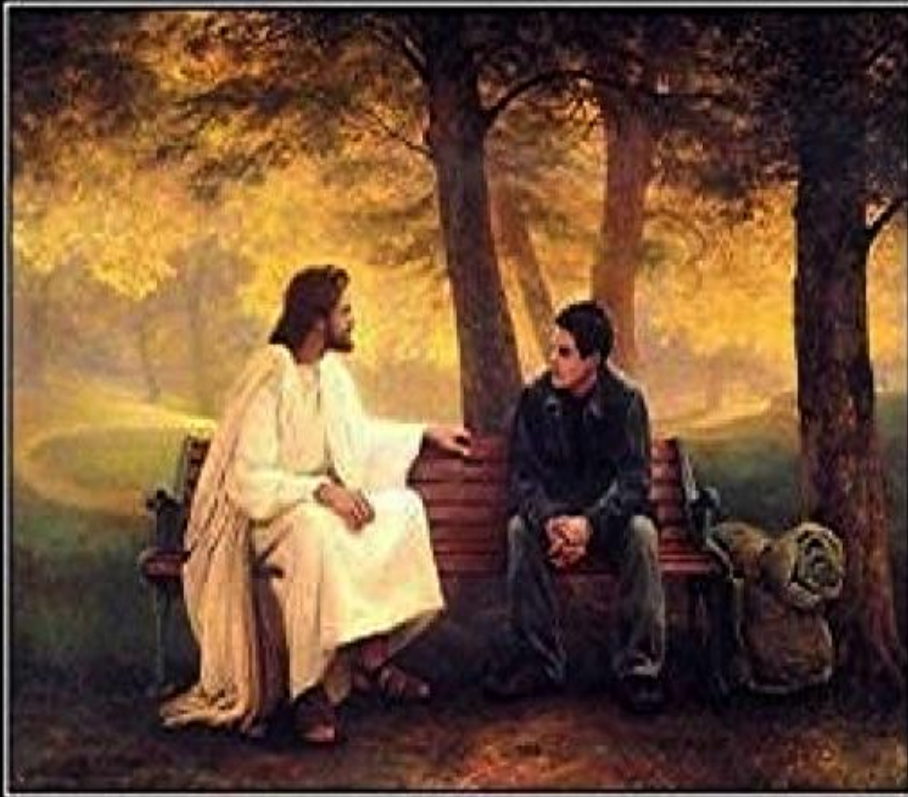


FAITH UNTO DEATH



NO, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT TWITTER.
I LITERALLY WANT YOU TO FOLLOW ME.

YESHUA

- Daniel in the lion's den involves civil disobedience as well as courage and trust in God
- Giving our lives over to Christ comes with a personal cost
- Grace is free, but it is about spiritual and eternal matters
- On earth, we must still pick up our crosses and follow Him, and this involves our actions

"But that's not fair !!"



LAW: MORAL OR PREFERENCE?

- The only way to discern which category a law falls into is in the Torah
- Taxes, Healthcare, government demand to serve in military are issues of fairness, finance, and preference
- Marriage, homosexuality, abortion, control of our minor children, deceiving others in finances are issues of morality



DARIUS DECREES REVERENCE FOR DANIEL'S GOD

- Darius sees himself as did Nebuchadnezzar: King of the World
- Even with his pagan mind, Darius recognizes YHWH's eternal, omniscient, and omni-present attributes
- Daniel prospered during Darius' and Cyrus' reigns
- Had much to do with how well Jews in Babylon were treated



