

In my vision that night, I, Daniel, saw a great storm churning the surface of a great sea, with strong winds blowing from every direction. Then four huge beasts came up out of the water, each different from the others. Dan. 7:2,3

Key Insights ...

1. Daniel 2 and 7 cover the same parts of world history; Daniel 2 from _____ perspective, Daniel 7 from _____ perspective.
2. 2 Ways to View Future
 - a. Future is _____, everything hangs in the balance; the future is a random series of events
 - b. Future is _____, there is a God who knows where we are going & controls how we get there

A Dream of Beasts ... Dan 7

- I. The Vision of the 4 Beasts ... (vs. 1-8)
Cp. Daniel 2; Rev. 17: 15; Is. 17:12 Rev. 13:1-2; Jn. 5:43
 - a. The Winged Lion ... _____ (Gold).
 - b. The Bear with Ribs ... _____/_____ (Silver).
 - c. The Leopard with Wings ... _____ (Bronze).
 - d. The Beast ... _____ (Iron).
 - e. A Little Horn ... _____.
- II. The _____ of _____ ... (vs. 9-14)
Cp. Prov. 8:27; Is. 33:6
- III. The Vision _____ ... (vs. 15-28)

My Takeaway ...

1. History gets _____ before it gets _____.
2. The Man of Lawlessness will step out into plain sight ... his work will remain the same – many will be _____
3. The Ancient of Days has never left the Throne, but will exercise His Authority to _____ and _____ the World

1. When you think about the current status of our world, what bothers you? What do you struggle with? Can you see any signs of hope?
2. Think back over our study of Daniel and consider Daniel's perspective as he has spent his entire adult life in exile. What stands out to you about his story? Yet, Daniel was able to remain positive, humble, and willing to serve within an environment that robbed him of his dignity. He was able to remain faithful because of "Hope."
Define "hope." What does it look like to be hopeful? How does hope enable us to move forward when circumstances are not hopeful?
3. Read Jeremiah 29:4-14 a few times. This is a message from God to the Jewish people that were heading into exile. Daniel was one of those people. What does this passage tell the people to do while in exile? What promise does God give the people? How did knowing such a promise help Daniel? How can knowing how the future will ultimately turn out help us?
4. What role, if any, does our understanding of who we are and whose we are play in the task of finding or living in hope? Does it alter our perspective any to know that God has accepted us? Has given us new life? Has promised us a future? Has promised to walk with us through this life?
5. What guidance do the following Scriptures give to us in living in hope and sharing with others the hope we have?

Romans 8:18	Isaiah 40:30-31	Jeremiah 29:11
Psalm 31:23-24	Deuteronomy 31:6	Romans 5:2-5
6. How would you describe this kind of hope to someone who does not know God nor understand anything about this hope? What personal stories would you share to illustrate this hope?

Appointment with God – Prayer Focus

Oh how I [we] love Your law! (Psalm 119:97) Love is complex! It is rooted in knowledge, exercised in willful decisions, and experienced in our affections. To love God is to love His word. It is His means to speak to us. Pray that we love His word more each day!

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Key Insights ...

1. Daniel 2 and 7 cover the same parts of world history; Daniel 2 from **Man's** perspective, Daniel 7 from **God's** perspective.
2. 2 Ways to View Future
 - a. Future is **Open**, everything hangs in the balance; the future is a random series of events
 - b. Future is **Closed**, there is a God who knows where we are going & controls how we get there

A Dream of Beasts ... Dan 7

- I. The Vision of the 4 Beasts ... (vs. 1-8)
Cp. Daniel 2; Rev. 17: 15; Is. 17:12 Rev. 13:1-2; Jn. 5:43
 - a. The Winged Lion ... **Babylon** (Gold).
 - b. The Bear with Ribs ... **Medio/Persia** (Silver).
 - c. The Leopard with Wings ... **Greece** (Bronze).
 - d. The Beast ... **Rome** (Iron).
 - e. A Little Horn ... **Anti-Christ**.
- II. The **Ancient** of **Days** ... (vs. 9-14)
Cp. Prov. 8:27; Is. 33:6
- III. The Vision **Interpreted** ... (vs. 15-28)

My Takeaway ...

1. History gets **Worse** before it gets **Better**.
2. The Man of Lawlessness will step out into plain sight ... his work will remain the same – many will be **Deceived**
3. The Ancient of Days has never left the Throne, but will exercise His Authority to **Judge** and **Rule** the World

1. When you think about the current status of our world, what bothers you? What do you struggle with? Can you see any signs of hope?
2. Think back over our study of Daniel and consider Daniel's perspective as he has spent his entire adult life in exile. What stands out to you about his story? Yet, Daniel was able to remain positive, humble, and willing to serve within an environment that robbed him of his dignity. He was able to remain faithful because of "Hope."

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