

verbs “saw” and “looked” are the same in Aramaic and can be translated, “as I was looking.” (The verb “considered” in 7:8 is a different word.) In the vision, four winds are seen striving on a great sea. Symbolically, the sea may represent the mass of humanity, or the nations of the world, as in Matthew 13:47 and Revelation 13:1 (cf. Isa. 8:6–8; Jer. 46:7–8; 47:2; Rev. 17:1, 15).<sup>17</sup> The sea is identified with the earth in 7:17 and is clearly symbolic. The turbulence of the sea may well represent the strife of Gentile history (Isa. 17:12–13; 57:20; Jer. 6:23).<sup>18</sup>

As Keil states, “The great sea is not the Mediterranean, ... for such a geographical reference is foreign to the context. It is the ocean; and the storm on it represents the ‘tumults of the people,’ commotions among the nations of the world, ... corresponding to the prophetic comparison found in Jer. 17:12, 46:7 f. ‘Since the beasts represent the forms of the world-power, the sea must represent that out of which they arise, the whole heathen world’ (Hofmann).”

## MY NOTES



A BIBLE CLASS WITH THE GOAL OF BUILDING UP BELIEVERS IN THE FAITH. WE INVESTIGATE BIBLE PROPHECY, CURRENT TRENDS, EVOLUTIONARY THEORY, SPIRITUAL WARFARE, AND MORE. WE TAKE ON BOOKS OF THE BIBLE, VERSE BY VERSE.

# Daniel The Prophet

FAITH BIBLE INVESTIGATORS CLASS  
FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH, DANVILLE INDIANA

## CLASS HANDOUT CHAPTER SEVEN, PART 1



**ALL RESOURCES  
ARE AVAILABLE  
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## FILL IN THE BLANKS

This is the first handout for Daniel, Chapter 7.  
More will be coming as we work through the chapter.

1. Did you read chapter seven in advance? Y / N
2. Our job is to learn all we can about the \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. Nabonidus began ruling in what year? BC \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. From history, we learn that this vision of Daniel took place in what year? BC \_\_\_\_\_ .
5. Daniel 7:1 says that we are given all the details of Daniel’s dream, not just a summary. T / F
6. The “great sea” is symbolic of what? \_\_\_\_\_ .
7. What verse in Revelation tells us what “the waters “ symbolize?  
\_\_\_\_\_ .

8. What do “the four winds of the heaven” symbolize?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
9. What verse in Matthew tells us what the winds symbolize?  
\_\_\_\_\_.
10. When 7:2 tells us the winds “strove upon the great sea,” does that sound like this is (1) all happening at the same time, or (2) over a longer, historical period of time? 1 / 2
11. How many beasts arose from the sea? \_\_\_\_\_.
12. The beasts from the sea were all alike. T / F
13. The three beasts we recognize as known animals are the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
14. The fourth beast had teeth of \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The fourth beast was similar to the first three. T / F
16. Conservative Bible students view Daniel 7 in two different ways.  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Which view sees Daniel 7 as mirroring the vision Nebuchadnezzar had in Daniel, chapter 2 (the image)? \_\_\_\_\_.
18. That image (in chapter 2) prophesied four great empires. What were they?  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.
19. What verse in Daniel chapter 7 speaks of Antichrist being sent to burning flame? \_\_\_\_\_.
20. What verse in Revelation shows Antichrist (the beast) being sent to the lake of fire? \_\_\_\_\_.
21. What verse in Daniel chapter 7 indicates that the other three beast kingdoms lives would be prolonged after antichrist went to the flame? \_\_\_\_\_.
22. The beast in Revelation 13:1-2 has the characteristics of what beasts in Daniel chapter 7?  
\_\_\_\_\_ leopard \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
23. The beast in Revelation 13 came from *the sea*. The beasts in Daniel 7 came from \_\_\_\_\_.
24. The beast in Revelation 13 has \_\_\_\_\_ horns.
25. The fourth beast in Daniel 7 has \_\_\_\_\_ horns.
26. The four beasts in Daniel 7 had how many heads total? \_\_\_\_\_.

27. The beast in Revelation 13 had how many heads? \_\_\_\_\_.
28. Understanding Bible prophecy requires study! T / F

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### Commentary Notes from John Walvoord

#### DANIEL'S FIRST VISION: THE FOUR GREAT BEASTS (7:1-3)

7:1-3 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel saw a dream and visions of his head as he lay in his bed. Then he wrote down the dream and told the sum of the matter. Daniel declared, “I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. And four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.”

The opening verses introduce Daniel’s remarkable experience. The year was probably 553 B.C., fourteen years before the fall of Babylon.<sup>12</sup> Nabonidus, the actual king of Babylon beginning in 556 B.C., had appointed Belshazzar as his coregent in control of Babylonia itself while Nabonidus conducted military maneuvers in Arabia.<sup>13</sup> As Nebuchadnezzar had died in 562 B.C., nine years before Belshazzar began to reign, it is clear that the events of chapter 7 occurred chronologically between Daniel 4 and 5.



A relief of a dragon-like composite creature from the Ishtar Gate in Babylon.

By mentioning the specific time of the vision, Daniel consciously and deliberately rooted his visions as occurring in the historical background of the sixth century. The vision of chapter 8 is dated in Belshazzar’s third year. According to Daniel 9:1-2, he discovered the prophecy of Jeremiah concerning the seventy years of captivity in the first year of Darius the Mede and, later in the same chapter, had a third vision. Daniel’s fourth vision in chapters 10-12 occurred in the third year of Cyrus (10:1). In chapter 11, there is mention of an earlier activity of the angel in strengthening Darius the Mede in his first year, another historical event related to the prophetic portion of Daniel. All of these are introduced so naturally and are so integral to the narrative that they support the sixth-century date for the book of Daniel.

Daniel was evidently asleep as he received his vision, although he had a later vision while awake (9:23). Here, for the first time in the book of Daniel, a vision is given directly to Daniel, and in verse 2, he is quoted in the first person for the first time.

#### The Four Winds and the Sea

Beginning in verse 2, Daniel records what he calls “the sum of the matter” in verse 1, that is, the details of his vision that he declares he “saw” (see 7:7, 13; cf. “looked,” 7:4, 6, 9, 11, 21). The