

The Four Beasts and The Son of Man (Daniel 7)

I. Comparison of Chapters 2 & 7

II. Date of Daniel 7

We read in 7:1 “in the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon” (553 B.C.)

III. Historical Background to Daniel 7

There is nothing specific that we know of that occurred in the Babylonian empire that would have prompted the LORD to give Daniel this special dream and visions.

IV. Daniel’s Visions (7:1-14)

A. Daniel’s Vision of Four Beasts & the Little Horn (7:1-8)

1. Lion (7:4)
2. Bear (7:5)
3. Leopard (7:6)
4. Terrifying Beast (7:7)
5. Little Horn—*Anti Christ* (7:8)

B. Daniel’s Vision of the Ancient of Days (7:9-12)

1. Throne of God—*the Ancient of Days* (7:9-10)
 2. **Slaying of the Beasts: *End of Gentile Domination* (7:11-12)**
3. Son of Man—*Jesus Christ* (7:13-14)

C. The Interpretation of Daniel’s Vision (7:15-28)

1. The Four Beast Explained: *Four Gentile Kingdoms* (7:15-17)
2. The Promise to “the Saints of the Highest One: Israel” (7:18, 27)
3. The Details of the Fourth Kingdom (7:19-26)
4. The Promise to “the Saints . . . Israel”, and Daniel’s Perplexity (7:27-28)