



Truth For These Times



48. THE FOUR BEASTS AND THE LITTLE HORN OF DANIEL 7

Throughout the ages, Satan has used many weapons against the ten commandments, but the most dangerous weapon of all has been the teaching that Christ gave the church authority to add to, or to take away from the commandments of God. In spite of God's thrice-repeated warning (Deut 4:2; Prov.30:6; Rev 22:18), this doctrine has shaped the thinking and conduct of millions of professed Christians.

This may come as a surprise to us, but it has not taken God by surprise. He predicted it long ago. How Satan has used leading men of the church to make a breach in the law of God is the theme of one of the most absorbing prophecies of the Bible. It is found in Daniel chapter 7. In Daniel Chapter 2, which we have studied previously, we have a parallel prophecy of the rise and fall of the world's great empires.

Daniel 7:1-3 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head *while* on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts. Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, **THE FOUR WINDS OF HEAVEN WERE STIRRING UP THE GREAT SEA. AND FOUR GREAT BEASTS CAME UP FROM THE SEA**, each different from the other."

Prophecy is filled with symbols, and here we see four winds striving on the sea, and four beasts coming out of the sea. What do the winds, sea and beasts represent? The Bible gives the key to unlock these symbolic pictures.

Jeremiah 49:36,37 **AGAINST ELAM I WILL BRING THE FOUR WINDS** from the four quarters of heaven, and scatter them toward all those winds; there shall be no nations where the outcasts of Elam will not go. For I will cause Elam to be dismayed before their enemies and before those who seek their life. I will bring disaster upon them, My fierce anger, says the LORD; and **I WILL SEND THE SWORD AFTER THEM UNTIL I HAVE CONSUMED THEM.**

Here in this prophecy we can see that winds represent war, strife and trouble.

Revelation 17:15 Then he said to me, "**THE WATERS WHICH YOU SAW, where the harlot sits, ARE PEOPLES, MULTITUDES, NATIONS, AND TONGUES.**"



Satan hates God's law.

Here it is plainly shown that seas or waters represent peoples and nations.

Daniel 7:12,23 As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. Thus he said: "**THE FOURTH BEAST**

SHALL BE A FOURTH KINGDOM on earth, which shall be different from all *other* kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, trample it and break it in pieces.”

Beasts are shown to represent kingdoms. Thus in Daniel 7:1-3, Daniel actually saw winds of war or strife blowing on the nations of the world and as a result of the situation, four kingdoms arose to prominence.

WHAT DO THE FOUR BEASTS REPRESENT?

Daniel 7:4 The first *was* like a LION, AND HAD EAGLE’S WINGS. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man’s heart was given to it.



The lion represents Babylon.

Jeremiah 50:43,44 THE KING OF BABYLON has heard the report about them, and his hands grow feeble; anguish has taken hold of him, pangs as of a woman in childbirth. Behold, HE SHALL COME UP LIKE A LION from the floodplain of the Jordan against the dwelling place of the strong;

The king of beasts is a fitting symbol for this proud and powerful nation. This beast represents the mighty kingdom of Babylon. The “lion” parallels the “head of gold” in Daniel 2:37,38.

Daniel 7:5 And suddenly another beast, A SECOND, LIKE A BEAR. It was raised up on one side, and *had* three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: “Arise, devour much flesh!”



The bear represents Medo Persia.

The kingdom of Medo-Persia followed Babylon and aptly fits the description of the devouring bear. This bear was raised up on one side, showing the duality of Medo-Persia, and the Persians as the greatest power. The Persians were extremely cruel, which is alluded to by the command to devour much flesh. The “bear” parallels the “breast and arms of silver” in Daniel 2:39.

Daniel 7:6 After this I looked, and there was another, like A LEOPARD, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had FOUR HEADS, and dominion was given to it.

The leopard with four wings and four heads pictures the rise of Greece, the next world empire. The four wings represent the speed of Alexander the Great when he conquered the world, and the four heads symbolise the four divisions of the kingdom at Alexander’s death. The “leopard” parallels the “thighs of brass” in Daniel 2:39.

Daniel 7:7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a FOURTH BEAST, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. IT HAD HUGE IRON TEETH; it was

devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It *was* different from all the beasts that *were* before it, and it had TEN HORNS.

The dreadful beast very fittingly represented the fourth successive world empire and that was Pagan Rome. The iron teeth parallel with the iron legs of the image in Daniel 2:40. The ten horns of this fourth beast pictured the break up of power of Pagan Rome into the divisions of Western Europe, which were finally established by the year A.D. 476. This corresponds with the feet and toes of Daniel 2:41-43.



