

The Book of Daniel

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Striding Lion from the Ishtar Gate of the palace of Nebuchadnezzar, Babylon. Pergamon Museum, Berlin, Germany

The colorful striding lion, its mouth opened in a threatening roar, once decorated a side of the 'Processional Way' in ancient Babylon (the Biblical city of Babel). The 'Processional Way' led out of the city through a massive gate named for the Mesopotamian goddess of love and war, Ishtar, whose symbol was the lion. Each year, during the celebration of the great New Year Festival, the images of the city's deities were carried out through the Ishtar Gate and along the 'Processional Way' past some 120 lions such as this one to a special festival house north of the city. Source: http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/HIGH/OIM_A7481_c_72dpi.html

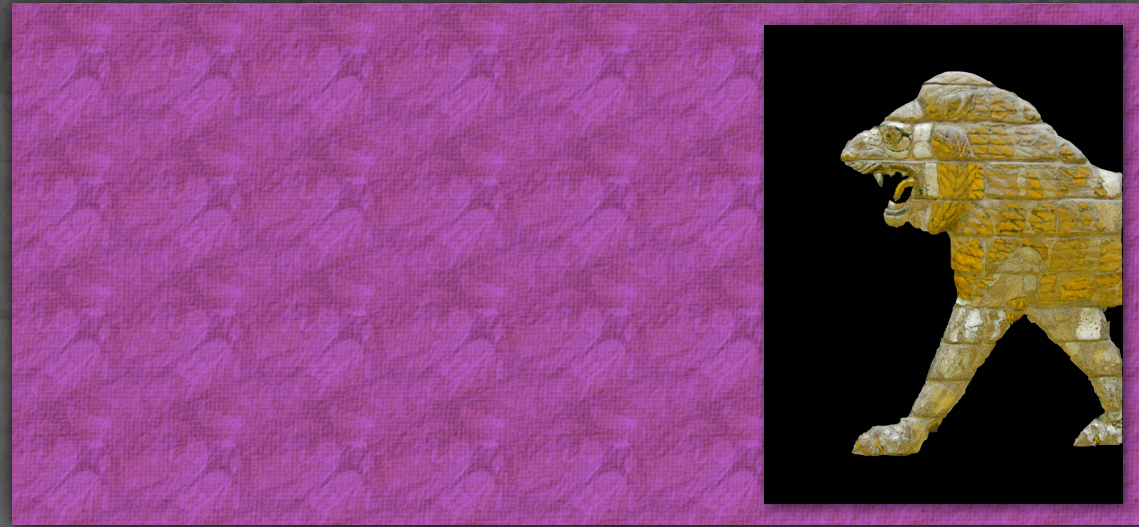
Daniel Answers



- Does God **reject** and **forsake** those whom He disciplines?
- Does God **comfort** His rebellious children?
- Does Israel have a **future**?
- Where is history going and how will it work out? (**destiny**)

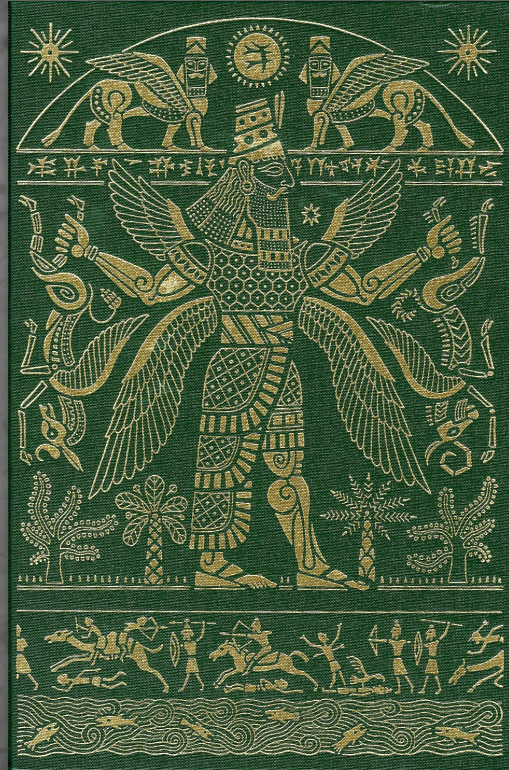
Daniel is my favorite prophetic book, and possibly my favorite OT book. I love it because in it, God answers some fundamental questions with which I struggle:

1. Will God forsake those whom He disciplines?
2. Does God reject those whom he chastises?
3. Does God comfort His rebellious children?
4. Does Israel have a future?



Introduction to Daniel

Uniqueness



- Most comprehensive prophecy in the Bible
- First prophecy giving a consecutive history from then until the end of time
- First chronologically definite Messianic prophecy

"Daniel's prophecy is, in many respects, the most remarkable of any in the sacred record.

* It is the most comprehensive.

* It was the first prophecy giving a consecutive history of the world from that time to the end.

* It located the most of its predictions within well-defined prophetic periods, though reaching many centuries into the future.

* It gave the first definite chronological prophecy of the coming of the Messiah. It marked the time of this event so definitely that the Jews forbid any attempt to interpret its numbers, since that prophecy shows them to be without excuse in rejecting Christ; and so accurately had its minute and literal predictions been fulfilled down to the time of Porphyry, A.D. 250, that he declared (the only loophole he could devise for his hard-pressed skepticism) that the predictions were not written in the age of Babylon, but after the events themselves had occurred. This evasion, however, is not now available; for every succeeding century has borne additional evidence to the truthfulness of the prophecy, and we are just now, in our own day, approaching the climax of its fulfillment."

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan.htm>



Importance



- “The Apocalypse of the Old Testament”
- Key to understanding *Revelation* and the end times
- Connects the Old and New Testaments

Illustrates the succession of powers that would conquer God's people from the time of the Babylonian captivity to the Second Coming of Christ.

“Daniel 11 alone contains 100 specific prophecies of historical events that literally came true.” Source: Open Bible Intro, p. 832

There are at least 18 verses in Revelation that allude to the book of Daniel, as well as three verses in Matthew, and one verse in 2 Thessalonians.

Daniel answers the universal, ultimate question of **destiny**: “Where is this all going, and how will it work out?”



Importance



- Gives detailed prophecies about the succession of kingdoms and rulers, and their final overthrow
- Demonstrates God's sovereign control over world history - and His personal care for individuals

Illustrates the succession of powers that would conquer God's people from the time of the Babylonian captivity to the Second Coming of Christ.

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Section I:
Personal History
of the Prophet, 1

Daniel's life



Section II:
Prophetic History
of the Gentiles, 2-7

Dreams, images, feasts, and visions



Section III:
Prophetic History
of Israel, 8-12

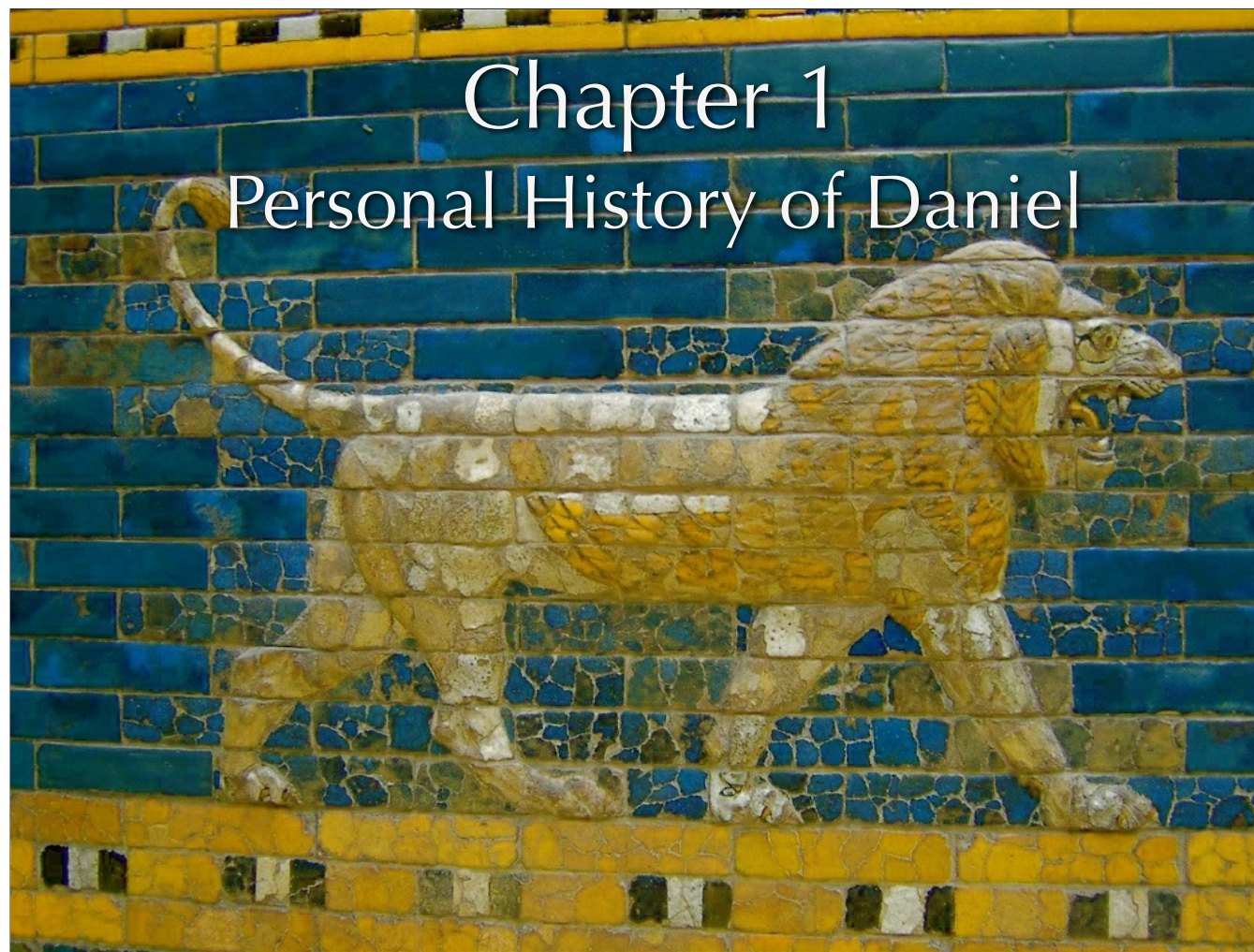
Daniel's visions

Book of Daniel Overview



Chapter 1

Personal History of Daniel





"The city of Babylon was the capital of the ancient land of Babylonia in southern Mesopotamia. It was situated on the Euphrates River about 50 miles south of modern Baghdad, just north of what is now the modern Iraqi town of al-Hillah.

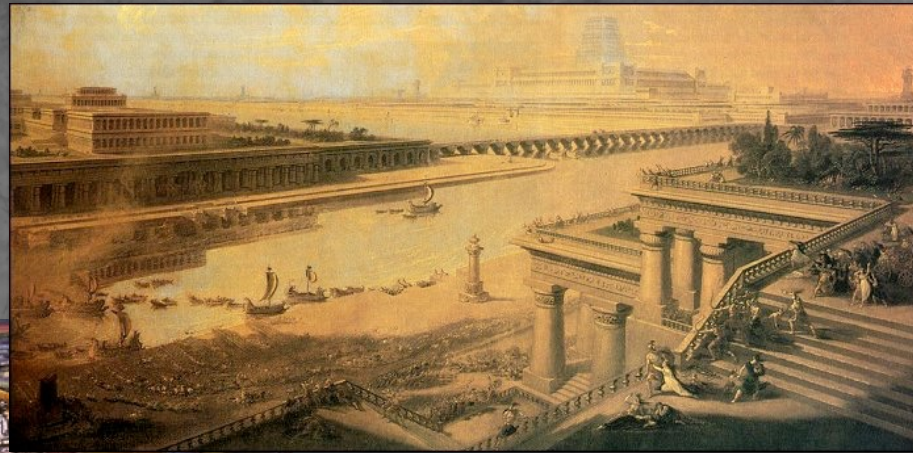
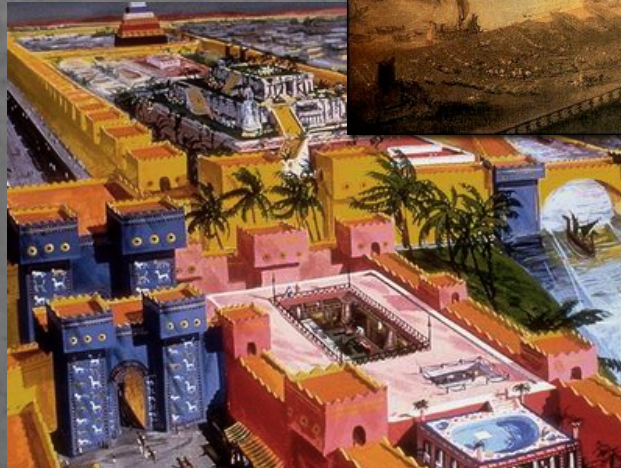
The tremendous wealth and power of this city, along with its monumental size and appearance, were certainly considered a Biblical myth, that is, until its foundations were unearthed and its riches substantiated during the 19th century. Archaeologists stood in awe as their discoveries revealed that certain stories in the Bible were an actual situation that had happened in time.

