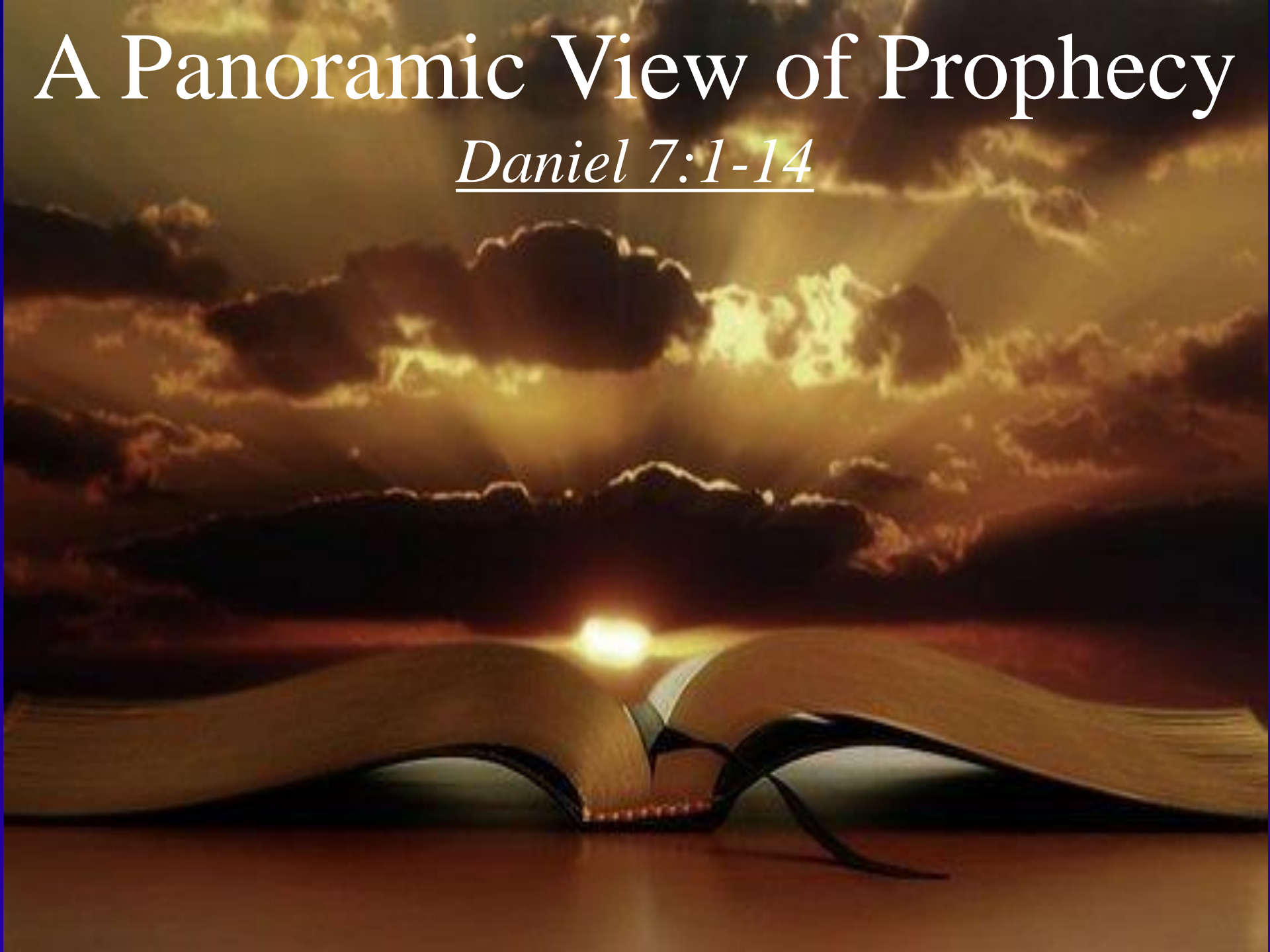


# A Panoramic View of Prophecy

*Daniel 7:1-14*



# The Two Divisions of the Book of Daniel

Chapters 1-6 are a chronological history with some prophecy

Chapters 7-12 are prophetic with some history

In chapter 11 of Daniel, there are 135 predictions that have already come true

# Some Historical Facts on Daniel

Around the third century AD, Porphyry, a Neoplatonic philosopher wrote 15 books,  
*Against the Christians*

