

Kids' Chronicle

Daniel tells of his vision

BY JOE SARNICOLA

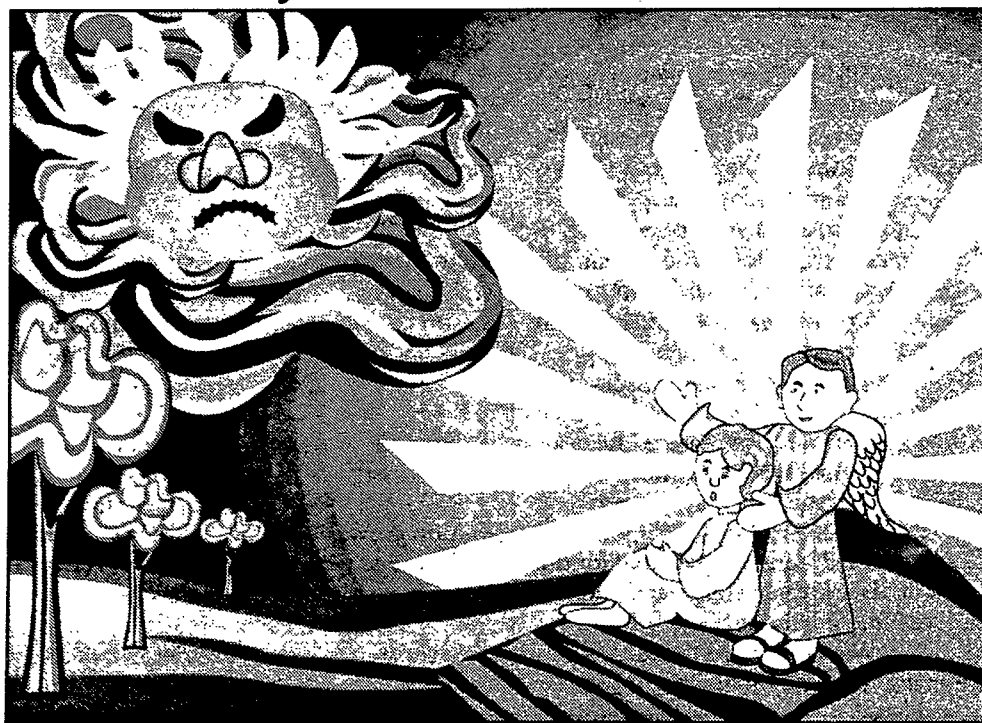
I woke up soaked with sweat and not a little afraid. The dream, the vision I saw in the night, was like none other I have ever had.

The winds were like hungry tigers devouring everything in their paths. The waters of the ocean rose to great heights and fell with a deafening crash. And out of the deep came four beasts.

The first was like a lion with powerful wings. The second was a towering bear. The third was a leopard with two sets of wings and four heads. But the last was the most terrifying of all. The other beasts disappeared in its shadow, and the lightning of the storm flashed against its iron teeth and its ten horns. It walked with crushing steps.

When I feared I, too, would be crushed by the massive weight of the fourth beast, heaven opened and the sky was filled with light. I saw a throne that was engulfed in flames. He who has always lived sat on the throne and a book was brought to him. I heard a voice declare the beasts guilty and they were destroyed by fire that exploded out of the throne.

Then I heard music and clouds began to swirl and form. The figure of a man appeared from within the clouds and he approached the throne. He was given full authority and honor for all time. There were other people watching this great event, and I asked someone what the meaning of



what I had just seen might be.

He said, "Someday there will be an evil king who will take God's people prisoner. But his rule would be short, because a court held in heaven will pass judgment on him, and everything he has will be taken away, even his life. Then God's chosen one will rule."

I felt even more afraid of this evil king than I was of the beasts. But then the angel Gabriel touched my shoulder.

"Daniel," he said, "God loves you. There is nothing to be afraid of. He wants to forgive sins and bring his peace to the world. He will rebuild the mighty city of Jerusalem and rule with justice and glory over his people."

As I consider this amazing dream I try to remember God's reassurance instead of my fears. Because I know God loves me, there really is no reason to be afraid.

Not even of a terrible dream.

READ MORE ABOUT IT:

Daniel 7 Q&A

1. Why was Daniel afraid?
2. What message did Gabriel give to Daniel?

Bible Accent

Armageddon is mentioned only once in the Bible (Revelation 16:16), but for Christians around the world, it has come to signify the great battle in which Jesus and his army will be victorious over sin at the end of time.

The Greek term "Har-Magedon" means "the mountain where armies gather" or "the mountain of Megiddo." Megiddo was important as a center of trade in ancient Israel. As a result, many military actions took place there. Joshua was the first to take control of it, but many battles were fought to possess it after time.

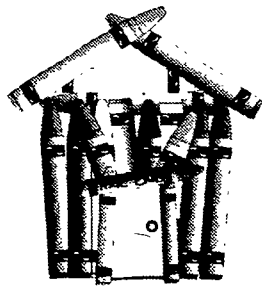
For further reading, the Book of Revelation describes the events through which Jesus triumphs and restores peace to the world.

Pope St. Leo

Pope St. Leo the Great was born in Rome in the fifth century. After he became a deacon, his wisdom and ability to lead earned him the love of his parishioners and the respect of his superiors.

After the death of Pope Sixtus III, Pope St. Leo was named as the new pontiff. He used the authority of his new office to encourage Christians to follow the example of Christ and he wrote letters and sermons to clarify church doctrine.

When Attila the Hun threatened to attack Rome, Pope St. Leo persuaded him to accept an offering of money and valuables instead. Pope St. Leo successfully held off other invaders and maintained peace in his homeland. We honor him Nov. 10.



Essay

You can win a \$50 savings bond by writing an essay (100 or fewer words) answering this question:

If you could solve one of the world's problems, which one would it be and why?

Send your essay — including name, home address, telephone number, school and grade — to Catholic Courier,

P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Deadline for entries is Nov. 27, 1997. The winner will be notified by phone and receive the savings bond by mail. In addition, the winner's essay will be published in an upcoming issue of *Kids' Chronicle*.

Last month's winner was Jessica Pattington, a fourth-grade student at Auburn's Herman Avenue School. In response to the question **Who is your favorite saint and why?** she wrote:

My favorite saint is Saint Francis. The reason he is my favorite is because he has set a good example by giving his money and all of his goods to the poor.

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Puzzle

Using your Bible as a guide, cross out the names from the list below that are NOT books of the Bible.

(Answers on page 11.)

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. Genesis | 2. Numbers | 3. Herod |
| 4. Daniel | 5. Moses | 6. Matthew |
| 7. Prophecy | 8. John | 9. Paul |
| 10. Jacob | 11. Jonah | 12. Acts |
| 13. Psalms | 14. Michael | 15. Joseph |

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