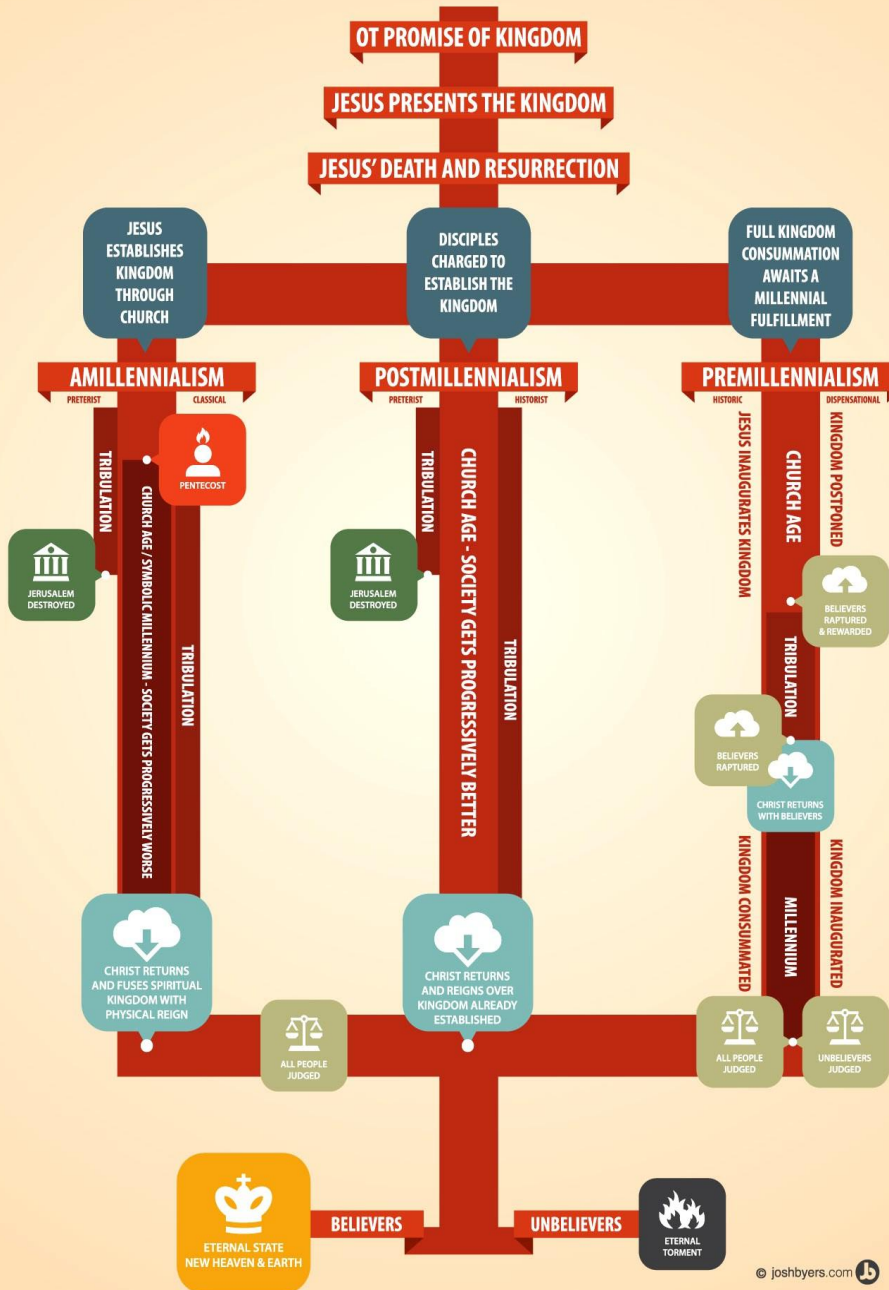
DANIEL CHAPTER 7: THE VISION OF THE BEASTS

- Must be careful not to sensationalize or over-simplify
- Chapter 6 exits the historic, and Chapter 7 enters the prophetic section of the book
- Nebuchadnezzar's dream-statue is given to Daniel in the form of 4 beasts
- Daniel 2, statue, man's view: powerful, rich, majestic
- Daniel 7, beasts, God's view: spiritually decrepit, morally bankrupt, dangerous, worthy of destruction



THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT

VIEWS OF THE END TIMES



3 MAIN END-TIMES DOCTRINES

- The 4th beast gives us more details via progressive revelation
- Pastors, academics, commentators, view End Times in one of these 3 pre-packaged doctrines
- Some of Daniel 7 is past, some ongoing, some future

UNFILFILLED PROPHECY: ONLY A LIMITED VIEW

- Prophets knew no more than those they spoke God's oracles to
- ONLY in hindsight can we be certain of how a prophecy came to pass
- Sir Isaac Newton: prophecy is not to see the future, it is to prove God's mastery over time and space





