

# The World Menagerie

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Daniel 7:1-4.

B. Most interpret the beasts as depicting the four divisions of history: Babylon, Medio-Persia, Greece, and the empire that begins with Rome.

C. However, this pictures the nations and the condition of the nations right before the return of Christ.

## II. The Great Sea, which is the Mediterranean, is stirred up. This suggests a struggle around this area.

A. Four beasts will arise out of the sea.

B. Chapter 7 is a different interpretation—it is not a plain repetition of the events in Daniel 2.

C. Several beasts arise representing modern nations—they contend for control of the Mediterranean nation.

D. The appearance of the fourth beast parallels the events of Revelation. (Revelation 17:1-3)

## III. At the coming of Jesus the dominion of the beasts were taken away. (Revelation 4-5)

A. God intends to intervene in history again when history reaches its worst.

B. The Old Testament, the Apostles and Jesus Himself affirm this.

C. The Scripture sets the pattern for future events.

### Application questions:

1. What can we learn about the end times from Daniel 7?

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2. What is the significance of Jesus and the Apostles' repetition of Old Testament prophecies?

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3. How would you respond to a believer who argues that things will continually get better until Jesus' return? Explain.

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