

THE BOOK OF
DANIEL

Compiled by Gaetan Goyer

**CLASSES COVERING THE PROPHETIC
CHAPTERS OF DANIEL**

Acknowledgments and Prologue

This book is a compilation of what was originally individual classes from the book of Daniel. I started this project over a decade ago and first used these classes with my own teenagers and then eventually translated them into Spanish for my weekly Bible classes in Mexico. My part has been mainly to search for the appropriate quotations and commentaries that would shed more light into this astonishing Book of Daniel. The idea from the beginning was to go through the prophetic chapters of the book, chapter 2 and then chapters 7 to 12, and, verse by verse, find and choose Bible cross references, fitting commentaries, pictures, images and charts that would catch the imagination of the reader, keep his interest as well as make it easier to grasp and visualize God's often (but not always) mysterious revelations. The prophecies in the Old Testament book of Daniel are not very well-known nor understood by most but they are nevertheless the key in understanding the New Testament End Time prophecies. As an introduction to this book, I will let Mark McMillion, a veteran missionary and Bible teacher, explain why in the next page. Thank you Mark.

Apart from a few comments of mine and the making of all the charts, most commentaries and explanations in this book as well as most artistic images and pictures were taken from the writings and publications of David Brandt B. as well as the books, "*Daniel the Prophet*" and "*The Future Foretold*" by Scott MacGregor. Many drawings were also taken from the book "*Thrilling Pictures of the Future!*" illustrated by Al Eastman, Noel Lawrence, Max Belmont, Bill Philips and Michael Christians.

My hope is that you grow in your understanding of God's great plan for you personally and for this world. There is a plan. God is in control. Now is the time to understand more. "Whosoever reads it, let him understand." (Matthew 24:15)

Gaetan

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Why study the book of Daniel?

By Mark McMillion

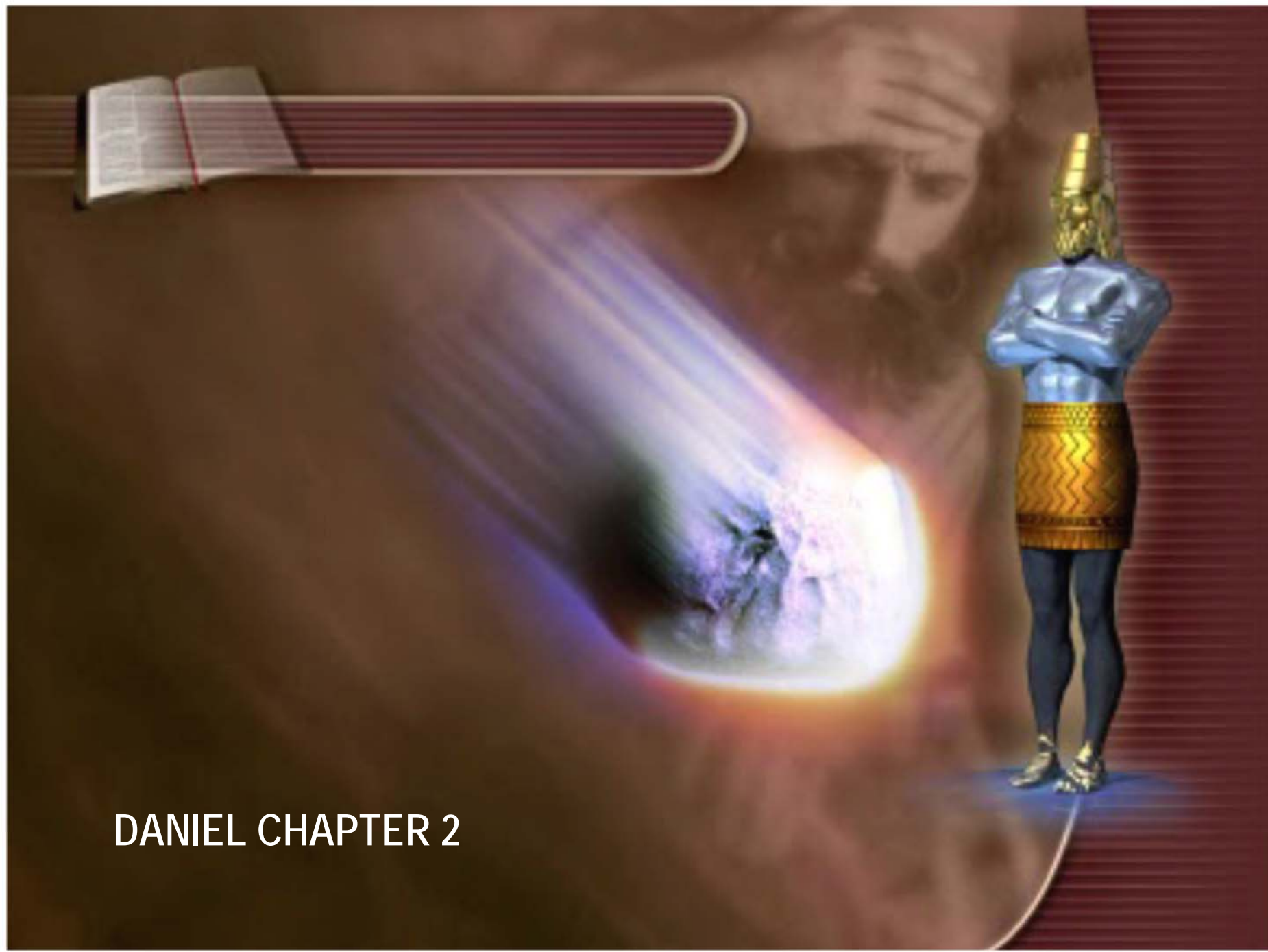
I assume, if you're reading this, that you probably already have a passing interest in the subject of Bible prophecy and the future. In these times, more and more people are beginning to have at least some curiosity about this subject and are trying to find out more about it. But once you start searching around, you can really find some different, even opposing ideas about it all. So much of it can even engender fear or confusion. Often folks just give up trying to grasp any constants or absolutes that can be found about the subject of Bible prophecy. Some have even said, "Why study the book of Daniel? Hasn't it all already been fulfilled? Isn't it only written for Jewish people?" That's what some say.

Here's why. If you are looking for authority in the Bible, there's no greater than Jesus Himself. Did He talk about the future, the time before His return and His coming Kingdom? Absolutely. The two main chapters where He talked about this were Matthew 24 and Mark 13. He's quoted as saying this in both chapters but I'll quote from Matthew 24:15. "***When you shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (whoever reads, let him understand).***" When asked about the future, Jesus didn't refer to Ezekiel, or Isaiah, or any other book in the Bible. But He did refer specifically to the book of Daniel and even to a specific passage of Scripture in that book. Then He went on to say, "***Whosoever reads it, let him understand.***" Jesus both emphasizes that book and made it unusually clear, highlighting the importance of understanding that particular passage.

Admittedly, that verse, Matthew 24:15, is not very easy to understand at first glance. That's one of the reasons why in this series on Daniel, it starts with the first prophetic chapter in Daniel and then build on it. The series begins with chapter 2, then goes on to chapter 7 and 8, before we are really ready to look at this emphasized statement that Jesus made about certain passages in what turns out to be Daniel 9 and 11. Then if we look at what is considered the most specifically prophetic book in the New Testament, the book of Revelation, it is full of material that refers back to characters and events first introduced in Daniel's visions and prophecies some 600 or more years earlier than the date of the book of Revelation.

The book of Daniel is the foundation on which Revelation is built. And this is where it's really important about understanding prophecy. Because, from my experience, starting with the book of Revelation is really a tough way to begin. I'd suggest a good foundation in the prophecies of Daniel first. Why? The book of Daniel is the foundation on which Revelation is built. Daniel is like the skeleton, Revelations is the skin and organs. The book of Daniel is the foundation and frame of the house, Revelation is the walls and windows.

If we are to look for instruction from the Bible as to what the future holds, there's no clearer or more unambiguous book in the Old Testament than Daniel. And no, definitely, it has not all been fulfilled. Numerous things that are first clearly spoken of in Daniel, and further clarified and defined in Revelation, just haven't happened yet. With so much speculation nowadays having to do with fulfilled prophecy and possible events soon to come, I'm convinced that a solid understanding of Daniel's prophecies offers the best hope of establishing a foundation of understanding future certainties. And it seems Jesus Himself pointed us to this beginning point when He referred to specifics in Daniel yet to be fulfilled and said, "***Whoever reads, let him understand.***"



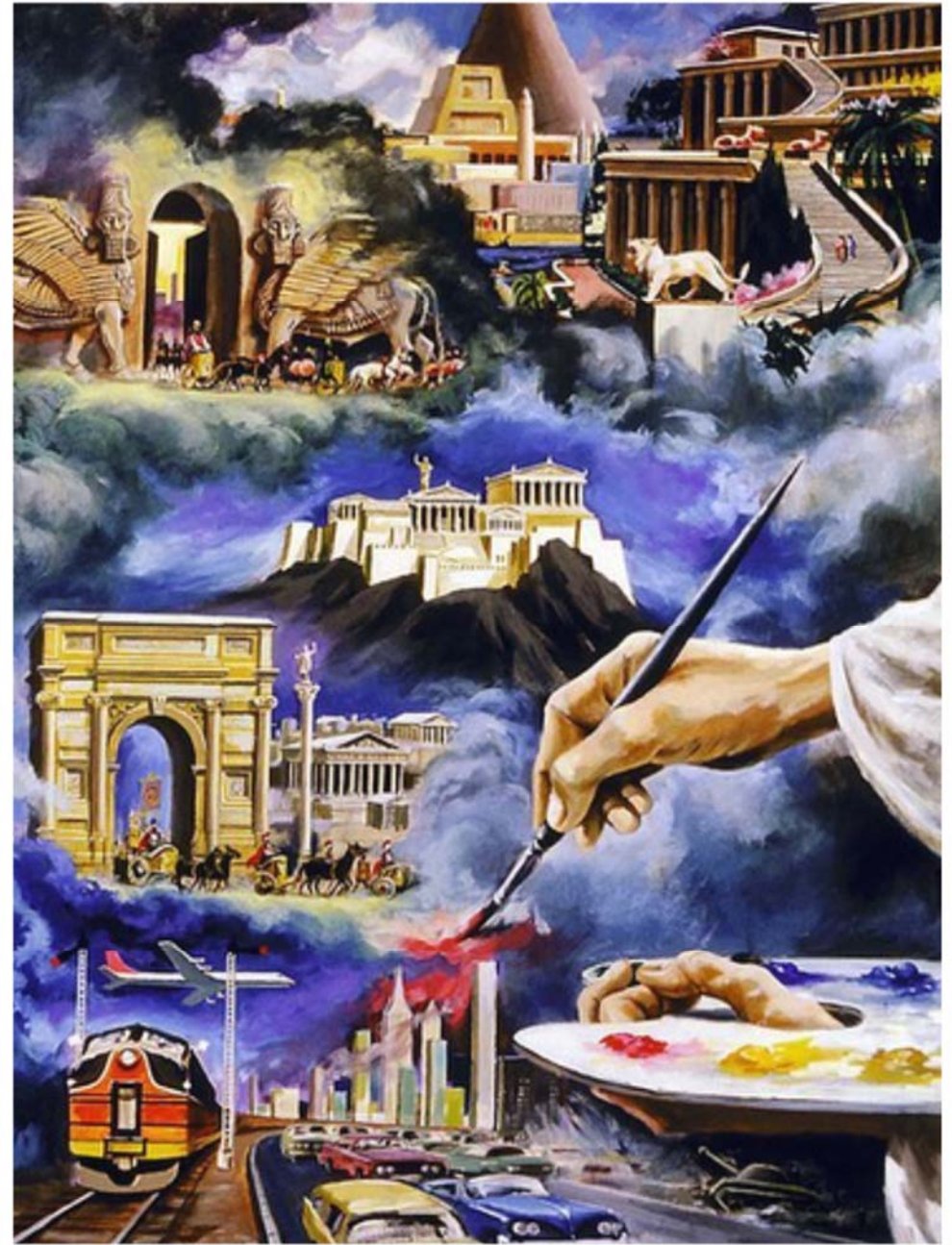
DANIEL CHAPTER 2

DANIEL CHAPTER 2

INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF DANIEL:

The Book of Daniel is one of the most astounding books of the Bible. It is astounding for the prophecies contained in it that have already been fulfilled, and it is astounding for the prophecies specifically about the last days of the current epoch — known as the End time — that are yet to be fulfilled. The accuracy of the prophecies it contains, which include among other things the exact year that Jesus would be crucified, stand as a testament to its divinely inspired author and to his God. The fact that God, around 2,500 years ago, had these messages passed on to Daniel, many of which are directed to us in the twenty-first century, is proof of God's love and concern for us. He wants us to be aware of the cataclysmic events that are soon to come upon the world so that we can prepare for them and be part of the glorious victory with Him at the end of it all.

Examining prophecies that have been fulfilled also builds our faith in prophecies yet to be fulfilled, and God's revelations today. Just as God was able to reveal these things to Daniel over two and a half millennia ago, He is also able to speak to us and reveal to His servants now, as Daniel was His servant then, what will happen in the very near future. We can stand in awe of the insight into the distant future that He gave Daniel, but we

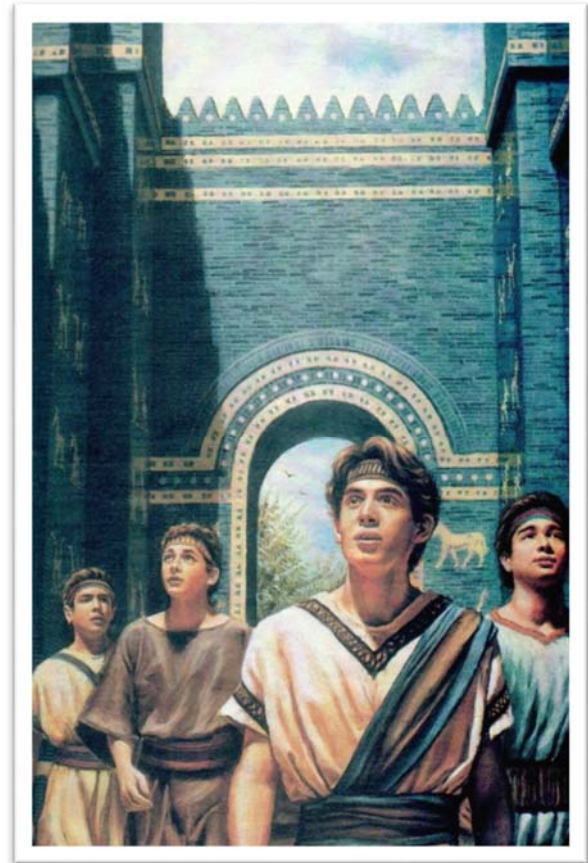


should also stand in awe that the God who spoke to Daniel can also speak to us today. He is as concerned about the world now as He was then, and He is concerned about you and me.

As we study Daniel's amazing book, let it build in us the faith for the future God wants us to have, and also the faith in His Word — both the written Word and the living Word — that He wants to speak to you and me.

The second chapter of the book of Daniel is one of the best-known prophetic passages in the Bible. The chapter is set in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, when he completed the conquest of Jerusalem (606 BC), Daniel and his friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were among the young Jewish nobility carried off to Babylon. The four were chosen for their intellect and beauty to be trained as advisors to the Babylonian court (Daniel 1), Daniel was given the name *Belteshazzar*, i.e., *prince of Bel*, or *Bel protect the king!* Daniel was a slave in Babylon at the time of this chapter, and were still being trained with some fellow Jews as one of the King's wise men.

DAN.2:1 And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.



DAN.2:2 Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to show the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

DAN.2:3 And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.

DAN.2:4 Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriack, O king, live forever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation.

DAN.2:5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with

the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill.

DAN.2:6 But if ye show the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honor: therefore show me the dream, and the interpretation thereof.

DAN.2:7 They answered again and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation of it.

DAN.2:8 The king answered and said, I know of certainty that ye would gain the time, because ye see the thing is gone from me.

DAN.2:9 But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you: for ye have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can show me the interpretation thereof.

King Nebuchadnezzar had dreamt an outstanding, troubling dream, apparently recurring. He had been awakened from sleep by the dream. People in those days believed dreams to be significant, so Nebuchadnezzar was determined to find out the meaning of what he had dreamt.

He called together his magicians, astrologers, sorcerers, and the Chaldeans — in other words, the “wise men” — in order that they could tell him what he wanted to know. However, there was a problem. The King James Version translates it as “the thing is gone from me,” thus giving it the meaning that he had forgotten the dream. Perhaps The Living Bible puts it in the clearest way when it quotes Nebuchadnezzar as saying, “I tell you the dream is gone — I can’t remember it” (Daniel 2:5).

Interpreting a dream might not have been too hard for these fellows, but to tell the king what the dream was in the first place was totally beyond their powers.

Nebuchadnezzar was used to getting his way and would have none of their protests that he was asking the impossible. If they couldn’t tell him what he wanted to know, and do so quickly, then they were useless to him and he was going to execute them all.



DAN.2:10 The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, there is not a man upon the earth that can

show the king's matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean.

DAN.2:11 And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can show it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

DAN.2:12 For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

DAN.2:13 And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain.

Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, still being in their apprenticeship, apparently were not in the court of the king when he pronounced his judgment on the wise men. They heard about the sentence from Arioch, the captain of the king's guard, when he came to enforce the decree, which applied to them as well. Their lives on the line, Daniel took an enormous step of faith. He convinced Arioch to bring him before the king. Daniel told the king that he would be able to answer the matter if he was given a little time. The text of chapter 2 makes it obvious that Daniel at this point didn't know the answer, but he had faith that he could get it from God.

DAN.2:14 Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon:



DAN.2:15 He answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, why is the decree so hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel.

DAN.2:16 Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would show the king the interpretation.

DAN.2:17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:

DAN.2:18 That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

DAN.2:19 Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

God came through for them, just as He does for all those who, in faith and trust, put Him on the spot and expect the miraculous. The dream was revealed to Daniel, and you can read his wonderful prayer of thanksgiving and praise to God in the following text:

DAN.2:20 Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:

DAN.2:21 And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

DAN.2:22 He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. (Dan.4:17, Jam.1:5)

DAN.2:23 I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

DAN.2:24 Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise men of Babylon: he went and said thus unto him; destroy not the wise men of Babylon: bring me in before the king, and I will show unto the king the interpretation.

DAN.2:25 Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah that will make known unto the king the interpretation.

DAN.2:26 The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof?



Picture the scene: Before the greatest potentate on earth, the teenage apprentice wise man stands. Daniel doesn't tell us that he was nervous, but if he was like most of us, you can be sure his knees were knocking.

Under sentence of immediate death if he didn't deliver, the lives of all his colleagues also in his hands, Daniel begins to address the king.



Daniel, seeing a chance to show how superior God was in comparison with the idols and incantations of the heathen wise men, first highlights the inability of all the other wise men to be able to tell the dream. Some of them were probably Daniel's teachers, with years of training. He then tells the king that there is a God in heaven who can tell the dream and give its meaning. He informs Nebuchadnezzar that God had revealed to him the future.

DAN.2:27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, the secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, show unto the king;

DAN.2:28 But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

DAN.2:29 as for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.

DAN.2:30 But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.

Daniel made it clear that it wasn't because he was so smart or gifted that he was able to describe the dream, but that God had done it to keep the king from killing all the wise men. "For their

sake" could also mean for the people who will live in "the latter days." And that further, God wanted the king to know about the future.

DAN.2:31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was

excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.

DAN.2:32 This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass,

DAN.2:33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

DAN.2:34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

DAN.2:35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

DAN.2:36 This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.

Daniel launches into the description of the forgotten dream. The king had dreamt that he had seen a great statue with a head of gold, arms and breast of silver, belly and thighs of bronze, two legs of iron, and feet of iron and clay. Then a stone had come and struck the image on the feet and the whole image had crumbled into dust and was blown away. The stone then became a great mountain and filled the earth. The king must have been thunderstruck as the details of his dream came flooding back into his own mind.

DAN.2:37 Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

DAN.2:38 And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold. (Babylon)

DAN.2:39 And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee (Medo-Persia), and another third kingdom of brass (Greece), which shall bear rule over all the earth.



DAN.2:40 And the fourth kingdom (Roma) shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

DAN.2:41 And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay.

DAN.2:42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken.

DAN.2:43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

DAN.2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

* (Stop now to read Rev.2:26-27, Psa.2:8-9, Rev.11:15, Rev.19:11-16, **at the end of this document**)



DAN.2:45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

** (Stop now to read Mt.21:42, 44; 1Pt.2:6 and Isa.2:2, 3 **at the end of this document**)

Daniel then moved on to the interpretation: The head of gold was Nebuchadnezzar. Surely it must have massaged the king's ego to think that God regarded him so highly as to picture him at the top of the statue

and being made of the most precious of metals. However, it didn't just represent him, but also his empire, Babylon. Daniel then explained how each other part of the image represented another kingdom or empire which would follow Babylon. He didn't name them, but the descriptions that he gave amazingly describe the primary empires that occupied that part of the world in the centuries to come.

