

Biblical  
Prophecy  
Bible Study  
Are we in the  
End Times?

- Lesson 1: The Kingdom of the Beast Part 1
- Daniel Chapters 2 and 7
  
- September 19, 2022

## Strange Times and a Strange Happenings

### An Incomplete and Semi-random List

- COVID policy
- Shared talking points
- Cancel Culture and online censorship
- State protection and promotion of lawlessness
- Development of a surveillance state
- Broadening of the definition of domestic terrorist

COVID – “one size fits all” vaccination policy, “conspiracy theories” for lab leak hypothesis, marginalization and demonization of repurposing established medications

Shared talking points – identical ideas and sometimes identical words and phrases expressed across multiple media platforms and even across international political borders. Examples: Vaccine is “safe and effective,” the “great reset”

Cancel culture – ad hominem attacks on anyone who does not share or express ideas consistent with the current narrative, and the narrative seems to constantly change; allegations are often untrue or misleading. Examples: far right, homophobic, islamophobic

Lawlessness – DA who refuse to prosecute violent offenders, politicians who allow the violence of antifa and BLM and even support the movements

Surveillance state – online censorship, corporate data collecting and NSA surveillance

Domestic terrorism – conservative symbols, misinformation, disinformation and malinformation, DHS and the Office of Misinformation, parents who disagree with a school board

## Strange Times and a Strange Happenings

### An Incomplete and Semi-random List

- Weaponization of government agencies
  - FBI, Department of Justice, and Department of Homeland Security
  - FDA and CDC
  - IRS
- Targeting of children
- Hijacking of the educational system
  - Critical Race Theory
  - Gender identity and LGBTQ+ movement
- Mainstreaming of radical Islam
- Rise of globalism

Targeting of children – abortion, sexualization of young children, gender identity movement

Educational system – started with higher education and now incorporates all level, down to K and preschool

# Strange Times and a Strange Happenings

## An Incomplete and Semi-random List

### Systematic undermining of the Constitution

- Blurring of constitutional powers
- Supreme Court as a legislative body
- Extreme polarization of political parties

### Aggressive assault on Biblical Authority

- Evolution replaces creationism
- Higher criticism
- Apostasy within the church

### Rise of antisemitism

- Replacement theology
- American foreign policy on Israel and Palestine

Blurring of constitutional powers – excessive use of executive orders, centralization of power in the federal government, International Treaties and declaration of war without congressional approval; The separation of powers in the constitution was deliberately designed to prevent accumulation of power

Polarization – the verbiage used in political exchanges suggest we are on the verge of violent conflict (Jan 6)

Higher criticism – attacks on authority of the Bible, primarily through attacks on the authorship, but there is hardly any aspect of the Bible that has not been attacked and criticized

Apostasy – marginalization of Biblical teaching, amillennialism and the social justice movement;

Can we put these strange times  
and strange happenings in a  
Biblical framework?

## How to seize control of a government?

- Promote violence
- Destabilize law and order
- Control the press
- Suppress dissenting voices
- Eliminate opponents
- Manufacture or capitalize on a crisis
- Seize power
  - Wait for the existing power structure to collapse
  - Use existing legal structure to seize extraordinary powers

## The Central Question

When is a conspiracy beyond the capabilities of men and require supernatural authorship?

I am not aware of any historical conspiracy that was able to operate across international political borders and include numerous major international corporations. Even during WW2, the fascists powers had minimal cooperation between them.

If we see evidence of a wide-spread conspiracy, and it is unreasonable to believe this conspiracy could not be coordinated by men, then it must be coordinated by a supernatural being.

So... it must be coordinated by Satan or the Antichrist and it must be allowed to happen by God.

# Biblical Prophecy Bible Study

## Goals

- Study Biblical prophecy
- Use Biblical prophecy to interpret recent events
- Attempt to make sense of the world around us
  - Open and encourage discussion within the Church
  - Inspire further study
- Encourage fellow believers in the Gospel and God's redemptive plan
  - Engage unbelieving seekers



# Biblical Prophecy Bible Study

## Rules

- The Bible is the ultimate authority
- Be aware of what is known (fact) and what is conjecture
  - There is a limit to what we can know
  - Many of my previous conjectures have been proven wrong
- Keep an open mind
  - Be aware of biases
  - Salvation is through faith alone - Sola fide,
  - Salvation is not determined by your eschatological views
- Conspiracy theories are fair game
- The only savior is Jesus Christ, not a political party
- Be comfortable with uncertainty

Biblical authority: We will always start with what the Bible says and build a model from there. We will then ask if the facts we identify match with our Biblical model.

