

EXILIC & POST-EXILIC PROPHETS OF THE BIBLE

Senior Adults & Friends Bible Study — Summit View Church of Christ
Winter 2022-2023

PART FIVE, SECTION 3

DANIEL'S DREAM OF FOUR BEASTS

DANIEL 7

Date: Jehoiachin, former king of Judah, was released from prison in Babylon in March/April 561 BC, when Awel-Marduk became king of Babylon (Jeremiah 53:31). Daniel received his dream of the four beasts in the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon (possibly 553 BC; Belshazzar was actually coregent with his father Nabonidus beginning in about that year).

Historical Note: 2 Kings 25:27-30

- Recall 2 Kings 24:8-17. How had King Jehoiachin become a prisoner of Babylon?

25:27 — Babylonian King _____ set Jehoiachin free. He gave him a _____ higher than the other kings with him in Babylon. For the rest of his life, Jehoiachin ate regularly at the king's _____.

for class discussion...

2 Kings and Jeremiah close with this event. What would the freeing of Jehoiachin have meant for the Jewish people?

Insights from archaeology...

[Judah's King Jehoiachin (reigned 598–597, 2 Kings 24:5, etc.) is attested] in four Babylonian administrative tablets regarding oil rations or deliveries, during his exile in Babylonia (*Raging Torrent*, p. 209; *ANEHST*, pp. 386–387). Discovered at Babylon, they are dated from the tenth to the thirty-fifth year of Nebuchadnezzar II, king of Babylonia and conqueror of Jerusalem. One tablet calls Jehoiachin “king” (Text Babylon 28122, obverse, line 29; *ANET*, p. 308). A second, fragmentary text mentions him as king in an immediate context that refers to “[. . .] sojns of the king of Judah” and “Judahites” (Text Babylon 28178, obverse, col. 2, lines 38–40; *ANET*, p. 308). The third tablet calls him “the son of the king of Judah” and refers to “the five sons of the king of Judah” (Text Babylon 28186, reverse, col. 2, lines 17–18; *ANET*, p. 308). The fourth text, the most fragmentary of all, confirms “Judah” and part of Jehoiachin’s name, but contributes no data that is not found in the other texts.

<https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/people-cultures-in-the-bible/people-in-the-bible/50-people-in-the-bible-confirmed-archaeologically/#note35r> — accessed February 21, 2018

Daniel 7:1-14

7:2-7 — THE FOUR BEASTS

- the beasts came up out of the _____
- the first beast was like a _____ with the wings of an _____; its wings were torn off and it stood on 2 feet like a _____
- the second beast was like a _____; it was raised up on one side and had 3 _____ in its mouth
- the third beast was like a _____ with 4 _____ and 4 _____
- the fourth beast was very powerful; it crushed and devoured its victims; it was different from the other beasts, and it had 10 _____

7:12 — The first 3 beasts were stripped of their authority but allowed to _____ for a period of time.

7:8-12 — THE LITTLE HORN

- When the little horn came up, it uprooted _____ other horns.
- It had _____ like those of a human being and a mouth that _____.

7:9-14 — THE HEAVENLY COURT AND THE SON OF MAN

- How did the Ancient of Days look?
- *compare with Revelation 1:12-16 — Any similarities?*
- What happened to the fourth beast?

- What authority was given to the one who looked like a son of man?

Daniel 7:15-28

7:17 — The 4 great beasts are 4 _____ that will arise from the earth.

In Kevin's interpretation, which king(dom)s do these beasts represent?
 first beast = _____ third beast = _____
 second beast = _____ fourth beast = _____

7:21-22 — What was the little horn doing to God's holy people?

7:24 — The fourth beast's 10 horns represented 10 _____ from that kingdom.

7:25 — The king represented by the little horn would speak against the _____ and oppress his _____ and try to change the _____ and the _____. The holy people would be delivered into his hands for _____, _____, and half a _____.

7:26-27 — When the court sat, that king would lose his _____. Then all kingdoms under heaven would be handed over to the _____ of the Most High, and His kingdom would last forever.