Nebuchadnezzar's empire was to be followed by an empire inferior to his, at least in the Babylonians' estimation, just as silver is inferior to gold. This second empire, represented by the two arms and the upper torso of the statue, was at its core a confederation of two peoples, the Medes and Persians. **NOTICE ALSO THE REMARKABLE SYMBOLISM IN THE IMAGE.** The dual kingdom of Medo-Persia is depicted here by two arms. Persia was the stronger of the two, just as in the body one arm is stronger than the other! Cyrus the Great was to conquer Babylon and large swaths of other territory.

Two hundred years later, Alexander the Great, king of Macedonia and hegemon — or leader — of the League of Corinth, which included most of the city states of mainland Greece, led his relatively small army of 40,000 across the Hellespont between Europe and Asia. Within ten years he had conquered all of the Persian Empire and much other territory.

His empire, and the Hellenistic successor states that it fractured into after his death, were represented by the belly and thighs of bronze. It is significant that Greek mercenaries were commonly called “brazen men” and fought in the service of many foreign kings, including those of Egypt and Assyria. They earned their name from the distinctive bronze armor that they wore.

The fourth empire was depicted as two legs of iron that, just as iron is stronger than bronze, broke in pieces and crushed the Hellenistic successor kingdoms of Alexander's empire. Beginning with Greece and Macedonia at the Battle of Cynoscephalae in 197 BC, the Roman war machine inexorably conquered most of the remnants of Alexander's territories, ending with the incorporation of Egypt in 30 BC as a Roman province. Rome eventually was to conquer much more land to the west. Significantly, it would divide in two, just as in the two legs of the image. The



Western Roman Empire centered at Rome fell in 476 ad, but the Eastern Roman Empire, more commonly called the Byzantine Empire, with its capital at Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul), would last, albeit for much of that time as a mere shadow of its former glory, for almost another 1,000 years.



The feet were of iron and clay, representing a mixture of strength and weakness. After the demise of the Byzantine Empire, other empires arose in the Middle East and Mediterranean basin, but history also witnessed the rise of independent nation-states, smaller in size than the mighty empires of antiquity. And just as in the symbolism of the image, some were strong and some were weak, a situation that prevails to this day. So again, the various parts of the image symbolize exactly the course of history.

And at the very bottom extremity of the statue are the ten toes, also made of iron and clay. These represent ten nations — unidentified as of now — but connected to the old Roman/Byzantine Empire which will play a significant role in the very end of this current epoch, or, as Daniel termed it, “the latter

days.” These ten nations are closely allied to the final world tyrant, a maniacal figure whom the Bible calls the Antichrist. Totally possessed of Satan, the Antichrist will try to set up his empire on earth — the final and worst of man’s empires.

*** (Stop now to read Rev.17:12, 13, 14, 17 & Dan.7:23, 24 at the end of this class)

The toes are the ten nations that the stone, cut without hand, crashes into. Then the whole image disintegrates and is blown away. This image represents all the governments of man. The stone was cut out of another mountain completely separated from the image. It has nothing to do with the image except to crush and destroy it completely! It doesn’t say He melts them in love, but he breaks and destroys them! This world is not going to voluntarily give itself up to the Prince of Peace. It has to be done with force! The stone is Jesus Christ, and in the days of those ten toes, He will return to earth and set up His kingdom that

will never be destroyed, but which will fill the whole world as a great mountain. There will be no more kingdoms rising and falling; no longer shall one nation inherit the remains of another, but His Kingdom "shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever."

Remember, His return was not in the legs (Rome), but in the feet, and particularly the toes, "the days of these kings" at the very end of man's governments. And besides being the end of the Image--you can't go any further than the toes, it started at the head & ends at the toes. We are getting close to that time!!

We now have the advantage of centuries of hindsight and can see clearly how amazingly this vision has been fulfilled so far. So there we have one of the most amazing prophetic sections of the entire Bible, a passage that has strengthened the faith of many believers from then till now. Fulfilled prophecy is the watermark of the Bible's veracity, revealing the imprimatur of God behind its words. Hold a banknote up to the light and you will see an image that is hidden under normal circumstances that attests to its genuineness. Likewise, when held up to the light of history, this passage is one of the most significant authentications of the Bible's divine inspiration.



DAN.2:46 Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odors unto him.

DAN.2:47 The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret.

DAN.2:48 Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon.

DAN.2:49 Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the

province of Babylon: but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

Nebuchadnezzar was so impressed that before the whole court, he fell on his face before Daniel and worshiped him and extolled Daniel's God who could reveal such secrets as the king's dream and the interpretation.

*** Cross reference verses for verse 44:**

REV.2:26, 27 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

PSA.2:8, 9 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

REV.11:15 and the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

REV.19:11-16 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war...and on his head were many crowns... And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God... And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on his vesture and on his



thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

**** Cross reference verses for verse 45:**

MAT.21:42, 44 Jesus saith unto them, did ye never read in the scriptures, the stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes? And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

ISA.2:2, 3 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

1PE.2:6 wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

***** Cross reference verses for verses 41, 42:**

REV.17:12-14, 17 and the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no Kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful... For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

DAN.7:23, 24 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth(Rome), which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise...



DANIEL CHAPTER 7

Daniel dates the remarkable revelation he documents in this chapter when Belshazzar is in his first year as coregent of Babylon, which the Encyclopedia Britannica dates as circa 550 BC. Daniel, if he had been in his middle to late teens in the year 605 bC — when he was taken to Babylon as a captive — would now be in his 70s.

In Daniel chapter 2, God gave the vision of man's world governments to Nebuchadnezzar, the great King of one of those governments (Babylon), as a beautiful image of gold and silver. Though the image was deteriorating from gold to clay, it still looked pretty good. However when He gave a vision of the same governments to His own prophet Daniel, who could be trusted with the way God looks at the governments of Man, He pictured them as cruel, ravenous, and horrible beasts! This very interesting beast vision of Daniel chapter 7 explains what we've already covered in Daniel 2, but with more details. The vision deals with 4 great beasts which rise up out of the sea, the fourth beast having 10 horns. These 4 great beasts, plus the 10 horns, are identically parallel to the 4 great empires plus the 10 toes envisioned in the image of Daniel chapter two. It is remarkable, mind you, that Daniel saw by vision and prophecy the rise and fall of these great empires many years before it actually happened.

One main emphasis of the vision is on additional revelations concerning the last world empire, and gives us a brand new piece of the puzzle of the End time by introducing the madman dictator of this last regime of man, the Antichrist.

DAN.7:1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

DAN.7:2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

DAN.7:3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

Daniel dreams of four great beasts that form as a result of the winds stirring up the Great Sea. The Great Sea is thought to represent the Mediterranean, which implies that these four beasts are in that general area. But the great sea also has a further significance in that it represents the peoples of the world. In verse 17 it says, the sea is representative of the masses or the people of the world. "The waters which thou sawest... are peoples, and multitudes, and nations and tongues." (Rev.17:15).

The 4 winds "are the four spirits of the heavens," (Zec. 6:5) spiritual forces that God uses to manipulate the physical world to do His will. "For the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will." (Dan.4:25)

Later on, verse 17 says: "These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth," And in verse 23 it states, "The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom". These verses show that a beast here is symbolic of a king and/or kingdom.



DAN.7:4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

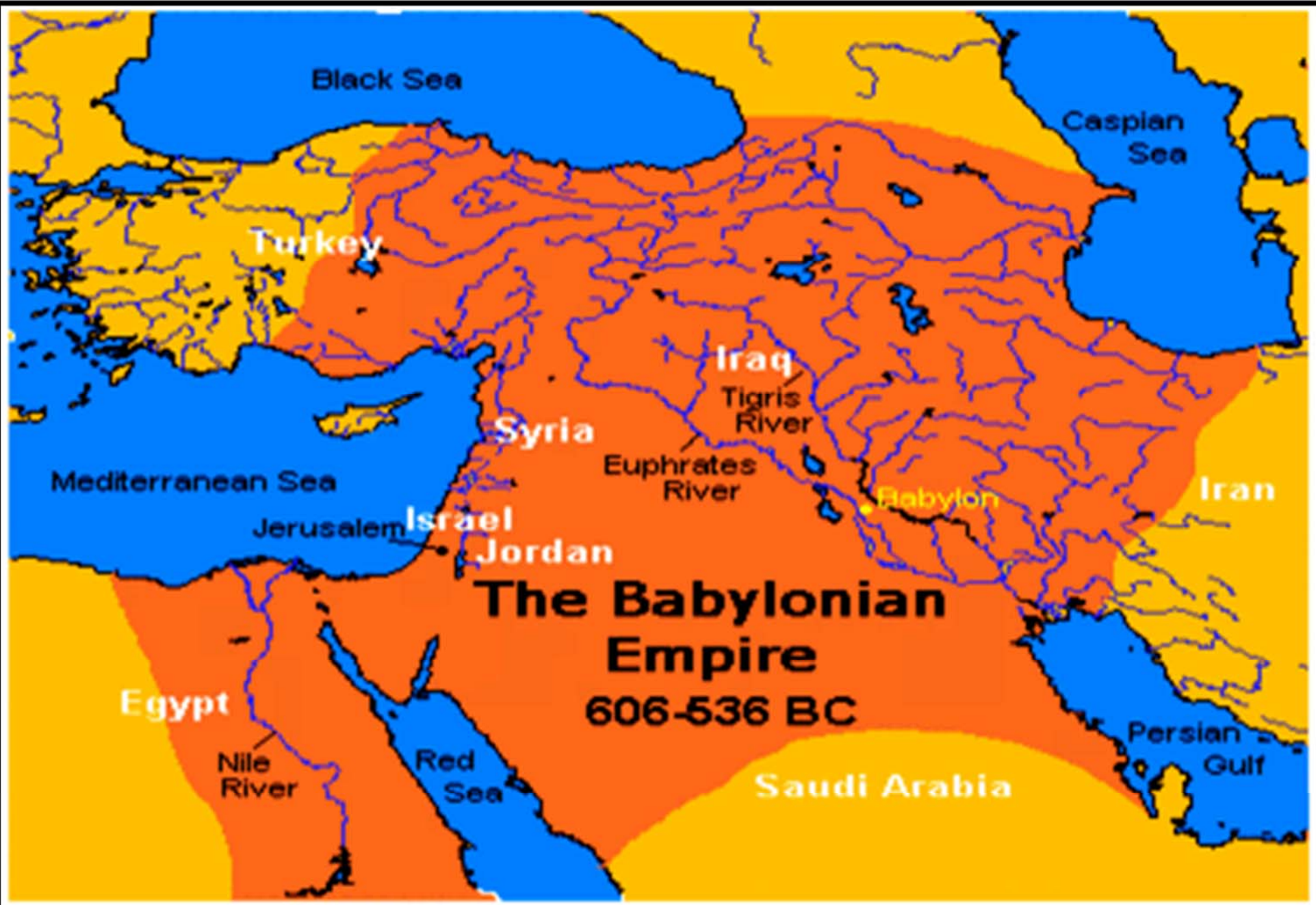


While God through this heavenly person did not reveal to Daniel the names of these empires, Daniel described them in such terms that — as we look at history — it's easy to see the similarities between the descriptions and the empires that followed. We also have a template to follow with regards to understanding this dream, because it parallels to a large extent the dream that Daniel had interpreted for King Nebuchadnezzar about 50 years before (**Daniel 2**).

In Daniel chapter 2, the first empire described was Babylon, stated specifically so by Daniel himself. This first beast or kingdom to arise is a lion. Sculptures of lamassu — winged lions and bulls with human heads — were common in Mesopotamia, of which

Babylon was the current master. This is the same as the head of gold in the image and it represents Babylon. Its wings being plucked represent Nebuchadnezzar's abasement as a beast for 7 years (Dan.4:29-37**), and "a man's heart...given to it" his subsequent salvation.**

****EZE.36:26** A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.



Black Sea

Caspian Sea

Turkey

Iraq

Tigris River

Euphrates River

Babylon

Iran

Mediterranean Sea

Syria

Jerusalem

Israel

Jordan

The Babylonian Empire

606-536 BC

Egypt

Nile River

Red Sea

Saudi Arabia

Persian Gulf

DAN.7:5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

The second beast was a bear and corresponds to the silver arms and torso of Daniel two. Bears are some of nature's strongest and largest predators. Since we know from history that the kingdom following Babylon was



Medo-Persia, we know that this represents the empire of the federation of the Persians and Medes. The bear was lifted up on one side to indicate the dominance of the Persians. The Persian Empire was to grow into the largest empire known in the Middle East up to that time. It also fielded massive armies and conquered by force of numbers.

The three ribs in its mouth are said to indicate three kingdoms that Persia either conquered or whose territories it inherited. Cyrus, the founder of the Persian Empire, conquered the territory that had previously been ruled by three main empires — Egypt, Assyria, and Babylon — that preceded Persia and had included the

lands of Israel and/ or Judah as parts of their realms. Another interpretation is that the ribs represented the three main kingdoms he conquered: first Media, second Lydia, and third Babylon.



DAN.7:6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.



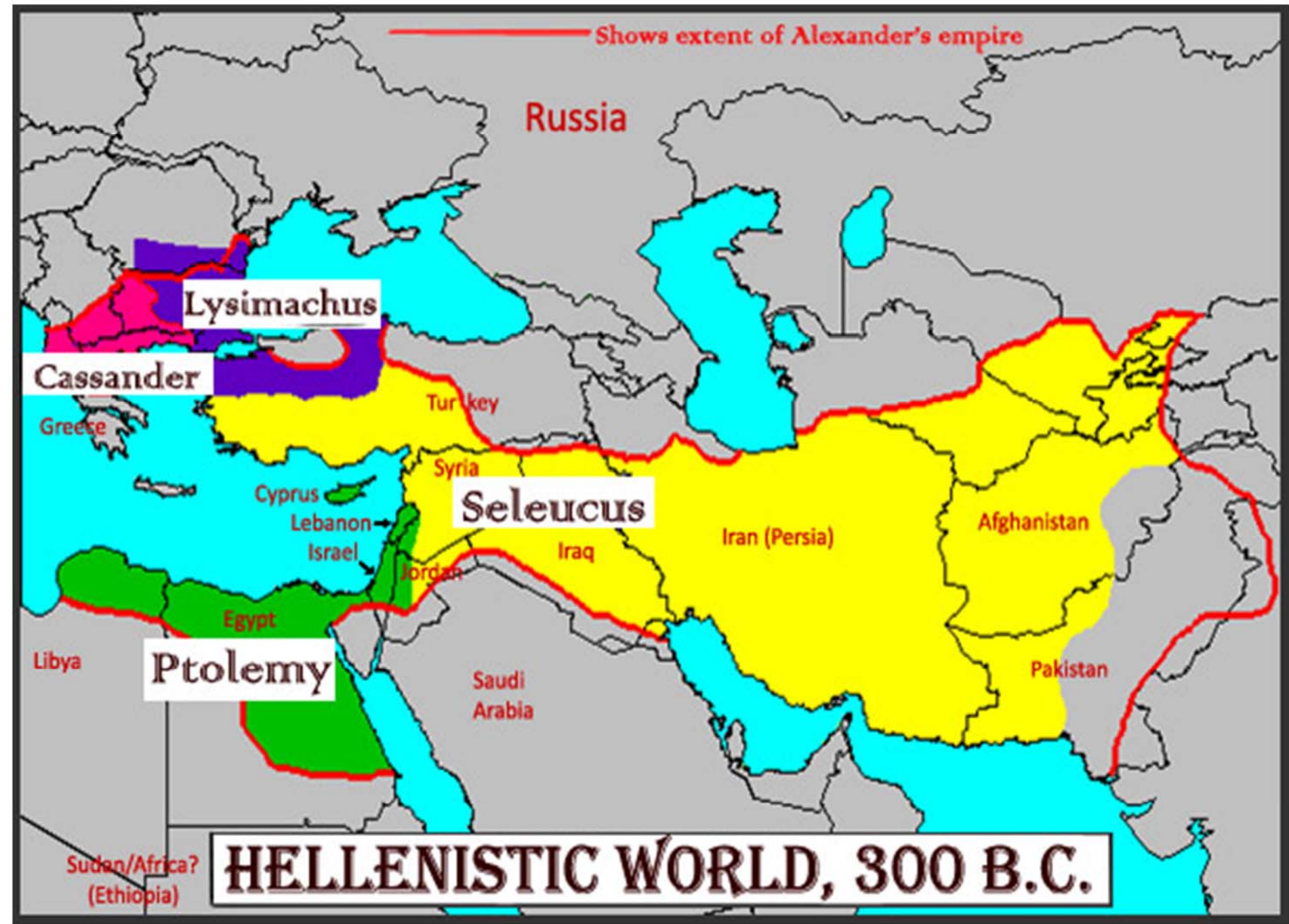
after Alexander's death the empire quickly fragmented into four separate kingdoms led by his generals.

At one point the map of the former empire crystallized into four major divisions, and these could well have been what the four heads of the leopard represent. These were Macedonia and Greece; the realms of Lysimachus, who ruled Thrace and the western half of Anatolia (now Turkey); the Seleucid empire that covered modern-day Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, and Iran; and Ptolemaic Egypt. The lands we now know as Palestine and Israel alternated between being ruled by the Ptolemies and the Seleucids, and also had times of independence from both. These four kingdoms assume great importance in the next chapter.

This beast represents the empire of Alexander the Great and is equivalent to the belly and thighs of bronze in the image of chapter 2. The four wings are understood to represent the swiftness of his conquests. At 20 years of age Alexander began his military campaign and conquered all the civilized world from Greece to India and from Southern Russia to Northern Africa, in only 10 years! [He conquered the Persian Empire in 333 B.C. at the battle of Issus]. But just as he was at the height of his power 'when he was strong' at the young age of only 33 years, Alexander died. The Empire of Alexander the Great was not necessarily the most powerful, but it was the most extensive... dominating the world of his day.

The four heads indicate that it wouldn't remain a single empire for long, as each head pulled its own way to the four corners of the empire. And so it was fulfilled that





DAN.7:7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

DAN.7:19 Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

DAN.7:23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.



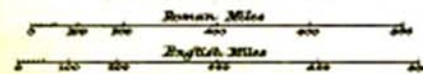
The fourth beast — a dreadful, terrible, strong monster with huge iron teeth and bronze nails that apparently didn't resemble anything Daniel had seen before, because he couldn't find the words to liken it to anything. This beast with the "great IRON teeth" corresponds to the legs of IRON in the Daniel 2 image and is, of course, Rome. This great and terrible beast of force and power "devoured and brake in pieces" all the known, civilised world of its day. And yet so magnificent was the Roman concept of law, so noble their ideas and ideals, so learned their language and literature that they were to influence all cultures and civilizations to come. This truly diverse beast literally "stamped the residue" of civilizations with the imprint of its culture!

These verses are certainly an apt description of Rome, and it was written hundreds of years BEFORE Rome even existed! "Teeth of iron and claws of bronze" - that's Rome, and they crushed their neighbors for hundreds of years. Everything

here in this description implies fierceness and power. If a revived Roman Empire is coming in the future of Europe, North Africa and parts of Asia (the extent of the old Rome), the people of earth are in for a very bad time.



**ROMAN EMPIRE
THIRD CENTURY A.D.**



From here on, the vision jumps to the future. Follow closely, as there are many details in the next few verses about the antichrist and his kingdom. We will study first the verses on the 10 horns and the Antichrist:

DAN.7:8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

DAN.7:11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

DAN.7:20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.

DAN.7:21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

DAN.7:24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

DAN.7:25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

What is the major subject of this 7th chapter of Daniel? The Antichrist; and don't leave out his kingdom. He wouldn't be anything without his kingdom.--The Antichrist and his Kingdom. However, other kingdoms are mentioned here as preceding them in order to give the setting and to specifically identify which kingdom it is. And on the fourth beast's head were ten horns. If you remember, the image in Daniel 2 had ten toes. It is understood that the ten horns and ten toes represent the same ten kingdoms. Ten horns are also found on the final head of a horrible seven-headed beast described in the book of Revelation, chapter 17.



****REV.17:12, 13** And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.



So if these are the same ten kingdoms, which it seems they are, then these ten horns on this dreadful fourth beast are ten kings or kingdoms that are very closely related to the Antichrist Empire in the End time. These will cooperate and work with him! And just like the ten toes in Daniel 2, these ten horns are ten kingdoms that have their roots in the old Roman Empire. Much of modern-day Europe was once part of the Roman Empire, and therefore there is a case to be made from chapters 2 and 7 of Daniel that these ten kings and kingdoms are Europe based. That would mean that certain European nations form a very important part of the Antichrist's empire. At least we know that nations which were once part of the Roman Empire will unite with the Antichrist as explained in Revelation chapter 17.

But then an eleventh horn, at first smaller than the others, appears and then grows greater than them all. In this new

horn are found the eyes of a man, and he speaks pompous words. In the book of Revelation we are told:

****Rev.13:5–7** and there was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them...

****2TH.2:3, 4** Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there comes a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

The "eyes like a man" and "a mouth speaking great things" show that the ultimate fulfilment of this little horn will be personified in an individual--THE ANTICHRIST or beast as he is called in Revelation 13:3-7.

