

THE BOOK OF DANIEL

Daniel 7:9-28

⁹ “I kept looking
Until thrones were set up,
And the Ancient of Days took *His* seat;
His vesture was like white snow
And the hair of *His* head like pure wool.
His throne was ablaze with flames,
Its wheels were a burning fire.

What in the world is going on here?

We have seen many times that the bible is written from the viewpoint of a **COURTROOM**--the history of man is viewed as **court decisions**: the fall of man, the **judicial judgment from God** upon man.

The judicial problem of man is seen in the 10 questions of Job:

- *Can mankind be just before God;*
- *Can man be morally, spiritually pure before his maker? Job 4:17;*
- *Does God pervert justice?*
- *Does the Almighty pervert what is right? Job 8:3*
- *How can a man be right before God? Job 9:2*
- *Who can make the morally, spiritually clean, out of the unclean?*
No One Job 14:4
- *What is man that he should be pure, or he who is born of a woman,
that he should be righteous? Job 15:14*
- *How then can a man be just with God ?*
or how can he be clean who is born of woman? Job 25:4

The Ten Questions of Job demand a judicial decision.

So we now have a judgment made against all the these Gentile Nations,
not just Rome but all 4 Nations.

The scene of **verse 9** is a **COURTROOM**:

Let's begin with **the Ancient of Days** took His seat

The **ANCIENT OF DAYS** is the **Judge**—who walks into the courtroom and sits down. Now before the Judge comes in everyone is in place before the judge comes in...so we have the phrase:

until thrones were set up.

This is a reference to the **jury** whom we are not told here but they will be revealed in **Book of Revelation**.

Now who is the Ancient of Days?

This is a reference to God!

Why is God referred to as the **Ancient of Days**?

This title comes from the perspective of the fullness of the time of the Gentiles, from the Babylonian Empire to the Revised Roman Empire (RRE), and through all this time God has been present and in control. Being **ancient** or '**OLD AGE**' conveys His **wisdom** and His **authority**, it proclaims the **ETERNALITY OF GOD**.

Next we have something new in Daniel's dream. the **Ancient of Days** has the form of a man, not an animal. In the mythologies of the gods of the ancient nations--the gods were always animals or part animals

NEVER in SCRIPTURE is OUR GOD pictured as an animal.

And the Ancient of Days took *His* seat

God is in complete control of all history and the evils of man will not go by without Divine Intervention, without Divine Judgment.

His vesture *was* like white snow

And the hair of *His* head like pure wool.

His throne *was* ablaze with flames,

Its wheels *were* a burning fire.

According to Psalm 104:4 and Hebrews 1:7 this refers to angels.

The **Invisible Warfare** directly involves angels.

¹⁰“A river of fire was flowing [coming judgment]

And coming out from before *Him*;

Thousands upon thousands were attending *Him*,

And myriads upon myriads were standing before *Him*;

[Again this is a refer to angels: Revelation 5:11]

The court sat, And the books were opened.

This lets us know we are on the right track in verse 9 of the **COURTROOM**

Books were open [pictures] –

Matthew 25:31-46.

T h e J u d g m e n t

³¹ *“But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.*

³² *All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;*

³³ *and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.*

³⁴ *“Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.*

³⁵ *For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in;*

³⁶ *naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’*

³⁷ *Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink?’*

³⁸ *And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You?’*

³⁹ *When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’*

⁴⁰ *The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.’*

⁴¹ *“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;*

⁴² *for I was hungry, and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink;*

⁴³ *I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’*

⁴⁴ *Then they themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’*

⁴⁵ *Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’*

⁴⁶ *These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”*

Remember in the Lord’s prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane He could have called thousands upon thousands of angels to help Him, but He bore it alone.

¹¹ Then I kept looking because of the sound of the boastful words [Hebrew: *great—great blasphemy*] which the horn was speaking; [This is a refer to the little horn that rose above the 10 Horns] I kept looking until the beast was slain, and its body was destroyed and given to the burning fire.

