

**Aim:** The future

**Refer:** The Great Controversy chapter 11, Daniel 7

**Take:** Colouring in pictures, or Pathfinder Prophets and Prophecy booklets, or Plasticene.

**Option:** This lesson may be used to complete part of the Pathfinder Prophets and Prophecy Honour.

Daniel had another dream about the world empires, which gives us more information. We can read about it in Daniel 7. In his dream he saw four beasts come out of a stormy sea.

**Read the descriptions of the four beasts in Daniel 7:4-7**

These four beasts represent the same kingdoms as the statue, but they give us more details.

*Hand out the colouring pictures, or blank paper so they can draw a picture of their own. Another option is to use plasticene or something else to make their own statue, this could be done using the picture as a guide.*

**Identify and write the name of each kingdom** and draw what you think the 4<sup>th</sup> beast might have looked like.

1. The 1<sup>st</sup> empire is represented by the statue's head of gold, and the lion with eagles' wings, as Daniel said, this was Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom of Babylon. (Daniel 2:45)
2. In 2 weeks, we will have the story of when the Meds and Persians, under Cyrus the Great, conquered Babylon, they also conquered the nations of Lydia and Egypt. They are represented by the statue's chest of silver, and by the lopsided bear with 3 ribs.
3. History tells us that Greece became the next world empire, lead by Alexander the Great. After his death at the age of 32, 4 of his generals divided up his kingdom. Greece is represented by the statues belly of bronze, and the leopard with 4 heads and wings.
4. We also know from history, that the next world empire was Rome.

<b>Statue Dream</b>	<b>Empire</b>	<b>Beasts Dream</b>
Head of Gold	Babylon	Lion with eagles' wings
Chest of Silver	Meds-Persia	Lopsided bear with 3 ribs
Belly of bronze	Greece	Leopard with 4 heads & wings
Legs of Iron	Rome	Terrifying beast with iron teeth and bronze claws
Feet of iron & clay		
Rock	God's Kingdom	

**Read what Daniel said about the little horn on the beast in Daniel 7:25**

*(From lesson)*

Do you remember learning about the destruction of Jerusalem last term and the persecution of the Christians that followed when many lost their lives in the colosseum? Then when Emperor Constantine made Christianity popular, many idol worshippers joined the church bringing their traditions, festivals, and worship styles with them. Constantine moved the capital of the empire from Rome to Constantinople, yet the church in Rome had become the centre for the newly combine Christian-pagan religion and it remained so.

The Roman Empire was not overthrown in any single battle but was gradually divided and overcome. At the same time, the Church centre in Rome remained strong. The Pope was declared to be God; he officially changed the day of worship from the seventh day to Sunday and changed the Ten Commandments to suit. Time and again those who would follow God, had to flee to other places or live and worship in caves, and many times it seemed that they would be totally defeated, and the truth totally destroyed.

This is what the horns of beast represent.

Since the time of the Roman empire, no single ruler has dominated the world, although some have tried, like Hitler, in World War II.

In the end, Daniel said the beast would be judged and destroyed. What did he say about the statue and the rock?

**Read Daniel 2:44, 45**

The king of France still hadn't decided to fully support the Roman church or the Protestant Reformation so when the king was away one time, Princess Margaret arranged a Protestant minister to preach. It was forbidden in the churches so she had a palace apartment converted to a chapel; anyone who wanted could come and thousands did – so many they filled the chapel and the surrounding rooms and halls. Amazingly, when the king returned, instead of forbidding the preaching he ordered two churches be used instead! The crime rates in the city dropped, but soon the officials of the churches managed to cause trouble, the churches were closed, and the arrests of the Reformers started again.

John Calvin was a loyal supporter of the official church but like Luther he became overwhelmed with the guilt of his sins; he longed for peace but nothing he did helped. Then one day he happened to see the burning of a martyr; he was amazed by the peaceful look on the man's face and decided to study the Bible for himself. He found the peace and joy that only Jesus can bring and then at the urging of friends, started going from home to home, town to town, sharing the good news with those who were interested. One day officers arrived at the home where he was staying to arrest him but escaping out the window, he disguised himself as a farmer he left the city.

Some of the Protestant Reformers wanted to hurry their cause along, so they posted signs throughout the country criticising the official church mass – one was even posted in the private rooms of the king. This made the king furious, and he ordered all Reformers to be killed! Soldiers went from house to house making arrests; the priests were overjoyed until they saw the peace and joy on the faces of the martyrs, a powerful message which could be seen by everyone. As the arrests continued hundreds of people fled the city, including many people of skilled and important professions.

Geneva is in Switzerland but on the border of France and close to Italy. Antoine Froment, a school master in Geneva started preaching to his students; soon the parents came, and Bibles and books were shared in the city marking the start of the Reformation in Geneva.

When William Farel left France, he moved to Switzerland and became a travelling preacher. When the opportunity presented to work in Geneva, he took it and meeting John Calvin who happened to be passing through and convinced him to stay and work with him too.

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