



Daniel

Chapter 7


“Welcome to the Jungle”



Message by Pastor Jeff 1-8-17
Message Based Questions to help your personal Study & LifeGroup Discussions

 **CONNECTING:** *Connecting to one another with a warm up question or through worship.*

Thinking about the future (5 years; 10 years; 20 years)—What events are you looking forward to? What are you not looking forward to?

 **EXPLORING IT:** *Review the sermon outline and explore the message by using the following Q's which will help you dig in a little deeper and make sure you get the message.*

*The mission of the church is to transform the world through the life-changing message of Jesus for the glory of God.
By loving God, loving God's people and then loving the world.*

To Listen to Message (CTRL + Click the Link)

<http://www.northlakeonline.org/messages/index.html>

If someone were to describe you as an animal—what would it be and why?

Lion with eagle's wings; Bear with 3 ribs; Leopard with 4 wings; Monster with 10 horns—What do these images and this vision teach us?

The Little Horn; Ancient of Day; Son of Man—Who do these represent? What do these teach us?

What are we learning about God and how does this relate to our daily lives?

How does the description of God “Ancient of Days” give us hope and stability when times are tough?

Why do you think that Chapter 2 of Daniel showed the outward glory of these empires and here in Chapter 7 we see them as untamed jungle beasts?

What do the horns represent? What is going to happen after them?

What was Daniel's reaction to this dream? Why do you think he would be anxious?

How does reading and learning about this chapter affect your attitude toward the future?

How are you preparing yourself spiritually?

How are you striving to rescue others?

What are things from the message and this discussion that God has revealed to you? How can we pray for you?



PRAY IT: *Now that you have connected, explored and applied it—it is now time to tap into the power of prayer individually throughout the week as well as corporately praying for one another. Perhaps by sharing the real life challenges and blessings with one another this will help people see what God can do in their lives and will lead them into a plan of action.*

Interesting thoughts from Larry Wilson on the subject:

God Amplifies the Matrix About fifty years after God gave King Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel the vision of the metal man, Daniel received a second vision. This second vision is important for several reasons. First, Daniel 7 is a repetition and expansion of Daniel 2. The vision in Daniel 2 is amplified in Daniel 7 so that we might better understand the ways and plans of God. Second, Daniel 7 is an important vision because God adds certain details to the prophetic matrix which later visions will build upon. Daniel 7 identifies the timing of two events upon which other prophecies depend. If the timing of these two events are overlooked or inaccurately identified, the other prophecies that depend upon this timing will not harmonize. Bible prophecy is something like a house of cards. Every new layer depends upon the strength of the layer beneath it. The vision in Daniel 2 can be compared to “sub-flooring,” that is, the first layer in our prophetic understanding. Daniel 2 describes a chronological sequence of seven kingdoms that spans more than 2,600 years (605 B.C. to the Second Coming). If the vision in Daniel 2 is sub-flooring, then the vision in Daniel 7 is the flooring. Daniel 7 lies on top of Daniel 2. (See Chart 3.1.) When bonded together, these two visions strengthen each other. Both visions are identical in length because they cover the same time period. The “nails” that hold these two visions together are the elements within them. The first four kingdoms described in Daniel 2 perfectly align with the four beasts described in Daniel 7. Thus, the four beasts in Daniel 7 are a repetition and enlargement of the first four kingdoms presented in Daniel 2. Carefully notice how repetition and enlargement is used in Chart 3.1. By amplifying the elements of each vision with information from other visions, God demonstrates the all important operation of a matrix, and this matrix makes our prophetic foundation more secure.

Timing	605 B.C.	538 B.C.	331 B.C.	168 B.C.
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Daniel 7	Lion with Eagle's Wings	Bear with Three Ribs	Leopard with Four Wings	Monster with 10 Horns
(Flooring)				
Daniel 2	Head of Gold	Chest of Silver	Thighs of Bronze	Legs of Iron
(Subflooring)				
Kingdoms:	Babylon	Medo-Persia	Grecia	Rome

For at least two reasons, God implemented this architecture in Daniel so that history would produce this matrix. First, if the same kingdom is identified in different visions with unique specifications, the chance of misinterpretation is greatly reduced, and different views of the same kingdom expand our understanding of that kingdom and its duration. For example, the thighs of bronze in Daniel 2 represent the same kingdom as the leopard with four wings in Daniel 7. (Notice the kingdom of Grecia in Chart 3.1.) Second, God established the matrix in Daniel because He foreknew that He could build on it 700 years later when He gave John the visions recorded in Revelation. In other words, the matrix established in Daniel is integral to the book of Revelation.

Keep Pressing On!
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