

# **“Prophecies Of Daniel Revealed” Part 4**

Pastor Grant Williams October 28, 2015

Recap...

Three weeks ago we began to answer the question, why do apocalyptic books and these writers and prophets in the Bible use symbolism? Why would God have them write about: A goat with 4 horns coming out of his head? A ram with 2 horns and one is bigger then the other? A beast with a body like a leopard, feet like a bear, mouth like a lion? Why the symbolism, why can't God just say here's the empire and here's the nations?

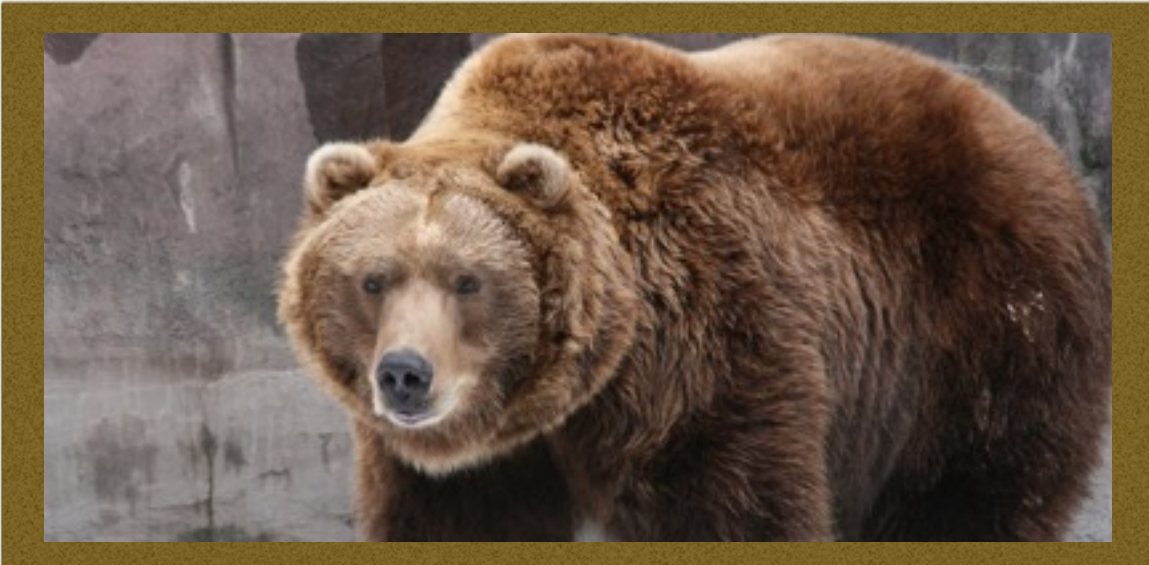
## **Why Do Apocalyptic Books Use Symbolism ?**

1. God used symbols that people of that day were familiar with.

It is very important that you understand that we use symbolism as well today. When we use the seal of or an image of an eagle we think of the United States.



When we see a bear, we think of Russia...



When you think of a lion you think of Britain, England - when you study history this is all a part of it.



We still use symbolism today in many different things. When you think of China what do you think of? A red dragon or the calendar of a dragon or year of the dragon.





## Why Do Apocalyptic Books Use Symbolism ?

2. The nature of the animals matched the nature of the king or kingdom it represented.

For instance, if you have a leopard, it represents Alexander the Great's kingdom in Greece. A leopard is extremely fast and Alexander conquered the known world starting from the time he was in his early twenties until the time he was 32. He was very quick in his conquering. So, once again, God uses the nature of the animals by matching them with the nature of the king or kingdom it represented.



Here's the third reason symbolism is used...

## Why Do Apocalyptic Books Use Symbolism ?

### 3. God wants you to search out Scripture for the interpretation.

God wants you and I to search out the truth. He wants us to search out the mystery of it because it is the order of a king to search out secrets. The reason God uses symbolism is if you know the Scripture, the symbol will interpret itself.

As an example, if I say serpent, what does it represent? Anyone who has studied the Bible knows that the serpent represents satan.

#### **Revelation 12:9 King James Version**

*9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*

#### **Revelation 12:9 Amplified Bible**

*9 And the huge dragon was cast down and out—that age-old serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, he who is the seducer (deceiver) of all humanity the world over; he was forced out and down to the earth, and his angels were flung out along with him.*

If I say dove, what does it represent? A dove represents the Holy Spirit as we see when Jesus was baptized.

