

DANIEL (DARE TO BE GOD'S MESSENGER)
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SERIES: Daniel (Dare To Be God's Messenger)

TITLE: Program 24 – The Dream Explained

THURSDAY

OPEN

Jesus Christ is coming beloved. As a matter of fact, the Bible speaks more about His second coming than it does about His first coming. When He comes the second time, what will be the signs of the times so that people might know and understand hey, the coming of Jesus to rule and reign on the face of this earth is near. Look up, your redemption draws nigh. That's what we'll look at today.

PART ONE

You know what I think is so awesome? I think it's so awesome that God lets His people know what is going to happen before it ever takes place. You see we belong to a kingdom of light and because you and I belong to the kingdom of light, we're not to walk in darkness. And when you're walking in darkness, you can't see what's out front; and you stumble and you don't know where you're going. But God wants you and I to walk as sons of the

light, as part of that kingdom of light and therefore, He lets us know what's going to come to pass, so that we don't bump, so that we don't stumble. And also, so that what we hear in our heart and what we hear from the Word of God, and the two are to go together, then we are to proclaim on the housetops, because we have truth. This Bible is true; it's pure, unadulterated truth. And it shows us, what is yet to come to pass and that's what we see in incredible detail in Daniel, chapter 7. We've looked at this dream, this vision that Daniel had in the first year of Belshazzar the king of Babylon. Babylon is still in its power. Babylon is still the head of gold. Babylon is still ruling. It's a rich kingdom. It's a strong kingdom. It has not been destroyed when he gets this vision, when he has this dream. Remember Babylon is not destroyed until the final year of Belshazzar, when he is put to death, when the Medes and the Persians conquer Babylon. And so we need to look now at what the interpretation of this dream is, this dream of this great sea and four beasts coming up out of the sea. And when those four beasts come up out of the sea we see that that fourth beast has a lot of description to it. I mean far more description than the first beast or the second beast or the third beast. So the emphasis is on this fourth beast. We know that this fourth beast parallels that fourth kingdom in Daniel, chapter 2. We know that it has ten horns. We know that out of those ten horns there comes a little horn. And when we look at that dream we have now come to the interpretation of it. We know that those kingdoms, by the way, are brought to an end when the Son of Man is presented to the Ancient of Days and He is given glory and a kingdom and His dominion becomes an everlasting dominion that will never pass away and all peoples and languages and nations serve Him. So now, in verse 15 of Daniel 7 it says: As for me, Daniel, my spirit was distressed within me, and visions in my mind kept alarming me. I approached one of those who were standing by and began asking him the exact meaning of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things. So next to verse 17 you're going to write interpretation, because this where the interpretation begins. Now when you read an interpretation of a vision or

a dream you don't want to add anything to it. You just want to look at the facts. You want to make sure that you get all the facts down. You don't want to try to interpret it at this point. You simply want to observe, observe, observe. And this is absolutely crucial, so you hangeth thou in there with me O baby, okay. You hang in there and we will take it one step at a time and we will build precept upon precept and remember these are God's precepts for life. And even though it's prophecy, prophecy is the doctrine, the teaching that we are to believe. And even though you may say well there's no fourth kingdom like it's described right now, so I can relax. It's not going to happen tomorrow. No, it may not happen tomorrow, but it could happen in the not too far away tomorrows. And so you need to be ready. And you need to know that the coming of Jesus Christ, the second coming of Jesus Christ is a purifying hope. And 1 John says in chapter 3, we don't know what we will be like, but we know that when we see Him we will be like Him and everyone who has this hope within himself purifies himself even as He is pure. So this teaching is to cause you to purify yourself. This teaching is to wean you from the things of this earth. This teaching is to let you know that today is temporal and eternity is forever. And so we need to look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen, because the things which are not seen are eternal. So we need to say to God stamp eternity upon my eyes O Lord, so that I live in the light of this. All right, now, let's look at the interpretation. Verse 17: These great beasts, which are four in number. He wants us to know there are four, no more, except the kingdom of heaven. These great beasts, which are four in number, are four kings who will arise from the earth. Now remember, with a king goes a kingdom. If you're a king you've got to have a kingdom. If you're a kingdom you're going to have a king, so put them together. But, and here's another one of those buts that we love. But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come. All right now, he's told you that the Son of Man is going to come and He's going to be given a kingdom. He's going to be given dominion. He has just