A quick overview of the writings of the prophet Isaiah in the Bible, especially chapter 13, reveals some predictions concerning Babylon that stagger the imagination.

The Word "Babylon"

Babylon is Akkadian "babilani" which means "the Gate of God(s)" and it became the capital of the land of Babylonia. The etymology of the name Babel in the Bible means "confused" (Gen 11:9) and throughout the Bible, Babylon was a symbol of the confusion caused by godlessness. The name Babylon is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Babel." Source: http://www.bible-history.com/babylonia/BabyloniaHistory_of_Babylonia.htm

Ziggurat



Euphrates
River

Babylon the Great

“...Babylon, the beauty of kingdoms,
the glory of the Chaldeans’ pride...” Is. 13:19

Babylon is described by the Greek historian Herodotus (about 485-425 BC). The writer Berosus also credits Nebuchadnezzar with the construction of the 'Hanging Gardens' which, according to tradition, he built to remind his wife of her home, in the mountains of Iran. No evidence survives for the Gardens at Babylon, however, and the story may relate to the earlier extensive gardens built around the Assyrian capital Nineveh. (Source: British Museum text on the Brick of Nebuchadnezzar II)

Ziggurat: “Ziggurats were temples for the Mesopotamian gods. Each city built temples to their own favorite gods. The ziggurat of Babylon had eight platforms of bricks with a temple for Marduk on the summit, where the Babylonians believed the god slept at night. The ziggurat was so tall (*probably 10-15 stories*) that it had benches halfway up for people to rest on during the climb up the ramps linking the different platforms.” p. 13 Timeline of the Ancient World by the British Museum.

“The ancient historian Herodotus said that Babylon was more magnificent than any city in the known world. Babylon was a place of beauty which featured one of the seven wonders of the ancient world - the Hanging Gardens. God had also given Nebuchadnezzar an empire greater than the Assyrian Empire. His empire was a military superpower.” Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D003/D003.html> Herodotus also wrote that the city walls of Babylon, which some say were a second of the Seven Wonders of the World, had enough space on top to enable a four-horse chariot to turn around. Source: The Cultural Atlas of the World: Mesopotamia and the Ancient Near East, by Michael Roaf
Herodotus account primary source: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/greek-babylon.html>

“According to accounts, the gardens were built to cheer up Nebuchadnezzar's homesick wife, Amyitis. Amyitis, daughter of the king of the Medes, was married to Nebuchadnezzar to create an alliance between the nations. The land she came from, though, was green, rugged and mountainous, and she found the flat, sun-baked terrain of Mesopotamia depressing. The king decided to recreate her homeland by building an artificial mountain with rooftop gardens.

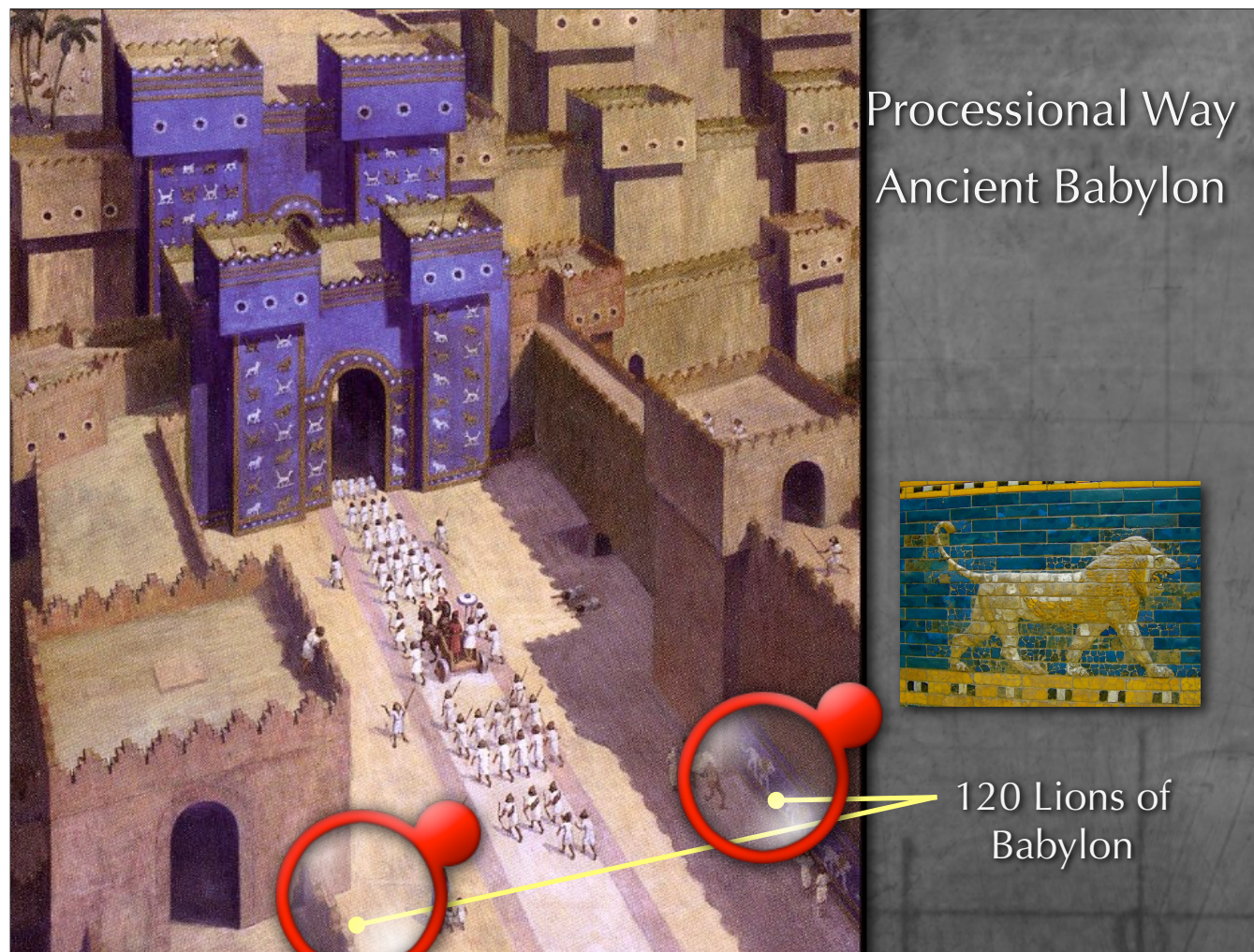
The Hanging Gardens probably did not really "hang" in the sense of being suspended from cables or ropes. The name comes from an inexact translation of the Greek word kremastos or the Latin word pensilis, which mean not just "hanging", but "overhanging" as in the case of a terrace or balcony.

The Greek geographer Strabo, who described the gardens in first century BC, wrote, "It consists of vaulted terraces raised one above another, and resting upon cube-shaped pillars. These are hollow and filled with earth to allow trees of the largest size to be planted. The pillars, the vaults, and terraces are constructed of baked brick and asphalt."

"The ascent to the highest story is by stairs, and at their side are water engines, by means of which persons, appointed expressly for the purpose, are continually employed in raising water from the Euphrates into the garden." " Source: <http://www.unmuseum.org/hangg.htm>



Hanging Gardens of Babylon-
7 Wonders of the World
Artist Rendition



Ziggurat was “a 650- ft. glimmering enamel” structure (Beth Moore p.11)

“Practically all the buildings were of brick, for stone was rare in Mesopotamia, but the bricks were often faced with enameled tiles of brilliant blue, yellow, or white, adorned with animal and other figures in glazed relief, which remain to this day supreme in their kind.” Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 14



Excavated Ishtar Gate, Nebuchadnezzar II Palace,
Pergamon Museum, Berlin, Germany

Nebuchadnezzar II Palace

Ishtar Gate

The Ishtar Gate, one of the eight gates of the inner city of Babylon, was built during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar II (604- 562 BC). Only the foundations of the gate were found, going down some 45 feet, with molded, unglazed figures. The gateway has been reconstructed in the Pergamon Museum, Berlin, from the glazed bricks found, so its original height is different in size. Reconstructed height is 47 feet.

It was one of the eight gates of the inner city of Babylon. It was built in about 575 BC, the eighth fortified gate in the city. It is one of the most impressive monuments rediscovered in the ancient Near East. The Ishtar gate was decorated with glazed brick reliefs, in tiers, of dragons and young bulls. The gate itself was a double one, and on its south side was a vast antechamber. Through the gatehouse ran a stone-and brick-paved avenue, the so-called Processional Way, which has been traced over a length of more than half a mile.

King Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylon dedicated the great Ishtar Gate to the goddess Ishtar. It was the main entrance into Babylon. King Nebuchadnezzar II performed elaborate building projects in Babylon around 604-562 BC. His goal was to beautify his capital. He restored the temple of Marduk, the chief god, and also built himself a magnificent palace with the famous Hanging Gardens, which was reported by the Greek historian Herodotus to have been one of the wonders of the world.

The Bible records that it was Nebuchadnezzar who destroyed Jerusalem, brought the kingdom of Judah to an end, and carried off the Jews into exile. The Ishtar Gate was the starting point for processions. The Babylonians would assemble in front of it and march through the triumphal arch and proceed along the Sacred Way to the 7-story Ziggurat, which was crowned near the temple of Marduk.

The gateway was completely covered with beautifully colored glazed bricks. Its reliefs of dragons and bulls symbolized the gods Marduk and Adad. Enameled tiles of glorious blue surrounded the brightly colored yellow and brown beasts. In front of the gateway outside the city was a road with walls decorated with reliefs of lions and glazed yellow tiles. The Ishtar gate was reconstructed in Berlin out of material excavated by Robert Koldewey.

The Dedicatory Inscription on the Ishtar Gate reads:

"Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, the faithful prince appointed by the will of Marduk, the highest of princely princes, beloved of Nabu, of prudent counsel, who has learned to embrace wisdom, who fathomed their divine being and reveres their majesty, the untiring governor, who always takes to heart the care of the cult of Esagila and Ezida and is constantly concerned with the well-being of Babylon and Borsippa, the wise, the humble, the caretaker of Esagila and Ezida, the firstborn son of Nabopolassar, the King of Babylon.

Both gate entrances of Imgur-Elil and Nemetti-Elil following the filling of the street from Babylon had become increasingly lower. Therefore, I pulled down these gates and laid their foundations at the water table with asphalt and bricks and had them made of bricks with blue stone on which wonderful bulls and dragons were depicted. I covered their roofs by laying majestic cedars length-wise over them. I hung doors of cedar adorned with bronze at all the gate openings. I placed wild bulls and ferocious dragons in the gateways and thus adorned them with luxurious splendor so that people might gaze on them in wonder.

I let the temple of Esiskursiskur (the highest festival house of Markduk, the Lord of the Gods a place of joy and celebration for the major and minor gods) be built firm like a mountain in the precinct of Babylon of asphalt and fired bricks." Source: <http://www.bible-history.com/archaeology/babylon/ishtar-gate.html>



Pergamon Museum, Berlin

Excavated Processional Way of Ishtar Gate

Each year, during the celebration of the great New Year Festival, the images of the city's deities were carried out through the Ishtar Gate and along the 'Processional Way' past some 120 lions such as this one to a special festival house north of the city. Source: http://oi.uchicago.edu/OI/MUS/HIGH/OIM_A7481.html Lions: Molded brick with polychrome glaze

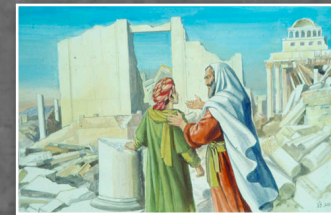
The word Easter is also a form of *Ishtar*, the ancient Babylonian goddess of fertility. As *Ashtoreth*, which is the Hebrew plural form denoting various local manifestations of *Astarte*, she was the Canaanite fertility goddess *Athtarath*, or *Ashtoreth*. From this, the Greeks derived Astarte.

1:1-2 Babylonian Captivity

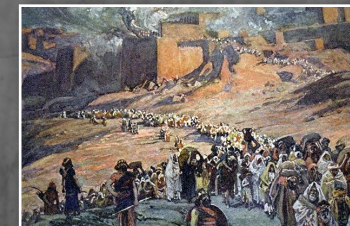
*"¹In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, **Nebuchadnezzar** king of Babylon **came to Jerusalem and besieged it.***



Solomon's Temple,
950-586 B.C.