### **Matthew 3:16 King James Version**

*16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:*

### **Matthew 3:16 Amplified Bible**

*16 And when Jesus was baptized, He went up at once out of the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he [John] saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him.*

A symbol is known by the Bible itself. The Bible will itself interpret a symbol. The interesting thing about the symbolism in the Bible is this, it's a "most of the time, but not always"... and here's an example.

A lamb represents Christ going all the way back to Exodus Chapter 12. But, in the book of Revelation where the word lamb is used 27 times, there is one time in Revelation 13 where it doesn't actually represent Christ. The word lamb represents the false prophet.

### **Revelation 13:11 King James Version**

*11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.*

### **Revelation 13:11 Amplified Bible**

*11 Then I saw another beast rising up out of the land [itself]; he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke (roared) like a dragon.*

Normally a symbol will maintain its symbolism from the very beginning of the Bible all the way through the end. What is interesting about Biblical symbolism is that you don't have to go outside of the Bible to interpret what these symbols, what these animals, what these beasts, and the apocalyptic books actually represent.

## Why Do Apocalyptic Books Use Symbolism ?

4. Symbolism can hide the meaning to protect the writer and symbolism itself.

Let me give you an example, why did John conceal the idea of Mystery Babylon and Rome in Revelation Chapter 17 and 18?

### **Revelation 17:10-11 King James Version**

*10 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.*

*11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.*

### **Revelation 17:18 King James Version**

*18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.*

### **Revelation 17:10-11 Amplified Bible**

*10 And they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one still exists [and is reigning]; the other [the seventh] has not yet appeared, and when he does arrive, he must stay [but] a brief time.*

*11 And as for the beast that [once] was, but now is no more, he [himself] is an eighth ruler (king, head), but he is of the seven and belongs to them, and he goes to perdition.*

### **Revelation 17:18 Amplified Bible**

*18 And the woman that you saw is herself the great city which dominates and controls the rulers and the leaders of the earth.*

The city ruling over the great kings of the earth or Mystery Bbabylon - they all know it's Rome. ***Note: The government of Mystery Babylon will be in the Iraq/Syria/Iran area and the religion of Mystery Babylon will be set in Rome - 7th Empire.*** So, why did John conceal this idea or prophecy by calling it Mystery Babylon?

Because among the Jews, they would veil the name of Rome by using the name Babylon. The reason why they would do this is because the Babylonians and the Romans both destroyed Jerusalem and they both destroyed The Temple. In addition, they both took the treasures, they both took the Jewish people captive, and both temples by Babylon and in Rome were destroyed on the 9th of Av on the Jewish calendar.



So, the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D. and John wrote the book of Revelation about 25 years later. So when talking about Rome, he could of never used the word “**Rome**”. John could never predict that “**Rome**” would be destroyed in print.

The reason why is the book or scroll which is Revelation would have never been allowed to be taken off of the Isle of Patmos after the Emperor Domitian died and John was released. Revelation would’ve been considered a political scroll which was antagonistic towards Rome. Rome would have burned it and destroyed it.



The point is, God had to veil the truth of what was going to happen in the future in symbolism so it could be searched out by prophets, wise men and the Bible scholars of today to know exactly what it meant.

We need to understand that there is a reason that God used symbolism because the ancient empires in Daniel's day were very much aware of symbols. Today we would call it almost mythology. The culture and governments were full of symbolism, it was part of their everyday lives.

God didn't use it to promote mythology or false religion, but he used it because the people of that day would be familiar with those symbols.

In the setting of Daniel, Babylon is the first major empire of Bible prophecy. It was the first empire to destroy Jerusalem, destroy the Temple and take the Jewish people captive.

The destruction of the Temple had been predicted by the Prophet Isaiah long before it ever happened. King Hezekiah was sick and he showed the Babylonians all the treasures of the Temple. God healed him and the Babylonians came to visit him.

But instead of saying thank you and God bless you, he showed them all the secret things of the temple. When he did that, Isaiah 39:6-7 predicted that the Temple was going to be destroyed.

### **Isaiah 39:6-7 Amplified Bible**

*6 Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house, and that which your predecessors have stored up till this day, shall be carried to Babylon. Nothing shall be left, says the Lord.  
7 And some of your own sons who are born to you shall be taken away, and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.*

Many people have asked, why did God send judgement to Israel by using the Babylonians? Here's what the Bible says...

Israel was not keeping it's sabbaths. In Leviticus Chapter 25, every 7th year and every 49 years the land was to rest for an entire year. So on the 7th year and every 50th year, this is where you get the jubilee cycles.