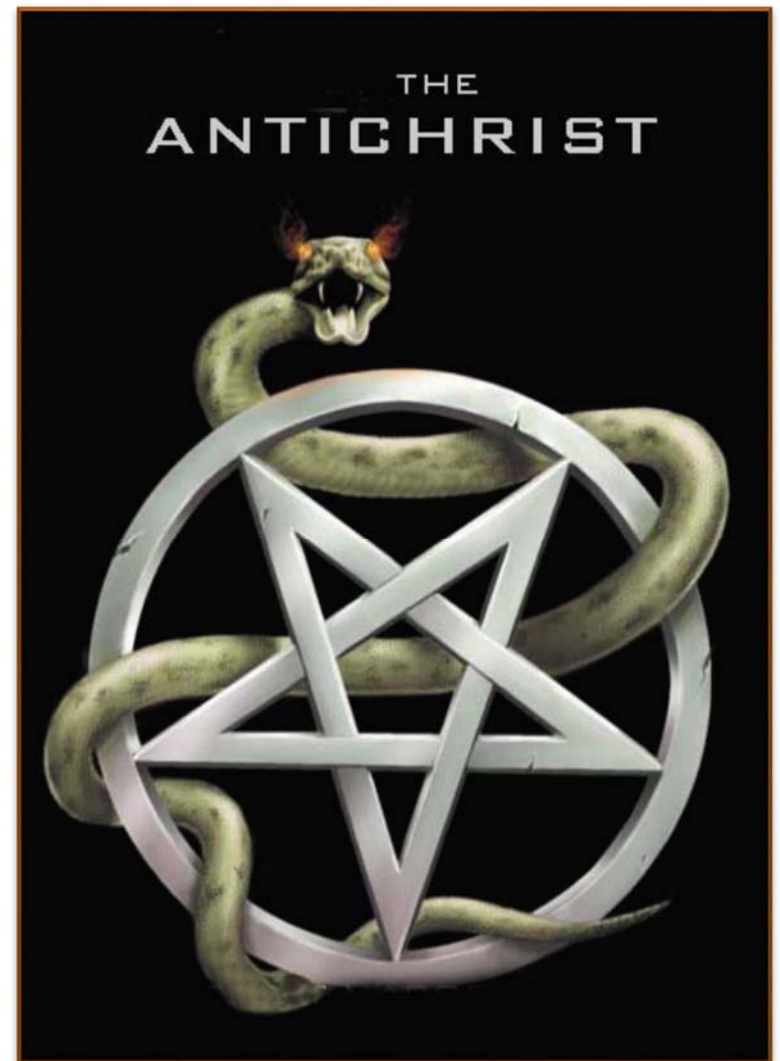
The little horn that became greater than his fellows — and can really signify no other personage than the coming Antichrist — pulls out three of the other ten horns by the roots. It sounds violent. The leaders of these three kingdoms most likely oppose the Antichrist, and for that they are uprooted from power. The beast in Revelation, however, has all ten horns as the final events of the End time unfold, so it follows that the three that are uprooted must be replaced with leaders who are allied to the Antichrist.

Daniel sees to his horror that the Antichrist persecutes and makes war against the saints, the people of God, for "a time and times, and half a time." We are also told of this war and persecution in Revelation. (Rev.13:5, 7). Forty-two months is equal to three and a half years, and so "a time and times and half a time" can be understood as three and a half years.

The length of this period is repeated a number of times throughout the Scriptures, and it covers the time known to us as the Great Tribulation, the second half of the Antichrist's reign that immediately precedes Jesus' second coming. It is not a pleasant time on Earth. In a later message given by an angel to Daniel it is described as "a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time"

****DAN.12:1** And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

****DAN.12:7** And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.



****Mk.13:20** except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elects' sake (or the saints), whom he hath chosen, He hath shortened the days.

The Lord couldn't be any more specific about the length and duration of the Tribulation period. And the main reason is so that God's children who will be there will know it's only going to last so long and then it will be over -- 3-1/2 Years and no longer!

This man has an agenda. He hates God. He will change the very laws of mankind in an attempt to legislate God right out of our midst. The dream of the atheist will seem, for a time, to come true. It will also be made illegal to worship God, and the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. Those who attempt to worship Him will be persecuted mercilessly. He will not introduce himself to the world, as "Good day, people of the world, I am the Antichrist." He will be subtle in the beginning. There are, by the way, actually two meanings of "antichrist" - one is "against Christ" and the other is to "IMITATE Christ." He is not only against our Lord, but he also pretends initially to be a "good leader" - This is the real wolf in sheep's clothing.

The Antichrist not only makes war, but it looks to Daniel as though he is winning the war, prevailing against God's people. The beast is going to overcome the church, as far as her temporal power is concerned--its buildings, organisations and money. (Verses 21, 25). It doesn't say he's going to destroy the holy people, there's a definite distinction there, but he's going to destroy their power! And It doesn't necessarily say completely destroy it even, but scatter it, in other words, weaken it & scatter it, so that they no longer have much power or influence in the World, in politics and governments, etc., then he'll be able to take over. We know he can't destroy all the holy people, because in verse 18, 22 and 27 of this chapter, it mentions that the saints "shall take...and possess the kingdom, it will be given to them."

And in the process he intends to change times and laws. Changing laws is straightforward to understand. Dictators have always brought in new laws to reinforce their rule or to oppress their opponents, but what is meant by "changing times" is unclear at this point. The important thing to note is that he is stopped when



God judges in favor of the saints. It might seem for a time that the Antichrist is unstoppable as he rages across the world's stage, but that is only an illusion. God has him in His sights and will only allow him to go so far. The world has seen tyrants before, but admittedly not one as monstrous as this. But like all that have gone before him, he shall meet his doom.



there was quite a crowd in this throne room!

DAN.7:12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.

Why would God devote almost two entire books, plus multitudes of other prophecies throughout the Bible, just to these few years of the Endtime? Do you think He doesn't want us to be deceived along with the rest of the world? Do you think He wants us to be prepared?

The happy ending of the vision:

DAN.7:9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

DAN.7:10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

While Daniel was watching the beasts he sees a throne room, and then God, the Ancient of Days, is seated on the throne, surrounded by multitudes of attendants. God is dressed in dazzling white robes and His hair is also pure white. This is one of the few descriptions of God in the entire Bible. Ezekiel wrote that he twice saw God on His throne, and this description in Daniel parallels those in many ways (**Eze1&10**). Ezekiel and Daniel were contemporaries and both lived in Babylonia as exiles. And if you multiply 10,000 by 10,000, as Daniel described the multitude before God in verse 10, you get 100 million. So

DAN.7:13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

And then in the clouds comes the Son of Man. He's always coming in the clouds.--Went away in the clouds, coming in the clouds, always associated with clouds!

This is an interesting point for the Jews. Two distinct individual personalities: the Son of man, who could only be Jesus Christ and the Ancient of Days, God the

Father. We know this is Jesus because He referred to Himself as the “Son of Man” on numerous occasions in the Gospels (in Matthew 8:20; 16:13; Mark 14:62; Luke 9:26; John 13:31 and about 80 more times). The Jews were well versed in their Scriptures, and Jesus at that time was deliberately letting it be known to those listening to Him that He was the Son of Man of the Book of Daniel. Just as He appears in the clouds in this vision, He will also appear in the clouds at His return at His second coming.

****REV.1:7** Behold, He cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

****MAT.24:30** And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.





****ACT.1:9, 11** And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight...Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

DAN.7:14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

**** DAN.2:44** And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

**** REV.11:15** And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

DAN.7:15 I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

DAN.7:16 I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

DAN.7:17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.

DAN.7:18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

DAN.7:22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

DAN.7:26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

**** REV.19:20** And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.



Then the Antichrist is thrown into a fire. Revelation also talks about the Antichrist being thrown into the Lake of Fire when he becomes the big loser at the Battle of Armageddon (Revelation 19:20). After that the Son of Man was given dominion and glory, and the kingdom, and all on the Earth will serve Him. And not only does Jesus receive the kingdom, but the saints possess it too.

DAN.7:27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

****REV.20:4** And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and

which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

All of this is not really completely fulfilled both spiritually and literally until the millennium! At the end of the Battle of Armageddon, when we come down and take over and the Kingdom is delivered, oddly enough, it says into our hands, unto us. What happens at the Battle of Armageddon? The King of kings takes over His Kingdom and gives it to us! Isn't that marvellous! He gives us the Kingdom! Isn't that wonderful? We're always talking about God's Kingdom, the Kingdom of Heaven, the Kingdom of God on Earth and Kingdom of Jesus Christ, the King of kings, etc., it is His Kingdom, but He gives it to us!

****LUK.12:32** Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

But many people get all theoretical and they get hazy ideas, dreamy ideas about His kingdom, and that after Jesus returns, we're all going to be way off somewhere in some place called Heaven or something. Well, Heaven is not going to be way off somewhere, it's going to be right here on Earth, a Heaven-on-Earth during the Millennium! We're going to rule and reign with Christ right here on Earth over the unsaved nations and people who are left, who were not destroyed by the judgements God heaps upon the Antichrist kingdom.

Every day, millions of Christians all over the world pray, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven!" But do most of us really appreciate the tremendousness of that statement in the Lord's Prayer and how literally it is going to come true and be fulfilled? It's actually going to be like Heaven, Heaven on Earth, with God's Will being done and His Kingdom come--on Earth as it is in Heaven! And we will be His officers, enforcing His Will as we rule and reign over the Earth with Him!

DAN.7:28 Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

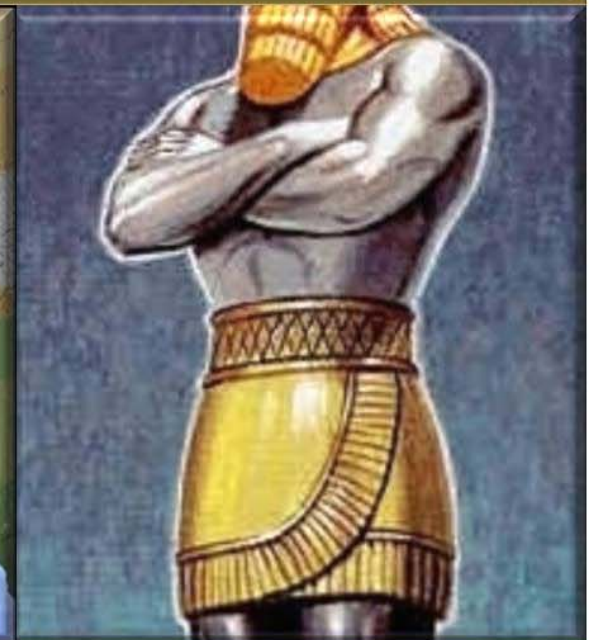
Although Daniel tells us that watching this whole ordeal troubled him to the point where he felt and looked very much the worse for it, we can read it and rejoice that the final victory is ours. There will be some very rough and trying times ahead, and for all intents and purposes it may look like we are losing the war much of the time, but in the end we will be victorious!



Excerpts taken from "Daniel the Prophet" by Scott MacGregor and the writings of David Brandt B.

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Grecian Empire takes Persia



He-goat vs. Ram - Daniel 8
Alexander the Great vs. Persia

DANIEL CHAPTER 8

Daniel is now about to receive one of the most specific prophetic visions about the future recorded in the Bible. This vision was shown to him in the third year of Belshazzar, king of Babylon, which would place it at around 547 BC. Shushan is about 30 miles west of the modern-day city of Shustar, Iran. The river called Ulai in this passage is most likely the Karūn River, Iran's only navigable river, which runs by the ruins of the ancient city.

FIRST PART OF THE VISION:

DAN.8:1 In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.

DAN.8:2 And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.

DAN.8:3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.



DAN.8:4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.

DAN.8:5 and as I was considering, behold, a he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

DAN.8:6 and he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.

DAN.8:7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and **brake his two horns**: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.

DAN.8:8 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and **when he was strong, the great horn was broken**; and for it came up **four notable ones** toward the four winds of heaven. **(We will deal with verses 9 to 14 later in this class)**

DAN.8:15 And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as **the appearance of a man**.



DAN.8:16 And I heard a man's voice (**Jesus?**) between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, **Gabriel, make this man to understand** the vision.

DAN.8:17 So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the **time of the end shall be the vision**.

DAN.8:18 Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright.

DAN.8:19 and he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the **last end of the indignation**: for at the time appointed **the end shall be**.

Two personages appear in this vision to help Daniel understand what all this means. One is the angel Gabriel, who to Daniel looked like a man. The other is someone who instructs Gabriel to tell Daniel what the vision means. The second personage Daniel doesn't apparently see, but rather hears His voice coming from the middle of the river. Gabriel is one of God's archangels, and any voice that tells him what to do must be senior to him. So it is believed by many scholars of the Bible that this voice belongs to Jesus.

What's another word for indignation? (V.19)--Wrath or anger. There is a period that is called The Indignation, the Wrath of God! The Wrath of God is really the End! "For at the time appointed, the end shall be." And what is going to be the real end of all these things? The end of Man's rule. We're talking about the days of Man. All these prophecies about the End are about what end, whose end? Man's rule on Earth--Worldly, wicked Man's end and his rule on Earth! And it doesn't come to an end till the Battle of Armageddon. The Millennium is the beginning of God's Rule and His saints--The Kingdom of God and our rule! That's the beginning, that's a new day! That's a whole new dispensation of grace.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FIRST PART:

DAN.8:20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.

DAN.8:21 And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

DAN.8:22 Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.

This vision to an extent parallels those in chapters 2 and 7 in which God describes empires that are to come. But what is different about this vision is that in giving Daniel the interpretation, the angel actually names two of the coming empires, something not done previously.

In the first part of the vision Daniel sees a ram with two great horns, with the second horn growing taller than the first. Then the ram pushes west and north and south, and no adversary could stand before him. Later on we are told that the two horns on the ram are





the kings of Media and Persia. As we already know, the Persians came to prominence after the Medes (the second horn growing taller) and this united empire went on to conquer all before them. And indeed, they were to go west and conquer Babylon, north and conquer Lydia, and under Cambyses II, Cyrus's son, were to go south and conquer Egypt. Every details in Bible prophecy is important and represents something.

****DAN.7:5** And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

The goat represents Greece and the horn is symbolic of Alexander the Great who was to

come some 200 years later, around 333bc. "Without touching the ground" reminds us of the beast like a "leopard" in Daniel 7:6, the one that had the four wings. Both the wings and the airborne status of this goat, speak of the great speed of Alexander. Alexander the Great was astounding in battle and within 10 short years conquer Persia and all its lands, gaining more territory in that time period than the Persian Empire had in 200 years. And just as the horn was broken when the goat became strong, so Alexander died of a fever at the age of 33, at the height of his power and conquest. Then four notable kings and kingdoms arose from Alexander's fragmented empire, and details of that were covered in the previous chapter 7.

DAN.7:6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.



The vision then jumps to the End time, as out of one of those four kingdoms came a little horn, a fierce king, who is destined to rule a great empire in the last days.



THE LITTLE HORN VISION & INTERPRETATION:

DAN.8:9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

DAN.8:10 And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

DAN.8:11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of the sanctuary was cast down.

DAN.8:12 And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.

DAN.8:13 Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?

DAN.8:14 And he said unto me, unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

DAN.8:23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full (See 2Tim.3:1-5), a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.

DAN.8:24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power (See Rev.13:2-4); and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.

DAN.8:25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

****DAN.7:8, 25** I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.





****REV.13:5, 6 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.**

Between what Daniel saw and what Gabriel explains to him, we are given a lot of information about the little horn, who is understood to be no less a personality than the devil-man of the End, the Antichrist. This "horn" is both a man and a spiritual entity, for he cannot do what he does only being a mortal.

It is believed by many scholars of Bible prophecy that the little horn of this vision was Antiochus Epiphanes, who ruled from 175-164 BC, the last king of any importance of the Seleucid Empire, one of the four kingdoms of the Grecian empire. He did do things in his reign that seem like they fulfilled some of the prophetic events listed in this chapter. This man simply and literally hated God and the people of God. As told in the 1st Book of Maccabees, he stopped circumcision, ordered the destruction of Jewish writings, sacrificed a pig on the temple altar, and killed 100,000 Jews at one time. But he was just a "type" or forerunner of the evil one who is to come, no doubt he was an intermediate fulfillment of the final little horn, as others

also have been. Just as there have been lots of those who have pretended to be the Messiah, there have amazingly been many in history who have aspired to the office of "Antichrist." This is certainly true here, for not only was that man an actual historical figure, but he was also a precursor of the Antichrist who is to come. Later on, we will see that an important comment by Jesus on the predictions of Daniel in chapter 11 clearly place these events as happening after His time on Earth, and therefore long after Antiochus. (Read Mk.13:14, MT.24:15)

The horn grows out of one of four areas that today correspond to 1) Greece, 2) Turkey, 3) Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Iraq, and Iran, and 4) Egypt. — Just which one at this time, we don't know. In chapter 7 we saw the corresponding horn come out of the head of what was the Roman Empire, and that encompassed all the same lands listed except for Iran and Iraq.



Those four countries are all still in existence and all still bear the exact same names that they did then except Turkey (Thrace and Anatolia) during the time of the four who sprang out of Alexander's great Empire. Which ones are still called by the same names? Greece, Syria & Egypt.

He expands his control to the south, to the east, and to the Pleasant Land. The Pleasant Land would be a reference to Israel (Psa.106:24), sacred

homeland to Daniel and the Jews who had been exiled from it for 50 or so years.

This horn, or king as he is referred to later in the chapter (V.10 & 23), grows as high as the host of heaven and casts some of them down to the earth and tramples upon them. Some people say, because of Rev.12:4, "Well, that host of heaven must be some of the devil's angels or demons".

**** REV.12:4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.**

Yes, a third of the Angels follow him out of Heaven when he's cast out in the book of Revelation. But here in Daniel chapter 8, do you think the Antichrist, or really the devil (as the Antichrist will be the devil in the flesh) do you think the devil would be stamping on some of his own angels (demons)? No, some scholars believe that it's the Church! That this host of Heaven represent God's children.

Certainly the Antichrist couldn't stamp on God's angels, that's for sure, so it has to be the Church. If the Antichrist has got power over Angels we might as well quit right now! But it's not talking about the Angels. The "host of heaven" in verse 10 is the same as the "holy people" of verse 24. He prospers in all that he

does and he destroys the mighty and also the holy people. "Holy" means "set apart", or "separate"--God's children who are separated from the unclean world to serve God (II Cor. 6:14-18). So, contrary to the opinion of some, God's people will still be here during the Antichrist reign, undergoing a time of great tribulation and persecution, as we saw in Daniel 7:21.

**** DAN.7:21** I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

****REV.13:7** and it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.



****DAN.12:7** ...and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he (the Antichrist) shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

We know, however, that at the Second Coming of Jesus when all those who believe on Him will rise to meet Him in the air, there will be multitudes of believers. The Antichrist's attempts to destroy all the holy people are obviously far from thorough. Even though there is intense persecution of believers, it has only limited success, as have all persecutions of Christians through the ages.

(V.11, 12, 23, 25)The Antichrist is a cunning devil — in fact, he is possessed by the very Devil. Deceit prospers under his rule, no doubt referring to a lot of political and other chicanery that he and his cohorts engage in. This king then claims to be as high as the "Prince of the host." Who is the Prince of Heaven's host? That has to be Jesus. "He magnified himself even to the Prince of the Host"(Verse 25)--that literally means against the Prince of the Host.--What Host? The Saints! And this is confirmed by the apostle Paul when he wrote of the Antichrist's self-exaltation:

****2 Thes.2:3-4** Let no man deceive you by any means: for that

day shall not come, except there comes a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped so that he as God sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

The Saints and the Holy People

The “saints” and “holy people” are terms used to describe the same people. They are not only the saints of the Catholic Church and other churches that some might imagine. Those saints might be included in this designation, but Daniel is writing of a much broader brotherhood of people. “Saint” comes from the Latin word Sanctus, which means holy. “Holy” means something that is dedicated to God. These saints therefore are those that are dedicated to God, or even more broadly, those who are the believers in God. The Israelites of the Old Testament can be regarded as the “Holy People” of those days by virtue of the fact that they were the chosen people. In the New Testament era this now pertains to all those who believe in Jesus, as Paul explained, “he is not a Jew who is one outwardly ... but he is a Jew who is one inwardly ... in the Spirit.” And “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then are you Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Romans 2:28–29; Galatians 3:28–29).

“And he takes away the daily sacrifice” (verse 11). In Daniel’s time the Jewish temple had been destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, and Jerusalem was a wasteland. But at the time of this vision the daily sacrifice has obviously been resumed for some time. The daily sacrifice is the religious worship of all faith; verses 12 and 13 of this chapter and other references (Dan.9:27) predict that the Antichrist will make a covenant to permit a daily sacrifice of religious worship.