Babylonian Temple Destruction
and Captivity, 586 B.C.



•1-2 The captivity of Jerusalem. [Babylonian empire began with Nabopolassar on the death of Ashurbanipal, king of Assyria in 626. Consolidated when Nebuchadnezzar defeated Pharaoh Necho in 605; first deportation from Jerusalem (royal family and nobility). Second deportation in 597 (Ezekiel and 10,000 others). Destruction of Jerusalem in 586. Babylon taken by Cyrus of Persia in 539.]

--If Daniel was born during Josiah's reforms (ca. 621), he was about 16 when deported to Babylon in 605.

--His world had crumbled about him. 900 mile walk from Jerusalem to Babylon.

Worship at Solomon's Temple continued uninterrupted for 426 years, until Nebuchadnezzar's army destroyed it in 586 B.C.. Upon returning from exile in Babylon, the Jews would spend decades rebuilding the temple as Herod's Temple, completing it in 68 A.D., only to be destroyed shortly thereafter by the Roman Legions in 70 A.D., with the Roman general Titus carrying off the temple vessels.

Babylonian Indoctrination Program

- Change their way of thinking (v. 4)
- Change their way of worship (vv. 6-7)
- Change their way of living (vv. 5-8)



Three years at the Babylonian Career Institute.

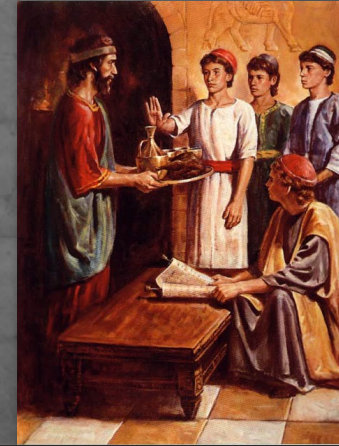
His God was his strength through this. Satan has a ready indoctrination program to do the same things to us; conformity to this present age and culture.

1:8 Daniel's Conviction

⁸But Daniel *made up his mind* that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself.

⁸But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself... KJV

- conviction - in advance



•8 "purposed in his heart" (KJV)--in advance. He thought it through. The maturity and moral courage to say a firm "no" to cultural pressures. He knew what the Scriptures taught on this, and was able to apply what he knew.

--Some are willing to die for Christ, but fewer are willing to live for Him.

_ Note Daniel's commitment to holiness: he did not want to defile himself with food; the "secular" education was acceptable, but not Nebuchadnezzar's food.

1:8 Daniel's Conviction

"...for you shall not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God—

*otherwise you might make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land and they would play the harlot with their gods and sacrifice to their gods, and **someone might invite you to eat of his sacrifice,** and you might take some of his daughters for your sons, and his daughters might play the harlot with their gods and cause your sons also to play the harlot with their gods..." Ex. 34:14-16*

** Wrong foods; possibly strangled, dedicated to their gods*

It was frequently the case that food used by the kings and princes of heathen nations, who were often the high priests of their religion, was first offered in sacrifice to idols, and the wine they used, poured out as a libation before their gods. Again, some of the flesh food used by the Chaldeans was pronounced unclean by the Jewish law. Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan1.htm>

Daniel Sought Common Ground without Moral Compromise

Daniel Did Not Object To:	Biblical Precedent:
1. Learning the language and literature of Chaldeans	Moses in Egypt <i>Acts 7:21-23</i>
2. Serving in the king's court	Joseph in Egypt <i>Gen. 41:40-44</i>
3. Taking on the name of a pagan god	Joseph in Egypt <i>Gen. 41:45</i>

● *Firm in his convictions, but not belligerent as to his rights*

--Daniel wisely sought common ground without moral compromise. He did not object to (a) learning the language and literature of the Chaldeans (v. 5; biblical precedent with Moses (Acts 7:21-23); (b) serving in the king's court (v. 5; biblical precedent with Joseph (Gen. 41:40-44); (c) taking on the name of a pagan god (v. 7; biblical precedent with Joseph (Gen. 41:45). But he drew the line at eating the king's food because of the biblical prohibition in Exodus 34:15-16 (wrong foods, possibly strangled, dedicated to their gods). Daniel was firm in his convictions, but not belligerent as to his rights.

Daniel, like Moses was educated in the learning and science of land of his captivity. Daniel sets an example for believers, we can learn the teachings and philosophy of the world, but we don't have to accept them.

Applications: Hostile Culture

- Successful survival: read the language of the culture through the lens of Scripture
- A hostile environment may be the best place to demonstrate God's power
- Daniel's mooring in Scripture helped him flourish in a hostile culture



"While Babylon did everything it could to indoctrinate their minds and steal their souls, God granted the young men His own knowledge and understanding in every matter. In other words, whatever Babylon taught them, God interpreted to them. They learned the language, literature, and customs all right, but only so God could use them in the midst of it. They read the language of their culture with the lens of God. Thereby, they became culturally relevant without becoming spiritually irrelevant. Against all odds, they retained a God-centered worldview so that ultimately the world could view their God." Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 26

"We are applying the concepts of Daniel's first six chapters to the postmodern mind-set of the prosperous and pompous West." Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 116

"In Daniel's Babylon and in Revelation's Babylon, the very lives of God's righteous are at stake. The Babylon that surrounds us is figurative and cultural in nature, but it neither less seductive nor destructive." Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 121

Chapter 1 Applications

- Daniel's convictions prevented compromise
- God honors those who honor Him (1 Sam. 2:30)



--There is no greater place to display the power of God than in a hostile environment. Daniel had tremendous potential, but couldn't have a worse environment to actualize it. Too often we wish for what might have been rather than what is. "I can't serve God--I've got too many other problems to deal with." But none of us has a situation worse than Daniel's. He would probably never see his parents again, never see the temple again, ripped out of his culture and thrown into a foreign culture that was completely in conflict with what he had been taught. A young man, yet instead of floundering, he flourishes. /A hostile environment does not mean that we cannot be godly people. We try to change the environment, but there is no better place to learn dependency on the power of God.

--Daniel studied and knew the Scriptures, and this gave him his moorings in a hostile culture.

--At the point of compromise, sin can gradually erode our character. Daniel "made up his mind" and moved from determination (who he was) to development (what he would do). Without goals for godliness, you will never be godly. An eternal perspective; this life isn't all there is. /He was tempted to compromise his convictions (who would know?). But he was like Michaelangelo who was asked why he painted the frescos high on the ceiling of the Sistene Chapel with such intricate detail. "No one will see it down here." His response, "I will." Unlike Daniel, we are not in life-threatening situations when we compromise; the only thing threatened is our comfort level. We must be more committed to obedience than we are to comfort. He was willing to push all his chips into the middle of the table as he bet on God's character and promises.

--God honors those who honor Him (1 Sam. 2:30).

Chapter 1 Applications

- The wisdom of God is “ten-times better” than the wisdom of the world - even professional wise men (1:20)
- God uses weakness for His glory: four exiled teenage slaves in a pagan culture as His primary vehicle of His supernatural power
- God’s favor allowed Daniel to thrive through two empires: Babylonian and Medo/Persian



The four teenage boys were given a super natural understanding by God, not for their glory, but for God's glory. God was able to use them as an example, to encourage those who would follow in generations to come, how to live a successful spiritual life. Do not underestimate how God may use our teenagers!

Daniel began his ministry in 605 B.C. as hostage/slave of Babylon. He continued till 536 B.C.



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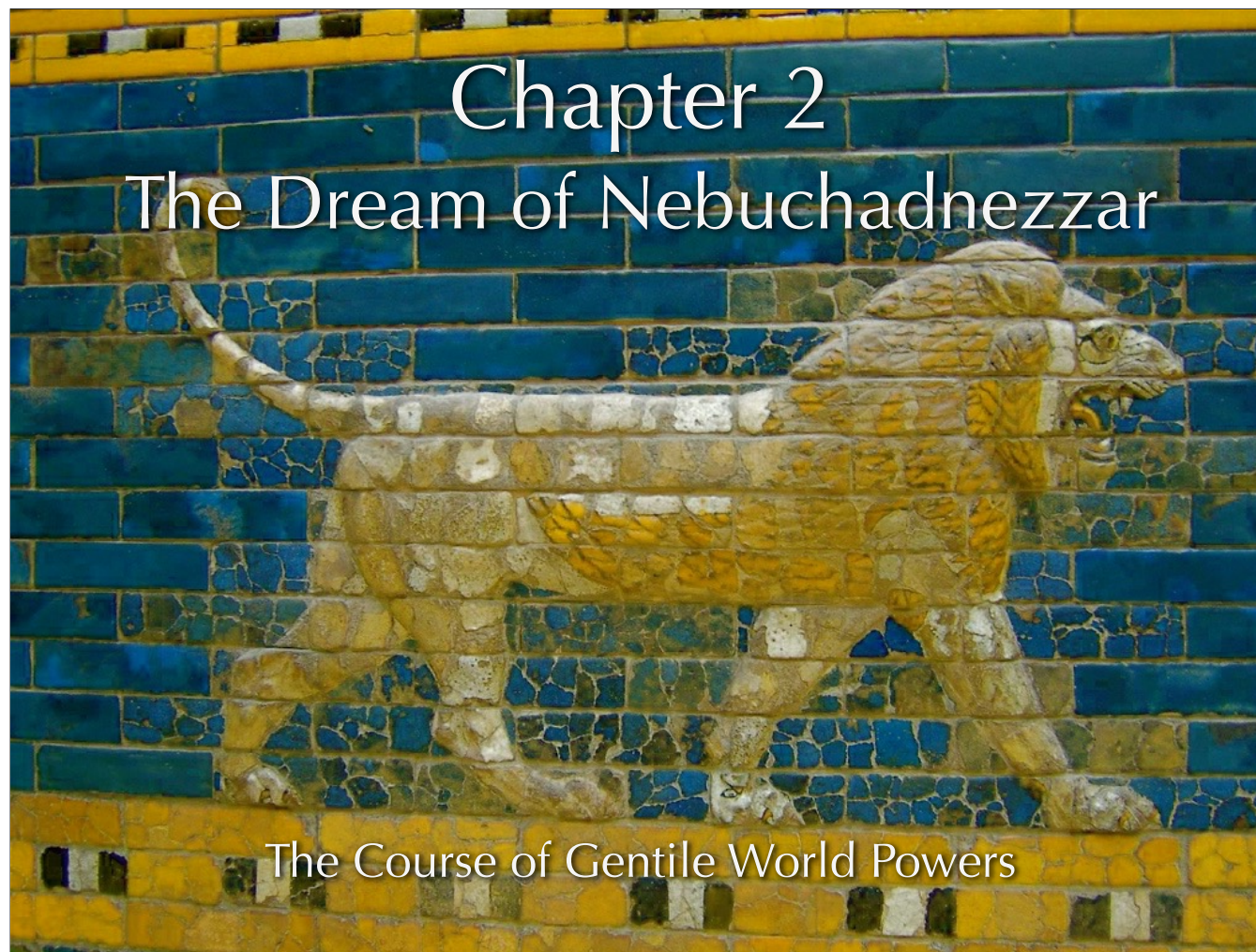


Section II:
Prophetic History of the Gentiles
Chapters 2-7

Chapter 2

The Dream of Nebuchadnezzar

The Course of Gentile World Powers



2:17-19 The Dream is Revealed

*17 Then Daniel went to his house and informed his friends, Hananiah, Mishaël and Azariah, about the matter,
18 so that they might request compassion from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his friends would not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.
19 Then **the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision.**
Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven;*

•14-30 The dream is revealed.

--Basic presuppositions of God's existence and revelation.

-Do I have a group of brothers or prayer warriors to go to in crisis?

2:14-30 The Dream Is Revealed



Nebuchadnezzar's Throne Room Wall
Pergamon Museum, Berlin, Germany

*24 Therefore, Daniel went in to Arioch,
whom the king had appointed to destroy
the wise men of Babylon;
he went and spoke to him as follows:*

*“Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon!
Take me into the king's presence,
and I will declare the interpretation
to the king.”*

Daniel's first plea was for the wise men of Babylon. Destroy them not, for the king's secret is revealed, he implored. True, it was through no merit of theirs or their heathen systems of divination that this revelation was made. They were worthy of as much condemnation as before. But their own confession of utter impotence in the matter was humiliation enough for them, and Daniel was anxious that they should so far partake of the benefits shown him as to have their lives spared. They were saved because there was a man of God among them. Thus it ever is. For the sake of Paul and Silas, all the prisoners with them were loosed. (Acts 16: 26.) For the sake of Paul, the lives of all that sailed with him were saved. (Acts 27: 24.) How often the wicked are benefited by the presence of the righteous! (Antideluvians after Noah; Sodomites after Lot all suffered for ignoring them)
Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan2.htm>

Daniel's Reaction to Crisis

- ☼ Showed wisdom and discretion; vv. 14-15
- ☼ Acted in boldness and faith; v. 16
- ☼ Prayed with friends, then slept; vv. 17-18
- ☼ Paused to worship God; vv. 19-23
- ☼ Concerned for condemned wise men; v. 24

--The true character of a person is revealed in times of crisis.

