

VISIONS OF COMING KINGDOMS: AN ALTERNATE VIEW
(Daniel 2 and 7)

- I. Nebuchadnezzar's Vision of a METAL Colossus (Dan. 2)
 - A. Countdown to Christ's ADVENT and Israel's DESTRUCTION
 - B. Completely fulfilled HISTORICALLY
 - 1. Ties the ten-toed feet of IRON and CLAY to ROME
 - 2. Does not explain DESTROYING the IMAGE and establishing an ETERNAL KINGDOM

- II. Daniel's Vision of Successive BEASTS (Dan. 7)
 - A. Countdown to Christ's RETURN and Israel's RESTORATION
 - B. COMPLETELY fulfilled in more RECENT history
 - 1. Lion with eagle's wings is BRITISH Empire
 - 2. Bear with three ribs in its mouth is RUSSIA
 - 3. Leopard with four wings and four heads is GERMANY
 - 4. The terrible beast with iron teeth is THE UNITED NATIONS

- III. Weakness of the View
 - A. CHRONOLOGY Issues

1. BRITISH empire was hardly DOMINANT by 1917
2. RUSSIA never replaced anyone but ITS OWN GOVERNMENT
3. GERMAN dominance preceded RUSSIAN rise to power

B. SYMBOLIC issues

1. The truly DOMINANT nation of the 20th century was the USA, which is ABSENT in this vision
2. “Left” vs. “Right” political references originated with the FRENCH revolution, not the RUSSIAN
3. The four heads of the GERMAN beast unlikely to find fulfillment by ENEMY nations
4. Identifying the UNITED NATIONS as the most POWERFUL and cruel beast is historically INCONSISTENT

C. ATTITUDE issues

1. Claim as their AUTHORITY a “word of KNOWLEDGE” that REVEALED the truth to them
2. They describe the “traditional” view as “designed to DECEIVE and MISLEAD into a DEADLY misunderstanding”
3. They warn that other teachers are “working to convince you to follow them to their UNPLEASANT FATE”

D. PROOF issues

1. If the Lord RETURNS SOON it proves NOTHING
2. If the Lord DOES NOT return soon this view is proved FALSE