Biases confound interpretation of facts. One type of bias is a confirmation bias, where you tend to search for, interpret and recall information in a way that confirms or supports your prior beliefs or values. (paraphrased from Wikipedia Confirmation Bias)

Conspiracy theories – This is a difficult topic to tackle since it is hard to determine what is true and what is false. We will try very hard to identify what is facts. I will give you sources. We will look at more than one interpretation of the facts. With time, I am hoping a pattern of facts will emerge that will point us toward the truth

## Biblical Prophecy Bible Study

### Assumptions

- The Bible is God-breathed
  - Plenary verbal inspiration
- The Bible is inerrant
- The Bible is the sole infallible source of authority
  - Sola scriptura

We will discuss other end-time views, but...

- Dispensational Premillennialism is the basis for our analysis
- A pretribulation rapture is the basis for our analysis

An assumption is something that is necessary for our analysis but can't necessarily be proved.

# Biblical Prophecy Bible Study

## Outline

- Kingdom of the Beast
- Antichrist
- Satan
- 70-weeks Prophecy
- Olivet Discourse
- Nation of Israel
- Rapture
- One World Financial System and the One World Religion
- Millennial Kingdom
- Gog and Magog

# Lesson 1: The Kingdom of the Beast

## Part 1

- Daniel and Revelation speak of a future kingdom
  - “...which will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it.” DAN 7:23
- The antichrist will rule this kingdom for 7 years
  - “And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week,” DAN 9:27
- Often referred to as the New World Order or the One World Order (OWO)
- Can we see the shadows of this kingdom today?

Georgia  
Guidestones:  
A Glimpse  
into the  
Kingdom of  
the Beast?



By Judson McCranie, CC BY-SA 3.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=96066096>

## The Gorgia Guidestones

Erected in June 1979 in Ellerby, GA

- Robert C. Christian (a pseudonym) commissioned the monument at a cost of \$100,000
- Represented a “A small group of Americans who seek the Age of Reason”

Damaged by an explosion on July 6, 2022

- Demolished the same day

Some believe RC Christian is a reference to the Rosecrucians

## The Georgia Guidestones

1. Maintain humanity under 500,000,000 in perpetual balance with nature.
2. Guide reproduction wisely – improving fitness and diversity
3. Unite humanity with a living new language
4. Rule passion – faith – tradition – and all things with tempered reason
5. Protect people and nations with fair laws and just courts

Current world population is over 7.5 Billion. To achieve this goal, 94% of the population would have to be eliminated

## The Georgia Guidestones

6. Let all nations rule internally resolving external disputes in a world court
7. Avoid petty laws and useless officials
8. Balance personal rights and social duties
9. Prize truth – beauty – love – seeking harmony with the infinite
10. Be not a cancer on the Earth – Leave room for nature – Leave room for nature



# The Kingdom of the Beast

## Predictions

1. It will be totalitarian
  - Police and surveillance state
  - Ideological dissent will be crushed
2. Its roots are Marxist
  - Existing governments must be destroyed
  - Stated ideology hides the consolidation of power
3. Genocide will be a state policy
4. It will be synonymous with sexual immorality
  - Pedophilia

What does the Bible tell us about the Kingdom of the Beast?

### Key Biblical Passages

- Daniel Chapter 2
- Daniel Chapter 7
- Daniel Chapter 8
- Revelation 13
- Revelation 17

## Daniel

- A prophet at the time of the Babylonian Exile (4<sup>th</sup> Century BC)
- Was the son of nobility of the Kingdom of Judah
- Served as a government official in the Neo-Babylonian and Persian empires
- Prophesized on the messiah, the time of the gentiles, and end times
  - Addressed the inter-testament period

Daniel may have been a eunuch

Luke 21:24 “and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.”

