

DANIEL PART 3

JAMIE MCNAB

14.1.17

Let's start with a quick recap from last week.

Chapter 4 ... this entire chapter in the Bible was written by someone who was not a man of God ... Nebuchadnezzar. He had a vision of a tree cut down ... stump left. Daniel revealed that because of his arrogance ... he would lose his mind for 7 years ... restored when he learned humility. Then he wrote his story ... now in our Bibles ... written by a Babylonian King.

Chapter 5 ... "writing on the wall" ... this was the last day of the Babylonian Empire ... October 12, 539 BC. A ghostly hand appeared and wrote the words, "Mene, Mene, Terkel and Parsin" on the wall during King Belshazzar's drunken banquet. Nobody knew what it meant apart from Daniel. It meant, "Basically ... your number's up ... you've been weighed in the balance ... the kingdom will be divided". Fell that very night (not physically ... but politically).

Chapter 6 ... Daniel at this stage occupied a high position under King Darius. Other governors were jealous (because it looked like Darius was ready to promote Daniel to the top position). They set Darius up. "Why don't you pass a law that no one in the entire Empire can petition anyone, any God, other than you for thirty days ... or be thrown in the lions' den". Daniel continued to pray (privately) ... but he was found ...so then he was thrown into the lions' den. Darius grieved ... but was delighted the next morning to find Daniel still alive. He released Daniel and he threw the governors and their families in instead.

Daniel 7:1 (NKJV) The Four Beasts

1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts.

Back to some years earlier before Babylon fell.

Daniel 7:2-7 (NKJV)

2 Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea.

3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.

4 *The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it.*

5 "And suddenly another beast, *a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth.* And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'

6 "After this I looked, and there was another, *like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.* (*7 heads spread over these 4 beasts ... and 10 horns. The Revelation 13 beast is a composite of these 4 beasts*)

7 "After this I saw in the night visions, and *behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, (Deqaq = break in pieces, pulverise, smash, completely shatter) and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.*

It is generally accepted by most Bible scholars that:

- the Lion = Babylon
- the Bear = Medo-Persia
- the Leopard = Greece
- the 4th = Rome? ... which doesn't really fit. It didn't pulverise or smash in pieces. I would suggest this is Islam?

Note:

Daniel 7:17 (NKJV)

17 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth. (The Hebrew implies: "which will arise")

Daniel 7:17 (KJV)

17 ... four kings, **which shall arise** out of the earth.

Daniel 7:17 (NET)

17 ... four kings **who will arise** from the earth.

Daniel 7:17 (NASB)

17 ... four kings **who will arise** from the earth.

Daniel's vision during the last king of Babylon ... was it really about ancient Babylon ... or essentially all future??

If this is the future: the counterparts today:

- Lion = Babylon = Iraq
- Bear = Medo-Persia = Iran
- Leopard = 'Greece' ... but Javan = primarily occupied by Turkey
- 4th = Rome" ... I'm going to suggest still ...Islam?

The 4th Beast in verse 7 "breaks in pieces" = deqaq ... to pulverise ... smash ... crush. Remember the Iron Empire of Daniel 2 ... doesn't fit Rome very well?

Daniel 7:8 (NKJV)

8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words. (A pompous horn ... the Pope? Or the Islamic Antichrist?)

Daniel 7:9-14 (NKJV)

9 "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. (A time of judgment)

11 "I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the (little) 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.

13 "I was watching in the night visions,

And behold, One like the Son of Man,

Coming with the clouds of heaven! (Talking of the Lord Jesus)

He came to the Ancient of Days,

And they brought Him near before Him.

14 Then 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 the one

Which shall not be destroyed.

This prophecy goes all of the way until the end. The whole story.

This vision takes us right up to Jesus' return and the Kingdom of God.

Daniel 7:15-22 (NKJV)

15 "I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

16 I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things:

17 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise (or will arise) out of the earth.

18 But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

19 "Then I wished to know the truth about *the fourth beast*, which was *different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful*, with its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, *which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet*;

20 and the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, before which three fell, namely, *that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words*, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.

21 "I was watching; and the same horn (the little, pompous arrogant horn ... a strong, arrogant blasphemous leader) was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, (this will take us right up until Jesus return. This is prophecy still to be fulfilled)

22 until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favour of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.

