

“Know What is Coming!”
Daniel 7: 1-8

September 22, 2019

Daniel 7 is the blueprint for Bible Prophecy

Be prepared, *be ready!*

Only he who knows prophecy can dwell in the calm of eternity now

Daniels apocalyptic dream -

“apokalupto” = to remove the cover, remove that which conceals something

The lid is removed *so we can know what is coming!*

Why prophecy is important:

(Charles Feinberg)

1) It will bring us near to God -

Friends, *not servants*, are told confidences

2) It brightens hope -

Hope looks onward

3) It affords a true perspective of history -

A proper perspective of our world is not the news, ***but God's Word!***

Why prophecy is important:

(Charles Feinberg)

4) It purifies the life -

It's a mighty force to shape the life in conformity with God's will

Bottom Line:

Knowing that this is all true, that history is *His Story*, is being played out right before our eyes and is motivation to really serve our King

Verse 1

Daniel's flashback dream

The time:

14 years prior to Belshazzar's party in Chapter 5

Daniel wrote down his dream *so we can know what is coming!*

Bible Prophecy proves the Bible is true; *it is the only Holy Book with fulfilled prophecy!!*

28% of the Bible is prophecy -

God expects His people ***to know what is coming*** - so study!

There is a move in the Church today not to study prophecy - “it’s too complex, too divisive, too scary”

God expects His people ***to know what is coming!!***

Not to panic, but be prepared, and live in peace knowing ***GOD IS IN CONTROL!!***

Verse 2 - 3

Four beasts come out of the sea

Proper rules for interpretation:

- 1) Consult the immediate context for an answer
- 2) If none is found, look elsewhere in the same book
- 3) If none is found, look elsewhere in the Bible - *it will be found!*

Four winds = “*ruach*” = wind or spirit
Represents God’s power/omnipotence

Great Sea = Mediterranean Sea and
Gentile nations around the
Mediterranean Sea

Beasts = Gentile nations that come out
of the sea; all have dominion over
Israel

Time of the Gentiles = The long period of time from the Babylonian Empire to the Second Coming of the Messiah, during which time the Gentiles have dominance over the city of Jerusalem
Luke 21: 24

Fullness of the Gentiles = A set number saved during the Church Age - from Pentecost to the Rapture
Romans 11: 25-36

Acts 15: 14

God's view of the Gentile Nations -

BEASTS!!

Verse 4 - 6

The first three beasts

Lion with eagle's wings = Babylon

Bear = Medo-Persia - second in power to the lion - huge army (2.5 million men) - devoured 3 kingdoms

Leopard = 4 wings, 4 heads is Greece
Moved very swiftly; when broken up, 4 generals divided the kingdom.
With 35,000 men, defeated Persia's massive army

Four Divisions:

- Ptolemy had Egypt and South Israel
- Seleucus had North Israel and Syria
- Lysimachus had Asia Minor
- Cassander had Macedonia

In the following chapters, Daniel will focus on Ptolemy and Seleucus areas, which were pertinent to Israel

Verse 7 - 8

The fourth beast - Rome

Rome was worse than the first 3 -

**It devoured, broke in pieces, and
was more ferocious than previous
empires**

**In the future, it will be different
than the other beasts =**

**Ten horns - ten kingdoms - ten
kings**

A little horn = anti-christ, a little one
Starts out slow and gains power and
influence

Three horns are plucked out by the
roots -

plucked = rendered helpless

Seven kings submit to anti-christ
Three resist and are overcome

Why will the world follow anti-christ?

World turmoil will facilitate his rise

He comes on a Whitehorse and ushers in a false peace -

Revelation 6: 2

People will love him -

Deception will abound -

2 Thessalonians 2: 8-12

CONCLUSION: *KNOW WHAT IS COMING*

- Anti-christ is a deceiver
- God holds believers responsible to know what is coming
- Scripture is replete with *“let no one deceive you”* - *know the WORD!*
- Times will be marked by the Church falling away (apostasy - choosing to stay away *from the true faith*)

Prophecy is important to God!

It must be important to you!!

***KNOW WHAT IS
COMING!!***