

Four Kingdoms

Daniel 7:15-28

by Don Falkos

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Daniel was disturbed by his dream, a vision of four dreadful beasts, a vision he didn't understand. One of the throng of divine beings gathered around the throne of the Ancient of Days, the Most High, the God of Heaven explained the vision. "The four beasts are four kingdoms of the earth. But in the end, the people of God will be given the kingdom and will rule for all eternity."

Daniel asked, "What is the meaning of the fourth beast? It devoured and crushed and trampled its victims. And what about the ten horns on its head? And the smaller horn that supplanted three of the others and had eyes and a mouth and spoke so arrogantly? It made war against the people of God and was winning until the Ancient of Days came and gave the kingdom to them."

"The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom. It will devour the entire earth, trampling and crushing everything in its path. Out of this kingdom ten kings will arise – thus the ten horns. Yet another king will arise after them. He will subdue three of them. He will defy the Most High; he will claim to be a god; he will attempt to obliterate the Law of God; he will halt sacrifices to the Lord and will force the people of the Most High to worship other gods, including himself; he will massacre all who refuse to conform; he will persecute them for three and half years.

"Then the judgment of God will fall on him. He will be stripped of his power. The kingdom, the rulership, and the greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be given to the people of the Most High. And that kingdom will last forever and ever."