Daniel 7:23-24 (NKJV)

23 "Thus he said:

'The fourth beast (Islam) shall be
A fourth kingdom on earth,
Which shall be different from all other kingdoms,
And shall devour the whole earth,
Trample it and break it in pieces. (Deqaq)

24 The ten horns are ten kings
Who shall arise from this kingdom. (10 other horns/kings/country leaders in association)
And another shall rise after them;
He shall be different from the first ones,
And shall subdue three kings. (The Pompous Horn subdues 3 of the 10. The Papacy?? ... eradicating the first 3 of the 10 consecutive horns? I don't see that. That is not a very good fit either. If today ... and if Islam ... then the 3 who are subdued could be Egypt ... Libya and Sudan ... Daniel 11:40-43)

Daniel 7:25 (NKJV)

25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High,
Shall persecute the saints of the Most High,
And shall intend to *change times and law.
Then the saints shall be given into his hand
For a time and times and half a time.

He persecutes/wears out/harasses the saints for 3½ years. Islam today ... in many countries ... does this to any people called Christians.

*Change times and laws. Rome: changed the Sabbath to Sunday. Is that the answer? I don't think so. Or ... Islam: imposing Sharia Law including changing the calendar and the Holy day to Fridays.

This brings us to The Kingdom following the destruction of this little horn!

Daniel 7:26-28 (NKJV)

26 **'But the court shall be seated,
And they shall take away his dominion,
To consume and destroy it forever.**

27 **Then the kingdom and dominion,
And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven,
Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.
His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.'**

28 **"This is the end of the account. *As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed; but I kept the matter in my heart.*"**

Daniel 8:1 (NKJV)

1 **In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me—to me, Daniel—after the one that appeared to me the first time.**

Daniel 8:2-4 (NKJV)

2 I saw in the vision, and it so happened while I was looking, that I was in Shushan, the citadel, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in the vision that I was by the River Ulai.

3 Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and there, standing beside the river, was a ram which had two horns, and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last. (Verse 20: Ram = Persia/Iran)

4 I saw the ram pushing westward, northward, and southward, so that no animal could withstand him; nor was there any that could deliver from his hand, but he did according to his will and became great. (NB: Not East)

Is this describing the Persian conquests of 539 BC ... when they defeated Babylon ... and the next couple of hundred years? Is this old history? Or otherwise? This is end-time. See the next few verses.

Daniel 8:17 (NKJV)

17 ... "Understand, son of man, that *the vision refers to the time of the end.*"

Daniel 8:19 (NKJV)

19 ... "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen *in the latter time* of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be.

Latter Time ... appointed time ... NASB ... "...It pertains to the appointed time of the end"

Daniel 8:23 (NKJV)

23 "And in the latter time of their kingdom,

Daniel 8:26 (NKJV)

26 ... "Therefore seal up the vision,
For it refers to many days in the future."

Compare:

Daniel 12:4 (NKJV)

4 "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and ***seal the book until the time of the end***; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

So ... it is very possible that Daniel 8:3-4 is describing an Iranian attack (Modern Persia) across the Middle East in the end-time?

Daniel 8:5-8 (NKJV)

5 And as I was considering, ***suddenly a male goat came from the west, across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat had a notable horn (horn= leadership) between his eyes.***

6 ***Then he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing beside the river, and ran at him with furious power.***

7 ***And I saw him confronting the ram; he was moved with rage against him, attacked the ram, and broke his two horns.***

There was no power in the ram to withstand him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled him; and ***there was no one that could deliver the ram from his hand.***

8 ***Therefore the male goat grew very great; but when he became strong, the large horn was broken, (the major leader destroyed) and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven.***

The He-Goat counter attacks. Verse 21: Greece = Hebrew: Javan = largely Asia Minor = Turkey in the main ... if we look at old maps.

So we have Iran going on a blitzkrieg attack.

If this prophecy is for the end-time ... then ... Turkey masterminds a destructive counter-attack against Iran ... perhaps fairly soon?

Today ... both nations are militarily powerful. Iran has nuclear ambitions ... developing its power and might ... with fanatical religious leaders who want to impose their version of Islam (Shia). Turkey is rapidly changing from a secular state "protected by its army" ... to Islamic. Mr Erdogan ... a charismatic leader ... has visions of restoring the Ottoman Islamic Empire. He has got rid of anyone who would stand against him.