told you that after these four beasts then there is going to be a kingdom that is given to the saints. And the saints are going to possess this kingdom forever. And then he wants to make sure that you don't miss the forever so he says for all ages to come. So there's some marking that we need to do here. And you mark it now so that when you go back and you analyze the text you can take everything that you've marked and then you make a list of what you learn. All right, so it says the saints of the Highest One; the Highest One is a reference to God. So He's the Most High God. He's El Elyon, so you want to mark that in yellow or whatever color you're marking for God. Will receive the kingdom. Now let's mark kingdom here. And let's just put a purple cloud kind of around the kingdom. All right, they will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom, these saints; now watch, forever, for all ages to come. And when it's talking about these saints are going to receive the kingdom, and they're going to possess the kingdom forever, what does that mean? That means that these people are going to live in this kingdom forever and ever and ever. That is an awesome statement. All right now, the other thing that I want you to mark is the saints. So you might take and just put a little halo above the word saints, okay. But the saints; the saints means literally, it's the holy ones. Holy ones means set apart ones. It's people or a group of people that God has set apart for Himself. Now don't make any conclusions yet. Let's just mark it. All right, and it says then I desired; okay, I got that God, now I desire to know the exact meaning of the fourth beast. Now why would Daniel be so interested in the fourth beast? Because that's when the God of heaven sets up His kingdom. So that's why he's so interested in it. He says then I wanted to know the exact meaning of the fourth beast. Now once again you need to color it brown and you need to underline it. Okay. And it says which was different from all the others. Now if you stopped and you read through the text like we asked you to in your study guide, then you saw that this was used before. As a matter of fact, if you will look at verse 7, when it's describing the fourth beast; it's dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong.

Remember we call it the D.T. beast; the dreadful and terrifying beast and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet, the rest of the other beast and it was different from all the beasts that were before it. So there's something about this fourth beast. Now, one thing that's different is they can't describe it as an animal. I mean it's a beast, but it's not described as a lion or a tiger or a bear or a leopard, or anything like that. It's identified as dreadful and terrifying, but it's different from all the others. And this is very key and you just want to mark it right now. All right and let me tell you this. When you study the Bible inductively you have to be patient. Because the best interpreter of scripture is scripture. In other words God gives us in the Bible, a progressive revelation. He starts out in Genesis, like a megaphone at the mouthpiece. And then He adds more and adds more and adds more and adds more until you have this big, big revelation. But it's progressive. And so as you read the Bible and this is what we're doing. We're studying the Bible book by book. And when we study the Bible book by book, then we come to know and to understand God, understand His ways, understand truth and understand how we are to live. So it says, I wanted to know about this beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful with its teeth of iron and its claws of bronze. Now he has not told us about these claws of bronze yet. So in the interpretation we're getting more insight into this beast. And which devoured, trampled down the remainder with its feet. Now remember that kingdom does not start out with feet. That kingdom starts off with two legs that are made of iron. Then it comes down and it has the feet and it has the toes and it's partly iron and partly clay. So he wants to know the meaning of this and he wants to know the meaning of the ten horns that were on its head, and he wants to know the meaning of the other horn, which came up. Do you want to know the meaning? Hang on; we'll look at it right after the break.