Daniel's reaction:

(1) Wisdom and discretion (vv. 14-15). He guarded his speech and inquired discreetly as to why the decree was so harsh.

(2) Boldness and faith (v. 16). What would have been his fate if God had not come through? [Chapter 1 shows Daniel's obedience; chapter 2 shows Daniel's faith.]

(3) Prayed with his friends, then slept (vv. 17-18).

(4) Paused to worship God instead of rushing impulsively to the king (vv. 19-23). (5) Showed concern for the condemned wise men (v. 24).

2:31-34 Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

³¹*"You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome.*

*"The head of that statue was made of fine gold,
its breast and its arms of silver,
its belly and its thighs of bronze,
its legs of iron,
its feet partly of iron and partly of clay."*



2:35 Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

³⁵ *"Then the iron,
the clay,
the bronze,
the silver and
the gold*

*were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the
summer threshing floors;*

*and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found.
But the **stone** that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the
whole earth."*



But how admirably adapted was this representation to convey a great and needful truth to the mind of Nebuchadnezzar. Besides delineating the progress of events through the whole course of time for the benefit of His people, God would show Nebuchadnezzar the utter emptiness and worthlessness of earthly pomp and glory. how could this be more impressively done than by an image whose head was of gold? Below this head was body composed of inferior metals descending in value until they reached their basest form in the feet and toes of iron mingled with miry clay. The whole was then dashed to pieces, and made like the empty chaff. It was finally blown away where no place could be found for it, after which something durable and of heavenly worth occupied its place.

Now opens one of the most comprehensive of the histories of world empire. Eight short verses of the inspired record tell the whole story, yet that story embraces the history of this world's pomp and power. A few moments will suffice to commit it to memory, yet the period which it covers, beginning more than twenty-five centuries ago, reaches from that far-distant point past the rise and fall of kingdoms, past the setting up and overthrow of empires, past cycles and ages, past our own day, to the eternal state. It is so comprehensive that it embraces all this, yet it is so minute that it gives us the great outlines of earthly kingdoms from that time to this. Human wisdom never devised so brief a record that embraced so much. Human language never set forth in so few words such a great volume of historical truth. The finger of God is here.

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/cit4/drdan2.htm>

2:31-49 The Dream Is Interpreted

³⁸ “...and wherever the sons of men dwell,
or the beasts of the field, or the birds of the sky,
He has given them into your hand and has
caused you to rule over them all.
You are the head of gold.”

- ☼ 1st Kingdom
- ☼ Head of Gold = Babylon
(605-539 B.C.)
- ☼ Babylon was called the
golden city



•38 Babylon was called the golden city; gold was used profusely to decorate its shrines, temples, and other public buildings.

Babylon, under the leadership of king Nebuchadnezzar captured Israel and first took the upper class into slavery. It was during this first phase that the prophet Daniel was captured. Twelve years later, the rest of Israel were taken to Babylon after they rebelled against foreign occupation. Their king was removed and their sanctuary destroyed.

The head represents the single strong nation who would rule. Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan02.html>

image source: http://maranathamedia.com.au/start/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1

2:31-49 The Dream Is Interpreted

*³⁹...“After you **there will arise another kingdom inferior to you...**”*

- 🌀 2nd Kingdom
- 🌀 Chest & Arms of Silver = Medo-Persia (539-331 B.C.)
- 🌀 2 Arms = 2 Nations (Medes, Persians)

The Medes and Persians next conquered Babylon in 539 B.C. at the death of Belshazzar. Persian king Cyrus freed the Jews to go home, and made arrangements to have the temple rebuilt. However, the nation of Judah was still ruled by foreigners. The two arms probably indicate the two empires of the Medes and Persians. They progress to the chest which represents the fact that the Persian empire took control after. Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan02.html>

It was to be inferior to the preceding kingdom. In what respect inferior? Not in power, for it conquered Babylon. Not in extent, for Cyrus subdued all the East from the Aegean Sea to the River Indus, and thus erected a more extensive empire. But it was inferior in wealth, luxury, and magnificence.

Viewed from a Scriptural standpoint, the principal event under the Babylonian Empire was the captivity of the children of Israel; under the Medo-Persian kingdom it was the restoration of Israel to their own land. At the taking of Babylon Cyrus, as an act of courtesy assigned the first place in the kingdom to his uncle, Darius, in 538 B.C. But two years afterward Darius died, leaving Cyrus sole monarch of the empire. In this year, which closed Israel's seventy years of captivity, Cyrus issued his famous decree for the return of the Jews and the rebuilding of their temple. This was the first installment of the great decree for the restoration and building again of Jerusalem (Ezra 6: 14), which was completed in the seventh year of the reign of Artaxerxes, 457 B.C., a date of much importance, as will hereafter be shown. Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan2.htm#f1>

2:31-49 The Dream Is Interpreted

³⁹...*“then another third kingdom of bronze, which will rule over all the earth.”*

- 🌀 3rd Kingdom
- 🌀 Belly & Thighs of Bronze = Greece (331-168 B.C.)
- 🌀 Led by Alexander the Great

•39 Greece would defeat Persia (8:20-21). Alexander defeated the more powerful Persian armies and extended his empire from Egypt and Europe to India.

The Greeks under the leadership of Alexander the Great were the next conquerors.

The belly represents the first phase after they defeated the Persians, when there was one leader. It eventually was divided into four and then two sections at the end. These two divisions were called the King of the North and the King of the South in prophecy. These final two divisions are represented by the two thighs. These two were conquered by the next empire.

Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan02.html>

In the ever-changing political kaleidoscope, Grecia came into the field of vision, to be for a time the all-absorbing object of attention, as the third of what are called the universal empires of the earth. When Alexander arrived, he beheld only the lifeless form of the Persian king, who but a few months before was seated upon the throne of the universal empire. Disaster, overthrow, and desertion had come suddenly upon Darius. His kingdom had been conquered, his treasure seized, and his family reduced to captivity. Now, brutally slain by the hand of traitors, he lay a bloody corpse in a rude cart. The sight of the melancholy spectacle drew tears from the eyes of even Alexander, familiar though he was with all the horrible vicissitudes and bloody scenes of war. Throwing his cloak over the body, he commanded that it be conveyed to the ladies of the Persian royal family who were captives at Susa, and furnished from his own treasury the necessary means for a royal funeral.

When Darius died, Alexander saw the field cleared of his last formidable foe. Thenceforward he could spend his time in his own manner, now in the enjoyment of rest and pleasure, and again in the prosecution of some minor conquest. He entered upon a pompous campaign into India, because, according to Grecian fable, Bacchus and Hercules, two sons of Jupiter, whose son he also claimed to be, had done the same. With contemptible arrogance, he claimed for himself divine honors. He gave up conquered cities, freely and unprovoked, to the mercy of his bloodthirsty and licentious soldiery. He often murdered his friends and favorites in his drunken frenzies. He encouraged such excessive drinking among his followers that on one occasion twenty of them died as the result of their carousal. At length, having sat through one long drinking spree, he was immediately invited to another, when, after drinking to each of the twenty guests present, he twice drank, says history, incredible as it may seem, the full Herculean cup containing six of our quarts. He was seized with a violent fever, of which he died eleven days later, Jun 13, 323 B.C., while yet he stood only at the threshold of mature life, in the thirty-second year of his age.

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan2.htm2>

2:31-49 The Dream Is Interpreted

⁴⁰... “Then there will be a *fourth kingdom as strong as iron;* inasmuch as iron crushes and shatters all things, so, like iron that breaks in pieces, it will crush and break all these in pieces.

- 🌀 4th Kingdom
- 🌀 Legs of Iron = Rome (168 B.C.- 476 A.D.)
- 🌀 Rome historically known as the “Iron Monarchy”

•40 The destructive strength of iron.

At the opening of the Christian Era, this empire took in the whole south of Europe, France, England, the greater part of the Netherlands, Switzerland, and the south of Germany, Hungary, Turkey, and Greece, not to speak of its possessions in Asia and Africa.

The first three kingdoms existed in Daniel's day, but Rome did not. So Daniel did not identify it directly by name. Historically, Rome was known as the "Iron Monarchy". The Latin word "Rome" means strength. And iron is the strongest of the metals.

Prophetically, Rome was always a nation of two divisions. The two legs of iron represent the northern and southern divisions of Rome as it conquered each Greek division. Geographically, it later became the Western and Eastern (Byzantine) empire as it declined. Religiously, it had two phases, these are Pagan Rome and Papal Rome.

Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan02.html>

Rise and Fall of Four Kingdoms

Babylon



Medo-Persia



Greece



Rome



Nebuchadnezzar's
Palace Ruins, Iraq



Darius' Palace Ruins,
Persepolis, Iran



Acropolis Ruins,
Athens, Greece



Roman Forum Ruins,
Rome, Italy

--The four kingdoms have risen and fallen, their ruins exist, but their political influence has ceased.

However, Rome in particular has left its mark on Western Civilization; we carry on Roman heritage as exemplified by our courts, our Senate, our laws, our symbol of the eagle. Germany's kaiser means "Cesear" as does Russia's word "Czar." Beth Moore *Daniel 2* Video.

2:31-49 The Dream Is Interpreted

*⁴¹... “In that you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, it will be a **divided kingdom**; but it will have in it the toughness of iron, inasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with common clay. ⁴²“As the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of pottery, so some of the kingdom will be strong and part of it will be brittle.*

- 🌀 5th Kingdom
- 🌀 Feet of Iron & Clay = Revived Roman Empire (A.D. 476 to the end)
- 🌀 Reuniting the Roman Empire

•41 Vv. 37-40 are history; vv. 41-45 are prophecy.

The iron was mixed with clay, and lost the power of cohesion. No man or combination of men can again consolidate the fragments. They shall mingle themselves with the seed of men'--i.e., marriages shall be formed, in hope thus to consolidate their power, and, in the end, to unite these divided kingdoms into one.
Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan2.htm>

The legs represent one nation (Rome) and the feet also represent a nation, but the legs and the feet are related to Rome, since both are made of iron. This implies the two are different even though they are related. One is older and one is future.

The Roman empire was divided in the eastern (Byzantine) empire and the western empire. The divided kingdom includes all the nations of Eastern and Western Roman empire. The ten toes are the ten European nations that formed the ten divisions of the Western Roman Empire (476 A.D. to the end of time). The Middle East is the divided nations of the rest of the foot. The emperor moved to a new capital in Constantinople and left the Western empire and the old capital city of Rome to the church. It was plagued by the Barbarians and a Roman army had to help to secure the throne of the Pope by removing three of the most violent tribes. So in the beginning, at a critical phase there were ten divisions.

The Final Ten. In the end, the divided kingdom will again have ten distinct sections which are divided internally. As the physical statue illustrates, they will probably emerge as five strong divisions in each of the final two halves (Western and Eastern). Who could they be? In the west it is probably Britain, Germany, France, Spain and Italy. In the east it is probably Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Egypt and Libya. It will be interesting to see if three of these divisions will be conquered again by Papal Rome or Babylon the Great as it rises for the last time.
Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan02.html>

The iron legs of the image terminate in feet and toes. To the toes, of which there were of course ten, our attention is called by the explicit mention of them in the prophecy. The kingdom represented by that part of the image to which the toes belonged, was finally divided into ten parts. The question naturally arises, Do the ten toes of the image represent the ten final divisions of the Roman Empire? We answer, Yes.

The Ten Kingdoms.--Here, then, is a division presented; and what have we in the symbol to indicate it?--Nothing but the toes of the image. Unless they do, we are left utterly in the dark on the nature and extent of the division which the prophecy shows did exist. To suppose this would be to cast a serious imputation upon the prophecy itself. We are therefore held to the conclusion that the ten toes of the image denote the ten parts into which the Roman Empire was divided.

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan2.htm>

Attempts to Reunite the Roman Empire

Time	Method	Leader		
538-1798	Religion	Popes & Kings		
768-814	War	Charlemagne		
936-973	War	Otto 1 the Great		
1294-1328	War	Charles IV		
1643-1715	War	Louis XIV		
1795-1812	War	Napoleon		
1866-1871	War	Bismark		
1838-1918	Marriage	Queen Victoria/children		
1914	War	Kaiser Wilhelm		
1940s	War	Adolph Hitler		
2001	Economy	European Union		
2005-Present	Political	European Union		

--Summary of the history of Europe from the sixth century to today is unsuccessful attempts to reunite the Roman Empire (v. 43).