The leopard representing Greece.

WHO IS THE LITTLE HORN OF DANIEL 7?

Daniel 7:8,19,20

I was considering the horns, and THERE WAS ANOTHER HORN, A LITTLE ONE, COMING UP AMONG THEM, before whom THREE OF THE FIRST HORNS WERE PLUCKED OUT BY THE ROOTS. And there, in this horn, *were* eyes like the eyes of a man, and A MOUTH SPEAKING POMPOUS WORDS. Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, *with* its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, *which* devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet; and the ten horns that *were* on its head, and the other *horn* which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose APPEARANCE WAS GREATER THAN HIS FELLOWS.



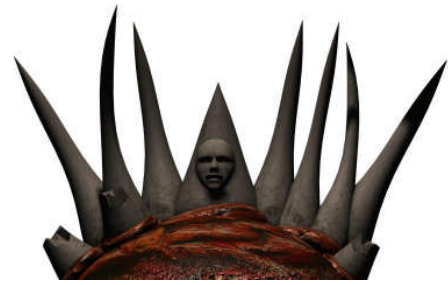
The fourth beast represents Rome.

A little horn was to arise and do very great things. Nine specifications in the prophecy point out the little horn. And in all history from the days of the prophet Daniel, there is one power, and only one that answers to all these characteristics, and that power is Papal Rome. This is stated in kindness. God loves Catholic and Protestants alike. God must, however, point out this erroneous religious system. He does it in love, to warn.

Nine Specifications Reveal The Little Horn Power:

1. Verse 8: "COMING UP AMONG THEM". The Papacy arose in Western Europe, among the ten horns. Of this prophecy, Martin Luther says, "Behold there came up from among them another little horn. This ... is the Papal Kingdom rising up in the middle of the Roman Empire."
2. Verse 8: "A LITTLE ONE". She is a little kingdom. The Vatican is a separate, independent kingdom in Europe, extending over just 108 acres of land.
3. Verse 24: "And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kingdoms that shall arise; AND ANOTHER SHALL ARISE AFTER THEM; and he shall be different from the first ones, and he shall subdue three kings."

“Arises after the ten horns”. The ten kingdoms were finally established in A.D. 476. The Papacy received her political supremacy and came into prominence at a later date. (Approximately A.D. 538.)



A little horn comes up.

4. Verse 24: “DIFFERENT”. The kingdoms of Western Europe were established as political kingdoms. The Papacy was a religio-political power.

5. Verse 24: “PLUCKED UP THREE”. She would overcome three kingdoms in her rise to prominence. Before the Papacy became dominant it was necessary to overthrow three powers, namely, the HERULI, OSTROGOTHS and VANDALS.

6. Verse 25: “And he shall SPEAK POMPOUS WORDS AGAINST THE MOST HIGH, and 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.”

“SPEAK POMPOUS WORDS AGAINST THE MOST HIGH.” The Papacy has done this. e.g. *The Catholic National*, July 1895. “The Pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but He is Jesus Christ Himself, hidden under the veil of flesh.”



The Bible was forbidden to be read by laymen during the dark ages.

Dignity and Duties of the Priests or Selva, by St. Alphonsus De Leguorl, page 27: “With regards to the mystic body of Christ, that is, all faithful, the priest has the power of the keys, or the power of delivering sinners from hell, or making them worthy of paradise, and of changing them from the slaves of Satan into the children of God. AND GOD HIMSELF IS OBLIGED TO ABIDE BY THE JUDGMENT OF HIS PRIESTS”.

7. Verse 25: “PERSECUTE THE SAINTS OF THE MOST HIGH.” Rome boldly admits she has persecuted. *The Western Watchman*: “The church has persecuted. Only a tyro in Church History would deny it ... When she thinks it good to use force she will use it”. During the Dark Ages in excess of 150 million people were put to death by the cruel hand of the Roman Papacy.

8. Verse 25: “RULE FOR A TIME AND TIMES AND HALF A TIME”. Revelation 12:14,6. “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.. Then the woman 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.”

The preceding verses reveal this period is 1260 days. As a day represents a year in Bible prophecy this would mean the Papacy would have a period of

dominance for 1260 years. (Historical circumstances suggest the Papacy fulfilled this between A.D.538 and 1798.