¹² As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but an extension of life was granted to them for an appointed period of time.

[The little horn, is now identified as the beast! Revelation 13;]

the burning fire—[end of verse 9,
the Divine judgment against the beast]

Read Revelation 19:20

²⁰ And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the

mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. ²¹ And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

It is while this beast is still in power, getting ready to destroy the people of God that Daniel saw him being destroyed.

IT WILL BE WHILE THE TEN NATIONS OF THE TEN TOES WERE STILL STANDING THAT THE SMITING STONE OF DANIEL 2 COMES CRASHING DOWN ON ALL OF THEM.

As each of these nations rose to power through the time of the Gentiles, **THEY THOUGHT THEMSELVES AS GREAT, AS INVINCIBLE**, yet *we know the end is sure and it is coming*. It is so interesting in the study of history to study how so many of these nations start out with a respect of the **Word of God**, but slowly move away from it and living in opposition to all that it says.

¹² As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but an extension of life was granted to them for an appointed period of time.

This verse presents a problem.

First while it appears that it follows verse 11,
it does not follow verse 11
but actually precedes verse 11.

1 st	you will note that in verse 11 the beast is destroyed and the destruction of the beast ends battle of Armageddon.
2 nd	In the structure of these verses, Daniel is going back to the three horns that were taken down by the little horn, and is saying their destruction was not like the destruction of the Beast, that is of the little horn –described in verse 11
3 rd	When the three horns (of the 10) were taken down by the Little horn verse 8; they were given by God, as the supreme judge an extension of time, something less than three years.
4 th	When the little horn was destroyed it was all over!

¹³ “I kept looking in the night visions,
And behold, with the clouds of heaven
One like a Son of Man was coming,
And He came up to the Ancient of Days
And was presented before Him.

And behold [something Daniel was definitely not expecting;

Coming in the clouds of heaven- not walking on solid ground.]

One like a Son of man

First, remember that Daniel knows about the coming Messiah;

He knows about the coming conquering King who will rule;

He does not know His name;

Daniel knows about Jesus the Christ but does not know the name Jesus.

Daniel introduces this **Messianic title!**

We could spend hours on this title and its development.

We have studied this in detail in the Trials of Christ in the gospels.

Especially before the Sanhedrin in Matthew 26:64.

[He is] **coming with clouds of heaven.**

In the gospels JESUS CHRIST speaks of Son of man sitting with Power—referring to God the Father. Clouds of heaven is used in some places in the Scriptures referring to **God!**;

to **Deity**. In the wilderness journey the Jews began to understand that the cloud dealt with the presence of God, when they were led by the cloud in day time.

So the clouds of heaven refer to the presence of God Himself.

There are many passages that teach of the Son of Man coming in clouds of heaven.

Matthew 24:30

³⁰ And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

Matthew 25:31;

³¹ “But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

Acts 1:10-11;

^o And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. ¹¹ They also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.”

One like a Son of man read Revelation 1:13-14

¹³ and in the middle of the lampstands / *saw* one like
a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the
feet, and girded across His chest with a
golden sash.

¹⁴ His head and His hair were white like white wool,
like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of
fire.

Until the Son of man comes...there will be **wars** on earth, **poverty**,
pestilence and the **absence of peace**.

¹⁴ “And to Him was given dominion,
Glory and a kingdom,
That all the peoples, nations and *men of*
every language
Might serve Him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion

Which will not pass away;
And His kingdom is one
Which will not be destroyed.

This will be in two parts:

First, the **MILLENNIAL KINGDOM** and

second, the **ETERNAL KINGDOM** after the **New Heavens** and **New earth** are brought into existence.

The Vision Interpreted

¹⁵ “As for me, Daniel, my spirit was distressed within me, and the visions in my mind kept alarming me.

¹⁶ I approached one of those who were standing by [interpreting angel] and began asking him the exact meaning of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things:

¹⁷ ‘These great beasts, which are four *in number*, are four kings *who* will arise from the earth.

¹⁸ But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come.’