So, Israel did not let the land enjoy it's sabbath...

### **2 Chronicles 36:17-21**

Because of this, Jeremiah said, you are going to go into 70 years of captivity where you are not going to be plowing or living in the land. The land is going to rest for 70 years.

### **Jeremiah 25:11**

The reason for 70 years (I believe) is that there were 10 Commandments that Israel was supposed to obey...

The Bible tell us that if Israel disobeyed God, they would be punished 7 times.

**Leviticus 26:18 King James Version**

*18 And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.*

**Leviticus 26:21 King James Version**

*21 And if ye walk contrary unto me, and will not hearken unto me; I will bring seven times more plagues upon you according to your sins.*

**Leviticus 26:24 King James Version**

*24 Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins.*

So, if there's Ten Commandments that you break and get punished 7 times, that is where the 70 years comes in.

What happened was, the Jewish people did not obey the law of Jubilee or letting the land rest. So, God took them out of the land so the land could rest. I know this sounds odd for God to allow that to happen but they did break a major commandment of God. The punishment was 70 years.

King Nebuchadnezzar was the king of Babylon during this time and there were three separate invasions. The estimated date of the first invasion that came into Israel in the area of Judea was 606 B.C.

Then there was an invasion in 598 B.C. and the third invasion was 586 B.C. It was this last invasion where Jerusalem was taken, the Temple was burnt, and the treasures were brought out of the Temple and into Babylon. This is when the Jewish captives were taken back to the city of Babylon.

King Nebuchadnezzar in the last invasion he got all of the wealth from the gold and silver vessels that were in the Temple in Jerusalem.

## **2 Kings 24:13, 2 Chronicles 36:10**

Then, King Nebuchadnezzar sought out some strong, bright young men to teach them the Chaldean language so they could communicate to the Jewish people. This is why we read this story in Daniel Chapter 1 about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego who were sitting at the king's table.

## **Daniel 1:3**

The King wanted to train them in the ways of Chaldea and Babylon so they could communicate it to the Jewish elders.

Remember, the Babylonians spoke one language and the Jews spoke Hebrew. So you are taking all of these people into captivity that can't even speak the language of the land and it was chaos.



Daniel is the central character in the book of Daniel. The name Daniel means: God Is Judge. He was a teenager when he was carried away by King Nebuchadnezzar into Babylon.

**Daniel 1:3 King James Version**

*3 And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes;*

**Daniel 1:6 King James Version**

*6 Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:*

This means that Daniel was of the royal seed of the king. He was very intelligent and the king wanted to use him and several others who were very intelligent Hebrews boys to teach them the Chaldean language to communicate to the Jewish people. This was just one of the reasons for training them.

Daniel had 3 friends and they were trained for about 3 years...

**Daniel 1:5-7**

They were sitting at the king's table here and the thing I like about Daniel is he was not a compromiser. When they told him not to pray, he prayed away (Daniel 6:7-10). When they told his companions to bow down and worship idols - they refused to bow (Daniel 3:9-27).

**Daniel 6:7-10, Daniel 3:9-27**

In Daniel chapter 1, when they were at the king's table and they were offered wine and meat sacrificed to idols, he said, I'm not going to eat it.

### **Daniel 1:5-8**

Even though he was in Babylon he would not compromise. People today say, well I'm out here and nobody sees...I'm in this country so I will do what they do not to offend or since no one was watching.

Or, no one else works hard so why should I...everyone else does it so who cares... no compromising !!! Don't be like the world. You're not apart of this world any longer. You are a new creature in Christ and that old way of thinking and acting is gone.

Because Daniel did not and would not compromise, look what God did. (God is not a respecter of persons - 'Acts 10:34-35'- what He did for Daniel He will do to you and for you as well) if you do not compromise.

### **Daniel 2:48 King James Version**

*48 Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon.*

### **Daniel 2:48 Amplified Bible**

*48 Then the king made Daniel great and gave him many great gifts, and he made him to rule over the whole province of Babylon and to be chief governor over all the wise men of Babylon.*

Daniel became one of the leading men in command during the time of the Media/Persia Empire.

Now, King Nebuchadnezzar also changed their names which was a common thing to do when you captured people from another country. You would take away their name and identity of the nation they were from and give them a new name and identity.