“...and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.” In other words, the Antichrist is going to destroy the altar on which the sacrifice is made, but he is not going to destroy the Temple because it says in the Bible he's going to occupy it himself. "He'll sit in the Temple of God saying that he is God."--2Thes.2:4. And of course he has to stop all worship of any



other gods, so he stops the sacrificial worship "and the place of his sanctuary is cast down," **literally desecrated by setting up the Abomination of Desolation.**

****DAN.9:27** And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.



****DAN.11:31** and arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.

(V.12) "And a host (army) was given him against the daily sacrifice." **Again, who's working against the daily sacrifice? The Antichrist. Who's his host? Who does his dirty work for him?--His soldiers, his armies, his World government police, etc., his followers.**

(V.12b) "And it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced and prospered." **Doesn't that sound exactly like what they are doing today? Casting down the Truth to the ground on almost every television show, almost every movie, even the TV shows, the newspapers and the works, casting it all down. And practicing it--lies--and prospering! That's your picture of the antichrist world of today.**

(V.13, 14) **Then Daniel overhears two "saints" speaking, and one asks the other how long it will be until the sanctuary is cleansed, which we can understand as being cleaned from something that is defiling it, the transgression of desolation. And the other tells him that it is going to be 2,300 days. Keep that number in mind because, in chapter 9, we are going to see how it may fit into our End time timeline. Notice he's not talking about Angels, he's talking about Saints; Daniel didn't ask the question, one Saint is asking the other Saint. Apparently the people that were standing around listening to all this, hearing all this and seeing this vision, all the spirits, the good spirits, were also curious about what was going on!**

(V.25) **"By peace shall he destroy many!" When the Antichrist takes over the World and establishes his worldwide kingdom, his worldwide anti-God government, his Worldwide Antichrist World government, he**

says, "Peace and safety! Everything's going to be peaceful & safe now.--No more wars, everything's going to be secure, prosperity on Earth, everybody's going to have plenty and my kingdom's going to be a kingdom of Heaven on Earth, peace and safety!"

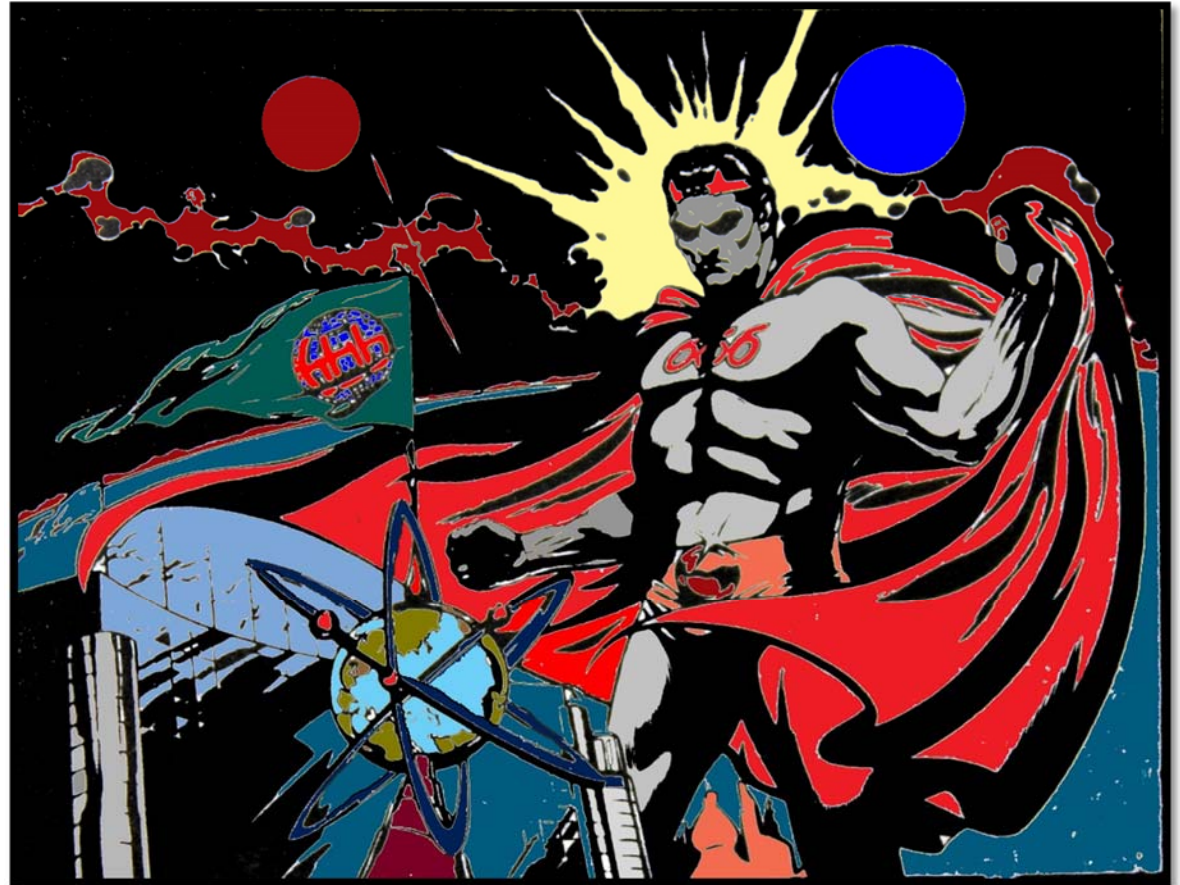
****1TH.5:3** for when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

He makes the Covenant as a World Peace Treaty and everything is going fine, he's going to make everybody happy and have World peace until he's finally got everything firmly in his grip. (We will expand more on that in the next chapters)

(V.25) But as the Antichrist rises against the Prince of princes, Jesus, he is broken. At the Battle of Armageddon he and his forces are utterly trounced and destroyed, not by the human armies, but by a heavenly force that is superhuman. That is the happy ending, or should we say, the beginning of the happy ending that we all have to look forward to.

****DAN.2:45** Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

****REV.19:20** and the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.



DAN.8:26 and the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days.

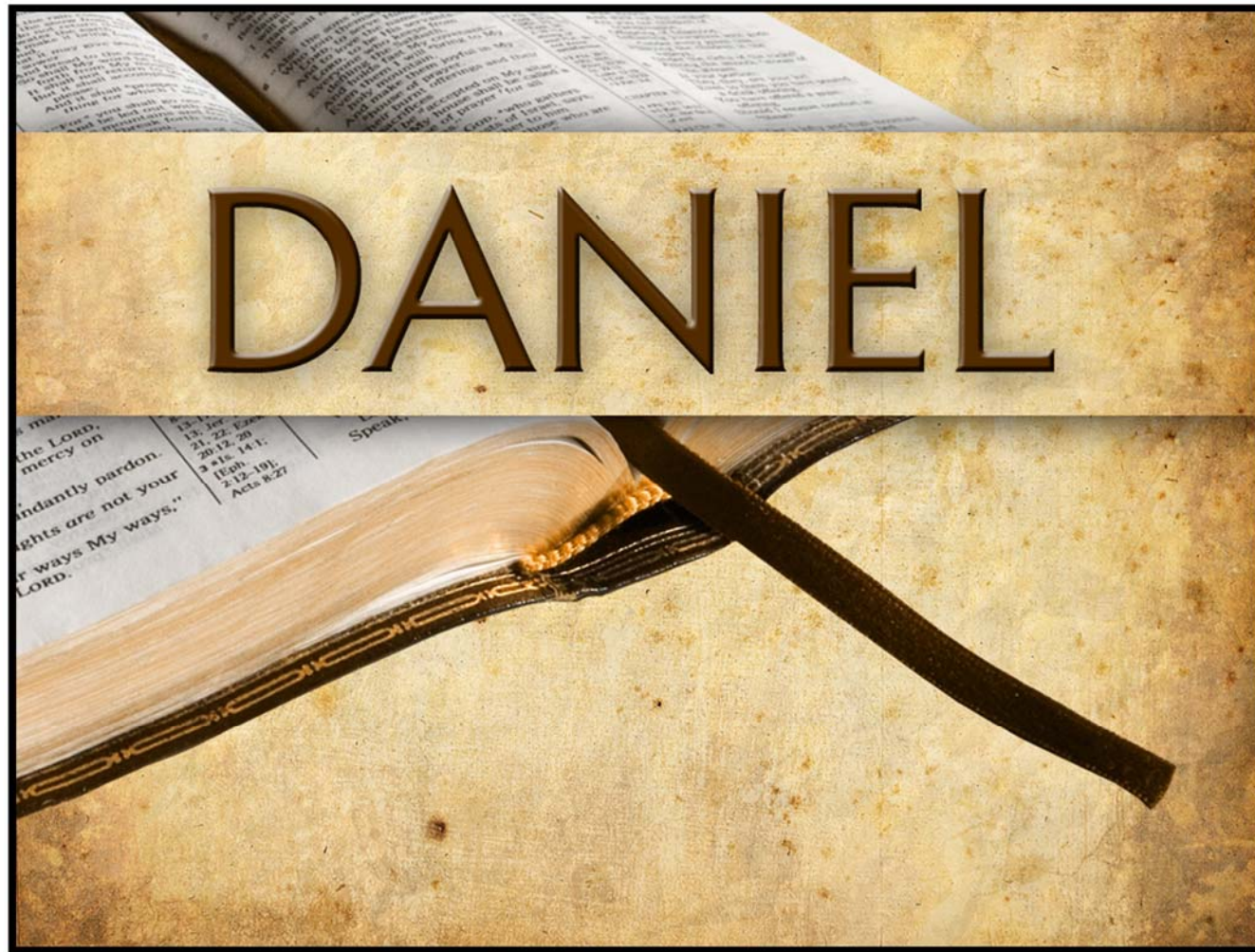
DAN.8:27 And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

In this chapter the Lord gives you the basis first of all, He gives you the foundation or the picture. Where did this Antichrist guy come from? Parts of this chapter and the next chapters is about him. He's building up to the revelation of this particular man, and a description of him and what he does, in great detail! He spends a lot of time on this man, his rule and reign, which is very short. But He jumps over 2300 years of history to do it because it's so important.

The whole book of Daniel is involved in giving you the historical background of the Antichrist! Think of that! He considered it so important! Really He did it in the **2nd Chapter** about the Image, he got down to the 10 toes. Then He did it again in the **7th Chapter** about the beasts, particularly the last beast of the 7th Chapter, which was Rome and its final ten kings, and then the last king, which was the antichrist horn. And now in this **chapter 8**, a whole lot more details about the little horn that became great.

Dear Daniel was so worn out getting this revelation that he fainted again and was sick for days. It was so difficult to understand, Daniel himself didn't even understand it. And apparently, he must have conferred with a few other people, and they didn't understand it either. Because it was not for them to understand! In fact, God told him to shut up the book for it would be many years later before anybody would understand. And no one has even hardly tried to understand this book for centuries, until just about the last 100 to 200 years.

But that future is now here and God wants us to understand what it is about.



CHAPTER 9 PART 1

The Book of Daniel gets more and more fascinating as it progresses, and you will read in this chapter how Daniel is told of some very specific timing with regard to the sacrificial death of the Messiah and the length of the still-to-come reign of the Antichrist. But first we are told that Daniel was studying the writings of his contemporary, Jeremiah, regarding the fate of the Jewish people and the duration of their captivity by the Babylonians.

DAN.9:1 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;

DAN.9:2 in the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

There are two places in Jeremiah's writings where the Lord said that the Jews would go into captivity in Babylon for 70 years:

****Jer.25:1–2, 11** The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah (which was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon), which Jeremiah the prophet spoke to all the people of Judah and to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying: ... And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

****Jer.29:10** for thus says the Lord: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.

This is a very specific and precise prophecy that was fulfilled in two very significant ways: Firstly, the Babylonians conquered Jerusalem three times. Fed up with the continuing rebellions, Nebuchadnezzar desolated the city and the temple in 587/586 BC. Secondly, the Jews were indeed in exile in and around Babylon, serving the kings of that land for 70 years. This was called the captivity. They were moved and they had to stay there, they couldn't leave Babylon, and later Medo-Persia, until finally King Cyrus came along, the man that God had predicted years before, (712 BC) even his name, that he would let them go back home.

****ISA.44:28** That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.

****ISA.45:1, 4, 13** Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him... For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me... I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts.

We must now consider what is regarded as a “year” in ancient terms. Sir Isaac Newton (1642–1727) wrote: “All nations, before the just length of the solar year was known, reckoned months by the course of the

moon, ... and in making calendars for their festivals, they reckoned thirty days to a lunar month, and twelve lunar months to a year...” In other words, the year of the ancients consisted of 360 days. Let’s examine the dates: Nebuchadnezzar first took captives away from Jerusalem around 605 BC, and it seems this was regarded as the start of the 70 years. King Cyrus gave permission for the exiles to return in 538 BC, but that return didn’t occur till 536 BC. In that year, 42,360 Jews returned (Ezra 1:7–10; 2:64) —. 605 bc to 536 bc is 69 solar years or modern calendar years and is equal to 70 prophetic years of 360 days.

DAN.9:3 And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

Daniel, upon reading these scriptures, prays one of the most heartfelt prayers found in the Bible, confessing, and asking the Lord to forgive, both his and his people’s iniquities.

DAN.9:4 And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments;

DAN.9:5 we have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments:

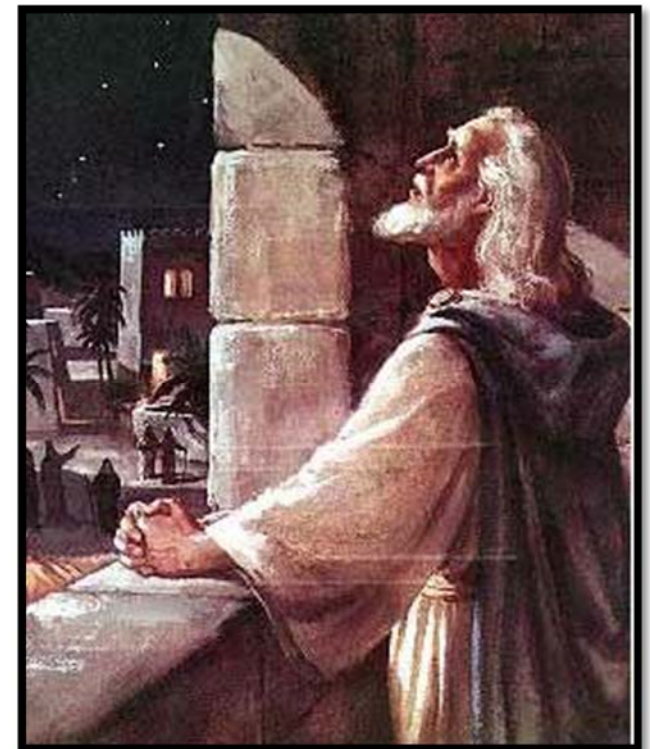
DAN.9:6 neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

DAN.9:7 O LORD, righteousness belonged unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries whither thou hast driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee.

DAN.9:8 O Lord, to us belonged confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee.

DAN.9:9 To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against him;

DAN.9:10 neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.



DAN.9:11 Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him. **(Take time to read Deut.28:47-49, Deut.30:1-3)**

DAN.9:12 and he hath confirmed his words, which he spoke against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem.

DAN.9:13 As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth.

DAN.9:14 Therefore hath the LORD watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us: for the LORD our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his voice.

DAN.9:15 And now, O Lord our God, that hast brought thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and hast gotten thee renown, as at this day; we have sinned, we have done wickedly.

DAN.9:16 O LORD, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us.

DAN.9:17 Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake.

DAN.9:18 O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousness, but for thy great mercies.

DAN.9:19 O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name.

DAN.9:20 And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God;

DAN.9:21 yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.



DAN.9:22 And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding.

DAN.9:23 At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to show thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.

Once again the archangel Gabriel appears to Daniel to give him another revelation. This revelation also concerns the number 70, but this time it has to do with a period of “seventy weeks.” The revelation predicted among other things the year that Jesus the Messiah would be crucified. Yet it was worded in such a way as to make its fulfillment even more amazing than just stating a given date. It hinged its fulfillment on events, which at the time of Daniel receiving this prophecy (circa 538 bC), had yet to occur.

DAN.9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

DAN.9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troubles’ times.

DAN.9:26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

The word “week” is translated from the Hebrew word transliterated as shabua. Aside from having the meaning of a seven-day week, it also has the literal meanings of “seven” and “unit of seven.”

Genesis 29:27 is in the context of a discussion about seven years, which Jacob was to work, in order to earn the right to marry. Laban said to Jacob “fulfill her week,” which both men understood to be a term of 7-years. Jacob certainly got the message, for in Genesis 29:28, it says Jacob “fulfilled her week.” He worked 7-years, which was described as a week of years. In other words, a “week” was not only considered 7-days in the Hebrew vocabulary, but it also was an idiomatic expression referring to years.

When we add the 7 weeks and the 62 weeks (Verse 25), we come up with a total of 69 weeks. Then if we multiply 69 times 7, we arrive at a figure of 483 years. God was telling Daniel that 483 years would pass between the time that the command was given to return and rebuild Jerusalem and the death of the Messiah, Jesus.

When was given that command? There were three commands or decrees. The first was by Cyrus in 538



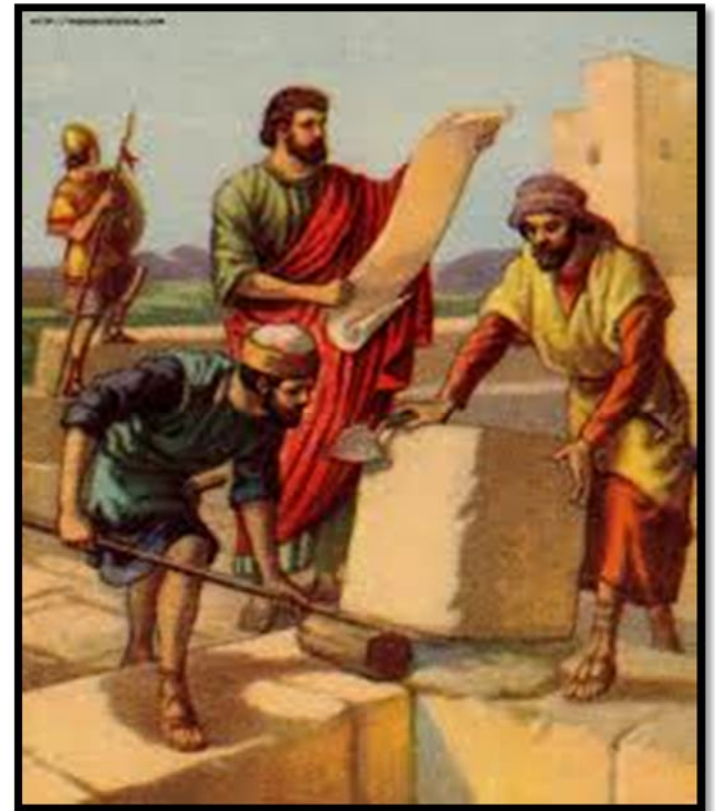
BC (Ezra 1:1-4, 5:13-17). This was limited to rebuilding the Lord's house (Ezra 6). The second was by Darius in 517 (Ezra 6:1-12), reaffirming the proclamation of Cyrus, as to the temple. Like the previous one, no mention was made of restoring the city and its walls. The third one was by Artaxerxes, in 445 BC, allowing Nehemiah permission to rebuild Jerusalem (Nehemiah 2:3-8), and this is that command that verse 25 talked about.

Now it is time to do some math. We need to convert 483 prophetic or Jewish years into solar years. A solar year consists of about $365\frac{1}{4}$ days. $(483 \times 360) \div 365\frac{1}{4} = 476$ solar years.

