

# Daniel's Vision



## and the Little Horn Power



**Bible Study Pathways**

**Lesson 21**

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## A Story to Ponder...

A certain neighborhood hired a new snow plowman to keep the roads cleared for the winter. Unfortunately, after the first snow, it was a little harder to tell where the unmarked road was. As a result, the plowman, who was unfamiliar with the road, plowed his truck straight into the creek. As you can imagine, this effectively ended his plowing job. -- Prophecy's purpose is to give God's people a knowledge "of the road", so to speak. In God's mercy, He lets them know what is up ahead—before a wrong course ends in disaster.



**Amos 3:7 "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets." (Num. 12:6, Matt. 24:15)**



The Bible distinctly shows the importance of prophecy. Which prophet does Jesus specifically endorse as important to understand in the last days?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Prophecy's Purpose--2 Pet. 1:19, Prov. 29:18, John 13:9)



The purpose of prophecy is at least threefold:

1. To be a light in a dark place, preparing God's people for what is coming,
2. To build our faith in God, when we see fulfillment of prophecy, and
3. To help us to reflect the character of Christ, the Day Star.



**Read Daniel Chapter 7---- Dan. 7:17 "These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth."**



What does Daniel 7:17, 23 say the beasts that Daniel sees represent?  
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**Dan. 7:2,3 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.**



How many beasts does Daniel see and where do they come from?  
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**Isaiah 17:13 "The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters... and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind."**

**(Revelation 17:15)**



What does the sea or waters represent in Bible prophecy?  
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**Daniel 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." (Jer. 50:17)**



What is the first beast that Daniel sees? And what kingdom is that animal used to represent in Bible prophecy? \_\_\_\_\_ Also, what do wings signify? \_\_\_\_\_ (Habakkuk 1:6-8; Deut. 28:49)



Hint: the beasts presented in Daniel 7 parallel the kingdoms represented by the image in Daniel 2. God repeats things of importance to increase our understanding and to establish them. (Gen. 41:32)



**Daniel 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.”

(Daniel 5:30, 31; Dan. 6:28, Esther 1:3)



What was the second beast that Daniel saw? According to the Biblical record, which empire conquered Babylon? \_\_\_\_\_



God anointed a special general to accomplish the task of conquering Babylon. Prophecy even told ahead the method that would be used to subdue it. (Isaiah 45:1,2)



**Daniel 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.” (Daniel 8:21;10:20)



Name the third beast Daniel saw. Who was the next conquering kingdom? \_\_\_\_\_ What 2 prominent characteristic of this beast perfectly fit what the Bible records to be the next conquering kingdom? (For meaning of the new one consider Micah 3:9, Psalm 110:5,6) \_\_\_\_\_



Alexander the Great of Greece is said to have conquered kingdoms more speedily (4 wings) than others could have marched their armies through them. He inherited the kingdom at age 20 and died age 32. When he died his kingdom was split between his 4 generals (4 heads).



**Daniel 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. 2:33; 2:40, 1 Sam. 17:7, Judges 4:3)



What were the fourth beast's teeth made of? \_\_\_\_\_ What does that metal represent? \_\_\_\_\_ What kingdom would that parallel in the image in Daniel 2? \_\_\_\_\_

“Under the Roman emperors... the Era of the Martyrs... racks, scourges, swords, daggers, crosses, poison, and famine, were made use of in various parts to dispatch the Christians.” (Foxe's Book of Martyrs, pg. 17)

As might be expected by the ten horns (Dan. 7:7,24) in this prophecy, history records, “In A.D. 476 there were ten kingdoms, exactly ten independent nations, established in that territory which had been the body of the Roman Empire proper.” (The Marshalling of the Nations p. 18)



**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. 7:20-25)**



Which of the following are listed as characteristics of the little horn?

- 1--Had eyes and a mouth that spake great things /Speak great words against the most High,
- 2-- More stout than the other horns
- 3-- Made war against the saints and prevailed/wears out the saints of the most High/The saints given into his hand for a time, times and a half a time,
- 4--Think to changes times and laws



The time, times and a half a time refers to a prophetic period of 1260 years. A time equals a prophetic year, times is 2 prophetic years-- unless another number is specified (Daniel 4:16).  $1+2+ \frac{1}{2} = 3 \frac{1}{2}$  years. A prophetic year is 360 days. Using the Biblical day for a year principle (Num. 14:34, Ez. 46)  $3 \frac{1}{2} \times 360 = 1260$  years. This prophecy is repeated at least 7 times in the Bible.



According to history, what is the only ruling power of this time period in history that fulfills all of these characteristics? \_\_\_\_\_

- 1--*"We hold on this earth the place of God Almighty."*—The Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII, pg. 304 (June 20, 1894—Pope Leo XIII)
- 2--*"If the Papacy were blotted out from the world's chronicle, the Middle Ages would vanish along with it."*— (The Papal Monarchy, pg. 4 --Dr. William Barry)
- 3-- *"That the Church of Rome has shed more innocent blood than any other institution that has ever existed among mankind, will be questioned by no Protestant who has a competent knowledge of history."* History of Rationalism in Europe, Vol. II, by Historian Lecky pg. 32.
- 4--*"The pope has power to change times, to abrogate laws, and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ."* – "Decretal, de Translat. Episcop. Cap." *"The Pope's will stands for reason. He can dispense above the law; and of wrong make right, by correcting and changing laws."* -Pope Nicholas, Dist. 96 *"The Catholic Church, . . . by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from Saturday to Sunday."* The Catholic Mirror, official publication of James Cardinal Gibbons, Sept. 23, 1893.



What kingdom does Daniel 7:9,10, 26,27 say will rule after the little horn? \_\_\_\_\_

## CONCLUSION

God in his mercy has warned us of a system of false worship. He warned us of a kingdom who will persecute God's people and "think to change times and laws". The characteristics of this kingdom fit none other than papal Rome.

According to Daniel 7, this little horn of 4th kingdom or power will be destroyed by judgment, and the kingdom will then be given to God's people.