

DANIEL

The Prophet

Part Three

Why do you believe that God exists?

Why do you believe that the God of the Bible created mankind?

Why do you believe that the Bible is His word to us?

I can tell you why I believe.

1. Science:

The amazing complexity of biological systems.

Creation science.

Darwin's Enigma, etc. etc. etc.

2. The change in the first apostles, from fearful, to absolute fearlessness in the face of death.

3. The miracles I have experienced in my life.

4. The agreement between the writers of the Bible.

The deeper I go, the longer I study - the more agreement I see. This book was written over a period of some 1600 years, by many different men, yet they are all hearing the same God, all looking at the same place - each from a slightly different perspective.

5. **The accuracy of Bible prophecy.**

The odds of one man fulfilling even eight of the major prophecies concerning Messiah are 1 in 10 to the 17th power.

PROPHECY

2 Peter 1:21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. (2Pe 1:21 NAU)

John 13:19 "Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am He. (Joh 13:19 NKJ) [Jesus speaking to His disciples about his coming death and resurrection. So – let's be clear. Our purpose is NOT simply to foretell the future.

Isaiah 46:9-10 For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,' (NKJ)

THE PROPHECIES OF DANIEL:

Near the fall of Babylon:

1. In the 1st year of Belshazzar - **The Vision of the Four Beasts and the Heavenly Judgment**

2. In the 3rd year of Belshazzar - **The Vision of the Ram and the Goat**

In the early part of Persian rule:

3. In the 1st year of Darius - **The explanation of the vision and the seventy-sevens.**

4. In the 3rd year of Cyrus - **The Vision of the Glorious Man and The Warring Kingdoms.**

If we familiarize ourselves with these prophecies, then WHEN events described come to pass - we will recognize the events AND we will know where we are in time.

I would like to start with the Vision of the Ram and the Goat.

Daniel 8:2 I looked in the vision, and while I was looking I was in the citadel of Susa, which is in the province of Elam (which included what today is southern Iran); and I looked in the vision and I myself was beside the Ulai Canal. (Dan 8:2 NAU)

1. Daniel is standing “at the widening of the Ulai ” where THE Ulai met the Tigris River - where Basrah is today.

<http://www.mideastweb.org/miraqd.htm>

3 I raised my eyes and saw, and behold, **a ram** standing on the bank of the canal. It had two horns, and both horns were high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last. [Daniel is later told that the horns are the kingdoms of Media and Persia. - not “kingdom” (singular) of Medo-Persia. Yet - the two are represented as two horns on ONE Ram.]

4 I saw the ram charging westward and northward and southward. No beast could stand before him, and there was no one who could rescue from his power. He did as he pleased and became great.

5 As I was considering, behold, a male goat came from the west across the face of the whole earth, without **touching the ground**. And the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes. [NOTE: Daniel is later told that the male goat is the Kingdom of Greece. The notable horn is the first King. Alexander was NOT the FIRST king of Greece. He was the most important. ATG with his army slogged 7 years to reach and defeat Persia in 333BC.]

6 He came to the ram with the two horns, which I had seen standing on the bank of the canal, and he ran at him in his powerful wrath.

[NOTE: Cyrus' army had inflicted many atrocities on the army of Greece.]

[NOTE: The goat is furious!!]

7 I saw him come close to the ram, and he was enraged against him and struck the ram and broke his two horns.

[NOTE: Both horns broken in ONE battle. Media had centuries before been absorbed into Persia, before Alexander the Great defeated Persia.]

And the ram had no power to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled on him. And there was no one who could rescue the ram from his power.

8 Then the goat became exceedingly great, but when he was strong, the great horn was broken, and instead of it there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven.

9 **Out of one of them came a little horn,** which grew exceedingly great toward the south (Egypt/Africa), toward the east (Iran/China), and toward the glorious land (Israel).

[NOTE: South/East/West: not North towards Russia?]

[NOTE: The first three horns are not broken off. They are dominated by the fourth horn with its "little horn."]

10 It grew great, even to the host of heaven. And some of the host and some of the stars it threw down to the ground and trampled on them.

11 It became great, even as great as the Prince of the host. And the regular burnt offering (the Daily) was taken away from (or by) him, and the place of his sanctuary was overthrown.

12 And a host will be given over to it together with the regular burnt offering (the Daily) because of transgression, and it will throw truth to the ground, and it will act and prosper.

13 Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to the one who spoke, "For how long is the vision concerning the (Daily) regular burnt offering, **the transgression that makes desolate,** and the giving over of the sanctuary and host to be trampled underfoot?"

[NOTE: The "giving over of the sanctuary" to be trampled underfoot
(the Daily/the moed/the perpetual)

is co-incident with

the giving of "the host" to be trampled underfoot.

14 And he said to me, "For 2,300 evenings and mornings. Then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state." (Cleansed).

[Day of Atonement imagery. OR

Cleansing/consecration procedure - 7 days, after desecration.]

[NOTE: 2300 ev/morn = 1150 evenings+1150 mornings= 2300 evening/mornings.
The number is given by “Palmoni” who numbers of secrets.
It is said to be a “wonderful” number. So it is NOT what it appears to be.]
1150 days = 3 and a part years. It would FIT within the “time, times and a part” which
we will read in the vision of the four beasts.

15 When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it. And behold, there stood before me one having the appearance of a man.

16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, and it called,
"Gabriel, make this man understand the vision."

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, that the vision is for the time of the end."

[NOTE: 330 BC was NOT the time of the end.]

18 And when he had spoken to me, I fell into a deep sleep with my face to the ground.
But he touched me and made me stand up.

19 He said, "Behold, I will make known to you what shall be at the latter end of the indignation, for it refers to the appointed time of the end.