--Expect the continuing rise of the European Community as the new world power. The revived Roman empire will be a federation of 10 kings (7:24). It will combine strong and weak kingdoms (v. 42), and will have internal problems especially before the rise of Antichrist (v. 43). It will exist prior to the return of Jesus Christ and will be destroyed by Him at His second advent.

Several attempts have been made to unite Europe. None have achieved the unity present under the Roman empire during the reign of the Caesars. Various attempts to unite the nations included war, marriage between the royal houses, religion and the latest attempt at an economic union.

For a long period there was a successful but turbulent union with the church. But the nations (notably Britain and France) were constant enemies. There has never been a successful political union under one ruler since the Caesars. All attempts have failed. Britain seems to be the country that continues to escape. Prophecy says that there never will be a successful political union under one ruler. At least not one that will last.

Queen Victoria: Unsuccessful political union even though European royal families were related. Carlos 1 of Spain and Queen Victoria of England were two examples. Queen Victoria was called the "Grandmother of Europe" because she successfully married her nine children to many royal families. But political unity was elusive. Prophecy predicts an unsuccessful union by marriage.

Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre00maps.html#europeunite>

'They shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.' And the history of Europe, is but a running commentary on the exact fulfillment of these words. From the time of Canute until the present age, it has been the policy of the reigning monarchs, the beaten path which they have trodden, in order to reach a mightier scepter and a wider sway. . . . Napoleon . . . sought to reach by alliance, what he could not gain by force, i.e., to build up one mighty, consolidated empire. And did he succeed?--Nay. The very power with which he was allied, proved his destruction, in the troops of Blucher, on the field of Waterloo! The iron would not mingle with clay." [10]

But Napoleon was not the last to try the experiment. Numerous European wars followed the efforts of the Little Corporal. To avert future conflicts, benevolent rulers resorted to the expedient of intermarriage to ensure peace, until by the opening of the twentieth century it was asserted that every ranking hereditary ruler of Europe was related to the British royal family. World War I showed the futility of these attempts. Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan2.htm>

5 Metals = 5 Kingdoms



Just as the value of the metals become increasingly inferior, so also will the kingdoms of the future become increasingly inferior, despite their analogous increase in strength.

By One Act of Revealing a Dream, God:

- ☼ Poured contempt upon the Babylonian gods and religious system
- ☼ Honored His own name
- ☼ Exalted His servants in the Babylonians' eyes
- ☼ Made known to Nebuchadnezzar the things he desired
- ☼ Saved Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah

How comprehensive was the work of God in this instance! By this one act of revealing the king's dream to Daniel, He made known to the king the things he desired, He saved His servants who trusted in Him, He brought conspicuously before the Chaldean nation the knowledge of Him who know the end from the beginning, He poured contempt on the false systems of the soothsayers and magicians, and He honored His own name and exalted His servants in their eyes.

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan2.htm>

2:44-45 The Sixth Empire

^{44//}*In the days of those kings
the God of heaven will set up
a kingdom which will never be
destroyed, and that kingdom
will not be left for another
people; it will crush and put
an end to all these kingdoms,
but it will itself endure forever.*



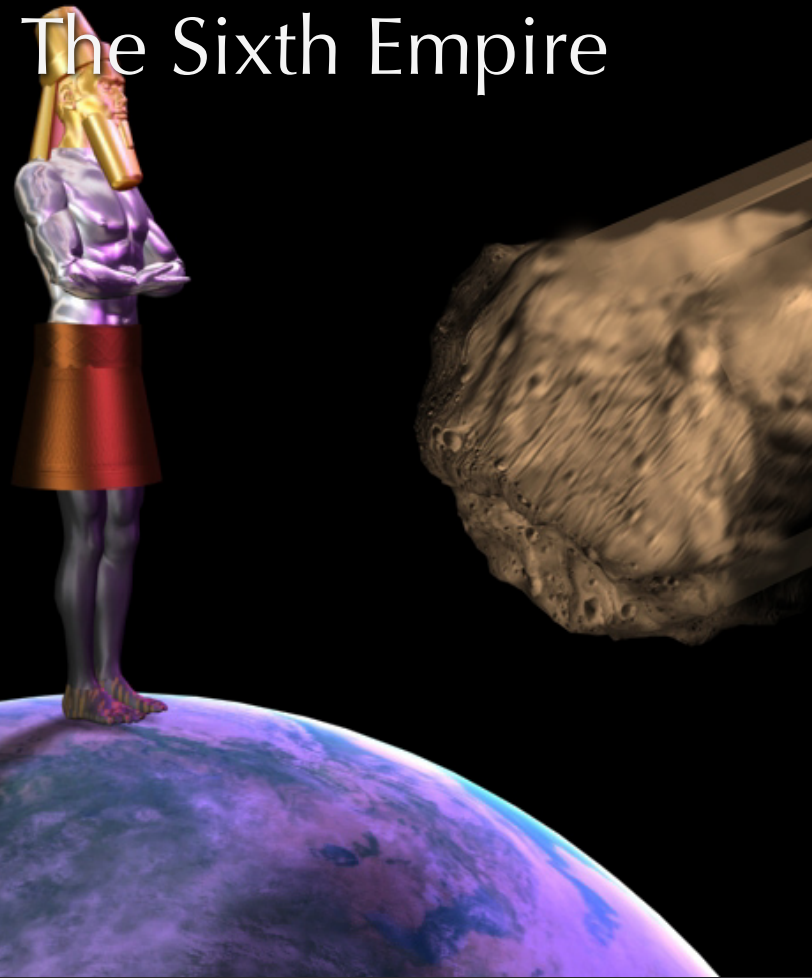
•44-45 The sixth empire is introduced apart from the image.

--The stone is not the first advent. (The death of Christ took place at the ankles.) Christianity never broke the Roman Empire; its downfall was internal decay. The destruction is sudden and catastrophic, not gradual. It depicts a complete victory which will last forever.

--[The stone: Genesis 49:24; Isaiah 28:16; Zechariah 4:7; 10:4; Psalm 118:22; Matthew 21:42-44; Ephesians 2:20; 1 Peter 2:7.]

2:44-45 The Sixth Empire

⁴⁵ *“Inasmuch as you saw that **a stone** was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will take place in the future; so the dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy.”*



•44-45 The sixth empire is introduced apart from the image.

--[The stone: Genesis 49:24; Isaiah 28:16; Zechariah 4:7; 10:4; Psalm 118:22; Matthew 21:42-44; Ephesians 2:20; 1 Peter 2:7.]

The God of Heaven to Set Up a Kingdom.--We here reach the climax of this stupendous prophecy. When Time in his onward flight shall bring us to the sublime scene here predicted, we shall have reached the end of human history. The kingdom of God! Grand provision for a new and glorious dispensation, in which His people shall find a happy terminus of this world's sad, degenerate, and changing career. Transporting change for all the righteous, from gloom to glory, from strife to peace, from a sinful to a holy world, from death to life, from tyranny and oppression to the happy freedom and blessed privileges of a heavenly kingdom! Glorious transition, from weakness to strength, from the changing and decaying to the immutable and eternal!

The Bible plainly declares that the kingdom of God was still future at the time of our Lord's last Passover. (Matthew 26: 29.) Christ did not set up the kingdom before His ascension. (Acts 1: 6.) It states further that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of god. (1 Corinthians 15: 50.) It is a matter of promise to the apostles, and to all those who love God. (James 2: 5.) It is promised in the future to the little flock. (Luke 12: 32.) Through much tribulation the saints are to enter the coming kingdom. (Acts 14: 22.) It is to be set up when Christ shall judge the living and the dead. (2 Timothy 4: 1.) This is to be when He shall come in His glory with all His holy angels. (Matthew 25: 31-34.)

The early Christian church interpreted the prophecies of Daniel 2, 7, and 8 as we do now. Hippolytus, who lived A.D. 160-236, and is thought to have been a disciple of Irenaeus, one of the four greatest theologians of his age, says in his exposition of Daniel 2 and Daniel 7:

"The golden head of the image and lioness denoted the Babylonians; the shoulders and arms of silver, and the bear, represented the Persians and Medes; the belly and thighs of brass, and the leopard, meant the Greeks, who held the sovereignty from Alexander's time; the legs of iron, and the beast dreadful and terrible, expressed the Romans, who hold the sovereignty at present; the toes of the feet which were part clay and part iron, and the ten horns, were emblems of the kingdoms that are yet to rise; the other little horn that grows up among them meant the Antichrist in their midst; the stone that smites the earth and brings judgment upon the world was Christ." (Hippolytus, "Treatise on Christ and Antichrist," Ante-Nicene Fathers, Vol. V, p. 210, par 28.)

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdran2.htm>

The Crushing Stone

☼ Christ's first advent:
Rejected Stone

☼ Christ's second advent:
Crushing Stone

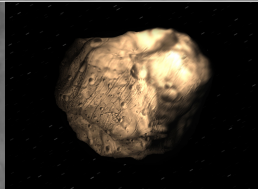
*"I shall give thanks to You, for You have
answered me,
And You have become my salvation.
The **stone** which the builders rejected
Has become the **chief corner stone**."
This is the LORD'S doing;
It is marvelous in our eyes." Psalm 118:21-24*

The stone in the Book of Daniel represents God not using any human agency to completely destroy the kingdoms of the man to put an end human history.

In the Lord's Prayer, when we ask Him for "Thy kingdom come" we are asking for this event to come soon, that His unending Kingdom will be fully established.

Josh. 8:30-31 ¶ Then Joshua built an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, in Mount Ebal,

Josh. 8:31 just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the sons of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, an altar of uncut stones on which no man had wielded an iron tool; and they offered burnt offerings on it to the LORD, and sacrificed peace offerings.

			
	<i>Image: Gentile</i>	<i>Stone: Messianic</i>	
	<i>Origin</i>	Human	Divine
	<i>Duration</i>	Temporary	Eternal
	<i>Stability</i>	Succeeded by another	Unconquerable
	<i>Dominion</i>	Europe-Asia	Worldwide

--This dream gives us an outline that is expanded through the latter half of the book.

Key Point:

Nebuchadnezzar attacked the sanctuary in Jerusalem and destroyed it. God shows this pagan king that there is a sanctuary far removed from this earth in heaven that he cannot destroy. The Rock who is Christ will come from that sanctuary and destroy all the kingdoms of the earth. The prophecy indicates this will happen sometime after World War 1 in the days of modern Europe. In the place of the kings of the earth, God will establish a Sanctuary kingdom that will never be destroyed again.

Christ's Second Coming

- ☼ Personal: Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16
- ☼ Visible: Revelation 1:7; Matthew 24:30
- ☼ Audible: 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
- ☼ Glorious: Matthew 24:27; 25:31
- ☼ Earth-shaking: Revelation 6:12-17



Chapter 2 Applications

- ☼ Daniel bloomed where he was planted
- ☼ God uses dreams and visions for the advancement of His kingdom
- ☼ God cares for nations **and** individuals



Applications.