PART TWO

Daniel wants to know the meaning of those ten horns and you and I do. We need to know because it's during those ten horns, during those ten toes of the statue that the God of heaven sets up His kingdom. All right, so he says he wants to know the meaning of the fourth beast and the meaning of the ten horns that were on its head, the head of the fourth of beast. So you want to mark its head like fourth beast and the other horn and you want to color that orange or whatever color you're using for that 11th horn, that little horn that pops up. The other horn, which came up and before which three of them fell, the other ten, namely that horn which has eyes and a mouth uttering great boasts and which was larger in appearance than its associates. Oh, so the little horn becomes the big horn. It becomes the little big horn. All right, it sounds like Texas, doesn't it? Verse 21: And I kept looking and that horn, that little horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them. You want to mark saints again and you want to mark them, because that horn is waging war against the saints and overpowering them. We've got some new insight here, haven't we? All right now, so we find that the saints are going to get the kingdom. The saints are going to possess the kingdom. But during the time of the little horn, the little horn is going to wage war against the saints and overpower them. In other words, he is going to have victory over the saints. And yet we know at the end that the saints are going to possess the kingdom. Hmmm, okay, now watch the next word: Until the Ancient of Days came. All right so now let's read verse 21 and 22 together. Mark until with a time clock, because it tells us a time frame. It's giving us a sequence of events. So I kept looking and that horn, that little horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them until the Ancient of Days came. So there comes an end to his overpowering them. And it says and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One. There's that word for God, that name for God again, the Highest One. So I kept looking until, the little horn was overpowering the saints until the Ancient of Days came and

judgment was passed in favor of the saints and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom. All right, so you're going to mark saints again and you're going to mark kingdom. Now that's what you just saw when he gives you a summary in verse 18. But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come. All right, so he's explained what he has seen about this little horn waging war against the saints. Now verse 23: Thus he said, the fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth. So there's a fourth kingdom on the earth. He's describing it. Which will be different from all the other kingdoms. Ding. There it is again: Which will be different from all the other kingdoms. Mark it; underline it. I underlined it, in a red squiggly line. But three times now he has told us that that fourth kingdom is different from all the other kingdoms. And our question ought to be hey, what makes it different? Now that answer's not going to come for quite a while, but it's going to come. All right, and that will be different from all the other kingdoms. Now hang on to this one. And it will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it. Now the whole earth is a geographical reference. And remember, we underline geographical references, double underline them in green and that's our way of marking where, okay. And then it's going to devour the whole earth; double underline it green. It's going to tread it, the earth, down and it is going to crush it. Now this word crush in the Hebrew means to break into pieces. Okay, so what do we see here? We see it's going to devour the whole earth and we're just going to take it for literally what it means. In other words this fourth kingdom is going to have power over the whole earth. It is going to tread it down and it is going to crush it. Verse 24: As for the ten horns, tell me who the fourth beast is. He's told us. Tell me about the horns. Now he says, as for the horns, out of this fourth kingdom ten kings will arise. So we saw in Daniel, chapter 2, that it's going to be a divided kingdom. It's going to have ten toes, ten horns. We saw in Daniel, chapter 7 that it is a kingdom with ten horns. So you have a fourth kingdom existing. This is very important now. You have this fourth

kingdom existing and then eventually out of this kingdom will come ten kings. Now that makes it different than the other kingdoms. All right, so out of it, and there's other things that make it different too, will be ten kings. All right, now, let's go on. As for the ten kings, verse 24 of Daniel 7, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise and another will arise after them, after, key phrase, time phrase. Put a clock. So this is what happens: You have a fourth kingdom. That fourth kingdom exists for so long. We don't know. Then out of that kingdom come ten kings. And then after those ten kings, there comes another king, another king that arises, another horn that arises and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings. All right now, what we heard at first when we looked at this in Daniel 7, verse 8, that this other horn, it has three, when it appears, then three of the other horns, three of the ten are pulled up before it. Now we learn in this interpretation, that he's the one that brings down or subdues these three kings. So this is a lot of power. I mean he's different than the other ten kings. The other ten kings are iron and clay, part of it strong, part of it brittle, in a loose federation. All right, so that little horn comes down. Now watch what's going to happen. It says and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings. And he will speak out against the Most High. I mean this little horn is going to actively come against God, come against El Elyon, the Most High God. And it says and he will wear down the saints of the Highest One. Well, now we just read that he's going to overpower those saints. That's what Daniel saw. He saw that little horn overpowering that saints and so here it says he will wear down the saints of the Highest One and he will intend to make alterations in time and in law. In other words he's going to try and change time because time is set B.C., before Christ, and A.D. Anno Domini, the year of our Lord. And they will be given the saints: (You want to mark that.), into his hand for time, times and half a time. Now what's time, times and half a time? It's three and one half years. But the court will set for judgment. Beloved, that's the end of time. And we're going to look at it in greater detail in our next program. You don't want to miss it.