### **Daniel 1:6-7 King James Version**

*6 Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:*

*7 Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel the name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego.*

### **Daniel 1:6-7 Amplified Bible**

*6 Among these were of the children of Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.*

*7 The chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar [the king's attendant], Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.*

## Meaning Of Their Names

Hebrew and Babylonian (Idol gods)

Daniel	God is my judge
Belteshazzar	Treasure of Bel
Hananiah	God is gracious
Shadrach	Messenger of Aku
Mishael	Who is like God
Meshach	Who is Aku
Azariah	God has helped
Abed-nego	Worshipper of Nego

So, these Hebrew men are given pagan names, honoring the idol gods of Babylon. But, this is what I love, once again, Daniel is not a compromiser.

In the book of Daniel, he never once addresses himself as “I, Belteshazzar”. He always says, “I, Daniel”. The name Daniel is mentioned in the book of Daniel 75 times and while the king may use his Babylonian name, Daniel himself never used his Babylonian name.

Daniel always identifies and uses his Hebrew name which I believe is very significant because he did not want to be attached with an idol. This is who Daniel was, he stood firm, did not conform and did not compromise.

**Romans 12:2 Amplified Bible**

*2 Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].*

**Romans 12:2 King James Version**

*2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Now let's look at the history of the book of Daniel. I want to give you information about the book itself.

Daniel was written in Hebrew in chapter 1 and in chapters 9-12. But, it was written in Aramaic in chapters 2-8. There has been questions about why the book of Daniel is written in part with Aramaic. The Aramaic of that particular day that the book of Daniel is written was part of the common language of that area amongst the Gentile nations.



It may have been that Daniel was prophesying in chapters 2-8 which deals allot with Gentile empires. He may have wanted to make sure that these Gentile nations understood what he was saying.

Daniel actually deals with five empires. Four of them he sees through symbolism very clearly but one of them, which is the 5th empire, is the empire of the antichrist. Which is the Little Horn that rises up amongst the 10 kings at the end of days.

**Daniel 7:8 King James Version**

*8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.*

**Daniel 7:8 Amplified Bible**

*8 I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth speaking great things.*

**Daniel 8:9 King James Version**

*9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.*

### **Daniel 8:9 Amplified Bible**

*9 Out of littleness and small beginnings one of them came forth [Antiochus Epiphanes], a [a]horn whose [impious presumption and pride] grew exceedingly great toward the south and toward the east and toward the ornament [the precious, blessed land of Israel].*

Not only did Daniel see the empires of: Babylon, Media Persia, Greece and Rome, but he also saw the very end of days. Daniel saw the last empire coming to power which was that Little Horn with a mouth speaking great things who is the antichrist having ten kings underneath him.

### **Daniel 7:8 King James Version**

*8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.*

### **Daniel 7:8 Amplified Bible**

*8 I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth speaking great things.*

### **Daniel 12:4 King James Version**

*4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.*

### **Daniel 12:4 Amplified Bible**

*4 But you, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the Book until the time of the end. [Then] many shall run to and fro and search anxiously [through the Book], and knowledge [of God's purposes as revealed by His prophets] shall be increased and become great.*

The prophetic time frame that Daniel covers is 2,600 years of history beginning with Babylon to approximately the “End Of Days”. Daniel also writes five times that he is talking about the “Time Of The End”.

### **Daniel 8:17 Amplified Bible**

*17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came, I was frightened and fell on my face. But he said to me, Understand, O son of man, for the [fulfillment of the] vision belongs to [events that shall occur in] **the time of the end.***

### **Daniel 11:35 Amplified Bible**

*35 And some of those who are wise, prudent, and understanding shall be weakened and fall, [thus, then, the insincere among the people will lose courage and become deserters. It will be a test] to refine, to purify, and to make those among [God's people] white, even to **the time of the end,** because it is yet for the time [God] appointed.*

**Daniel 11:40 Amplified Bible**

40 And at **the time of the end** the king of the South shall push at and attack him, and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots and horsemen and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries and shall overflow and pass through.

**Daniel 12:4 Amplified Bible**

4 But you, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the Book until **the time of the end**. [Then] many shall run to and fro and search anxiously [through the Book], and knowledge [of God's purposes as revealed by His prophets] shall be increased and become great.

**Daniel 12:9 Amplified Bible**

9 And he [the angel] said, Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed till **the time of the end**.

The phrase, "Time Of The End" is a Hebrew phrase meaning the time prior to the messiah returning to earth.

So Daniel lived in Israel till he was about 17 years old and then goes to Babylon and lives there approximately 80 years.

There are 4 kings mentioned in the book of Daniel, 2 are Babylonian and 2 are Persian kings.