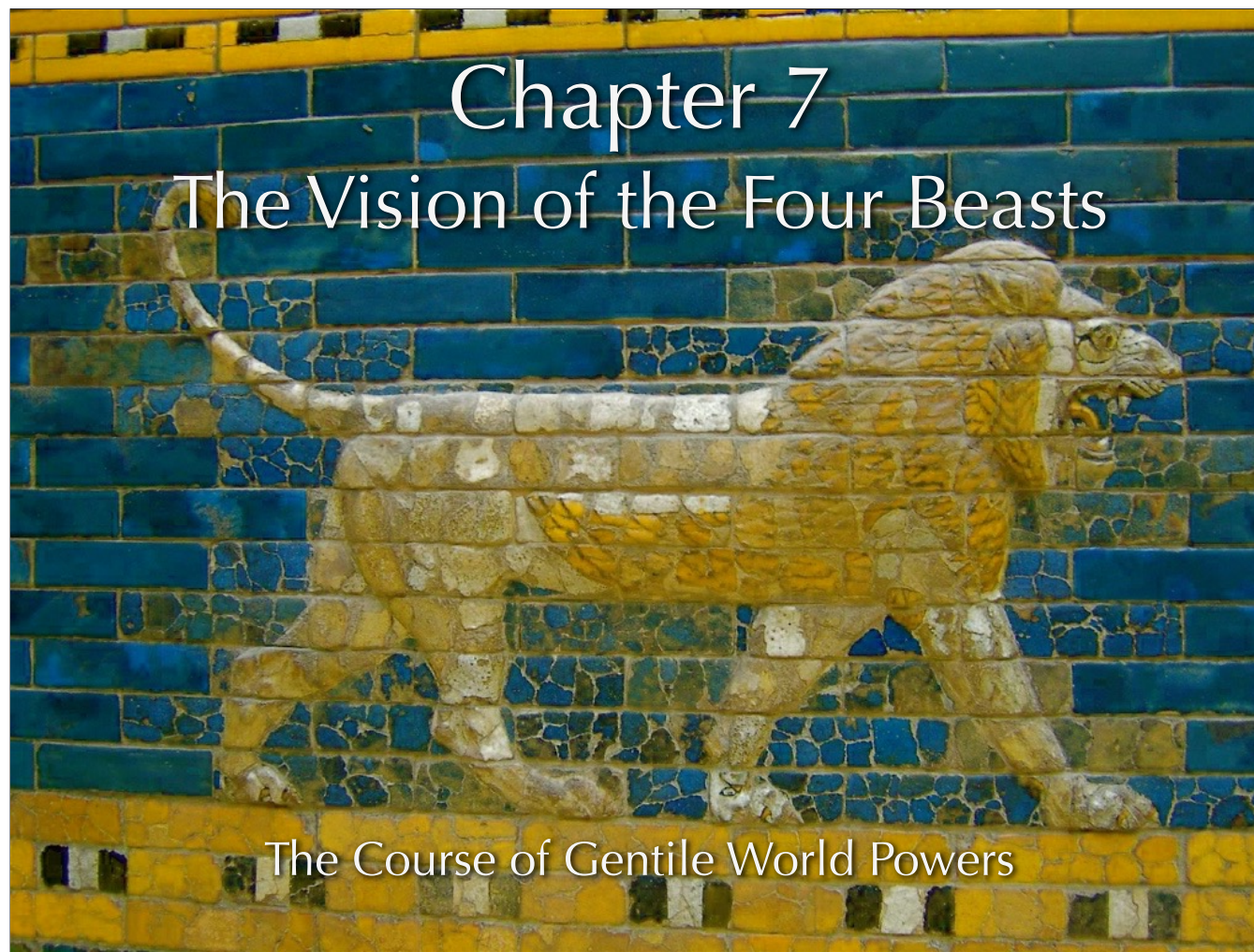
--Daniel was a godly man of integrity and character who was willing to take his stand in the society in which God placed him. Instead of complaining about his difficult situation, he was willing to bloom where he was planted. Similarly, God's purpose for us is to have an impact on the arena in which we live. He wants us to make an everlasting impression upon those whose lives we touch, so that as a result of being in contact with us, people are drawn closer to the Lord.

Chapter 2 Applications

- ☼ Just as God accurately predicted the rise and fall of each of the five kingdoms through Daniel, so we can also trust His prediction of the sixth and final kingdom
- ☼ *“The dream is **true** and its interpretation is **trustworthy**” (2:45)*
- ☼ The enemies of God may rule, but God promises to prevail on our behalf



“(Daniel’s) compulsory praise burst forth with God’s greatness... The highest theme of the Book of Daniel is undoubtedly the sovereignty of God (He has supremacy over all things and does whatever He desires with whomever or whatever He pleases)” Beth Moore, *Daniel*, p. 40. Note also that Daniel “switched back and forth between references about God and references to God....The point? Daniel’s psalm extols the sovereign God as intimately watchful over the nations but also over the life of His child.” p. 41



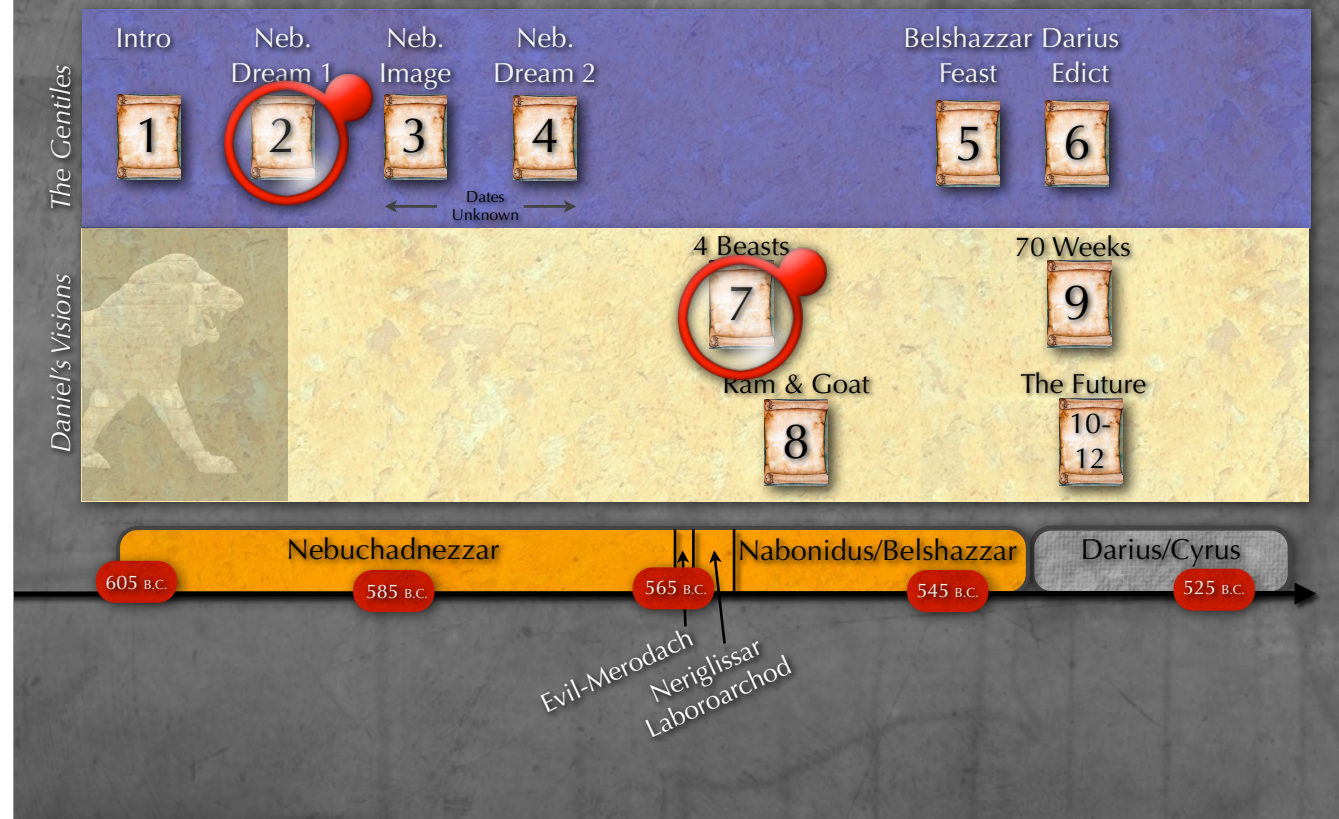
•Again, Daniel is developing a theme--the course of the Gentile world powers.

“Arguably the most important chapter in the Book of Daniel, chapter 7 represents the heart of this book. From this point forward, Daniel speaks to us in the first person. In Daniel 1-6, Daniel functions as the interpreter of dreams; but in Daniel 7-12, Daniel himself is the dreamer. And not only is he the dreamer, he actually participates within his dreams. Further, God will expand the limited vision He gave to Nebuchadnezzar by filling in more detail and expanding Daniel’s view about what will happen not just on earth with the Kingdoms of Men, but also with the Kingdom of God in a court scene.”
Beth Moore, Daniel 7 video

Chronologically chapter 7 and 8 take place before chapter 5. The reign of Belshazzar begins about the 553 B.C., so chapter 7 takes place in the first year and chapter 8 in the third year, or about 547 B.C.
Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter5/>

“The clock rewinds to the first year of Belshazzar’s reign at the time when Daniel is about 67 years old.” Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 134

Daniel's Visions



In chapters 2 and 4, Nebuchadnezzar had visions and Daniel interpreted them. In chapters 7ff., Daniel has the visions. The four visions given to Daniel occurred during the historical period covered in Daniel 1-6. (1) Daniel 7, about 555; (2) Daniel 8, about 552; (3) Daniel 9, about 538; (4) Daniel 10-12, about 536.

7:1 Daniel's Dreams

*¹"In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon
Daniel saw a dream and visions in his mind
as he lay on his bed;
then he wrote the dream down
and related the following summary of it..."*



Ishtar Gate Brick Frieze, Pergamon Museum, Berlin, Germany

In this chapter, Daniel has a combination of dreams and visions, or possibly a vision in his dream. There is distinct difference between a dream and a vision in the bible. A dream occurs in the process of sleep, while vision occurs when the subject is awake.

After the dream, Daniel wrote down what took place. Verses 2 through 27 record what happened in the dream, verse 1 and 28 record the events outside of the visions and dreamSource: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

The revelation in this chapter is dated "in the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon."

Nabonidus, his father, came to the throne in 556; but he apparently entrusted to Belshazzar the "army and the kingship" of Babylon while he himself campaigned in North and Central Arabia according to the Nabonidus Chronicle.

Daniel apparently dated events from the time this co regency began, thus making the "first year of Belshazzar" 556 or 555.

Source: <http://www.versebyverse.org/classnotes/Daniel/Daniel7.html>

7:2-3 Daniel's Dream of 4 Beasts



Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts,
Matthaeus the Elder, "Icones Biblicae," 1630

2 Daniel said, "I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the **four winds of heaven** were stirring up the great sea.

3 And **four great beasts** were coming up from the sea, different from one another."

17 "**These great beasts, which are four in number, are four kings** who will arise from the earth."

•2 "winds of heaven"/the heavenly powers of God's dominion. "the great sea"/humanity as a whole; see Revelation 13:1 and 17:15 (cf. Isa. 57:20). Turmoil and unrest of people and nations.

•3 The first three beast images are given as similes, but the last as a metaphor.

"V.17 interprets the sea to be symbolic of the 'earth,' and the beasts that rise out of this 'sea' are interpreted later in the chapter as being great 'earthly kingdoms.' Both interpretations work in Daniel 7 since all four earthly kingdoms represented by the beasts did emerge in the lands surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. Of course, their greater common denominator was domination over Israel." Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 137

Four winds of heaven: The word for wind is the same word for spirit, here the Aramaic word xwr Ruwach means wind. The illustration of the "winds" is found in Daniel 8:8 and 11:4 and signifies the heavenly powers of God setting in motion the earthly realms. The number four signifies the four quarters of the earth. This phrase could be understood as the forces of heaven. Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

The Great Sea: Seas, or waters, when used as Bible symbol, represent peoples, and nations, and tongues. Said the angel to the prophet John, "And he *said to me, "The waters which you saw... are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues. " Revelation 17: 15.

Confucius said "A picture is worth a thousand words." In the Book of Daniel, God's method is picture symbolism. He paints the scenes of human history with pictures. Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan07.html>

Prophecy Interpretation Note: The reference to these four beasts is their involvement with Jerusalem and the Jewish people. This is an important point to remember when trying to understand Bible prophecy. Many times groups will try to use a literal reference to Israel and symbolically apply it to themselves, forcing an interpretation.

Cults such as the Jehovah Witnesses and Mormons take passages that clearly refer to Israel and apply it to their group. They therefore misinterpret the passage and miss the meaning. Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

All Scripture language is to be taken literally, unless there exists some good reason for regarding it as figurative. All that is figurative is to be interpreted by that which is literal. That the language here used is symbolic is evident from verse 17, which reads, " These great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth." That kingdoms are intended, and not merely individual kings, is clear from the words, "But the saints of the Most High shall take the kingdom." In explaining verse 23, the angel said, "The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon the earth." these beasts are therefore symbols of four great kingdoms. The circumstances under which they arose, as represented in the prophecy, are also stated in symbolic language. Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm>

Among orthodox conservative theologians the four are almost universally considered to be the same four empire represented in the gold, silver, bronze, iron and iron-clay mix of the colossus of chapter two. That of course being Neo-Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome and the Revived Roman Empire (EU in its tribulational configuration). Source: <http://www.versebyverse.org/classnotes/Daniel/Daniel7.html>

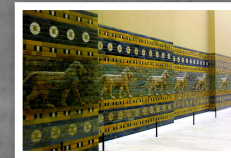
7:4 The First Beast: Winged Lion



Babylonian Coin



Babylon Lions



*⁴ “The first was **like a lion** and had the **wings of an eagle**. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it.”*

•4 Compare chapter 4. The national symbol of Babylon was a winged lion, and many of these statues have been discovered.

The New American Commentary states that “there may be truth to the idea that the image with its glittering metals portrays the world’s kingdoms from humanity’s viewpoint- impressive and great, whereas the beasts depict these earthly kingdoms from God’s perspective- vicious and destructive.” p. 218

I.e.: statues of winged lions guarding the gates to the royal palace. Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D010/D0101.html>

Note that the symbols for Babylon are all in the superlative: Gold is the finest of metals; the lion is king of the beasts; the eagle is lord of the air. Ancient Babylon was a mighty empire. Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan07.html>

Since these beasts denote four kings, or kingdoms, we inquire, Where shall we begin and what four empires are represented? These beasts arise consecutively, for they are enumerated from the first to the fourth. The last one is in existence when all earthly scenes are brought to an end by the final judgment. From the time of Daniel to the end of this world's history, there were to be but four universal kingdoms, as we learned from Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the great image in Daniel 2, interpreted by the prophet sixty-five years before. Daniel was still living under the kingdom denoted by the head of gold.