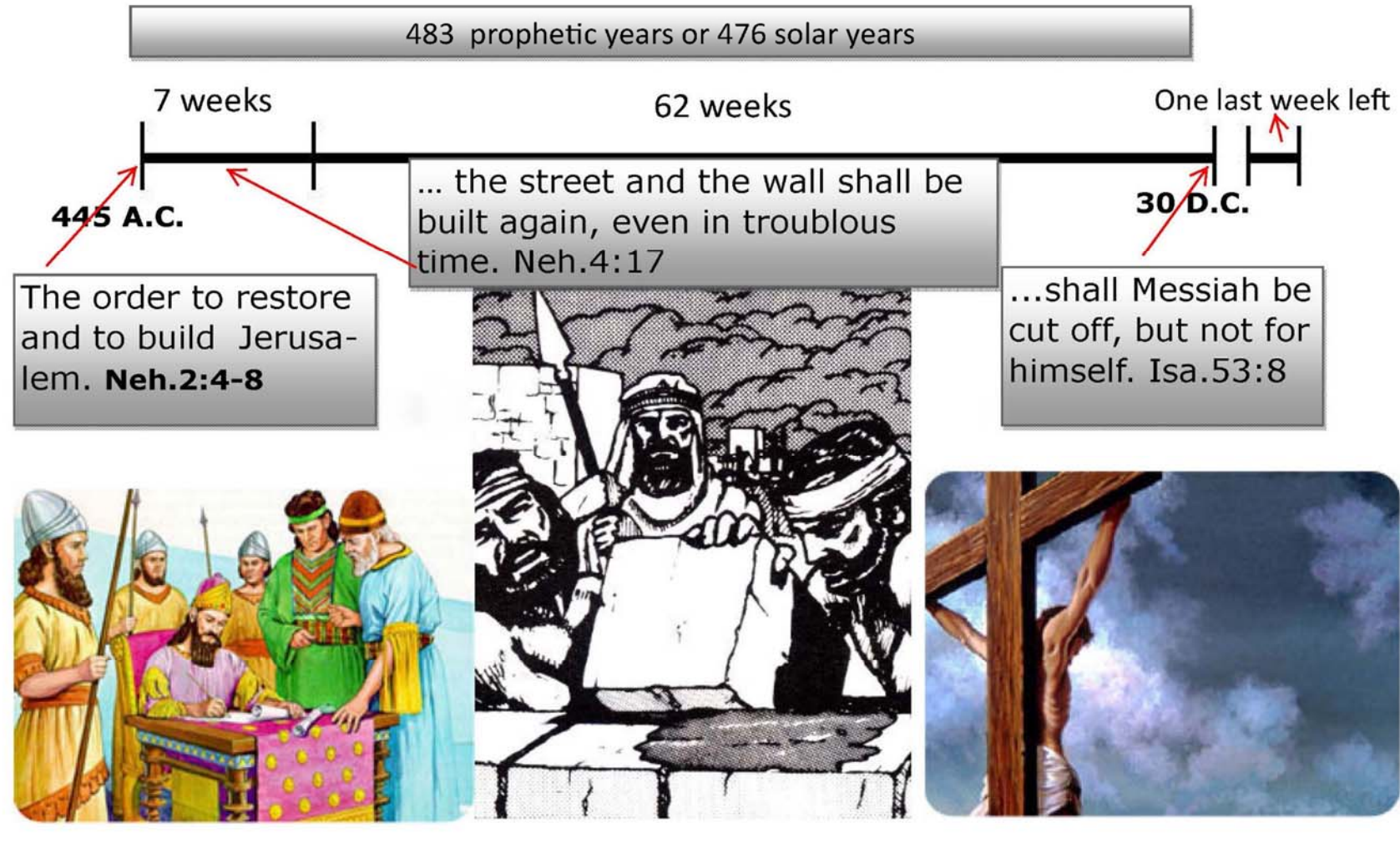
We know that the "going forth of the

command to restore and build Jerusalem ... and the wall" was in 445 BC. Daniel predicted that after 69 weeks the "Messiah shall be cut off." Those 69 weeks translate into 476 years of our solar calendar, which, when added to 445 bc, results around the year 30 ad, the year of Christ's crucifixion, according to most sources. That exact year being predicted over 500 years previously in the Book of Daniel is a remarkable date to arrive at!

"Shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, & the wall, even in troubles times." The seven weeks could be the years it took them to rebuild the city and the wall. And from then on it was three score and two weeks, that's 62 seven's, a total of 69 weeks or seven's, which is exactly what it was from the edict of Artaxerxes, which permitted them to rebuild the city, to the crucifixion of Jesus. So the Lord is merely foretelling the future and predicting that they were going to rebuild the city and the wall and then after that it will be another 62 times seven, until the crucifixion of Christ. Nehemiah and the Jews had to do the rebuilding "even in troubles times" because of their enemies. (Read Neh.4:17-18)



7 weeks + 62 weeks = 69 x 7 = 483 prophetic years



Some scholars put Artaxerxes' edict to rebuild the city at the year 444 BC and still others put Christ's death from 29 to 33 AD. It suffices to say that it was close enough that it was approximately 476 years later. We think that it is a pretty accurate prophecy anyhow, that it was that close, no matter how you figure it out! There are indications that the Jews of Jesus' day were expecting the Messiah to come around that time, as

Luke records that “the people were in expectation, and all reasoned in their hearts about John, whether he was the Christ or not” (Luke 3:15). The Jews were very well acquainted with their prophets’ writings, so it’s likely that their awareness of this prophecy from Daniel was the cause of this expectation.



DAN.9:26 ...and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. (Luc.23:27-29)

****MAT.24:2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? Verily I say unto you, there shall not be left here one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down.**

In verse 26, the prophecy announces that the forces of a prince who is going to come shall destroy the city, meaning Jerusalem, and the sanctuary or temple. This was fulfilled to an extent by the Romans under the then-future emperor,



Titus, who razed Jerusalem and its second temple to the ground again in 70 ad. Both the sack of Jerusalem and the slaughter of its inhabitants are related by the Jewish historian Josephus in his *Antiquities*.

But maybe it also applies to the future destruction under the antichrist, because obviously he too is going to invade & take over Jerusalem. It could apply to both--one a foreshadowing & the other a final fulfillment.--Many Bible prophecies are like that.

DANIEL 9

A STUDY THROUGH THE BOOK OF DANIEL

Part 2

The fulfillment of the first part of this amazing prophecy inspires faith that the rest of it will be fulfilled just as accurately. For, as you may have noticed, there is one “week” of years unaccounted for. Verse 24 refers to “seventy weeks” in order to “make an end of sins” and “bring in everlasting righteousness.” However, verses 25 and 26, which predict the year of Christ’s death, only account for 69 “weeks.” What and when is this last week? It certainly wasn’t fulfilled seven years after Jesus was crucified and then rose from the dead, since an era of “everlasting righteousness” was not ushered in; nor was the vision and prophecy “sealed up” or completed. As we will see, the last week will start in the future when the Antichrist confirms the covenant with many for one week. It really is the last week — the last seven years.

DAN.9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

"And HE shall confirm" This “HE” is a relative pronoun referring to some former subject! Who is the former subject? The only one it could possibly be is the prince that shall come. “He shall confirm.” So therefore that prince that shall come is referring to the Antichrist, because we know that he’s the one that shall confirm the Covenant with many for seven years. He makes the Covenant for seven years. He promises seven years and they’ll have religious freedom, rebuild their Temple and all this sort of thing. It’s the very prince we have been studying about, talking about and studying the prophecies about! (Daniel 7 & 8)

This “one week” does not follow the other 69 chronologically. This is the week that is yet in the future, and this man (who was described in Daniel 7 and 8) is alluded to in Revelation 13 as the “beast.” Many scholars believe that Israel incredibly will accept him as their messiah, but in the middle of the “week” he will break his covenant, stop the services of the rebuilt temple, and place an image in it. (Revelation 13) Israel and the world will suddenly realize this is not the millennium after all – in fact it will be the great tribulation. Only the return of Christ will stop this time of terror. (2Th.2:3-4)

****REV.13:14, 15** ...saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an

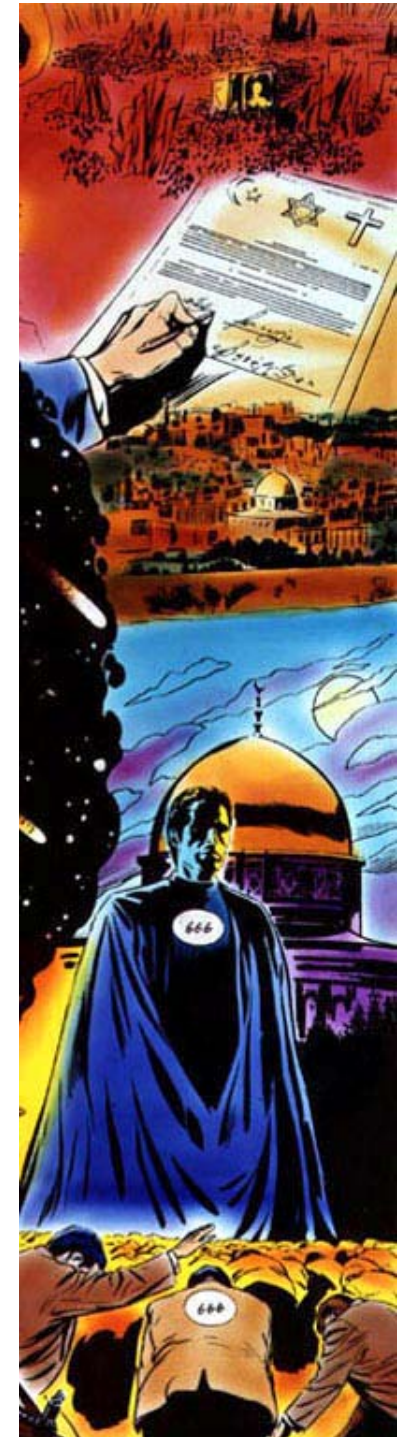


image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast & that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

****MAT.24:15** When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand)



This covenant, which plays a pivotal role in End time events, apparently allows the resumption of Jewish temple worship with all its requisite animal sacrifices. We deduce that because when this covenant is broken in the middle of the seven years, the sacrifice and offering is brought to an end. At the writing of this class, there is no temple and hence no temple worship. But, according to this and other prophetic passages in the Bible, one is going to be built. And at the breaking of this covenant, we are told cryptically that on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate. In Daniel chapter 11 we are told about the Abomination of Desolation, which is some sort of idol, being placed in the temple. And the peoples of the world are ordered to worship this thing. It is not going to be your everyday idol, either. We don't know everything about it, but we will delve into it more in

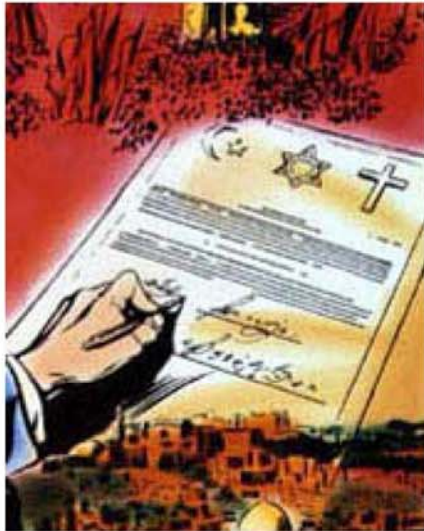
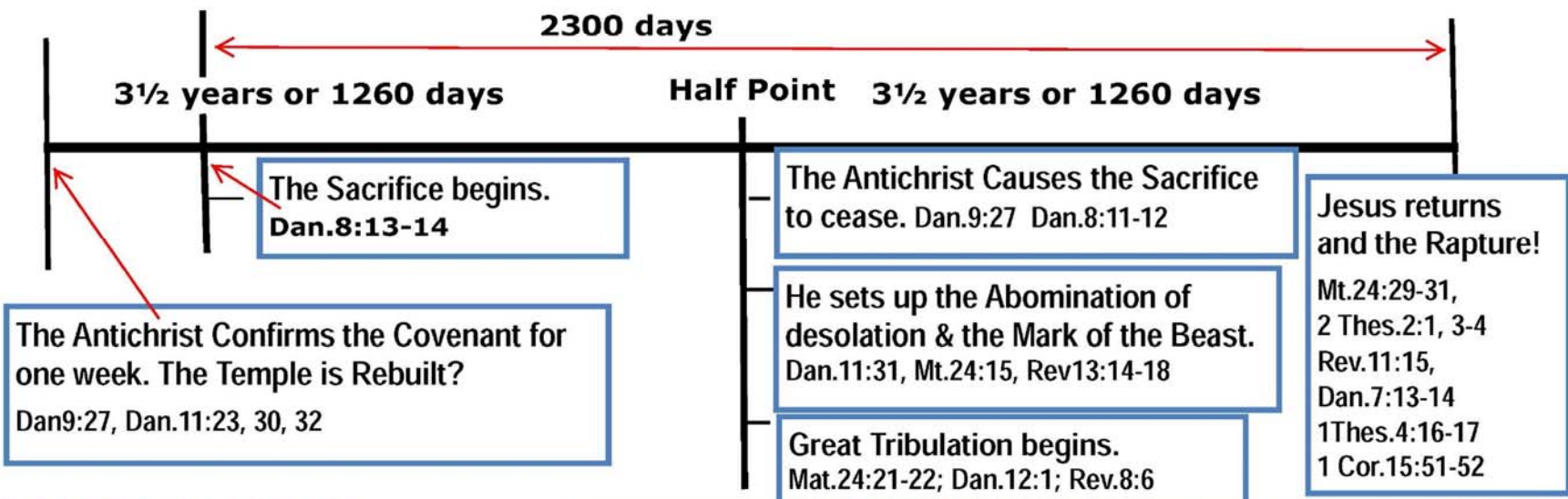
Daniel chapter 11. And all this is going to happen until the consummation, the very end, when God's frightening judgments are poured out on the desolate. "The Plagues of the Wrath of God" and "Armageddon"

****REV.16:1** And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.



Take a moment to study the chart:

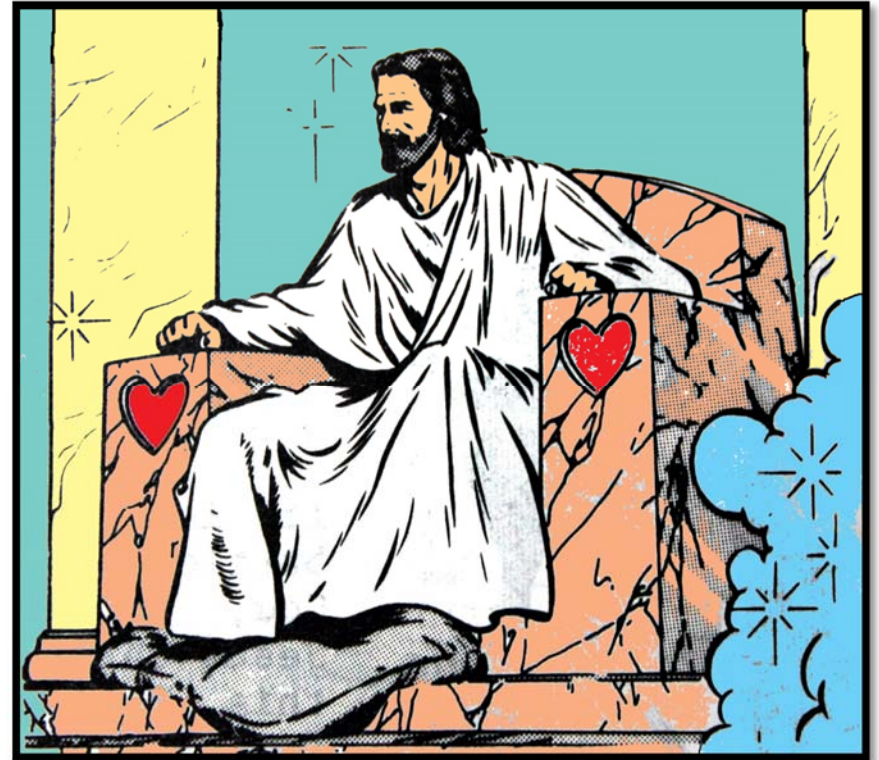
Last week = 7 years* o 2520 days *Jewish year of 360 days



When that is over, the following stipulations in Daniel 9:24 will all surely be fulfilled: “Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.”

Jesus died for our sins at the end of the 69th week, and we have thus been reconciled. And after the 70th week, the transgression of the Antichrist’s reign in Jerusalem and in the temple will be finished. Everlasting righteousness will be ushered in with the establishment of God’s kingdom on Earth after Jesus’ Second Coming, which takes place at the end of the seventh year of the Antichrist’s reign. The vision and prophecy will be fulfilled and sealed, and Jesus will be anointed King of all the Earth.

****DAN.2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.**



Additional Comments and possible interpretations:

The covenant is made by the Antichrist himself. Therefore he is called "The Prince of the Covenant." He's the one who makes this covenant to allow religious worship and freedom in Jerusalem. This has been the general interpretation and that of most Bible prophecy students and teachers.

He, the Antichrist, obviously from this chapter of Daniel and many others, makes the covenant and/or confirms it, and is therefore called "The Prince of the covenant." Then he breaks it in the middle of the seven years at the end of 3 1/2 years. And it's generally assumed or interpreted that since he is the one who has made the covenant that is why he has the power to break it.

In fact, Jerusalem is right now the big issue: this is an absolutely insolvable problem, because the Arabs

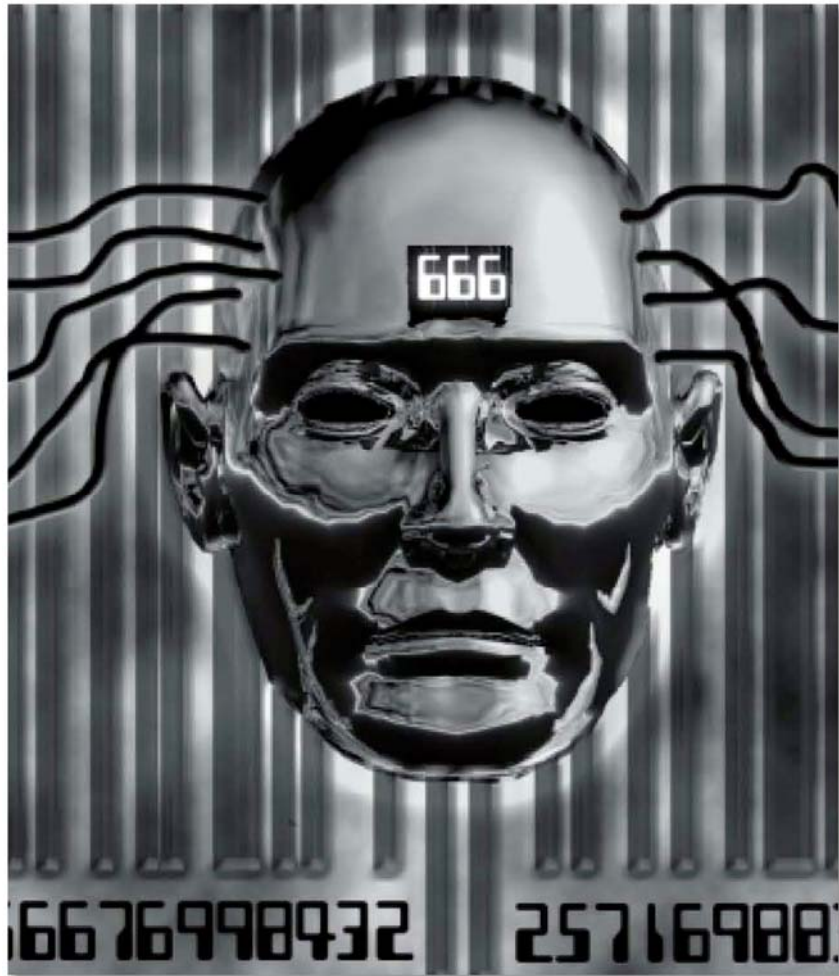


say they will never let the Jews keep it, and the Jews say they will never let it go. So if there was ever any place where some kind of mastermind's compromise agreement was needed, it's over Jerusalem! So some kind of a compromise has to be wrought to solve that very, very difficult problem.

But it's conceded by nearly all interpreters of Bible prophecy that this mastermind, this superman, the Antichrist, is the guy who's going to solve it--by making some kind of an agreement between the Arabs and the Jews, probably by making it an international city under the U.N. and the U.N. has even suggested it! Lots of modern politicians have suggested this: "Why don't we declare it an open city, an international city? The sacred city, the Holy City, capital of the world's 3 greatest religions--Judaism, Christianity and Islam!" Why not declare it an international city in no one country or people's hands, but under the U.N. or the World Government. When the Antichrist takes over as the World Dictator of a One-World Government, he will have the power to do that, to declare Jerusalem an international city that belongs to the world--not just to the Jews, not just to the Arabs, not only to the Christians, but to all--the whole world! That is a real possible solution:--It'll be a compromise, a Covenant telling the whole world and the world's 3 greatest religions it belongs to all of us! It belongs to all of you! It belongs to us, the world!--How could anyone religion claim it and say they've got absolute authority over it?--And that's the

obvious, logical, sensible, reasonable way to solve the problem!

The world government takes it over and makes it an international city. In fact, according to the Bible, the World Dictator of the World Government--the Antichrist--then makes that city his capital too! His political capital of his World Government will be Jerusalem, the Capital of the whole World! And for a while, to get the sympathy of the people of the world and the cooperation of the world's great religions, he allows them all religious freedom, not only all over the whole world, but within Jerusalem itself! (Dan.11:45.) This then finally gives the Jews their golden opportunity to rebuild their temple and restore its sacrificial worship! They work out some kind of a compromise with the other religions: this is the only way it could ever be



done, because the Arabs would never allow it otherwise. It has to be done by a fourth party, a World political Government, to make a compromise which is generally accepted as the Covenant spoken of in the Bible prophecies of Daniel time and time again. He gets all the world's religions to cooperate at first by giving them all religious freedom in Jerusalem to practice all their religions.

It's going to take some ticklish working to figure out some way for the Jews to rebuild the Temple and re-institute sacrificial worship on their altar with the Mosque of Omar standing right over it! The Arab Islamic Mosque of Omar or Dome of the Rock as it's called, the holiest of all the Muslim Holy places outside of Mecca, is now standing right over what was once the Jewish Temple sacrificial altar, where they sacrificed their sacrifices. So what they are going to do about this, that we don't know yet.

But we do know that eventually the Antichrist is going to stop it!--Maybe it's just to settle their quarrels and fights over this very thing, maybe!--Who knows?--He is going to put an end to the Covenant right in the middle of it! Stop it! Break it! Stop all sacrificial worship! We wouldn't be surprised if the Covenant will be a compromise to stop all

this bickering and arguing & fighting between the religions!

He then later sets himself up as God and his image in this Holy Place, and says, "Well now, everybody worship me and my image! Forget all these other religions, & we'll just have one big One-World Religion of the One-World Government of the One-World Dictator and I will be your god!" This is what Arnold Toynbee and a number of other very famous historians have always said: They will never be able to get the whole world together under one government unless it has one religion--because most of the world's wars have been fought between the world's major religions, and they are the ones who are bringing all the wars! My God, the major religions of the world have slaughtered more millions and caused more wars than anybody!