If the book of Daniel is a forgery, it destroys the  
credibility of Jesus Christ

# Some Historical Facts on Daniel

Jesus calls Daniel a prophet, "When you see the abomination that causes desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet" (see Matthew 24:15)

It destroys the credibility of the whole New Testament

# Some Historical Facts on Daniel

Sir Isaac Newton wrote more about Christian apologetics than he wrote about science; he said "Whoever rejects the prophecies of Daniel does as much as if he undermined the Christian religion"

# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

Daniel 7:1

"In the first year...Daniel had a dream...I saw in my vision by night...four winds of heaven"

1.Facts from archeology

Belshazzar was scoffed at—said he didn't exist

In 1854, cylinder found in Southern Iraq

# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

The name Belshazzar disappeared early from  
history

Why did Daniel write about Belshazzar when  
most historians of his time didn't?

2. Facts from paleography—the study of ancient  
documents

# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

Old documents point to the Septuagint version  
of the Bible

Written in 275 BC

110 years earlier than the supposed forger wrote  
the book of Daniel



# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

## 3. Dead Sea scroll

Fragments of the book of Daniel in Hebrew and  
Aramaic

Written in Aramaic from sixth century BC  
the kind that Daniel spoke

# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

4. Facts of history are the proof

Daniel predicted four mighty nations, and it happened

# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

Robert Jastrow, NASA:

"For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries."

# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

5. Facts of prophecy defend Daniel

It is the verification that God gave us this book  
of Daniel

What the Bible says will happen, because there  
is an all-knowing, all-powerful God that says it  
will

# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

God told Abraham in advance that his descendants would be in a foreign land for 400 years, and that is exactly what happened

Genesis 15:13

God told the prophets about the Babylonian captivity, before Babylon ever existed as a world power; and that the captivity will arise 70 years

# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

God told Isaiah the prophet that Babylon would be overthrown by King Cyrus; it was written 200 years before Cyrus was born

Isaiah 44:28 and 45:1

# Daniel is Defended by the Facts

"I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done"

Isaiah 46:9-10

Only God, at the beginning, can declare the end

# Daniel Describes the Four Wild Animals

That is what we see in Daniel 7-12

Four wild animals; four coming kingdoms

The dream that Daniel got corresponded to the dream that Nebuchadnezzar had years before  
Nebuchadnezzar saw a huge, beautiful statue

Daniel saw four wild beasts



# Daniel Describes the Four Wild Animals

Nebuchadnezzar saw it from a worldly  
perspective

Daniel saw it from God's perspective

A creature like a lion

Symbol of Babylon—winged lion

Wings plucked—indicates loss of power—  
humbled by God

# Daniel Describes the Four Wild Animals

Beast like a bear

Medo-Persian empire

Bear is slower than a lion

Bear has brute force

Hard to stop a bear

# Daniel Describes the Four Wild Animals

Medo-Persian empire

King Xerxes of Persia assembled 2,500,000 troops—moved slowly but with great power

Lopsided bear—Persians more powerful than the Medes

# Daniel Describes the Four Wild Animals

Beast like a leopard

Incredibly fast

Kingdom of Greece

Alexander the Great took over the world

Known for speed of victory and the speed of the  
breakup of his kingdom

# Daniel Describes the Four Wild Animals

Iron-toothed beast

Iron rule of Rome

Corresponds to the iron legs

This corresponds to Revelation 13 where John sees "a beast coming out of the sea"

Revelation 13:1

# Point to Ponder

Through prophecy  
God authenticates Himself  
and the validity of His Word