# Book of Daniel

## Outline

Chapter 1: The Diet Test

Chapter 2: Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Chapter 3: The Golden Image

Chapter 4: Nebuchadnezzar's judgement

Chapter 5: The Writing on the Wall

Chapter 6: The Lion's Den

Chapter 7: Four Beasts

Chapter 8: Ram and Goat

Chapter 9: Seventy Weeks Prophecy

Chapter 10: Spiritual Warfare

Chapter 11: Kings of the North and South

Chapter 12: Time of the End

# Book of Daniel

## Chapter 2: Summary

- Nebuchadnezzar was troubled by a dream
- He demanded the Chaldeans tell him his dream and interpret it
- When the Chaldeans were unable to comply, Nebuchadnezzar ordered their deaths
  
- Daniel was considered a member of the Chaldeans
- When Daniel learned of his death sentence, he asked Nebuchadnezzar for more time
- God revealed the dream and its interpretation to Daniel in a night vision

Daniel's 3 friends: Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah

"As for the mystery about which the king has inquired, neither wise men, conjurers, magicians nor diviners are able to declare it to the king. However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days." DAN 2:27-28.

## Daniel 2: 31-34

“You, O King, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome. The head of the statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them.”

This passage is written in Aramaic

The final, fourth portion (feet) is a mixture of two material: iron and clay.

This kingdom will be something strange and new. Why clay and iron?

The stone cut out without hands suggests its authority is not man made

The stone strikes the feet (iron and clay) but crushes the entire statue

## Daniel 2: 35

“Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found.

But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”

If the previous kingdoms are crushed, they must still exist in some manner.  
The final kingdom fills the entire earth.

## Daniel 2: 36-38

“This was the dream; now we will tell its interpretation before the king. You, O king, are the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the strength and the glory; and wherever the sons of men dwell, or the beasts of the field, or the birds of the sky, He has given them into your hand and has caused you to rule over them all. You are the head of gold.”

Nebuchadnezzar is pictured as both the ruler and the kingdom  
God is the one who gave him his kingdom



# Neo Babylonian Empire

Empire at its greatest extent under King Nabonidus



By IchthyovenatorSémhur (base map) - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,  
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## Neo-Babylonian Empire

Assyrian Empire ruled the Ancient Near East from 911-612 BC

- Ashurbanipal, the last strong Assyrian ruler, died in 631 BC
- Nabopolassar seized the cities of Babylon and Nippur in 626 BC
  - Crowned King of Babylon
- Medes sacked Assur in 614 BC
- Medes and Babylonians under Nabopolassar sacked Nineveh in 612 BC

During the sack of Nineveh, the city was set on fire, including the famous library of Ashurbanipal. The fire preserved the clay tablets by hardening them.

## Neo-Babylonia Empire

- Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonia Crown Prince, defeated a combined Assyrian and Egyptian army at Carchemish in 605 BC
- Nabopolassar died in 605 BC, Nebuchadnezzar returned to Babylon to be crowned
- 598 BC Nebuchadnezzar captures Jerusalem from King Jehoiakim
- 589 BC Zedekiah, King of Judah, rebelled against Babylon
- 586 BC Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Jerusalem and the temple

Egyptians were under Pharaoh Necho II (killed Josiah at the battle of Megiddo) 2 Chronicles 35:20-25

The Bible states Nebuchadnezzar took Jewish captives with him in 605 BC but this is not attested to in the Babylonian Chronicles

Jehoiakim died during the siege and was replaced by Jeconiah, who was taken to Babylon

Siege of 598 is documented in the Babylonian chronicles

## Neo Babylonian Empire Biblical Timeline

Neo Babylonian Empire		
Nabopolassar	626-605 BC	
Nebuchadnezzar II	605-562 BC	Daniel 1-4
Amel-Marduk	562-560 BC	
Neriglassar	560-556 BC	
Labashi-Marduk	556 BC	
Nabonidus Belshazzar	556-539 BC	Daniel 5, 7-8
Medo-Persian Empire		
Cyrus the Great	539 BC-530 BC	Daniel 6, Daniel 9-12

## Daniel 2:39

“After you there will rise another kingdom inferior to you, then another third kingdom of bronze, which will rule over all the earth.”