Obviously, the covenant doesn't work! He tries, but probably there's still so much fighting between them, that he cannot get the world really united as long as these religions are still fighting each other. So his idea, of course, with the seeming sensible reasoning of man and the Devil, is to abolish all other religions, and unite the world in one religion, the worship of himself, the Antichrist, which means the worship of the Devil, for he is the Devil in the flesh. So finally the devil has got what he always wanted: the worship of the whole world with him as its God!--"The god of this world" (2Co.4:4.) Then comes the attempted abolition of the worship of the one true God and of Jesus Christ His Son and all other religions! That has been the usual interpretation of who made the Covenant and who broke the Covenant, this Prince spoken of in Daniel 9:27.

Could the Antichrist world government be a continuation of the Roman Empire?

"The people of the prince that shall come." Who were the people of the prince that shall come? The Romans. So once again in the mind of the Scriptures, the Antichrist is the Emperor of a revival or continuation of Rome!--The final emperor of the Roman Empire! So could it be that the Roman Empire extends all the way from old Rome to the present and right clear up to the Antichrist, and he is just the final revival of the old Roman Empire and its final emperor! "The people"--the Romans--"of the prince that shall come"--the Antichrist. So he could very well be the final Emperor of Rome!



Doesn't his horn sprout out of the head of the Roman beast? (Dan7:23-27, see below) So isn't he a king of a revived Rome?--Along with ten other kings, three of whom he overthrows. The old Roman Empire covered mostly what part of the World today? --Mostly Europe and some of the Mideast, but mostly it was Europe. And so where are there kings or kingdoms today which are literally trying to get together and be like a revival of Rome.--The nations of the European Economic Community or Europe! And then he is going to arise amongst them out of the extension of the old Roman Empire and one king is yet to come, "the prince that shall come." And when he comes he's going to "confirm the Covenant with many for one week."



****DAN.7:23-27** Thus he said, the fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth (**Rome**), which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the **ten horns** out of this kingdom are **ten kings** that shall arise: and another shall rise after them (**the Antichrist**); and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

****REV.17:12-13** And the ten horns which thou sawest are **ten kings**, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

Excerpts taken from "Daniel the Prophet" by Scott MacGregor and the writings of David Brandt B.

Compiled and edited by Gaetan gaetan.goye@gmail.com



DANIEL CHAPTER 10

Chapter 10 of Daniel is an introduction to the revelation given him in chapters 11 and 12. The original texts of the Bible were not divided into chapters and verses. Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury from 1207–1228, is reputed to have been the first to put the chapter divisions into a Vulgate edition of the Bible in 1205. Robert Estienne, a Parisian printer, was the first to number the verses within each chapter, his verse numbers entering printed editions of the New Testament in 1565. This bit of information is important background as to why some puzzling chapter divisions occur where they do in the Bible — notable among them, the division between this chapter and the next.

DAN.10:1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia (536 bC) a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.

DAN.10:2 In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks.

DAN.10:3 I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

We are not told why, but Daniel was fasting and in mourning for three weeks prior to what is about to take place. We will offer a couple possible reasons:

Some think it was because so few Jews had returned with Ezra from exile. Daniel knew the prophecies of Jeremiah (such as Jer.24:5-10, 25:11-12, & 29:10) and he understood that the Babylonian captivity would last 70-years. The time was up! It had been at least two years since Cyrus issued his decree and only a few had returned. We know (Ezra1:1-3) from history that Cyrus permitted the Jews to return to Judah in his first year as king of Persia. However, not everyone of influence in the Persian court was so accommodating toward the Jews. In chapter six we saw that Daniel had enemies in the Persian court. As the highest-ranking Jew in the empire, it is quite likely that personal animosity toward Daniel reflected general animosity toward the Jews. Although the decree to let the Jews go back to Judea was given in the first year of Cyrus's reign, which was 538 bC, the actual return migration didn't occur till 536 bC. This would correspond to the third year of Cyrus's reign, which would make it coincidental to the events in this chapter. Could there have been events taking place to prevent the return? There were certainly some who



opposed the return of the Jews, as can be seen in Ezra chapter 4, where the Samaritans appealed several times to the Persians to stop the Jews rebuilding the temple. Maybe he was unable to exert enough personal influence at court on the matter, so he engaged in the one thing that he knew could turn the tide, and that was to fast and pray.



Others believe that this revelation was simply a response to his prayers as he sought understanding of the end time prophecy events given in previous chapters. (Maybe it was for both reasons?)

DAN.10:4 And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river ...

DAN.10:5 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz:

DAN.10:6 His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. (Gabriel?)

****REV.1:13-16** ...one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes was a flame of fire; and his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters...and his countenance was as the sun shines in his strength.

Commentators divide over the identity of this “certain man”. Some say this is Jesus, noting that the description is remarkably like what John saw in Revelation 1:12-16. Others say he is an unnamed angel of high rank, maybe Gabriel who had appeared to Daniel twice before, noting that Jesus would not need the assistance of Michael, mentioned in verse 13.

DAN.10:7 And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

DAN.10:8 Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength.

DAN.10:9 Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground.

DAN.10:10 And, behold, a hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands.

DAN.10:11 And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling.

DAN.10:12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.

DAN.10:13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

DAN.10:14 Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.

Here in Daniel 10 we have a glimpse into that spirit world and the tremendous battle that took place between the demon prince of Persia and God's angel, who eventually broke through to Daniel with this important message. He tells Daniel of his struggle with the prince of the kingdom of Persia that had taken him 21 days, and the help of Michael the Archangel, to win. It is believed by many Bible scholars that this prince of Persia was an evil spiritual entity who had been given spiritual dominion over Persia by his master, Satan. Since this prince is able to oppose the angelic messenger to Daniel, we know this is more than a man. This prince is some kind of angelic being, and we know he is an evil angelic being because he opposed the word of God coming to Daniel.



The word prince has the idea of a ruler or authority. This fits in well with the New Testament idea that angelic ranks - including demonic forces - are organized and have a hierarchy (Ep.1:21, 6:12; Col. 1:16, 2:15). Apparently, this was a demon of high rank that opposed the answer to prayer. On three occasions, Jesus referred to Satan as the prince of this world (John 12:31; John 14:30, and John 16:11). The spiritual dimension is where the real world is and where the real battles are being fought.

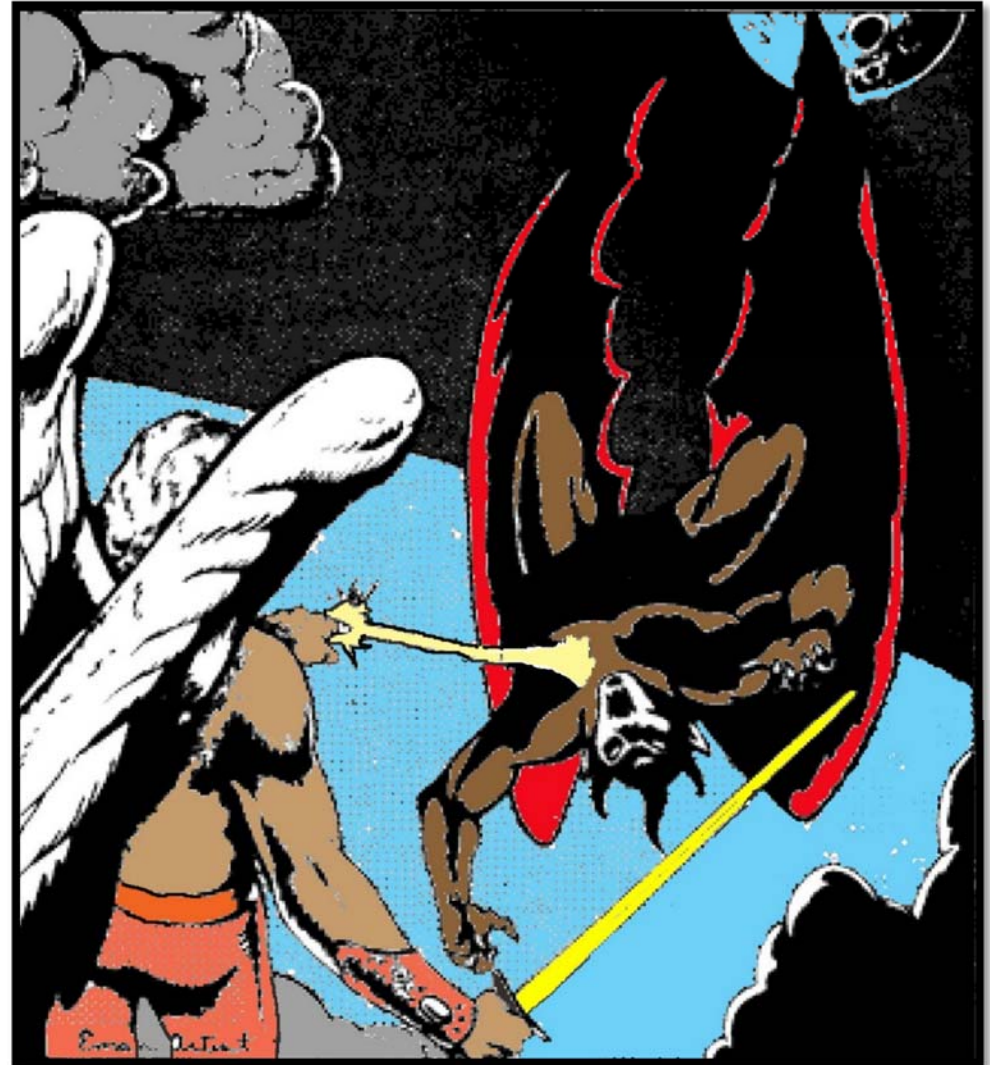
**** EPH.6:12 for we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.**

**** COL.1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers**

**** JOH.14:30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.**

Some might say: "You mean God's angels aren't absolutely almighty?" This angel did win, but the Devil is the tester, the hinderer, the troubler, the tribulator, he just makes it difficult, right? We can't always get it done right away because the Devil gives us such trouble! He can't stop us, he can't keep us from it, but one of his main jobs is to accuse and hinder and slow down the work of God, and that's exactly what he does with some of these messengers of God.

There is another way to look at this, and that is to first ask why the demon prince of Persia would be trying to stop the message getting through to Daniel. We will see that it was a very important message, especially for us now. Could it be also that he was defending his territory and that the angelic messenger



had been sent to first sway decisions at the Persian court? Why would God be so interested in influencing a decision by the king of Persia that He sent the angel there? If that decision was to have an effect on the Jews being allowed to return to Judah, it would have a very great effect, because Jesus needed to be born there, in Bethlehem. To fulfill the Scriptures, the Jews needed to be allowed to return and stay in their homeland until Jesus was born. That was indeed what happened later, and they weren't driven out again until 40 years after Jesus' Ascension. Certainly the Devil and all his demons would have wanted to defeat that plan. But the angel succeeded with help from Michael.



DAN.10:15 And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb.

DAN.10:16 And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength.

DAN.10:17 For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? For as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me.

DAN.10:18 Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,

DAN.10:19 And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.

DAN.10:20 Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? And now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.

DAN.10:21 But I will show thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

****REV.12:7-9** And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

DAN.11:1 Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him.

The first verse of the next chapter, the angel tells Daniel that he had stood next to the king in the first year of his reign to confirm him. So the angel certainly was involved with the Persian court, no doubt in being a godly influence to the king. He also says that once he is done telling Daniel the message, he has to go back to contending with the prince of Persia, and that pretty soon he will have to do the same thing with the prince of Greece.

Whatever the reason for the battle in the spirit between the angel and the demon, this chapter clearly shows us that such conflicts do occur. And it also shows that fervent and determined prayer is integral to the triumph of the good guys.

More verses and comments about spiritual warfare:

**** 2CO.10:3-5** For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.



****EPH.6:13-18** Therefore take unto you the whole armour of God that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

****HEB.4:12** For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

****1PE.5:8-9** Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

****EPH.4:27** Neither give place to the devil.

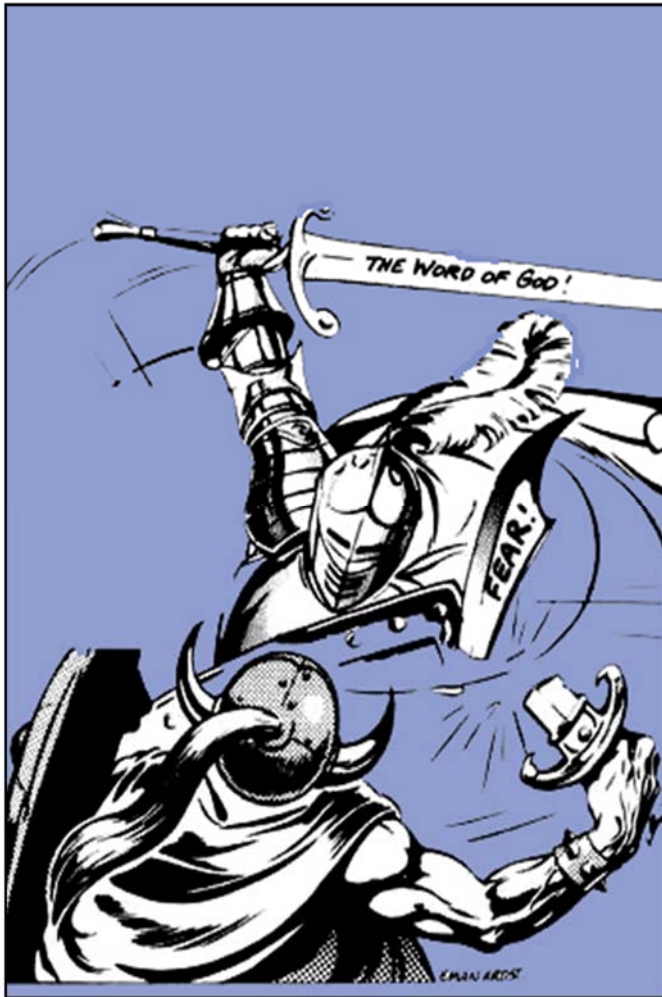
****JAM.4:7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

****1JN.4:4** Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

****COL.1:13** Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

****COL.2:15** And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

****EPH.1:19-21** And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:



****2KI.6:14-17** Therefore (the king of Syria) sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about. And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto Elisha, Alas, my master! How shall we do? And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

****JUD.1:9** Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

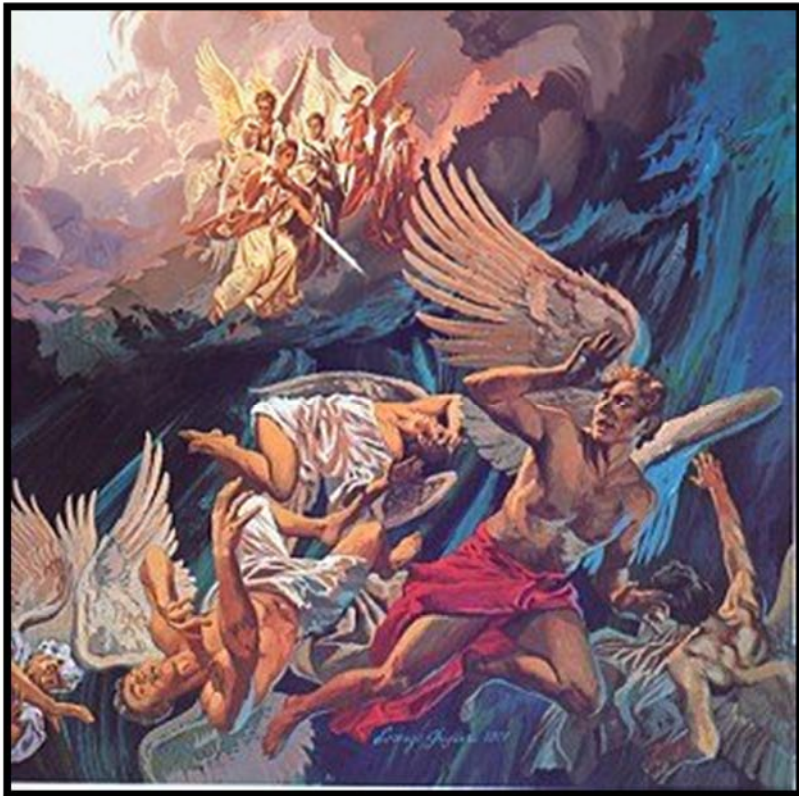


The book of Revelation gives us a look into the always thrilling, sometimes frightening, and often jaw-dropping realm of the spirit. While relating the story primarily of the last years of Earth as we now know it, most of the action it talks about is not happening in the physical world, but rather in the spiritual realm that coexists with it. While there are a many hideous beings from the netherworld stalking through its pages, there are far more mighty, beautiful, and amazing heavenly beings who fight and emerge victorious at its end.

Spiritual warfare is not just the stuff of fantasy comic books. It is a very real phenomenon that is happening right now. It is not something that you can see with your physical eyes, but sometimes its effects spill over into

our realm. It is a life-and-death battle not for the lives of the combatants, but for our lives—primarily our spiritual lives, but even to a degree our physical lives as well.

Revelation goes into detail a number of times with regards to the entities that war in that arena. John, Revelation's author, wrote that he was taken into that realm after being shown a door open to Heaven (Revelation 4:1-2). He first saw the glories' of God's throne room and a large number of angels and good spirits such as the mighty Seraphim who surround God's throne. But soon he saw some far less pleasant sights, such as the angels pouring out God's judgments—firstly at the sound of seven sequential trumpets, and then the even more destructive seven plagues. He also saw the Devil as a vicious infanticidal dragon, but then the great archangel Michael leads the good angels in war against the dragon and his demons and completely vanquishes them from the heavenly realm.



John is brief when he describes the great spiritual war that apparently occurs a little before the period of Great Tribulation. We don't know how long that war takes, but we do know that the Devil and his ilk are powerful enough to put up "spirited" resistance. "And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the Earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Revelation 12:7-9).

This had been preceded by this information in verse 4 of the same chapter. "And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the Earth" (Revelation 12:3-4). This passage is where we come to an understanding that one third of the angels rebelled with

Satan at the great rebellion against God and His authority in the heavenly realm. Angels have often been represented by stars both in the Bible and other writings. Since both the stars and the dragon's "angels" are cast down to the Earth, the conclusion can be drawn that they are one and the same.

It would undoubtedly have been thrilling if John had given us a fuller description of that war in heaven so we could hear how that great infernal tyrant and his underlings were defeated. Not that we glory in war, but

hearing how the evil and destructive hellish enemy of all humanity got his punishment is something that many would have liked to have been given more details on. (We will no doubt find out eventually) Especially since the warfare then reverts to his last stronghold, Earth, and the warfare becomes largely physical as the Devil-possessed Antichrist rampages around the Middle East and other areas of the world. Knowing that Heaven's forces defeated and then routed him and his demons gives us courage here on Earth that those same forces will be working effectively to continue the work they started and will be our unfailing aid in that tumultuous time.



Excerpts taken from "Daniel the Prophet" by Scott MacGregor and the writings of David Brandt B.

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DANIEL CHAPTER 11 THE KING OF THE NORTH

Here the heavenly messenger starts to reveal to Daniel future events that are to affect the Jews, Daniel's physical brethren and nation, and eventually Christians, Daniel's spiritual brethren.

Before we go further, it is good to note that this passage was relayed to Daniel and written down by him many years before the events detailed in the first 20 verses came to pass. These verses have been fulfilled in detail. What that does is give us a strong reason to believe the rest of the chapter that has yet to be fulfilled.

DAN.11:1 Also I (Dan10:18) in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him. (536 a.C.)

DAN.11:2 and now will I show thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.

The fourth king was Xerxes (486-465 B.C.), known in the Bible as Ahasuerus and the husband of Queen Esther. He spent four full years stockpiling supplies and assembling manpower for a military expedition

against Greece, just as the angel had predicted. He truly “stirred up all.” His army swarmed with contingents from forty nations . . . Together they marched, perhaps 300,000 of them, mostly on foot, all the way from their homelands to the battles of Salamis (480) and Plataea (479) in Greece--and to complete defeat.

DAN.11:3 and a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.

DAN.11:4 and when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those.

The Persian invasions gave rise to calls for revenge in the Greek city-states, calls that were answered 150 years later when the Macedonians, under Alexander, launched their invasion and conquest of Persia. The primary excuse given for Alexander’s aggression was that it was to avenge the past violation of the Greek homeland. This “mighty king”, Alexander the Great, in only ten years, conquered most of the civilized world, “with great dominion”. The map demonstrates the extent of Alexander’s Empire. And as the prophecy stated, Alexander died young, and his kingdom was divided toward the four winds rather than passed on to his posterity or family, and it was divided among his four generals (Dan8:22):

Seleucus (over Syria and Mesopotamia), Ptolemy (over Egypt), Lysimachus (over Thrace and portions of Asia Minor), and Cassander (over Macedonia and Greece). This division was anticipated through the four heads of the leopard (Dan7:6) and the four prominent horns on the goat (Dan8:8).” They were never to achieve the same breadth of dominion Alexander had, “not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion”.