Verses 19 -21 again emphasize the desire of Daniel to understand this fourth Beast — he was no different than we are today, desiring to correctly understand the Word of God and be dependent upon God for the answers and allowing the Bible to interpret itself.

In these verses we see again how this fourth beast is different than the first three—the man-made emphasize of this beast—**iron** and **bronze**—being man-made gave it the viciousness that exceeded the man-killing animals that preceded.

¹⁹ “Then I desired to know the exact meaning of the fourth beast [Daniel is most concern about the fourth beast due to its viciousness and that it is different than the first three, and he knows this means the fourth kingdom will give great trouble to the people of the Jews], which was different from all the others,

exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its claws of bronze, *and which* devoured, crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet,

The 4th Beast is different because it will crush and trample down the remainder of the world.

Iron and **bronze**—man-made!—man rules and man decides what is best and man is the source of law.



Verse 20---introduces the Antichrist or the dictator of Revised Roman Empire

²⁰ and *the meaning* of the ten horns that *were* on its head and the other *horn* which came up, and before which three *of them* fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth uttering great *boasts* and which was larger in appearance than its associates.

The 4th beast was different in that the single horn was larger than the other 10 horns.

²¹ I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them

It was different in that it waged war specifically against believers in JESUS CHRIST and even more specifically against God's people, the Jews.

²² until the Ancient of Days [God] came and judgment [courtroom] was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One, and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom.

23-25 the interpreting angel explains about the Fourth Beast- so we do not need self-appointed prophets giving other interpretations

²³ “Thus he said: ‘The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the *other* kingdoms and will devour THE WHOLE EARTH and tread it down and crush it.

This Fourth Beast will conquer the whole earth, not just those nations around the Great Sea.

²⁴ As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones

and will subdue three kings.

Look at Revelation 17:12

...where interpreting angel tells John about the understanding of the 10 horns in same language as Daniel is told here in Daniel 7:24. Also note that in Revelation 17:12 that these things are yet to come to John, (ca AD 100)

¹² The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.

and since nothing like this has occurred as of yet, just as they were future to Daniel and John, they are future to us today in 2013.

We are told four things about the antichrist;

¹ 25: 'He will speak out against the Most High

He will speak many blasphemies against the Most High.

This reminds us of Goliath in 1 Sam. 17:36, 43, 47

We live in a time in history when blasphemy against the true God, is world-wide. Man is so convinced that he can make it without God and against all the directives of God.

Please know some things about this little horn, this beast, this antichrist:
he will have the charisma of Hitler,
the charm of a Clinton,

the diplomacy of Churchill;

But worst of all he will present himself as a most religious holy man like Pope Frances, all rolled up into one. He will sit in the Temple in Jerusalem claiming to be god.

2 and wear down the saints of the Highest One,

This emphasizes the people of God, the Jews. And because of all he will do against them, we are told in Matthew 24:22 that JESUS CHRIST will shorten the days of the Tribulation to spare His own.

3 and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law;

To what does this refer?

He will break the covenant he made with Israel, and will set himself up to be worship, in place of the true God, changing the ancient laws of Israel.

4 and they the chosen people of God, remember Daniel knows nothing

about the Church Age and all these things are in perspective of Israel. **will be given into his hand** to enslave, kill and torture **for a time, times, and half a time.**

**Time—one year,
Times two years and
Half a Time—1/2 year.**

or

Three and a half years second half of the Tribulation.

²⁶ But the court will *sit for judgment*, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever.

He will be first to be thrown into the Lake of Fire

²⁷ Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of *all* the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom *will be* an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.’

²⁸ “At this point the revelation ended. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts were greatly alarming me and my face grew pale, but I kept the matter to myself.”

All these things greatly troubled Daniel. He did not understand so much.

But he kept it to himself:

Psalm 119:11

¹¹ Your word I have treasured in my heart,
That I may not sin against You.

1 Thessalonians 1:10

¹⁰ and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *that is* Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

דָּנִיֵּאל
DANIEL