We learn later these are kingdoms of Persia and Greece  
Alexander the Great's kingdom stretched from Greece to Egypt and Egypt to India

## Daniel 2:40

“Then there will be a fourth kingdom as strong as iron; inasmuch as iron crushes and shatters all things, so, like iron that breaks in pieces, it will crush and break all these in pieces.”

Does iron break into pieces?

## Daniel 2: 41-43

“In that you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, it will be a divided kingdom; but it will have in it the toughness of iron, inasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with common clay. As the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of pottery, so some of the kingdom will be strong and part of it will be brittle, they will combine with one another in the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, even as iron does not combine with pottery.”

The perspective seems to switch to a future kingdom, but also suggests Rome  
There is a suggestion of two separate kingdoms combining. What is the kingdom combined with? What is the clay?

Does the seed of men suggest transhumanism or a return of the Nephilim?

Regardless, the two sides do not seem to work well together and there is a sense of mutual animosity.

Note there are 10 toes (implied, not stated). This reflects the 10 horns

## Daniel 2: 44-45

“In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever. Inasmuch as you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will take place in the future; so the dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy.”

This seems to be a reference to both the Millennial Kingdom of Jesus Christ and the Eternal Kingdom of the New Heaven and New Earth

Psalm 118:22 “The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief corner stone.” Associated with Jesus in the NT

Isaiah 8:14 “The He shall become a sanctuary; But to both the houses of Israel, a stone to strike and a rock to stumble over, And a snare and a trap for the inhabitants of Jerusalem.” Refers to God



## Daniel Chapter 2

### A Biblical Model

- Neo Babylon is the first kingdom (gold)
- Second kingdom (silver) is inferior
- Third kingdom (bronze) will rule over the entire world
- Fourth kingdom (iron then iron and clay) will “crush and break”
  - Will be a mixed kingdom, partly strong, partly brittle
  - They will not adhere to each other
  - “They will combine with each other in the seed of men.”
- God will set up a final kingdom and it will be eternal

What does the Bible tell us about the Kingdom of the Beast?

#### Key Biblical Passages

- Daniel Chapter 2
- **Daniel Chapter 7**
- Daniel Chapter 8
- Revelation Chapter 13
- Revelation Chapter 17

## Book of Daniel

### Chapter 7: Background

- Daniel has a “dream and visions” of four beasts
- Occurs in the first year of Belshazzar, king of Babylon
- Belshazzar is ruler of the city of Babylon
- He is the son of Nabonidus, who is ruler of the Kingdom of Babylon
- Occurs at least 40 years after the events of Chapter 2
- Belshazzar is the last Babylonian ruler before the Persian conquest

Belshazzar may be related to Nebuchadnezzar through his mother

## Daniel Chapter 7

### The Four Beasts

Daniel has a dream and visions in the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon

- Nebuchadnezzar II died in 562 BC
- Amel-Marduk, Nebuchadnezzar's son ruled 562-560 BC
- Neriglissar, a court official, ruled 560-556 BC
- Labashi-Marduk, Neriglissar's son, ruled 556 BC
- Nabonidus, a court official, ruled 556-539 BC
  - Belshazzar was Nabonidus' son
  - Ruler of the city of Babylon

Nabonidus moved the seat of his government to the city of Tayma, in northern Arabia. He left his son, Balshazzar in charge of the city of Babylon

## Daniel 7: 1

“In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel saw a dream and visions in his mind as he lay on his bed; then he wrote the dream down and related the following summary of it.”

Balshazzar is the king of Daniel 5, the writing on the wall

## Daniel 7: 2-3

“Daniel said, ‘I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another.’”

The great sea is usually the Mediterranean, is generally take to symbolize gentile nations

Four winds of heaven usually mean the four points of the compass, but here seem to be an active force

A possible interpretation is spiritual forces stirring up the gentile nations to cause the rise of empires

In Daniel 10 Michael and the messenger angel fight against the Prince of Persia and the Prince of Greece, who seem to be fallen angels

## Daniel 7:4

“The first was like a lion and had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it.”

Nebuchadnezzar (or Babylon) is referred to as a lion in Jeremiah and Ezekiel  
Wings symbolize swift conquest

May reference either Nebuchadnezzar's sickness in DAN 4 or that the kingdom became less aggressive/expansionistic after Nebuchadnezzar's early campaigns.