Verses 5-20 of Daniel 11 outline the continued conflicts between the Ptolemies (who ruled Egypt “the king of the South”) and the Seleucids (who ruled Syria “the king of the North”). The King of the South and the King of the North, are not just two individuals, but they refer to the successive kings of these two realms.

PROPHECIES IN DANIEL 11

Between the Old and New Testaments



King of the NORTH
SYRIA

(Seleucid Empire)

Jerusalem

King of the SOUTH
EGYPT

**ALEXANDER'S
EMPIRE
DIVIDED:**

1. **Macedon**
2. **Pergama**
3. **Seleucus**
4. **Ptolemy**

Kings of the North:

SELEUCUS I Nicator Ruler and later king October 312–September 292 BC; co-ruler 292–September 280 BC — assassinated

ANTIOCHUS I Soter co-ruler 292–280 bc; sole ruler September 280–261 bc — assassinated

ANTIOCHUS II THEOS 261–246 bc

SELEUCUS II Callinicus 246–225 bc

SELEUCUS III CERANUS or Soter 225–223 bc — assassinated

ANTIOCHUS III (“The Great”) 223–187 bc

SELEUCUS IV Philopator 187–175 bc — assassinated

ANTIOCHUS IV Epiphanes 175–163 bc

Kings of the South

PTOLEMY I Soter 305–282 bc

PTOLEMY II Philadelphus 284–246 bc

PTOLEMY III Euergetes I 246–221 bc

PTOLEMY IV Philopator 222–205 bc

PTOLEMY V Epiphanes 205–180 bc

PTOLEMY VI Philometor 180–145 bc



These two kingdoms were constantly striving to conquer the other. Since Israel was located in the middle of the two, its territory was continually exposed to the military campaigns of the two kingdoms, Israel's land and people being at times subservient to one kingdom, then the other. The prophecy focus mainly on these 2 kingdoms because they affected Israel, the people of God. Verses 5 to 20 go on the details of their wars and conflicts that have been fulfilled in detail and can be proven historically. Bible scholars and even critics agree that it is accurate to history. We won't at this time study verses 5 to 20 as we will focus on the verses describing the future Antichrist of the End Time, so we can recognize him when he comes.

DAN.11:21 and in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.

**** PSA.55:21** The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords.

DAN.11:22 and with the arms of a flood shall they be overflowed from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant.

DAN.11:23 and after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people.



**** 2TH.2:9, 10** Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

**** REV.12:9** and the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world...

DAN.11:24 He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time.

DAN.11:25 And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand: for they shall forecast devices against him.

DAN.11:26 Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain.

DAN.11:27 and both of these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed.



DAN.11:28 Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land.

****DAN.9:27** and he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week...

DAN.11:29 At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter.

DAN.11:30 for the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.



DAN.11:31 and arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.

**** MAR.13:14** But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not, (let him that readeth understand),

**** REV.13:14, 15** And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast; that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

Some of the events in this chapter fit the character and actions of Antiochus Epiphanes (175–163 bC), or “Epimanes” (the Madman), as his critics called him. He was certainly a vile person as far as the Jews were concerned. He sacked Jerusalem twice, killed tens of thousands of Jews, banned the worship of Jehovah, was said to have slain a pig in the Holy of Holies, thus defiling the temple, and erected an altar to Zeus Olympios in the temple environs. His cruel and

tyrannical rule provoked the Jewish Maccabee rebellion, which eventually led to the independence of Judea for a time. Although much from verse 21 onwards can be applied to Antiochus Epiphanes, some things definitely cannot. Jesus in His sermon on the signs of the times clearly states, “When you shall see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (Mat.24:15), as a future event, not a past one as would be necessary if Epiphanes had fulfilled it. So although he was a type or forerunner of the “King of the North” described, an intermediate fulfillment of the antichrist, we need to look for another.

DAN.11:32 and such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.

DAN.11:33 and they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days.

Yet for all the opposition, those who know God are going to be strong and do exploits. Those who have studied God’s Word and are spiritually prepared will understand the whys and wherefores of what is happening, and therefore they will instruct those who don’t understand what’s going on.

DAN.11:34 Now when they shall fall, they shall be helped with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries.

DAN.11:35 and some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.

But some will be killed by sword and fire, and some will be captured and their goods plundered. But even this “fall” has benefits, because it will refine and purify those who know and love God.

DAN.11:36 and the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation (wrath) be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.

** **REV.13:5-7** and there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.



**** 2TH.2:4** who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

**** REV.16:1** And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.

What does this chapter tell us about this king of the North? It gives us a detailed description of the antichrist:

He is vile, he uses peace and intrigue to obtain the “throne,” he also fights several wars, he is deceitful, he rises to power with a small number of people, he disperses the plunder to his followers, he works against the Holy Covenant, he defiles the Jewish temple (sanctuary), stops Jewish religious rituals (daily sacrifices), and places the “abomination of desolation.”

He corrupts people, he attacks those who believe in God, he claims to be greater than God and blasphemes Him. He worships a strange god of fortresses, and doesn't care about women.

He enters the Glorious Land (Israel), plants the “tents of his palace” between the seas and Mount Moriah, and then he comes to his end.

Where have we heard some of these things before? In chapters 7, 8, and 9! And as we know from those chapters, the person they were talking about doing such things was the Antichrist.

From chapter 7 we read that he speaks against God, he persecutes the saints, and he subdues kings.

In chapter 8 we are told that he enters the Glorious Land, he attacks God's people, he exalts himself as God, he stops the daily sacrifices, he is fierce, and he uses cunning, deceit, and sinister schemes.

And in chapter 9 we find out that he confirms a covenant, breaks it, stops the daily sacrifice in the middle of the last 7 years, and then makes things desolate by means of an enigmatic abomination right to the end.

Even though we get more information in this chapter, there are enough characteristics, actions, and demeanor of this King of the North that line up with what we are told of the Antichrist in previous chapters that make it safe to say that this King of the North is the coming Antichrist.



DAN.11:37 neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.

DAN.11:38 But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things.

DAN.11:39 Thus shall he do in the strongest holds with a strange god (???), whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.

DAN.11:40 and at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

DAN.11:41 He shall enter also into the glorious land, (Israel) and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even **Edom**, and **Moab**, and the chief of the children of **Ammon**. **(Edom, Moab and Ammon are ancient names of places that today comprise the country of Jordan. Why do they escape? We don't know. Maybe they make a deal with the Antichrist or maybe God miraculously spares them for hiding and helping His people. We shall see.)**

DAN.11:42 He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

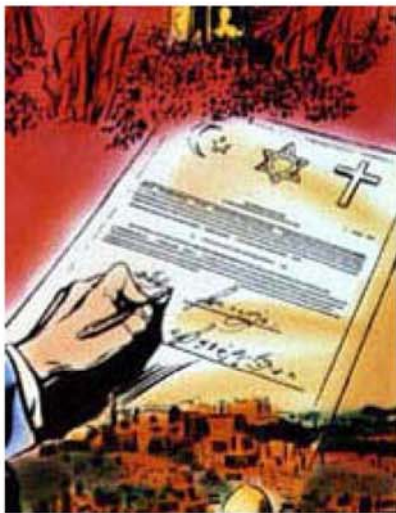
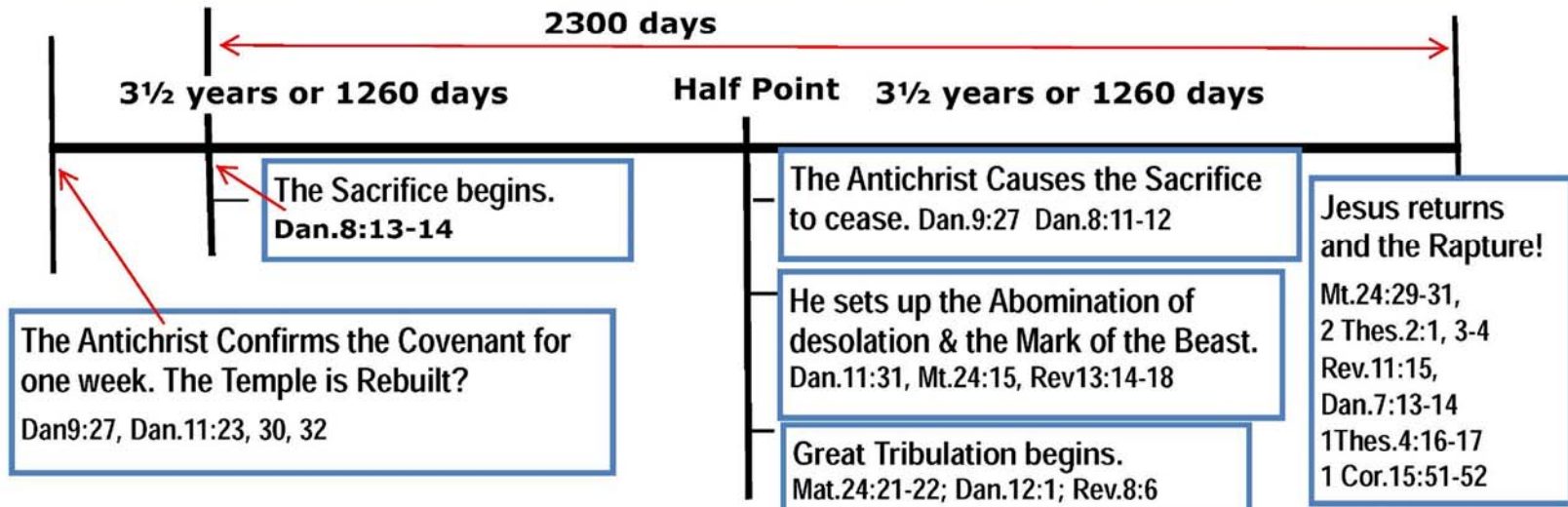
DAN.11:43 But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. **When the Antichrist walks in they are going to be "at his steps", meaning a place of submission, a place of subservience, a place of agreement, a place of cooperation. And at the time of the end, right towards the end of the Antichrist's wicked rule, the King of the South comes again to attack him. And then the King of the North comes against him with everything he has. Compare this to Ezekiel 38-39 and the invasion of Gog, a nation in the North. He passes all the way down to Egypt, apparently skirting the lands of Edom, Moab, and Ammon (modern-day Jordan), and the prominent people of that area are spared. And somehow Ethiopians and Libyans are involved in his invasion forces. Ezekiel 38 also names the Ethiopians and Libyans being involved with the armies of Magog, as well as Persians.**

DAN.11:44 But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.

DAN.11:45 and he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas (between the Dead Sea & the Mediterranean) in the glorious holy mountain; **(Mount Moriah in Jerusalem)** yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

**** REV.19:20 and the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.**

Last week = 7 years* o 2520 days *Jewish year of 360 days



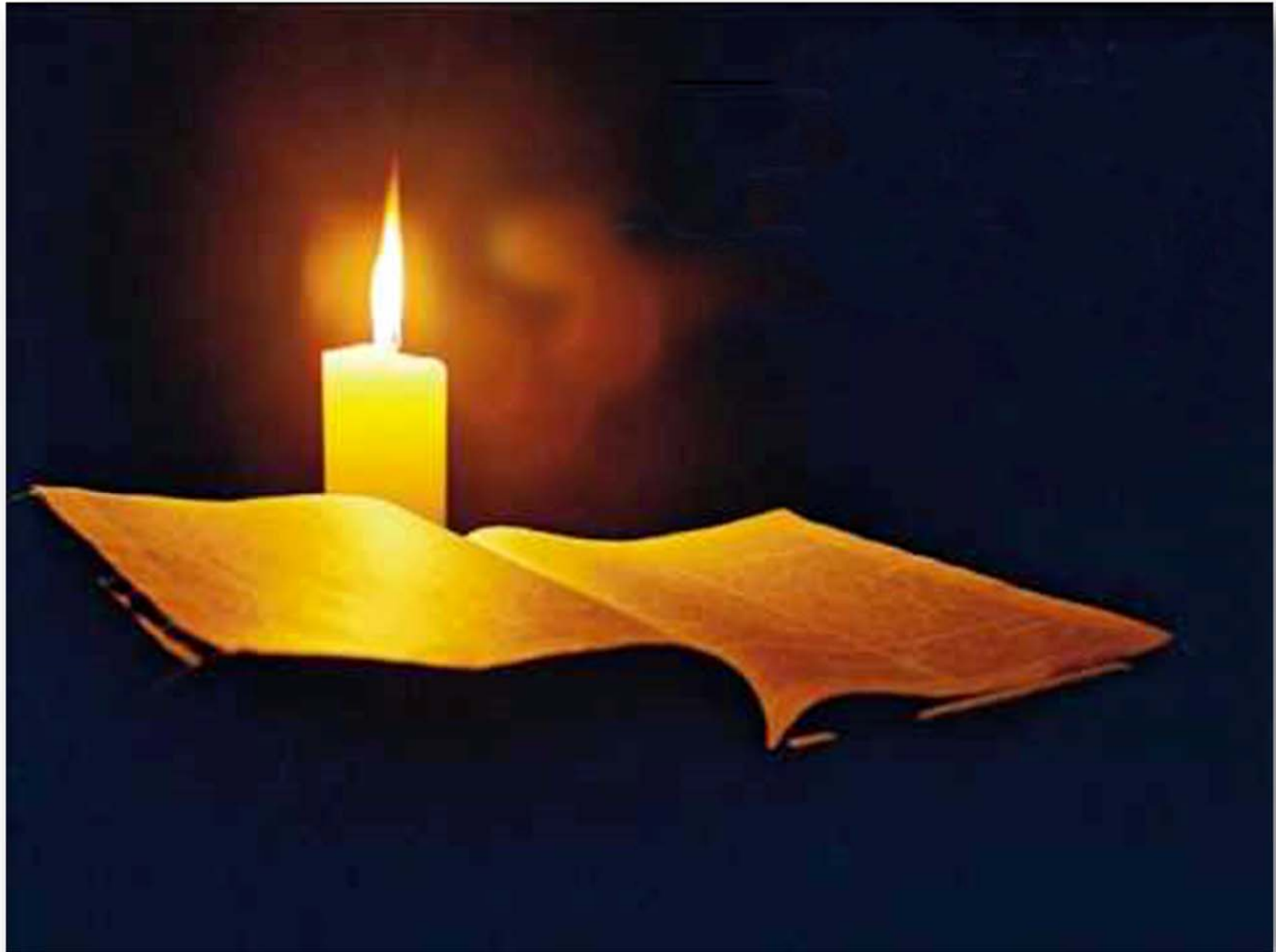
And so we come to this chapter's end, but the heavenly messenger is not yet finished. There is more to come in chapter 12. The events described above will take place during the Great Tribulation. The end of chapter 11 is tied to the end time events presented in chapter 12:1-3 by the sequential narrative "at that time."

DAN.12:1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

DAN.12:2 and many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

DAN.12:3 and they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

Scholar Robert Culver explains: "The first portion of Daniel chapter 12 is prophecy concerning ... the end time. Events connected with the resurrection of the dead and final rewards and punishments can hardly be otherwise. If there were a clean break in thought between chapters 11 and 12 it might be possible to say that all of the previous section of the prophecy relates to events of now past history. But such a break does not exist. Rather, a chronological connection is clearly provided between the last of chapter 11 and the first of chapter 12 by the opening words of chapter 12. Referring to the destruction of a certain king whose career is predicted in the last part of chapter 11, chapter 12 opens thus: "And at that time shall Michael stand up," etc. Thus a clear connection with the eschatological (end time) prediction of chapter 12 is established for the last portion, at least, of chapter 11."



DANIEL CHAPTER 12 (PART 1)

This brings us to the final chapter of Daniel's fascinating book. As you'll recall, there were no chapter divisions in the original text, so here the heavenly messenger who started talking to Daniel in chapter 10 is now winding up his long and detailed message.



If we go back to the previous chapter, we find that the last part of it is talking about the last three and a half years of the Antichrist's reign, which is known as the Great Tribulation, and it ends with the end of the Antichrist. Now Daniel is told that at this time Michael, the great prince and archangel, the commander of Jesus' heavenly forces, who stands watch over the "sons" of Daniel's people, will stand up.

DAN.12:1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

In Daniel chapter 10, we read that it was Michael who had come to the messenger's aid and enabled him to gain the victory in the struggle with the prince of Persia. We also read in Revelation another passage about Michael:

****Rev.12:7-9** "And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

The Devil is cast out of the spiritual realm down to the earth, and it is at this pivotal moment that it is believed that he possesses the body of the Antichrist at the midway point of the last seven years. This is when the covenant is broken, the Abomination of Desolation is placed in the temple, and the Antichrist is possessed by the Devil. This is when he demands that the world worship him, and begins his maniacal persecution of

believers in the true God. And so Daniel is told that this will be a “time of trouble such as never was.” Jesus told us about this time also, and His admonitions are recorded in three of the four Gospels, in Matthew 24, Luke 21, and Mark 13.

****Mat.24:15, 21** “Therefore when you see the “abomination of desolation,” spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (whoever reads, let him understand) ...then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.”

It is the Great Tribulation, as it is commonly termed, but it won't be forever. In fact, it will only last 1260 days, as was explained in chapter 9 of this book. And as we read in chapter 11, it is also a time that great exploits are performed by those who love Jesus and who are warriors of the faith and for His cause. Revelation 11 tells us about two of these witnesses who are a particular scourge on the Antichrist and his kingdom. And the type of power these two have is not limited to them, but is available to all God's prophets and followers in that dark and violent time.

At the same time, God is afflicting the wicked with physical scourges that are released at the blowing of six of the seven trumpets of Tribulation that are

expounded upon in Revelation chapters 8–10, including fire and hail from the sky, a third of the waters of the seas being turned into blood, the waters in the lakes and rivers being turned bitter, the light of the sun and stars being greatly dimmed, and plagues of monstrous insects. Although the Antichrist and his wicked henchmen try to hurt and destroy God's people, God is a much greater adversary to him and his ilk than they are to us.

Then all Daniel's people who are found written in the “book” are delivered in the great and awe-inspiring Rapture, when Jesus returns at the seventh and last trumpet and gathers His people to Him in the clouds and then zips them off to Heaven.



What is the “book” referred to here? Many passages in the Bible talk about the Book of Life, and this is what it could be referring to. (Ex.32:33, Ps69:28, Luk.10:20, Ph.4:3, Rev.3:5, Rev.20:12, Rev.21:27, Rev.22:19)

Why the passage says “sons of your people” is open to some interpretation. The apostle Paul made it obvious that “if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Galatians 3:29). The inheritors of the promises made to the Jews in the Old Testament are the Christians, and this includes everyone, whether Jew or Gentile, who believe in Jesus as their Savior. So Christians can be understood to be the sons, the spiritual heirs, of the former chosen people.

DAN.12:2 and many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

DAN.12:3 and they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ, often referred to as the Rapture, will be the most anticipated and wonderful event for the Christians who have gone through the Tribulation. They have endured the depths of persecutions and the hell into which the world has descended under the Devil incarnate, the hideous tyranny of the Antichrist. Now their moment of release has come when they are to be taken out of this world and transported into the wonders and joys of Heaven. This is the real thing, not the ephemeral myth of a rapture before the Tribulation begins. It will have been a very hard and difficult three and a half years, but now their deliverance comes.

Paul further expounds on the happenings of verses 2 and 3: “For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the



trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.” (1 Thessalonians 4:16–17)

“Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.” (1 Corinthians 15:51–52)

Those he is referring to as having “fallen asleep” are those saved Christians who have died. Their bodies are dead in the grave, but their spirits are very much alive in Heaven with Jesus. When Jesus returns at this time, Paul says that all of these will come with Him. Why? Because a very important event is about to occur for them and for those of us who remain. When the Lord descends from Heaven and the shouting and trumpeting begins, the “dead in Christ” shall rise first. All those spirits whose bodies have been buried in the earth are going to be reunited with their physical bodies. However, it is not going to be the old body they knew, but a totally made-over body, regenerated and indestructible, a new heavenly body. We all then get caught up together in the clouds. Yes, we all sail up into the sky in our new bodies.

And for those who have been faithful in their love and service to God, who have through their witness



and lives turned many to the true righteousness of believing in our loving and mighty God, it will truly be a wonderful day. For as verse 3 tells us, those wise ones will shine like the sun and stars in the sky forever.



But for others it will not be as joyous. All who believe in and receive Jesus as their Savior have everlasting life in Heaven. For believing in and receiving Him is all we have to do to receive His salvation. But to shine like the sun there in Heaven, and to receive the eternal honor and spiritual riches there, we have to do something here. In fact, we have to do a good deal. We have to work for those stars in our heavenly crown by living a life of service to God and humanity. “For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works” (Matthew 16:27).

DAN.12:4 but thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

Then Daniel is told to close up the book—which seems to infer that he was writing this all down as he received it—as the message is not to be fully understood till the Endtime, when he is told that many shall run to and fro and knowledge will be increased. God told him not to worry that he couldn’t understand it all, that even though the prophecy was given to him, it wasn’t for him.