Why was not that first vision sufficient? We answer, The history of world empires is passed over again and again in order that additional characteristics may be brought out, and additional facts and features may be presented. It is thus that we have "line upon line" according to the Scriptures. In chapter 2, only the political aspects of world dominion are portrayed. Here earthly governments are introduced in their relationship to God's truth and God's people. Their true character is shown by symbols of wild and ravenous beasts.

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm>

Wings of an eagle: The symbolic use of wings is impressively described in Habakkuk 1: 6-8, where it is said that the Chaldeans should "fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat." <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm>

7:4 Expansion of 4:33-34

7:4 *"The first was like a lion and had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it."*

4:33 *"(Nebuchadnezzar's) ...body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws."*³⁴ *"But at the end of that period, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever"*



Note the repetition and expansion of the first beast (or kingdom) mentioned in Daniel 7 with the experience of “the head of Gold” of Babylon (Nebuchadnezzar) in 4:33–34

“The tearing off of the eagle’s wings probably represents the king’s season of insanity. That the lion ‘stood on two feet like a man, and the heart of a man was given to it’ reflects Nebuchadnezzar’s restoration and human heart thereafter” Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 138

He said, then, that a "lioness came up from the sea," and by that he meant the kingdom of the Babylonians in the world, which also was the head of gold on the image. In saying that "it had wings as of an eagle," he meant that Nebuchadnezzar the king was lifted up and was exalted against God. Then he says, "the wings thereof were plucked," that is to say, his glory was destroyed; for he was driven out of his kingdom. And the words, "a man's heart was given to it, and it was made stand upon the feet as a man," refer to the fact that he repented and recognised himself to be only a man, and gave the glory to God.
Source: Hippolytus- <http://www.ccel.org/fathers2/ANF-05/anf05-18.htm>

But how can the image be of Nebuchadnezzar if he is dead by the time of the reign of Belshazzar?

Alternative view: From these symbols we may easily deduce that Babylon was a kingdom of great strength, and that under Nebuchadnezzar its conquests were extended with great rapidity. But there came a time when the wings were plucked. It no longer rushed upon its prey like an eagle. The boldness and spirit of the lion were gone. A man's heart--weak, timorous, and faint--took the place of a lion's strength. Such was the case with the nation during the closing years of its history, when it had become enfeebled and effeminate through wealth and luxury.

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm>

7:5 The Second Beast: Bear



- ✿ Raised up: Medes and Persians were unequal
- ✿ Bear is Medo-Persia
- ✿ Rib 1: Lydia (defeated 546)
- ✿ Rib 2 Babylon (defeated 539)
- ✿ Rib 3 Egypt (defeated in 525)

⁵ *“And behold, another beast, a second one, **resembling a bear**. And it was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and thus they said to it, ‘Arise, devour much meat!’*

•5 "raised up on one side"/cf. the two horns of 8:3; the Medes and Persians were unequal. The bear is Medo-Persia, and the three ribs are the three great conquests that brought the Persians to power: Lydia (defeated in 546), Babylon (defeated in 539), and Egypt (defeated in 525). Cf. "westward, northward, and southward" in 8:4. At its full extent, the Persian Empire reached from the Indus River on the east to Egypt and the Aegean Sea on the west.

Like humans, bears are omnivores (not herbivores, as we commonly think of bears eating just berries), so this image of a ravaging bear/beast would resonate in the mind of the 6th Century B.C. individual.

As in the image of Daniel 2, so in this series of symbols a marked deterioration is noticed as we descend from one kingdom to another. The silver of the breast and arms is inferior to the gold of the head. The bear is inferior to the lion. Medo-Persia fell short of Babylon in wealth, magnificence, and brilliance. Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm>

Raised up on one side. At first the Medes and Persians ruled jointly, but that later the Persians rose to be the greater power over Astyages of Medes. Daniel 8: 3, 20 repeats this picture as a ram, identified as Medo-Persia, with one horn higher than the other. Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan07.html>

The armies of Cyrus were made of two main groups, Persian and Medes. Today the Iranians are descended from the Persians and the Kurds are of Median descent. These two people unified to defeat Babylon in 539 B.C. Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

Devour much meat: would naturally refer to the stimulus given to the Medes and Persians by the overthrow of the three provinces of Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt. The character of the power is well represented by a bear. The Medes and Persians were cruel and rapacious, robbers and spoilers of the people. This Medo-Persian kingdom continued from the overthrow of Babylon by Cyrus to the battle of Arbela in 331 B.C., a period of 207 years. Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm>

7:6 The Third Beast: Leopard



- ❖ Inferior to the lion, but swifter
- ❖ “Dominion was given to it”
- ❖ 4 heads = 4 divisions of Alexander’s empire in 323

*⁶ “After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, **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.*

•⁶ The leopard is inferior to the lion, but more swift. (This leopard has 4 wings compared to the lion’s 2 wings; Alexander was able to accomplish in 10 years what it took other kingdoms generations. "dominion was given to it"/military genius alone cannot account for how Alexander the Great’s army of 35,000 men could defeat the huge Persian army.

The Largest Army - Before the Greeks conquered Persia, Darius III assembled the largest army ever created (over 1,000,000 men from 40 different nations) to try and stop the progress of the Greeks. He was still defeated by Alexander in the Battle of Arbela (also known as the battle of Gaugamela), who had no money and only 35,000 men. Alexander was only 25 years old. The independent, warring Greek states allied themselves to fight for their freedom. Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre04histempire.html#medopersia>

“Leopard: If any kingdom is like a Leopard, it would be Greece. Alexander the Great succeeded his father, Phillip of Macedon, at his death in 323 B.C. Alexander was 23 years old when he became King of Greece. Alexander set out to destroy Greece’s old enemy, Persia. With lightening speed the armies of Greece quickly defeated Persia, first at the battle of Issus in 333 B.C. against Darius III. Alexander then defeated the Phoenicians at Tyre in 332 B.C., Palestine/Judea surrendered and he conquered Egypt in 331 B.C. In the ancient city of Nineveh he again met Darius III and defeated him again. Alexander then continued east all the way to the borders of India where his men refused to go any further, they then began the march back.

In the city of Babylon, where Alexander was proclaimed a god, he planned to establish his capital. In 323 B.C., Alexander the Great died at the age of 33. He had stretched the Greek Empire from Macedonia to India defeating the most powerful armies of the world in 10 years.

After his death, his kingdom was divided between his four generals. Lysimachus controlled Thrace and Bithynia; Cassander held Macedonia and Greece; Seleucus took Syria, Babylonia and territories as far east as India; and Ptolemy controlled Egypt, Palestine and Arabia Petera, Over the coming years the descendents of Ptolemy and Selucus would battle for control of Judea/Palestine. These two Greek kingdoms would be known as the Seleucids and the Ptolemies.

Greek power in Israel ended with the Maccabean revolt in 163 B.C. against Seleucid rule, what followed was a 100-year Jewish kingdom. In 63 B.C., the Jewish Kingdom sought for and received Roman intervention.” <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

--The four heads represent the fourfold division of Alexander's empire: in 323, Macedonia and Greece went to Cassander (East); Lysimachus took Thrace and Asia Minor (North); Ptolemy I took Palestine and Egypt (South); Seleucus I took Syria and Mesopotamia (what was left of Medo-Persia) (West).

4 Wings: Two wings, the number the lion had, were not sufficient; the leopard must have four. This would denote unprecedented celerity of movement, which we find to be a historical fact in the Grecian kingdom. The conquests of Grecia under Alexander had no parallel in ancient times for suddenness and rapidity. His military achievements are summarized by W. W. Tarn:

"He was a master in the combination of various arms; he taught the world the advantages of campaigning in winter, the value of pressing pursuit to the utmost, and the principle of 'march divided, fight united.' He marched usually in two division, one conducting the impediments and his own [division] traveling light; his speed of movement was extraordinary. It is said that he attributed his military success to 'never putting anything off.' . . . The enormous distances traversed in unknown country imply a very high degree of organizing ability; in ten years he had only two serious breakdowns.... Had a lesser man attempted what he achieved, and failed, we should have heard enough of the hopeless military difficulties of the undertaking." The Cambridge Ancient History, Vol. VI, pp. 425, 426.
Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm>

Alexander the Great's Conquests

1760 Map



Alexander's journey on a map from 1760. Media is prominently visible in the middle.

Image source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medes>



4 Heads = 4 Successors of Alexander the Great

☼ **Lysimachus** (North) - Asia Minor

☼ **Ptolemy** (South) - Egypt and Israel

☼ **Cassander** (West) - Macedonia and Greece

☼ **Seleucus I** (East) - Babylon, Persia and Syria



--The four heads represent the fourfold division of Alexander's empire, also known as the Diodachi on June 10, 323, when Alexander died in Babylon at the age of 33. Thus, Macedonia and Greece went to Cassander (East); Lysimachus took Thrace and Asia Minor (North); Ptolemy I took Palestine and Egypt (South); Seleucus I took Syria and Mesopotamia (what was left of Medo-Persia) (West).

Four heads: The four generals who took over the parts of Alexander's kingdom at his death continued the Greek culture. This is why the New Testament is written in Greek, the result of the Greek influence left by Alexander the Great and his succeeding commanders. Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

Thus accurately were the words of the prophet fulfilled. As Alexander left no available successor, why did not the huge empire break up into countless petty fragments? Why into just four parts, and no more?--For reasons that the prophecy foresaw and foretold. The leopard had four heads, the rough goat four horns, the kingdom was to have four divisions; and thus it was. (See more fully in comments on Daniel 8.)
Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm>

7:7 The Fourth Beast



- ☼ Metaphor, not a simile (vv. 19, 23)
- ☼ Mongrel of the first three beasts
- ☼ Has 10 horns

7 “After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, *a fourth beast, dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.*”

•7-8 A metaphor, not a simile. It is a mongrel of the first three; [see](#) Revelation 13:2.

[Dan. 7:19 ¶](#) “Then I desired to know the exact meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its claws of bronze, and which devoured, crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet,

[Dan. 7:23 ¶](#) “Thus he said: ‘The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it.

Dreadful: Daniel identifies this beast as dreadful. In contrast to the other three beasts, the Jews were affected most by Rome. Within 107 years, after Rome came to the assistance of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the Temple and the Jewish people would be nearly destroyed. Not until 1948 A.D. would a Jewish nation come back into existence.

“Inspiration finds no beast in nature to symbolize the power here illustrated. No addition of hoofs, heads, horns, wings, scales, teeth, or nails to any beast found in nature will answer. This power is diverse from all the others, and the symbol is wholly different from anything found in the animal kingdom. But nature furnishes no symbol which can fitly illustrate the fourth kingdom. The vision therefore introduces a beast the likeness of which was never before seen, a beast dreadful and terrible, with nails of brass, and teeth of iron, so cruel, rapacious, and fierce that from mere love of oppression it devoured, and broke in pieces, and trampled its victims beneath its feet.” <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm#f1>

Iron teeth: Iron is also used to describe the fourth kingdom in chapter 2. The legs were made of Iron and the feet of Iron and clay. Perhaps it is the huge, inorganic iron teeth and brass claws that made this organic beast different from the other beasts.

Following the seesaw battle for Judea/Palestine by the successors of Alexander the Great, the Seleucids under Antiochus Epiphanies in 163 B.C. decided to turn Judea into a Greek border state after he was humiliated by Roman power in Egypt. Antiochus attempts to destroy the Jewish religion as recorded in the book of I Maccabees.

“ 10 And there came out of them a wicked root Antiochus surnamed Epiphanes, son of Antiochus the king, who had been an hostage at Rome, and he reigned in the hundred and thirty and seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks.

54 Now the fifteenth day of the month Casleu, in the hundred forty and fifth year, they set up the abomination of desolation upon the altar, and builded idol altars throughout the cities of Juda on every side; 55 And burnt incense at the doors of their houses, and in the streets. 56 And when they had rent in pieces the books of the law which they found, they burnt them with fire. 57 And whosoever was found with any the book of the testament, or if any committed to the law, the king’s commandment was, that they should put him to death. 58 Thus did they by their authority unto the Israelites every month, to as many as were found in the cities. 59 Now the five and twentieth day of the month they did sacrifice upon the idol altar, which was upon the altar of God. 60 At which time according to the commandment they put to death certain women, that had caused their children to be circumcised. 61 And they hanged the infants about their necks, and rifled their houses, and slew them that had circumcised them.”

