



**STANDING
STRONG
IN TRYING
TIMES**

The Book of Daniel

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying on his bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream.

² Daniel said: "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea.

³ Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea. ⁴ "The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a man, and the heart of a man was given to it.

⁵ “And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, ‘Get up and eat your fill of flesh!’ ⁶ “After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

⁷ “After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast — terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns. ⁸

“While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

⁹ “As I looked, “thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. ¹⁰ A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.

11 “Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire.
12 (The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.)

¹³ “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Daniel 7:1–14

A - 2 - Nebuchadnezzar's vision of 4 kingdoms & God's

B - 3 - The three faithful believers in the fire

C - 4 - Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon humbled

C' - 5 - Belshazzar of Babylon humbled

B' - 6 - Daniel the faithful believer in the lion's den

A' - 7 - Daniel's vision of 4 kingdoms and God's kingdom



**A Terrifying
Vision of Four
Beasts**

Chaos and Four Beasts

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying on his bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream. ² Daniel said: “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. ³ Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea.

Daniel 7:1–3

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Four Terrible Beasts

1. A lion with eagles wings torn off, heart and mind of man
2. A bear, higher on one side, ribs in mouth, devouring
3. A leopard with four wings and four heads, given authority to rule
4. A terrifying, powerful beast with iron teeth and 10 horns, trampling, crushing and devouring everything

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The Four Beasts Are Four Kingdoms

The four great beasts are four kingdoms that will rise from the earth.

Daniel 7:17

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Four Terrible Beasts

1. The lion - Babylon (current kingdom)
2. The bear - Persia which was beginning to rise
3. The leopard with four wings and four heads - Greece
4. The terrifying beast with iron teeth - Rome (the kingdom in power when Christ comes!)

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**A Glorious
Vision of The
Kingdom of
God**

The Vision Shifts To God's Throne

“As I looked, “thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. ¹⁰ A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. Daniel 7:9–10

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The Arrival of the “Son of Man”

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence.

Daniel 7:13

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The Son of Man Is Human

What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? ⁵ You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. ⁶ You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: ⁷ all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field...

Psalm 8:4–7

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The Son of Man Is Divine

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, **coming with the clouds of heaven**. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ **He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.** Daniel 7:13–14

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Sing to God, sing praise to his name, extol him who rides on the clouds — his name is the LORD — and rejoice before him.

Psalm 68:4

He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. Psalm 104:3

An oracle concerning Egypt: See, the LORD rides on a swift cloud and is coming to Egypt. The idols of Egypt tremble before him, and the hearts of the Egyptians melt within them. Isaiah 19:1

The Son of Man Is Divine

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, **coming with the clouds of heaven**. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ **He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.** Daniel 7:13–14

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Jesus - “The Kingdom Has Arrived!”

“The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Mark 1:15

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Jesus - “The Son of Man Riding the Clouds”

But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?”⁶² “I am,” said Jesus. “And you will see **the Son of Man** sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and **coming on the clouds of heaven.**”

Mark 14:61–62

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Jesus Has ALL Authority NOW

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

Matthew 28:18

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Ascending To the Father On the Clouds

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, **he was lifted up, and a cloud took him** out of their sight.

Acts 1:9 ESV

“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, **coming with the clouds of heaven.** **He approached the Ancient of Days** and was led into his presence.” Daniel 7:13

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The Son of Man At the Father's Side

“Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

Acts 7:56

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The Son of Man Presently Subduing

Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For he “has put everything under his feet.”

1 Corinthians 15:24–27

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**APPLYING
THE
WORD**



The Table of the King