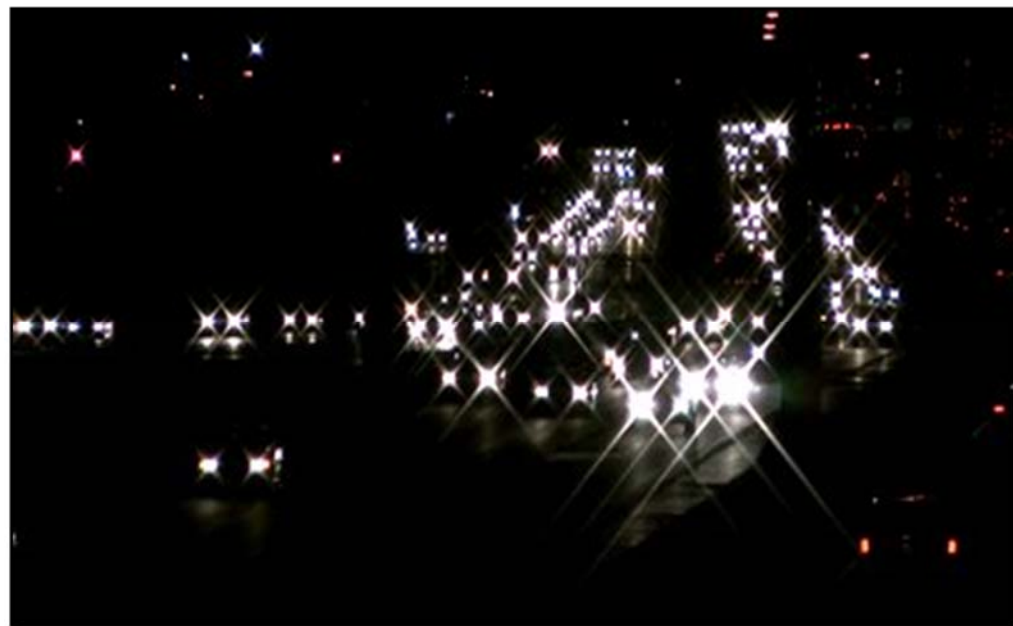


Many running to and fro literally means “speeding about, here and there,” or as The Living Bible renders this verse, “travel shall be vastly increased.” When you consider that people’s means of transportation—horse and buggy, wagons, camels, boats, etc.—did not change substantially for thousands of years, you can appreciate the significance of this prophecy.

In 1789 it took George Washington eight days to travel the 200 miles from his home to his inauguration in New York City. The fact that it took eight days is not significant. What is noteworthy is that Julius Caesar could have made the same trip just as rapidly in the year 50 BC! No real progress had been made in transportation over the 18 centuries that passed between their lifetimes. But look how mankind has advanced in the past hundred years!

Two thousand six hundred years ago, another prophet described the following “in the days of the Lord’s preparation” before He returns: “The chariots come with flaming torches in the day of His preparation. ... The chariots rage in the streets, they jostle one another in the broad roads; they seem like torches, they run like lightning” (Nahum 2:3-4).

No horse-drawn chariot ever ran like lightning. Could this be a vision of our modern highways at night filled with vehicles with their headlights on? It would certainly fit the description. And if it is, our modern vehicle-filled highways are another indication that the Lord is soon to return. And



they certainly jostle one another in the broad roads. Since the invention of the motor vehicle over a century ago, it is estimated that about 30 million people have been killed in road crashes.

“Knowledge shall be increase” It is with good cause that the term **“information overload”** was coined in recent years. If the amount of information that is available is an indication of the knowledge available, knowledge has increased within our generation almost beyond imagination!

As far back as 1995, Professor Peter Cochrane of the British Telecom Laboratories' Advanced Application Division said, “There are now wristwatches that wield more computing ability than some 1970s mainframes. Ordinary cars today have more ‘intelligence’ than the original lunar lander [Apollo Lunar Module].” In the decade since this statement, computer sciences and related disciplines have advanced exponentially.

Seventy percent of all information in our global society has been created since the start of the Internet and is currently doubling every three years. This means we will have 16 times more information by 2015 than we had in 2003. **“Knowledge shall be increase”**, a sign of the End time!!



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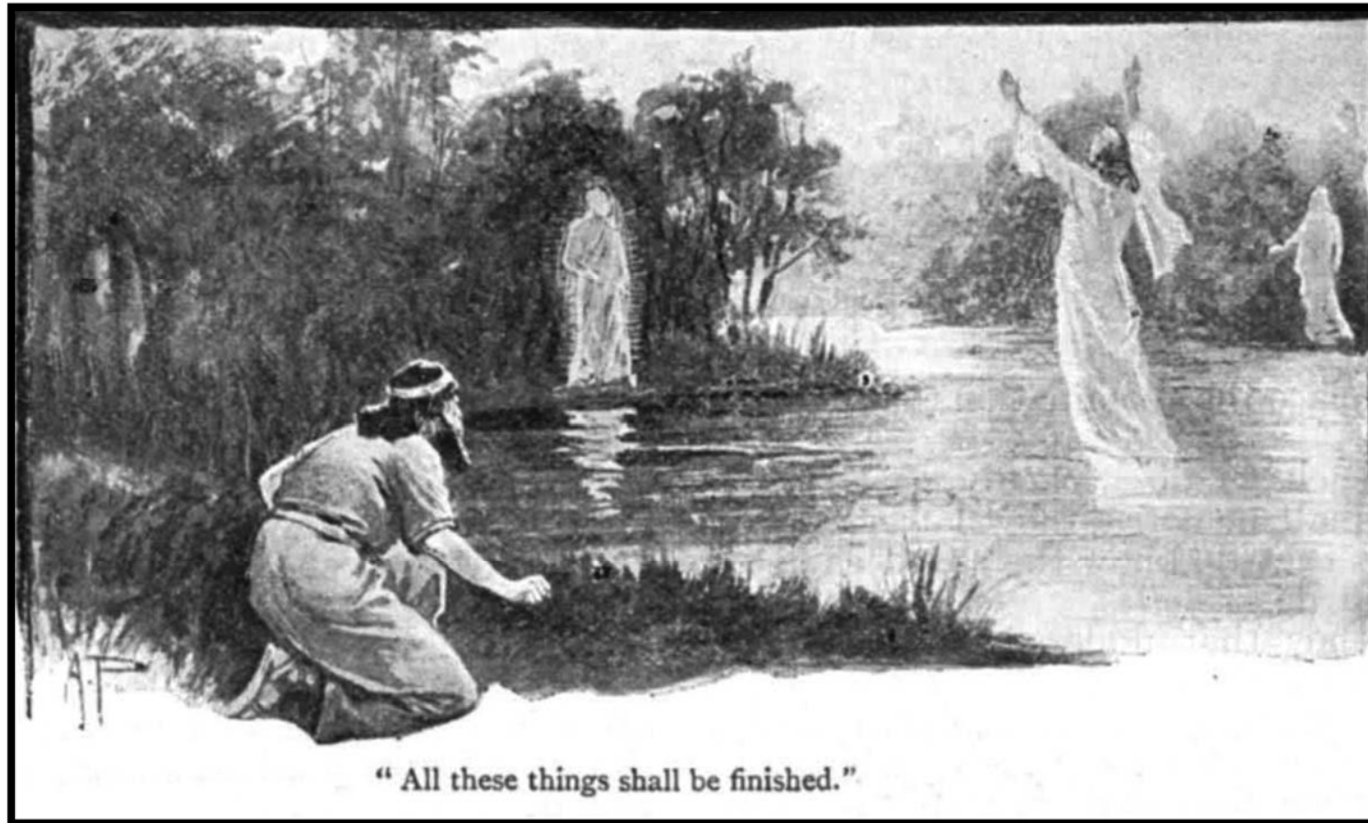
Most Excerpts taken from the books “Daniel the Prophet” and “The Future Foretold” by Scott MacGregor Compiled and edited by Gaetan

DANIEL CHAPTER 12 (PART 2) The last three and a half years... and 75 more days.

DAN.12:5 Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

DAN.12:6 and one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, how long shall it be to the end of these wonders?

DAN.12:7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished. (Dan.7:25; 8:24)



And so the messenger was almost done when Daniel looked and saw what must have been two other heavenly beings, one on the one bank of the Tigris River and one on the other.—And the angelic messenger is floating above the water in the middle. Poor Daniel must

have been flabbergasted by all that he had been told, and it seems that he needed some reassurance as to when the good times would finally come. Perhaps in an effort to help Daniel understand, one of the heavenly beings asks the angelic messenger a question, one that will be important to those who will live through these future times.

“How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?” And much like a witness in a courtroom who swears to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the messenger raises his hands and swears by God that it is going to last three and a half “times,” or 3 and a half years or 1260 days and then when the power of the holy people is shattered, it shall be finished.



Well, that doesn't sound too promising to those of us who regard ourselves as part of the holy people because we are believers in God. But take heart, because it is not talking about the individuals themselves being completely shattered, but **“the power of the holy people”** such as the power the often politically and financially influential Christian denominations and other religions wield.

We know that the Antichrist is going to persecute Christians and it is going to be a very great and dreadful persecution. However he also will be having trouble, as we have also read in the last chapters, and as we will read about the seven trumpets of tribulation in Revelation.

The Lord is going to allow the Antichrist to overcome the church, not spiritually, but in its temporal power. As far as its material power, its organisational power, its building power, its monetary power, its prestige with the government and all of this, the church is going to be a dead duck. But when he has accomplished to do this, when it looks like we've lost and he's won--at the end of 3 1/2 times--then God steps in to give us the greatest victory the world has ever seen, the Rapture and then the battle of Armageddon.

DAN.12:8 And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?

DAN.12:9 and he said, go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

DAN.12:10 many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

This information apparently whetted Daniel's curiosity for a little more, because he still didn't understand. So he repeats the question. The angel then tells him that basically it wasn't for him to understand, that the

picture painted by all this information wouldn't really crystallize till the time of the End, and that the wicked wouldn't understand even then, but only the wise would.

**** DAN.11:32, 33 and such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days.**

DAN.12:11 and from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

"And the Abomination that maketh desolate set up." Again, here's Daniel using the same words that Jesus uses, "Set up in the holy place." (Mat. 24:15) Now the starting point is always the same, it always gives the same starting point. Apparently it's going to be such a sensational phenomenal celebration worldwide when they stop the Jewish sacrificial worship and set up the Image and the whole World, or a good deal of the World, starts worshipping that idol! That starting point is going to be on a given day, an exact day in the middle of that seven years!--From which it will be exactly 1260 days until the Rapture! And then 1290, 30 days more until when? Whose end? --The end of Man's domination and rule on Earth, including the Antichrist.

DAN.12:12 Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

And now—when we thought we had all the timing down, that the Tribulation would be three and a half years, 42 months, or 1,260 days—the angel throws in more numbers for us to juggle. He tells us that from the time the daily sacrifice in the temple is stopped and the Abomination of Desolation is set up in its place, it is going to be 1,290 days, and he who waits and comes to 1,335 days is going to be blessed.

Before we let this upset the applecart, we need to remember that we already have been told repeatedly throughout the books of Daniel and Revelation that the Tribulation period during which the Antichrist is fully possessed by Satan, wages repeated wars, and most specifically, persecutes the believers in God, is



three and a half years. It is said so often that it almost begins to sound like a broken record. Jesus really wants us to understand this point. Here are those scriptures:

He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time. (Daniel 7:25)

Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate. (Daniel 9:27)

The court which is outside the temple ... has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. (Revelation 11:2)

And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth. (Revelation 11:3)

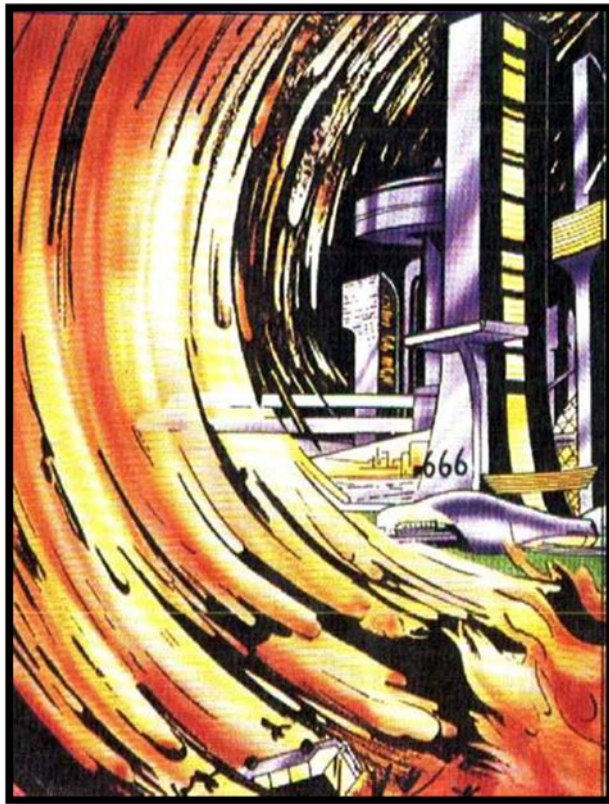
Then the woman [who represents the body of believers] fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days. (Revelation 12:6)

But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. (Rev. 12:14)

And [the Antichrist] was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. (Revelation 13:5)

Even the angelic messenger in verses 6 & 7 of this chapter has already made it clear that it will be three and a half years by the time all the previous things he has been talking about have happened, including Daniel's people being delivered. The believers both alive and dead at the end of this 1,260-day period will have been caught up to Jesus in the Rapture.





It seems there must have been a different nuance to Daniel's question, "What shall be the end of these things?" than the other question, "How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?" because it elicited a different answer. In reply he is told that it shall be 1290 days, and that he who waits till 1335 days will be blessed. In other words, the "fulfillment" and the "end" are somehow different and there is an extra 30-day period followed by a further 45-day period.

We will present here a possible interpretation:

We know from the book of Revelation that the Rapture happens before the seven bowls containing the plagues of God's wrath are poured out on the wicked (Revelation 16:1–21). We need to look at something else that is happening at the same time as this wrath period.

While all this hell on earth is happening, there is an event going on in Heaven called the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, where, during all the celebrations, Christians are rewarded according to their service for the Lord. It is a celebration of the marriage that has existed for millennia between Jesus and His church, the Christians of all ages. The Bible uses the imagery of a Christian's relationship with Jesus Christ being like a wife and husband. Paul the Apostle stated in his letter to the Romans that we should be "married" to Jesus (Romans 7:4). The book of Revelation also pictures believers collectively as **Jesus' wife**. "For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.' And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, 'write: Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" (Revelation 19:7–9).





And at the end of the Marriage Supper, John the Revelator “saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. ... And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ... And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army” (Revelation 19:11, 14, 19).

Three answers are given to these 2 questions. The first question is, “How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?”--First of all, 1260 days or 3-1/2 years, which we know from other places as well, that's the end of our stay (the saved) here when we're raptured.

Then he says, “What shall it be to the end of these things?”--Not only our end here on Earth when we're raptured, resurrected, but to the end of the Antichrist's reign and the Wrath of God which could last 30 days later. “...there shall be 1290 days”

Then the angel adds the next answer: “Blessed is he that waiteth and cometh to 1335 days ... 45 more days.” In other words, of all these things that are happening what shall be the end?--“45 days later.” It sounds like that's how long the End's going to last. And what is it that's ending Man's rule on Earth? The Battle of Armageddon. Even though God is miraculous and can do anything, miracles, and anything is possible with the Lord, nothing's impossible, that Battle of Armageddon could take a while, like 45 days. Could it be that the extra 75 days cover those 3 events: The wrath of God, the marriage Supper of the lamb and the Battle of Armageddon? (Take a moment now to study the chart below)

THE LAST 3 AND A HALF YEARS

+ 30 DAYS

+ 45 DAYS

Middle of the Week Point

1335 days

1290 days

3½ years or 42 months or 1260 days

30 days

45 days

Stops the sacrifice and the

Abomination of desolation is set & the Mark of the beast!

Great tribulation begins!

Jesus returns & the Rapture!

The wrath of God?
The Marriage Supper of the Lamb??

The battle of Armageddon?

The Millenium,
1000 years of peace, begins!

(1) In the middle of the last week, the Antichrist breaks the Covenant, stops the sacrificial worship, sets up his Image, the Abomination of Desolation, in front of the newly-built Jewish Temple, & declares himself God. (Dan.9:27;11:31; Mat.24:15,21; 2Thes.2:4.) The Great Tribulation then begins & lasts 1260 days. (Rev.11:3;12:6.)

(2) At the end of the Tribulation, Jesus returns & raptures His Saints & we enjoy the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. (Mat.24:29-31; Rev.19:7-9.) while the wrath of God is poured out on the wicked.(Rev.16:1) Xtra 30 days???

(3) At the end of the period of the Wrath of God, the Battle of Armageddon begins. (Rev.19:11-21) "Blessed" are those Earthlings who survive the Battle unto 1335 days & the Millennium. (Dan.12:11,12.) Xtra 45 days???

It is, however, important to state that what happens during the 30- and 45-day periods is not specified in the Scriptures, and the hypothesis written here is just that, a hypothesis. It is conjecture, but it is an educated guess based on Scripture and the events we know will come to pass.



There will be three general divisions of people in the last days. First, there are the saved believers who, at the time of the Rapture, are taken to Heaven.

Second, there are the wicked Antichrist worshippers who are being wiped out at the battle of Armageddon.

And third, there are the people who fall in between these two categories. They were neither believers in Jesus nor Antichrist worshippers. They live through this grisly Wrath and Battle of Armageddon period and undoubtedly do not have a pleasant time of it. Even though they are not the primary targets of it, they will nevertheless be caught in the fallout. What if you were one of those people? Wouldn't you feel blessed once all this was over? (Verse 12) Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

The restoration of the war-damaged Earth will then begin. Jesus will rule on Earth for 1,000 years, assisted by those who had been His followers in their earthly lives. This time is commonly called the Millennium and it will be a veritable golden age compared to the world that preceded it. Peace and harmony will be largely restored to the world and the enmity between animals, and between animals and man, will be gone. The survivors, those who are the blessed, will live on in a simpler and righteous world, where loving God and others will be the governing rule.

The God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed. The kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him (Daniel 2:44; 7:27). They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore (Isaiah 2:4).

The whole earth is at rest and quiet. [The Lord] will even make ... rivers in the desert. The beast of the field will honor [Him]. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 14:7; 43:19–20; 11:6–9)



DAN.12:13 But go thou thy way **till the end be**: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the **end of the days**.

And as for Daniel, he was then told that he should just do what he has been doing till his end, for he will die and “rest.” He certainly deserved to rest after such a life as his. And as we, who are now in the latter days, understand more and more the meaning of the prophetic messages within his book, we will be forever grateful that he recorded them so we can have the benefit of knowing these things.

In Conclusion

There is a lot in Daniel's short book. It is the Old Testament's single most prophetic look into the future. It contains amazingly accurate predictions of events that were to follow its writing, events now fulfilled to the

letter, which we now can only sit back and marvel at. They are so accurately fulfilled that skeptics, in order to debunk them, claim that the predictions post-dated the events. They can't deny the accuracy, so they snipe at the delivery.

Yet it is not the fulfilled prophecy that is the greatest thing in this book. It is the prophetic predictions of the soon-to-be-upon-us future, the End time that are its greatest gift to us. For by them we are forewarned and forearmed and at least somewhat prepared to face those coming days with faith instead of fear. Being aware of what is occurring and knowing what their outcome is and how long they take can give us faith to endure. They will be momentous days, and the Antichrist will be a dreadful and demonic tyrant who will do his damndest to destroy all believers and lovers of the one true God.—not to mention the war and havoc he will wreak on the world.

Yet his doom is sure. He and his puppet master, Satan, are destined for calamity and defeat. We can rest assured that even if at times it looks like they are the sure winners, they are nothing but the ultimate and foreordained losers. And even when it looks like we are losing, we are the sure winners because it has been written in God's book that we are. For we are on the side of the One Who cannot lose, the God of love Who is also the unbeatable God of gods and Lord of lords.

The events of the future covered in this book might sound frightening to some, and understandably so. They will be dark days for the world, but we who believe in and love Jesus, and do our best to serve Him, have His special protection. The book of Revelation states that the servants of God are sealed and that at least some of the calamities and plagues of the Tribulation only affect those who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads (Revelation 7:3; 9:4).

Furthermore, we must remember that Jesus has a vested interest in preserving us. He wants us to reach others with His love and truth, and so if we are doing what we can in that respect, then we can be assured that He is doing His part to protect us. Daniel wrote that those **“that know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits”** (Daniel 11:32). You may not feel capable of that right now, but He gives power for the hour, usually when you need it and not before.

Christians have endured many hard times before. But the end result has always been a victorious one for Christianity. It is in time of trial that Jesus has the greatest opportunity to show His power. It is not our strength that will save us but God's. He doesn't expect us to be fearless, but He will make us fearless and bold and triumphant as we call out to Him to come to our aid. His Word says, **“I will never leave you nor forsake you.”** So we may boldly say: **‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?’** (Hebrews 13:5-6).

We pray that this book of classes leaves you with your faith strengthened. We have nothing to fear. Even if there are some dark days ahead, those days are numbered. And after that, those who believe in Jesus and His atonement have only the brightest of futures—everlasting and filled with joy and happiness—to look forward to. God is in perfect control!



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