**Going deeper in Daniel 7:7-14**

**INTRODUCTION**

Daniel 7 marks a significant shift in the book. It moves from an earthly or human view of events to God’s view. God shows Daniel a highly symbolic vision of the Lord Almighty’s work in human history. Daniel sees four beasts which represent four human empires. The following passage describes what Daniel sees and experiences regarding the fourth beast and God’s response.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

7 After that I saw this in my dream-vision, a fourth beast, terrible and terrifying, incredibly powerful. It had great iron teeth. It was devouring, breaking into pieces everything, and trampling under foot whatever was left. It was different from the other beasts that had come before it – it was a real monster. It had ten horns. 8 As I was considering the horns, another horn, a little one, came up among them. It uprooted the other three. It had eyes like that of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully. 9 I watched until the thrones were put in place and the Ancient of Days took His seat. His garment was white as snow and the hair of his head was like pure wool. His throne was like a fiery flame and a whirlwind of fire. 10 And a river of fire flowed out before Him. Thousands upon thousands ministered before Him, ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated and the books were opened. 11 I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I watched until the beast was killed and its body was destroyed and thrown into a blazing fire. 12 The other beasts were stripped of their authority yet their lives were prolonged for a period of time. 13 As I was watching during my dream-vision, I saw one who was like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven! He came before the Ancient of Days and was led into His presence. 14 Then He was given dominion, glory, and a kingdom. All peoples, nations, and every one of every language served Him. His reign will be forever, never ending. His kingdom will never be destroyed.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. What are the characteristics of this fourth beast (empire)? How would you feel if you were facing this beast? What does that tell you about this empire?

2. What are the characteristics of the little horn?

3. How does the fourth beast compare to the Ancient of Days? Similarities? Differences? How important would it be to have the Ancient of Days on your side if you were facing the fourth beast?

4. Why do you think God gives Daniel a vision of what is happening behind the scenes of human history?

5. Who is the One who the Ancient of Days gives the everlasting kingdom to? Do you trust Him with the kingdom of your life?

6. How does it help you to know that God has all of human history in His hands?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Thank the Lord that He is in charge of all of human history.

\*Ask the Lord to show you your part in His plan today.

\*Ask Jesus to be in charge of your kingdom today.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

There are many things in our lives that are beyond our control. Probably more than we care to admit. The Lord Jesus is in charge of all of history. Will you trust Him with all of your todays and tomorrows? Will you trust Him to be at work in all of the circumstances of each day of your week?