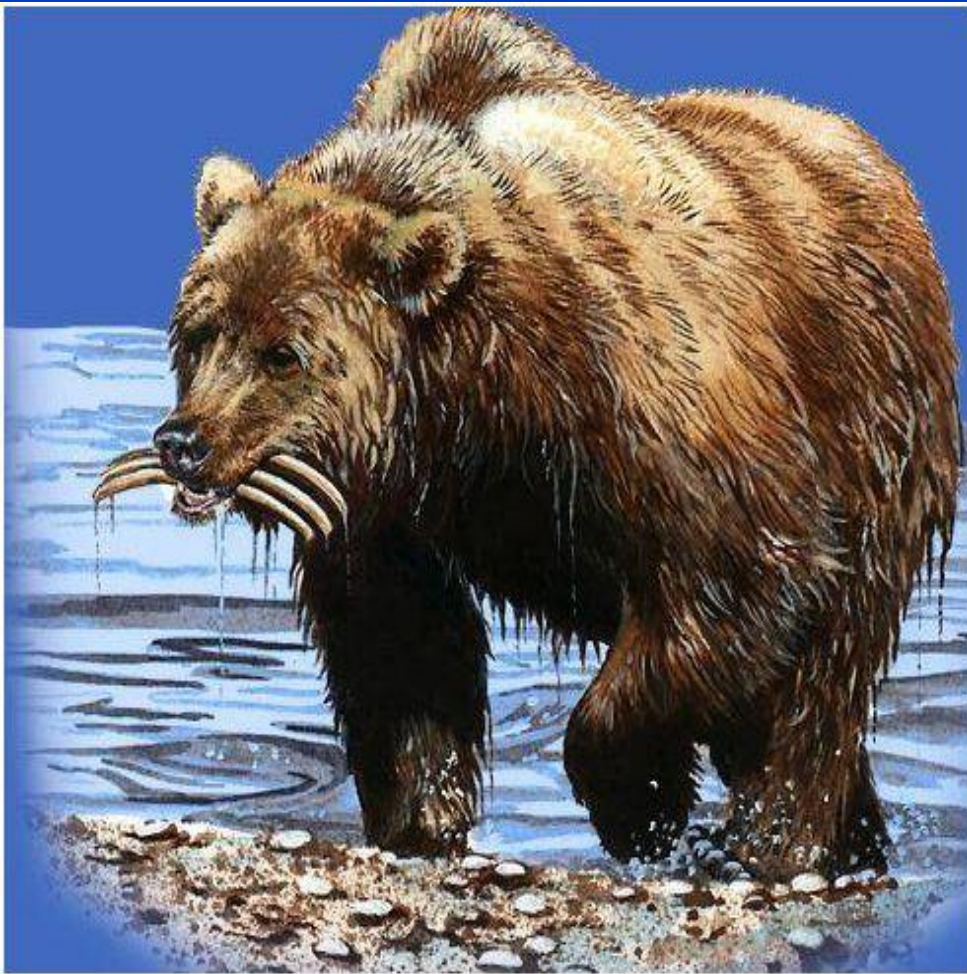
- Immediately when *Belshatzar* became king, Daniel had his vision of the 4 beasts
- 4 winds blowing over the great sea, chaos and turmoil
- *Ruach* = wind, spirit
- Great sea = all the gentile nations
- Beasts arise one after the next, in sequence



THE FIRST BEAST

- LIKE a lion, but NOT a lion
- With eagle's wings, that get plucked off
- Lion the king of beasts
- Eagle the king of birds
- Eagle's flight gave it a wide range
- Lion powerful over his small dominion
- Nebuchadnezzar compared to lion and eagle in Jeremiah, Lamentations, Habakkuk, and in Ezekiel
- This is the Babylonian Empire

THE SECOND BEAST



- LIKE a bear, but NOT a bear
- Bear is the “prince” of beasts
- Raising up on one side very difficult to find meaning
- 3 ribs in the mouth equals Media-Persia conquering Babylon, Egypt, and Lydia

THE THIRD BEAST

- LIKE a leopard, but NOT a leopard
- Has 4 heads (the only beast with multiple heads)
- Symbolizes Macedonia-Greece (Greece for short)
- Known for its lightening fast agility
- Bird wings give it wide range
- Alexander the Great divided his empire into 4 districts
- Ptolemy, Seleucus, Philip, Antigonus
- Ruled simultaneously



THE FOURTH BEAST

- 4th beast is given no likeness at all !!
- Unable to compare to any beast of the field
- 4th beast's main characteristic is **destruction**
- Equates to the dream-statue 4th kingdom of Iron
- Roman Empire
- 4th beast is the only one with multiple horns, and has 10
- "10" here is BOTH literal and symbolic of divine completeness
- **Horn** symbolizes king and kingdom





- Little horn sprouts from among the 10
- Uproots and destroys 3 of the 10 horns
- The horns seem to be the key to the mystery
- Eyes and mouth mean that this is a man, and not a kingdom
- Porphyry a Neo-Platonist philosopher in the 200's A.D.
- Says little horn is Antiochus Epiphanies
- But 2 of the 3 "Horns" he claims Epiphanies uprooted were dead before Epiphanies was born !!