<http://iranpoliticsclub.net/maps/maps01/index.htm>

20 As for the ram that you saw with the two horns, these are the kings of Media and Persia.

21 And the goat is the king of Greece. And the great horn between his eyes is the first king.

22 As for the horn that was broken, in place of which four others arose, four kingdoms shall arise from (OR in place of) his nation, but not with his power.

[NOTE: The notable horn represents a “nation.”]

[NOTE: Alexander’s Empire did not split into four portions.]

23 And at the latter end of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their limit, a king of bold face, one who understands riddles, shall arise. {The Little Horn}

[NOTE: Transgressors will reach their limit in the latter days of the kingdom of the four.

The beast of Rev 13 is a composite beast with features of Lion/Bear/Leopard/Terrible Beast. There is also a little horn on that beast.]

24 His power shall be great-but not by his own power; [by power of Satan]
and he shall cause fearful destruction [Abomination of Desolation]
and shall succeed in what he does,
and destroy mighty men and the people who are the saints. [NOTE: for 1260 days.]

25 By his cunning he shall make deceit prosper under his hand,
and in his own mind he shall become great.

Without warning he shall destroy many.

And he shall even rise up against the Prince of princes,
and he shall be broken--but by no human hand.

26 The vision of the evenings and the mornings that has been told is true,
but **seal up the vision**, for it refers to many days from now."

NOTE: John is told to "eat" a little book, and then prophesy again. (Rev 10:8-11)

27 And I, Daniel, was overcome and lay sick for some days. Then I rose and went about the king's business, but I was appalled by the vision and did not understand it.

(Dan 8:3-27 ESV)

[Daniel will begin to pray for understanding.

His prayer will be answered by the vision of Daniel 9-12.

I BELIEVE THIS PROPHECY MAY HAVE MORE THAN ONE FULFILLMENT.
Or ONE Fulfillment and at least one "application."

DIVISION OF ALEXANDER'S EMPIRE:

Originally six, then five, then four:

Cassander took over Greece and Macedonia.

Lysimachus took Thrace and Bithynia (modern day Turkey) but was defeated

http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/people_lysimachus.html

They killed Alexander's two sons in the process.

Finally three main divisions:

Ptolemy took Egypt, Palestine and Arabia.

The Seleucids who acquired Asia (Syria, Babylonia, Persia, all the way to India)

The Antigonids who controlled Macedonia.

http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Alexander_the_Great#Legacy_and_division_of_the_Empire

<http://www.roman-empire.net/children/history.html>

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ROME

We today, in the USA have a Roman style government! A republic.

-

NOW LET'S READ THROUGH DANIEL'S VISION OF THE FOUR BEASTS

ESV Daniel 7:1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel saw a dream and visions of his head as he lay in his bed. Then he wrote down the dream and told the sum of the matter.

[So Babylon is waning, not strong - when Daniel receives this vision.]

2 Daniel declared, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea.

[Sea of humanity: Isa 17:12-13, Isa. 57:20, Jer. 6:23, Jer 46:7-9, Jer 47:2, Rev. 13:1, Rev 17:1, 15]

3 And **four great beasts** came up out of the sea, different from one another.

4 The first was like **a lion** and had eagles' wings. Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man, and the mind of a man was given to it.

[Could apply to King Nebuchadnezzar who suffered a bout of insanity followed by conversion to the God of Daniel.]

5 And behold, another beast, a second one, like **a bear**. It was raised up on one side. It had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, 'Arise, devour much flesh.'

6 After this I looked, and behold, another, like **a leopard**, with **four wings** of a bird on its back. And the beast had **four heads**, and dominion was given to it.

[NOTE: Could apply to the four divisions of Alexander's Empire.]

7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a **fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong**. It had **great iron teeth**; it devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet. It was **different from all the beasts that were before it**, and it had **ten horns**.

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 (blasphemous) things**.

DANIEL'S VISION CHANGES TO WHAT IS TAKING PLACE IN HEAVEN:

9 "As I looked, **thrones were placed**, and **the Ancient of Days took his seat**; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire.

10 A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; **the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.**

11 "I looked then because of the sound of the great words that the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was killed, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.

[NOTE: As the court is seated in heaven - the beast power, with the 10, plus one, minus three heads =(8) - is burned and destroyed. See Revelation 13, 17 & 18]

12 **As for the rest of the beasts**, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

13 "I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came **one like a son of man**, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him.

[This is Rev. 4&5]

14 And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

[NOTE: Rev. 11:15]

15 "As for me, Daniel, my spirit within me was anxious, and the visions of my head alarmed me.

16 I approached one of those who stood there and asked him the truth concerning all this. **So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of the things.**

17 **These four great beasts are four kings who shall arise out of the earth.**

18 **But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, forever and ever.'**

19 "Then **I desired to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the rest, exceedingly terrifying, with its teeth of iron and claws of bronze, and which devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet,**

20 and about the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn that came up and before which three of them fell, the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and that seemed greater than its companions.

21 As I looked, **this horn made war with the saints and prevailed over them,**

22 **until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints possessed the kingdom.**

23 "Thus he said: 'As for the fourth beast, there shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all the kingdoms, and it shall devour the whole earth, and trample it down, and break it to pieces.

24 As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them; he shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings.

25 **He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High,** and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

[NOTE: Little horn will blaspheme. Will think to change time/law (the Sabbath) and will persecute for 1260 days/3.5 years.]

26 But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and destroyed to the end.

27 And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; their kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey them.'

28 "Here is the end of the matter. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly alarmed me, and my color changed, but I kept the matter in my heart."

(Dan 7:1 ESV)

SO DANIEL HAD RECEIVED BOTH OF THESE VISIONS BEFORE HE IS ASKED TO INTERPRET THE WRITING ON THE WALL DURING BELSHAZZAR'S LAST FEAST.