The most significant crisis in the collapse of the old Roman Empire occurred in A.D. 476 when, after a series of humiliations by barbarian invaders, the Emperor Romulus Augustulus abdicated. The political supremacy of the papacy, however, did not begin until sixty-two years later when, in A.D. 533, Justinian, Emperor of Eastern Rome, decreed that the bishop of Rome should be recognised as the “Head of all the Holy Churches”. This decree was put into effect in A.D. 538. Thus the Papacy grew into full power after the barbarian kingdoms had divided Rome’s territories.

In 1797, when Pope Pius VI became seriously ill, Napoleon gave orders that in event of his death, no successor should be elected to his office, and the Papal rule should cease. But the Pope recovered, and on 10th February 1798, on pretence of an insult to the French ambassador in Italy, Berthier, general of the French Revolutionary forces and Napoleon’s famous chief of staff, entered Rome and took the Pope prisoner. The aged bishop was arrested on the night of February 20th, the 28th anniversary of his elevation to the Papal chair; the ring of authority was torn from his finger; his property was confiscated and sold; the Papal states were abolished and Rome was declared a Republic. The Pope himself was carried off to France, where he died a captive, worn out with fatigue and sorrow, at Valence, on August 29th, 1799. For a long interval the Papal throne was vacant.

Up till the Revolution, France had been a leading supporter of the Papacy for many centuries, and was called “The Eldest Son of the Church”. Consequently this disaster brought to an end the age-long political supremacy of the bishop of Rome, and dealt the Papacy a wound from which it has not yet fully recovered.



Reformers like Luther, Tyndale & Calvin identified the Papacy as the Antichrist.

In the face of such conclusive evidence, there can be no doubt concerning the true identity of the “Little Horn”. Twelve hundred years of history point unerringly at the Papal power, declaring: “Thou art the man!”

Verse 25:

“INTEND TO CHANGE TIMES AND LAW”. A comparison of the ten commandments in a Roman Catholic Catechism with the commandments in Exodus 20:3-17 will reveal that Rome has tampered with the law of God. She has also altered the “Times in the Law”, by interfering with Commandment Number 4. e.g. T. Enright, February 18. 1884: “I have repeatedly offered \$1000 to anyone who can prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound to keep Sunday holy. There is no such law in the Bible. It is a law of the holy Catholic church. The Bible says, ‘Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy’. The Catholic church says, No: By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day and command you to keep holy the first day of the week! *And lo: the entire civilized*

world bows down in a reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church”. (Many other quotations could be given by both Protestant and Catholic authors but space does not permit



Christ's Bride – the church will always cling to the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

Revelation 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints; *HERE ARE THOSE WHO KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD AND THE FAITH OF JESUS.*

In the last days God is calling men and women away from the errors of the Papacy, back to His wonderful truth. He wants men to return to “the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus”.

On which side do WE stand in this great conflict between truth and error?

Are we working with Satan to enlarge the breach in God's law? Or, are we working with God to repair the breach? These are life-and-death questions. May God help us to say with Joshua: “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”. Joshua 24:15.

Review Sheet – The Four Beasts and the Little Horn of Daniel 7

Assignment: Read the Bible study carefully before answering the following questions.

1. What did Daniel see in vision in Daniel 7:1-3?
And behold, _____
_____. “ _____ ,”
2. What prophecy shows that winds represent war, strife and troubles? Jeremiah 49:36,37
Against _____ ... and I will send _____
_____.
3. Of what are waters symbolic? Revelation 17:5
To me, the _____, ... are _____, _____, _____,
_____.
4. How do we know the beasts represent kingdoms? Daniel 7:12,23
Thus he said: ‘ _____.
5. What was the first beast and what did it represent? Daniel 7:4; Jeremiah 50:43,44
The first was like a _____,
The king of Babylon ... Behold, he shall _____.
6. What animal represented the kingdom of Medo-Persia? Daniel 7:5
Another beast, a _____.
7. What animal represented the kingdom of Greece? Daniel 7:6
Like a _____, ... four _____ ... four _____.
8. How is the fourth kingdom of Pagan Rome pictured? Daniel 7:7
Behold, a fourth beast, _____ ... it had _____; ...and it
had _____.
9. How is Papal Rome described as rising out of Pagan Rome? Daniel 7:8,19,20
There was another _____, _____, coming up among them, ...and a mouth _____
_____. ... whose appearance was _____.
10. What was this “little horn” power said to do? Daniel 7:25
He shall _____,
_____.
11. How long does the prophecy say the Papacy would hold rule? Daniel 7:25
For a time _____ . (i.e. 1260 yrs).
12. How are God’s true people identified? Revelation 14:12
Here is the patience of the saints; _____
_____.

Do you plan to stand on God’s side of truth and forsake the errors of false religion? _____