--- Maybe the salvation of Nebuchadnezzar?

## Daniel 7:5

“And behold, another beast, a second one, resembling a bear. And it was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and thus they said to it, ‘Arise, devour much meat!’”

Raised up on one side is thought to refer to the unequal relationship between the Medes and the Persians.

The 3 ribs may refer to 3 kingdoms conquered by the Persians: Lydia, Babylon, Egypt?



## Daniel 7:6

“After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird; the beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.”

The traditional view is this is a reference to the Hellenistic kingdoms

Again, the wings refer to swift conquest, but now there are four wings.

Four rulers emerged from Alexander the Great's kingdom after the Battle of Ipsus in 301 BC

Cassander – Macedonia and Greece

Lysimachus – Turkey

Seleucus – Babylon and Central Asia

Ptolemy I - Egypt

## Daniel 7:7-8

“After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great boasts.”

Eyes of a man symbolize craft and cunning  
Great boasts – vanity and blasphemy

## Daniel 7: 11-12

“Then I kept looking, because of the sound of the boastful words which the horn was speaking; I kept looking until the beast was slain, and its body was destroyed and given to the burning fire. As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but an extension of life was granted to them for an appointed period of time.”

Daniel 7:9-12 shows the Ancient of Days preparing to Judge. This is similar to Revelation 4-5 and Revelation 20:11

The fourth beast is slain and thrown into burning fire.

The first three beasts are no longer in charge, but they are allowed to continue to exist “for an appointed period of time.”

## Daniel 7: 15-18

“As for me, Daniel, my spirit was distressed within me, and the visions in my mind kept alarming me. I approached one of those who were standing by and began asking him the exact meaning of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things: these great beasts, which are four in number, are four kings who will arise from the earth. But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come.”

Saints is qad-di-se H6922 Sacred, God, and angel, a saint, a sanctuary  
Four kings, but they also seem to be four kingdoms  
The saints will inherit the final kingdom

## Daniel 7: 19-20

“Then I desired to know the exact meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceeding dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its claws of bronze, and which devoured, crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet, and the meaning of the ten horns that were on its head and the other horn which came up, and before which three of them fell, namely, the horn which had eyes and a mouth uttering great boasts and which was larger in appearance than its associates.”

Claws of bronze are now mentioned

The other was a “little one” in verse 7, but now it is larger in appearance than the others

## Daniel 7: 21-22

“I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them until the Ancient of Days came and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One, and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom.”

The little horn will persecute the Saints of the Highest One  
God will not only judge against the little horn, but also in favor of the Saints.  
The saints will possess the eternal kingdom along with Jesus (Son of Man DAN 7: 13-14)

## Daniel Chapter 7

### A Biblical Model

- The fourth kingdom will be “dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong”
- The kingdom will be a continuation of the four kingdoms of Daniel 4
- Ten rulers will initially control the kingdom
- A “little horn” will destroy three of the rulers and grow to prominence
- The Saints of the Highest One will be persecuted, but will inherit the Eternal Kingdom
- The Kingdom of the Beast will be slain by God and thrown into burning fire

## Kingdom of the Beast

### A Biblical Model (Daniel Chapters 2, 7)

- The three kingdoms of Daniel 2 will transition to a fourth kingdom
- It will be mixed, partly strong, partly brittle
- It will be “dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong”
- Initially there will be 10 rulers
- Another ruler will arise, defeat three rulers, and become dominant
- The saints of the Most High will be persecuted
- The kingdom of the beast will be replaced by God’s Eternal Kingdom



## Why do the end times matter?

- If you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your savior...
- If you have not addressed the sin in your own life...
- If you have not shared the gospel with that person you've meant to...

What are you waiting for?

Many recognize the rising of the One World Order.

Few place it in the context of biblical prophecy.

## The Central Question

When is a conspiracy beyond the capabilities of men and require supernatural authorship?

# Questions and Discussion

## Acts 17:10-11

“The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.”

Don't trust anything I saw. Please go and look it up for yourself. Challenge me when I am wrong. Discuss when you disagree.

# Biblical Prophecy Bible Study

## Are we in the End Times?

Lesson 2: The Kingdom of the Beast Part 1  
Revelation Chapters 13 and 17

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