Daniel—12

DANIEL'S FIRST VISION, PART 3 (Daniel 7:15-28)

- I. The Interpretation of the FOUR BEASTS (Dan. 7:15-18)
 - A. Daniel was DEEPLY DISTRESSED by the vision
 - B. Daniel was UNCERTAIN of the vision's MEANING
 - C. Daniel SUMMARIZES the vision's basic meaning
 - 1. The beasts represent four SUCCESSIVE KINGDOMS
 - 2. The FINAL kingdom will be ruled by GOD'S PEOPLE
 - 3. This kingdom will be ETERNAL
- II. Daniel's INQUIRY about the FOURTH Beast (Dan. 7:19-22)
 - A. Daniel's CURIOSITY indicates its IMPORTANCE
 - B. Daniel REPEATS the beast's description with NEW DETAILS
 - 1. It had BRONZE CLAWS
 - 2. The LITTLE HORN became STRONGER than the others
 - It waged WAR with the SAINTS and OVERPOWERED them (cf. Rev. 11:7; 13:7)
 - 4. The Ancient of Days RULED in FAVOR of the saints
 - 5. As a result, the SAINTS took POSSESSION of the kingdom

III. The INTERPRETATION of the Fourth Beast (Dan. 7:23-25)

- A. It represents an EARTHLY kingdom DIFFERENT from previous ones
 - 1. Will claim WORLDWIDE jurisdiction
 - 2. Will ruthlessly DESTROY earlier kingdoms
 - Will have "TEN KINGS" emerge at the SAME TIME (cf. Rev. 13:1; 17:12)
 - 4. With no HISTORIC parallel, this must be FUTURE
- B. A NEW ruler will rise DIFFERENT from the others
 - 1. Will SUBDUE three of the ten rulers
 - 2. Will BLASPHEME the MOST HIGH
 - 3. Will PERSECUTE the SAINTS
 - 4. Will try to change TIMES and LAW
 - 5. Will SUCCEED for 3¹/₂ YEARS (cf. 9:27; 12:7, 11, 12; Rev. 11:2-3; 13:5)
- IV. DESTRUCTION and GLORY (Dan. 7:26-28)
 - A. Beast's ultimate destruction is FINAL and ABSOLUTE
 - B. NEW Kingdom of the SON OF MAN is established (cf. 7:14)
 - 1. It is a VISIBLE Kingdom
 - 2. It is a UNIVERSAL Kingdom
 - 3. It will be an EVERLASTING Kingdom
 - C. Daniel's REACTION to the vision
 - 1. He was TROUBLED by the BRUTALITY of the vision
 - 2. He was CONFIDENT in God's CONTROL of the future