

Daniel's Dream



Daniel Ch. 7

Dieterich Bonhoeffer

1906 - 1945



Daniel Ch. 2 -7

- A Dream about four earthly kingdoms & God's kingdom (2)
 - B Story about Jews being faithful in the face of death (3)
 - C Story about royal hubris that is humbled (4)
 - C1 Story about royal hubris that is humbled (5)
 - B1 Story about a Jew who is faithful in the face of death (6)
- A1 Dream about four earthly kingdoms & God's kingdom (7)

	Roman View	Greek View I	Greek View II
Head of Gold	Babylonian Empire	Babylonian Empire	Babylonian Empire
Chest/Arms of Silver	Medo-Persian Empire	Median Kingdom	Medo-Persian Empire
Belly/Thighs of Bronze	Greek Empire	Persian Empire	Alexander's Kingdom
Legs of Iron/Clay	Roman Empire	Greek Empire	Alexander's Successors

Daniel's Dream – Ch. 7

- Introduction (v.1)
- Dream of Four Kingdoms (vv. 2 – 14)
- Interpretation of Daniel's Dream (vv. 15 – 27)
- Conclusion (v. 28)

Introduction –

Ch. 7:1

- Timing / date?
- Dream or vision? Or visionary dream?
- Where else in the bible does God reveal himself in dreams?
- Why does God use dreams?

Dream Report –

Ch. 7:2 - 8

- What does Daniel see? Describe the scene
- What stands out about the beasts to you?
- A fork in the interpretive road – how do we interpret these symbols?

Dream Report (Part II) - Ch. 7:9 - 14

- How is God described in vv. 9-10?
- What happens to the “arrogant horn”? Why is that important?
- How is the one “like a human being” described?

Dream Interpretation -

Ch. 7:15 - 28

- What is the overall summary from the interpreter about the dream - vv. 17-18?
- What does the interpreter reveal about the 4th beast?
- What does the interpreter reveal about the 11th king?
- What is Daniel's reaction to the dream?

	Preterist	Historicist	Futurist
Winged Lion	Babylonian Empire	Babylonian Empire	UK or US
Bear	Medo-Persian Empire	Median Kingdom	Russia (or Soviet Union)
Leopard	Greek Empire	Persian Empire	Coalition – Asian, European, or Arab Nations
“Different” Beast	Roman Empire	Greek Empire	Re-formed Roman Empire
Little Horn	Various Figures	Antiochus IV “Epiphanes” - Channukah	Future Antichrist @ End of Church Age

What Does This Mean to Us?

- DANGER: Apocalyptic literature is super flexible in meaning – reflects our own presuppositions/prejudices
- Christianity and government
- Being a believer is not easy – we need to encourage each other and help each other
- God has our back