Daniel 8:8 (NKJV)

8 **Therefore the male goat grew very great; but when he became strong, the large horn was broken, and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven.**

(Cp. Verse 22 ... 4 kingdoms. The Turkish nation will divide into 4 separate nations)

Daniel 8:9-14 (NKJV)

9 And **out of one of them (out of the 4 kingdoms that will materialise) came a little horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious Land.**

10 And it grew up to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and some of the stars to the ground, and trampled them.

11 **He (this little horn) even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down.**

12 Because of transgression, an army was given over to the horn to oppose the daily sacrifices; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered.

13 Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to that certain one who was speaking, "How long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifices and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled underfoot?"

14 And he said to me, "For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed." (*Things shall be put right*)

So ... the daily sacrifices are stopped by this individual. For how long? There are lots of debates! The major teaching of the Seventh Day Adventists is this is something that will last for 2,300 years. Starting from 457 BC --> 1844. William Miller (he was an adventist) expected Jesus' return in 1844. This didn't happen and is referred to historically as "The Great Disappointment". They adapted these 2,300 years into: Jesus entered the Holy of Holies in October 1844 ... to begin investigative judgment. It is almost certainly not 2,300 years. :)

So ... is the 2,300 days equivalent to 6 years and 4 months duration?

Daniel chapter 9 refers to a Covenant/Treaty that last 7 years ... so could it be referring to events within that? However ... Daniel 9 also refers to sacrifices being stopped and the Abomination of Desolation being set up ... at the half-way point ... so ... three and a half years to go ... approximately 1,260 days? So ... 2,300 days seems too big??

So a possible answer. The Hebrew in verse 14 is not "days". The word for "days" is "Yom" (as in Yom Kippur). The Hebrew here is "Ereb-Boqer" ... evenings/mornings. So ... 2,300 evenings/mornings

NASB ... "The angel said to me: for 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the Holy Place will be properly restored"

NET ... "He said to me: to 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be put right again"

The context is talking about the daily sacrifices being stopped... 2 a day, evening and morning. So ... 2,300 evening and morning sacrifices would take 1,150 days.

The Jewish Soncino Commentary: "The numeral refers to the number of times the offerings, normally brought twice daily, will be omitted, giving a total period of 1,150 days".

Later on in Daniel ... there are references to 1,335 days ... 1,290 ... 1,260 days ... so 1,150 presumably fit in among those.

Daniel 8:15-19 (NKJV)

15 Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man.

16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision."

17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end."

18 Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright.

19 And he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be."

Daniel 8:20-27 (NKJV)

20 The ram which you saw, having the two horns—they are the kings of Media and Persia. (Iran)

21 And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece. The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king.

22 As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place,
four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its
power.

23 "And in the latter time of their kingdom,
When the transgressors have reached their fullness,
A king shall arise, *(the little pompous horn)*
Having fierce features,
Who understands sinister schemes. (NASB: "insolent and skilled in
intrigue". GNB: "Stubborn, vicious and deceitful". LIVING: "He
will be a master of deception)

24 His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power;
He shall destroy fearfully,
And shall prosper and thrive;
He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.

25 "Through his cunning
He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; (COMPLETE
JEWISH BIBLE: "He will succeed through craftiness and deceit")
And he shall exalt himself in his heart.

He shall destroy many in their prosperity *(strong deception ... and
people are going to believe it!)*

****He shall even rise against the Prince of princes;*** *(Jesus
will destroy him at the end)*

But he shall be broken without human means.

26 "And the vision of the evenings and mornings
Which was told is true;
Therefore seal up the vision,
For it refers to many days in the future."

27 And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose
and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision,
but no one understood it. *(Daniel was sick because of what is going
to happen to the Saints)*

*The Little Horn ... arrogant ... powerful ... shrewd ... master of intrigue and deception = Antichrist. He even "takes on" the Lord Jesus.

What triggers this prophesied Iranian attack? We can only speculate. Could it be something Donald Trump does when he becomes President? Could it be his Secretary of Defence ... Mad Dog Mattis ... who as a former Marine has some unfinished business with Iran? Mr Trump will possibly want to rescind what Mr Obama has agreed with Iran. We don't know for sure but something will trigger Iran's blitzkrieg attack.

So. STAY ALERT!