pay the penalty for our sin. As the influence of Rome emerges into the last days there are “*ten horns*” or kings, of which three are supplanted by the “*little horn,*” the Antichrist, “*speaking pompous words.*”

### BIBLE STUDIES

WEDNESDAY @ 8:30 AM – BIBLE STUDY – FREDERICKSBURG – 106 CARTER ST & NOON – FAIRFAX – DENNY’S, 10473 FAIRFAX BLVD.

THURSDAY @ 8:00 AM – BIBLE STUDY – RICHMOND – SHONEY’S, HULL & COURTHOUSE & NOON – LYNCHBURG – PANERA BREAD, 3901 OLD FOREST RD.

FRIDAY @ 8:30 AM – BIBLE STUDY – SUFFOLK – CHICK-FIL-A, 6212 COLLEGE DRIVE, NEAR HAMPTON ROADS CROSSING

# Virginia

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*AND HE WAS GIVEN A MOUTH SPEAKING GREAT THINGS AND BLASPHEMIES, AND HE WAS GIVEN AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE FOR FORTY-TWO MONTHS. REVELATION 13:5*

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### I. THE PREVAILING COURT

#### DANIEL 7:9-10

Suddenly, Daniel's gaze is attracted by the sovereign, all-powerful court in heaven as its Session began. And who can better judge than the One who was there and saw it, the day it occurred and knows all law for all time and every case that was ever rendered? The "Ancient of Days" was seated on his throne rendering perfect justice. His purity in truth and justice is pictured in his robe "white as snow" and his hair "as pure wool." Fire is used to picture God's wrath against sin, "For our God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:29). Not only is His throne given a double emphasis on fire, but also its "wheels," emphasizing God's omnipresence. Regarding His justice upon sin, "A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him." The majesty of his court is unrivaled in that it is attended by "A thousand thousands" who continually served Him and an innumerable host of "ten thousand times ten thousand" who stood before Him to do His bidding. As the court began its proceedings, there would be no questioning of witnesses here, because the Judge saw everything that occurred and it was all written down. The trial began when "the books were opened." Little did the horn know it but, as Daniels murderers proved their guilt before the king with their proud words of triumph over him, so this little horn is incriminating himself before the court.

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*"FOR BY YOUR WORDS YOU WILL BE JUSTIFIED, AND BY YOUR WORDS YOU WILL BE CONDEMNED." MATTHEW 12:37*

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### II. THE POMPOUS CONDEMNED

#### DANIEL 7:11

Though Daniel is staring at the greatest courtroom scene, his attention was drawn back again to the "little horn"

because the noise from his mouth has continued loudly all along. "Because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking," Daniel cannot help but be astounded by his unparalleled arrogance. This Antichrist had the audacity to attack God personally, as well as His dwelling place, and all who ministered to him. "Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven" (Revelation 13:6). He also makes "war with the saints" and even "overcome them" and much worse, he was given authority "over every tribe, tongue and nation" (13:7). But Daniel continued to watch "till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed, and given to the burning flame." This entire evil empire who followed the Antichrist is destroyed with its leader in a cataclysmic event, the final battle wherein the beast and the false prophet were captured, and "These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone" (Rev. 19:20ff).

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*AND I SAW A GREAT WHITE THRONE AND HIM WHO SAT ON IT, FROM WHOSE FACE THE EARTH AND HEAVEN FLED AWAY. AND THERE WAS NO PLACE FOUND FOR THEM. AND I SAW THE DEAD, SMALL AND GREAT, STANDING BEFORE GOD, AND THE BOOKS WERE OPENED. AND ANOTHER BOOK WAS OPENED, WHICH IS THE BOOK OF LIFE. AND THE DEAD WERE JUDGED ACCORDING TO THEIR WORKS, BY THE THINGS THAT WERE WRITTEN IN THE BOOKS.*

REVELATION 20:11-12

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### III. THE PERCEPTIVE CONTRAST DANIEL 7:12

Daniel looks back at the previous beasts representing the world empires before the final Roman empire. Not only had man not evolved, but they had grown worse, they had devolved over the course of time, as was made clear by both visions. Though "they had their dominion taken away," yet they had never suffered complete annihilation. At least "their lives were prolonged for a season and a time," they were never decimated by a complete loss of everyone in the entire empire, like the last one.

#### Questions to Ponder:

- 1) Have you recognized your sin before a Sovereign God and received Jesus as your Lord?
- 2) Are you aware that your words have consequences, not only here, but before God for all eternity?
- 3) When you stand before God as your Judge in eternity, do you know that your name is written in the Book of life?