Lesson 21 ⫷⫸ Daniel 7

The Twelve Caesars

1	**Julius Caesar** Assassinated March 15, 44 BC.	
2	**Augustus** Reigned 31 BC to AD 14. (Luke 2:1)	
3	**Tiberius** Reigned AD 14 to 37. (Luke 3:1)	
4	**Caligula** Reigned AD 37 to 41.	
5	**Claudius** Reigned AD 41 to 54. (Acts 11:28)	
6	**Nero** Reigned AD 54 to 68. (Acts 25:11)	
7	**Galba** Reigned 7 months from AD 68 to 69.	
8	**Otho** Reigned 95 days in AD 69.	
9	**Vitellius** Reigned 8 months in AD 69.	
10	**Vespasian** Reigned AD 69 to 79.	
11	**Titus** Reigned for 26 months from AD 79 to 81.	
12	**Domitian** Reigned AD 81 to 96.	

Woodcut of Daniel 7 by Hans Holbein the Younger (1497-1543)

Rules for Understanding Apocalyptic Language

(1) We should understand apocalyptic language figuratively unless we are forced to do otherwise, and we should be consistent in making that determination.

(2) Similarity of language does not prove identity of subjects.

(3) Dissimilarity of language does not prove distinctness of subjects.

(4) Easy to understand scriptures should be used to understand harder passages. The Bible is its own best commentary.

(5) The time frame is crucial in properly understanding apocalyptic language.

Figurative Numbers

- **3** denotes God.
- **4** denotes the earth or the creation.
- **12** denotes God's people.
- **10** denotes completeness.
- **7** denotes perfection.
- **8** denotes renewal.
- **1000** denotes complete completeness.
- **144,000** denotes *all* of the God's people.
- **666** denotes one who is hopelessly short of divine perfection.
- **3½** is a broken seven, denoting imperfection.

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