**Nebuchadnezzar - Babylonian**  
**Daniel Chapter 1-4**

**Belshazzar - Babylonian**  
**Daniel Chapter 5; 7:1; 8:1**

**Cyrus - Persian**  
**Daniel 6:28; 10:1**

**Darius The Mede - Persian**  
**Daniel Chapter 6; 9:1; 11:1**

Imagine going into this land at age 17 and being there for around 80 years and seeing these 4 major kings that are listed. This does not include some kings that ruled for shorter periods of time which the Bible said one ruled for just a few months.

The book of Daniel has numerous events predicted that are parallel to the book of Revelation. I will continue to emphasize this throughout this series because it is very important to remember this as it will give us a better understanding of the book of Daniel.



Now, we are going to compare the first 4 chapters of the book of Daniel to the book of Revelation.

### **Daniel Chapter 1**

**Nebuchadnezzar took Jews captive  
to sit at the king's table**

### **Daniel Chapter 2**

**Nebuchadnezzar had a prophetic dream  
of a metallic image with 10 toes representing  
10 kings at the Time of the End**

### **Daniel Chapter 3**

**Nebuchadnezzar wants people to worship an image  
and threatens death to anyone who refuse**

### **Daniel Chapter 4**

**Nebuchadnezzar has a nervous breakdown lasting  
7 years then is restored**

Studying the Bible builds on other studies. Information leads to Revelation which leads to Transformation. Remember from our past studies...

**Ecclesiastes 1:9 King James Version**

9 The ***thing*** that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.

**Ecclesiastes 1:9 Amplified Bible**

9 The ***thing*** that has been—it is what will be again, and that which has been done is that which will be done again; and there is nothing new under the sun.

When you look at the first four chapters of the book of Daniel and compare it to the book of Revelation where it talks about the the antichrist and the beast...it is very, very, interesting.

**Revelation 13:1-2**

**The beast unites a 10 horned empire.**

**Daniel Chapter 2**

**The image in Nebuchadnezzar's dream  
has 10 toes.**

**Revelation 13:11-16**

**The image of the beast was worshipped  
and those who refused were killed.**

**Daniel Chapter 3**

**The image of Nebuchadnezzar was to be  
worshipped or they would be killed.**

**Revelation Chapters 4-19**

**The beast's kingdom lasts for 7 years  
- 42 months and 42 months.**

**Daniel Chapter 4**

**Nebuchadnezzar has a 7 year breakdown  
symbolizing the 7 year Tribulation.**

King Nebuchadnezzar lives like a beast or a wild man during those 7 years. He is an animal which is a picture of the antichrist who is described as an animal (nature) and possessed by a spirit in Revelation Chapter 13 (throughout Revelation).

**Daniel 4:31-36 King James Version**

31 While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.

32 And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and **seven times** shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

33 The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.

34 And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation:

35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

36 At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.



### **Daniel 4:31-36 Amplified Bible**

31 While the words were still in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: The kingdom has departed from you,

32 And you shall be driven from among men and your dwelling will be with the living creatures of the field. You will be made to eat grass like the oxen, and **seven times [or years]** shall pass over you until you have learned and know that the Most High [God] rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whomever He will.

33 That very hour the thing was [in process of] being fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven from among men and did eat grass like oxen [as Daniel had said he would], and his body was wet with the dew of the heavens until his hair grew like eagles' [feathers] and his nails [were] like birds' [claws].

34 And at the end of the days [seven years], I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up my eyes to heaven, and my understanding and the right use of my mind returned to me; and I blessed the Most High [God] and I praised and honored and glorified Him Who lives forever, Whose dominion is an everlasting dominion; and His kingdom endures from generation to generation.

35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing. And He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth, and none can stay His hand or say to Him, What are You doing?

36 Now at the same time my reason and understanding returned to me; and for the glory of my kingdom, my majesty and splendor returned to me, and my counselors and my lords sought me out; I was reestablished in my kingdom, and still more greatness [than before] was added to me.



When you look at Daniel Chapters 1-4, especially the prophetic parts, you find a foreshadowing of the Revelation that is to come. In chapter 2, there is the ten toes. Chapter 3 contains the image that he has built and you die if you don't worship it. Then in chapter 4, the seven year breakdown. So concealed in the story of Daniel, in Babylon is the actual revelation found in the New Testament (Revelation Chapter 13). This is about the antichrist, the ten kings, killing those who will not worship the image of the beast, and later a seven year Tribulation which is a picture of King Nebuchadnezzar's breakdown.

Next week, we will be going into more of this in detail...