I Maccabees 1:10,54-61

The acts by Antiochus led to a revolt by a group of pious Jews who would become known as the Maccabeans. There kingdom would begin with the defeat of the Greeks and the restoration of the Temple. This is where the story of Chanukah originates,. This kingdom would end when two brothers, descendents of the priestly family ask Rome to help settle the dispute on who should succeed the Jewish throne.

Rome was founded in 753 B.C. by Romulus, who became its first king. Rome grew as it defeated its neighboring cities. Roman power conquered Sicily and the rest of the Italian peninsula. Rome then attacked Carthage, in North Africa in what became known as the Punic wars. Following the defeat of Carthage, Rome consolidated its power in the Mediterranean or Great Sea under the leadership of Roman general Pompey. This growing Roman power led to the request of assistance by the Maccabean Jewish nation, on which brother had the right to succession. Rome decision was not welcomed by all the Jews, they rejected Roman demands, leading to their defeat.

In 63 B.C. the Roman general Pompey conquered the city of Jerusalem, killing 12,000 Jewish holdouts on the Temple Mount. He then installed a Roman puppet government, thus ending the independent Jewish Maccabean nation. In 70 A.D., the Roman armies would destroy the city of Jerusalem, the Temple and over one million Jews would die at the hands of Rome. The Jewish people would be scattered throughout the world.

Roman rule over Jerusalem would continue until the Muslim defeat of the Byzantines, the Roman successors in 634 A.D.

Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

Fourth Beast: Mongrel of First Three Beasts



The Fourth Beast,
Moses Ben Abraham, Chronique de la Bible, 1290

*Rev. 13:2 "And the beast which I saw
was like a **leopard**,
and his feet were like those of a **bear**,
and his mouth like the mouth of a **lion**.
And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority."*

This monster symbolizes a world empire which causes great terror on earth.

The dreadful, terrible beast, sometimes thought of as a dragon, represents the cruel, crushing power of Rome. Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan07.html>

"Interestingly, no other comparable world power or empire has since risen" [from Roman times]. When the hordes from the north conquered the Roman Empire in the fifth century A.D., they did not unite to form another empire. Instead individual nations emerged out of the old Roman Empire. Some of those nations and others stemming from them have continued till the present day." Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 141

7:8 Fourth Beast's Horns



- 10 horns = 10 nations
- 11th horn = a powerful man
- Conquers 3 nations; rules over remaining 7

8 “While I was contemplating the horns, behold, *another horn, a little one, came up among them*, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great boasts.

The ten horns are nations, but the eleventh horn is a powerful man (eyes and a mouth--intelligence and boastful claims). He will conquer three of the nations and the remaining seven will submit to him.

The ten horns add new meaning to this beast. They symbolize a future form of the Roman Empire - the Revived Roman Empire. Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D010/D0102.html>

The ten horns are equivalent to the ten toes of Daniel 2. Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan07.html>

7:9-10 Courtroom of God

9 *"I kept looking
Until thrones were set up,
And **the Ancient of Days** took His seat;
His vesture was like white snow
And the hair of His head like pure wool.
His throne was ablaze with flames,
Its wheels were a burning fire.*



The Creation,
Michelangelo, ca. 1510
The Sistine Chapel, Rome

•9-10 God the Father. Cf. Ezekiel 1 vision of the glory of God, and Revelation 4-5. A picture of His sovereignty over history and judgment of the nations.

The little horn scene is interrupted by the Ancient of Days scene, who will judge the little horn, aka. "The Beast" (Rev. 19:11, 19-20).

Here we see a picture of a judgment scene in Heaven occurring sometime after the appearance of the little horn. According to verses 21-22, the Judgment is in favor of God's people and their possession of the kingdom. Matthew says that the meek shall inherit the earth. This judgment fulfills that promise. Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan07.html>

Daniel is watching two scenes, one on earth and one in heaven.

On earth, he sees a beast dreadful and terrible, with 7 remaining horns from the original 10, and a new little horn with eyes and a pompous mouth. Daniel also sees the beast having iron teeth destroying its victims, crushing them under foot.

In Heaven, he watches God's courtroom, about to judge the events taking place on earth, in particular this beast and its "Little horn". Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>
Ancient of Days: This term is only used here in the Bible, three times in this chapter in verses 9, 13, and 22.

Verses 9-10 and 13-14 are poetry and verses 11-12 are prose.

Source: <http://www.versebyverse.org/classnotes/Daniel/Daniel7.html>

10 "A river of fire was flowing
And coming out from before Him;
Thousands upon thousands were attending Him,
And myriads upon myriads were standing before Him;
The court sat,
And the books were opened.



The Ancient of Days presiding over a court scene, opening books of judgment.

The Ancient of Days



- The name of God the Father
- “Ancient” (eternal)
- “Days” (time)
- He will judge and resolve all wrongs throughout history

Note that Dani-el means “God is my judge” or “God has judged,” drawing attention to a crucial aspect of God’s nature.

The “Ancient of Days” is a special name of God, for it bears witness to his eternal nature, an essential attribute of the job description for GOD ALMIGHTY. Though “days” speaks of time, it is spoken of only in human terms, because time does not apply to the Uncreated One who can see all events in time equally vividly, yet he also can see events in time and act in time.

We were created for eternity, and being made in the image of the Ancient of Days, our souls hope that we will continue to exist into eternity.

This Ancient of Days has been sitting on his judgment throne since the first day of creation to the end of human time. Since He never wonders, is never surprised, can’t be fooled, can’t learn anything since He already knows everything, and never sleeps, he will judge every human that ever existed. He will right every wrong. The guilty will in no way get off scot-free. He will judge and repay for every secret or public act, word, thought. We can trust that despite a world full of temporal injustice, the Ancient of Days will judge and correct all wrongs. (idea Source: Beth Moore, Dan. 7 Video)

7:11-12 The Fourth Beast Judged



*¹¹ “Then I kept looking because of the sound of the boastful words which the horn was speaking; I kept looking until **the beast was slain, and its body was destroyed** and given to the burning fire.*

¹² “As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but an extension of life was granted to them for an appointed period of time.

•11-12 The fourth beast is the one judged; Gentile powers will be broken. Cf. Revelation 19:20.

I kept looking: Daniel's view shifts back to earth from Heaven.

Boastful words: This little horn is characterized by his great words. Daniel is amazed at what he is saying, almost as if stunned by his words. In Revelation we see a similar scene, where John like Daniel focuses on a particular head of the beast:

5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.

6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. Revelation 13:5-6

Beast slain: Daniel witnesses the destruction of this terrible beast, in the fiery flame. This is a summary statement of the final out come of this beast and horn. God is victorious and this beast is judged in the fiery flame. Revelation has parallel with greater detail.

19:19 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.

19:20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. Revelation 19:19-20

Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

Rest of the Beasts. This is Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome.

Dominion Taken Away. They all lost world super power status when they were conquered by the next power. Pagan Rome was carved up by the Barbarian hordes from the north.

Extension of Life. Although they lost power over other nations, they were to remain as nations until the end of time. The surviving nations are Iraq (Babylon), Iran (Persia), Greece and Italy (Rome).

“The key points in this passage are the fact that the beast starts with ten horns and that a new horn comes to power by removing three of the ten horns. This leaves eight horns. These horns are kings who rule different nations of the world (Dan. 7:24). These are the key points.

Liberal View. The first view is held by some who reject the Bible as being the Word of God. It is called the Liberal View. This view says that the monster is the nation of Syria or the Seleucidae Empire. They claim that Syria had seven kings and Antiochus Epiphanes, the eighth king, was the little horn.

This view ignores the fact that the prophecy says the kings will not rule sequentially, but at the same time. The ten kings will live at the same time. The Syrian kings ruled in sequence, as a normal monarchy, and not concurrently. Another reason this view is in error is that there will be ten kings and Syria only had eight kings. This view ignores key facts of the prophecy and as a result is rejected.

Roman Catholic View. The next view says that the monster, including the horns, is the Roman Empire of the past. That is, the beast is simply historical. This is a view held by some Amillennialists.

This view states that the Roman Empire was a collection of ten nations: Britain, Egypt, Germany, Greece, France, Italy, Macedonia, Spain and others. It states that the little horn is the pope of the Roman Catholic Church, and they teach that the pope removed three kings from different nations at different periods of time. It states that the church is the physical kingdom on earth.

There are several problems with this view. First, those who hold this view do not agree among themselves as to which countries are the ten countries. Even the historic maps of the Roman Empire do not agree with their list of countries since they include more than ten countries. In fact, around A.D. 750, at the height of the Roman Empire, there were thirteen dioceses (R. R. Palmer. Historical Atlas of the World, Rand McNally. p. 8). That is a major problem. Second, this view ignores the fact once again that ten kings ruled at the same time and that a new king came to power by crushing three existing kings. They have also ignored the fact the pope has never been a king and they miss the point that the pope did not come to “power” as the result of defeating three ruling kings. That never happened. The Roman Catholic Church peacefully assumed religious authority. Further, the church is not a world military power.

The Caesar view. Another view says that the ten horns of the beast were the Caesars of the Roman Empire. This view has a major problem since the Roman Empire had eighty-five Caesars. This position is also to be rejected.”

Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D010/D0107.html>



¹³ *"I kept looking in the night visions,
And behold, with the clouds of heaven
One like a Son of Man was coming,
And He came up to the Ancient of Days
And was presented before Him.*

7:13-14 Son of Man: Messianic Kingdom

¹⁴ *"And to Him was given dominion,
Glory and a kingdom,
That all the peoples, nations and men of every language
Might serve Him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
Which will not pass away;
And His kingdom is one
Which will not be destroyed.*

•13-14 God the Son. "Son of Man"/See Matthew 24:30; 26:64. The Messianic kingdom. See Psalm 2:8; Luke 1:32-33; Revelation 11:15.

This scene that God is showing Daniel is nothing less than the coronation of the Messiah King. (Source: Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 135)

Psa. 2:8 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,
And the very ends of the earth as Your possession.

Luke 1:32 "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David;

Luke 1:33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

Rev. 11:15 ¶ Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying,
¶ "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."

v. 13 This is the verse from Daniel most quoted in the NT.

I kept looking: Daniel's view now shift back to the scene taking place in Heaven.

Like the Son of man: Daniel sees a person, of human descent, a "Son of man", approaching the throne of the Ancient of Days. The term Son of man means exactly that, a descendent of humanity. Jesus used the term "Son of man" more than any other term to describe himself. Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

Ancient of Days: Daniel sees the "Son of Man", a descendent of humanity, approach the throne of God. Daniel is revealing the dual nature of Messiah. The Messiah would be fully God and fully man, a descendent of man. His first coming, the Messiah would be born into the world and die, (Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 53:5,8). This is how he came to be a "Son of man", he needed to be born of a woman.

He comes with the clouds, because he is fully God, but first had to be born into humanity. At his second coming He will come to judge the earth, and kingdoms of the earth. Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

Here we witness a very important ceremony before the Second Coming. Christ formally receives the kingdom from the Ancient of Days in the judgment. Christ comes to the throne room and takes His kingdom back from the little horn as He rescues His church from that power. So, Jesus comes in to the Father, and receives the following:

* **Everlasting Dominion.** The dominion is taken from the little horn power and given to the Son of Man. This dominion was transferred to Satan when Adam sinned, and Satan gave his authority to the dragon and the beast (the little horn). (Revelation 13: 2, 4)

But the court will sit and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever. (Daniel 7: 26)

* **Glory.** One final message warns the world to give glory to God.

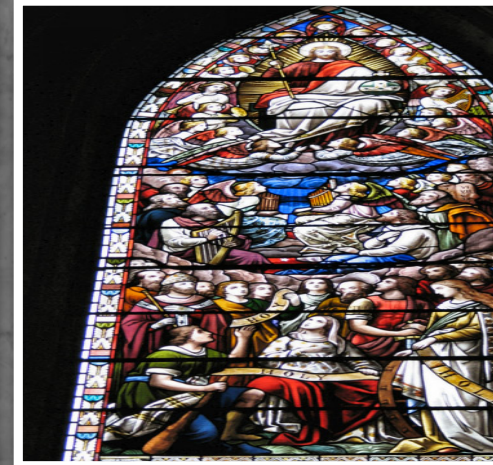
"And I saw another angel flying in mid-heaven, having the everlasting glad tidings to announce to those settled on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God and give him glory, for the hour of his judgment has come; and do homage to him who has made the heaven and the earth and the sea and fountains of waters." (Revelation 14: 6-7)

* **Kingdom.** This echoes the symbol of the stone smashing the idol in Daniel 2. Christ will replace all kingdoms with a kingdom that will last forever.

Source: <http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan07.html>

Luke 1:32-33 "He will be great and will be called the *Son of the Most High*; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and *His kingdom will have no end.*"

Rev. 11:15 "Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the *kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ*; and He will reign forever and ever."



Jesus' Allusion to Daniel 7:13 Brought His Death Sentence

Mark 14:60-64 The high priest stood up and came forward and questioned Jesus, saying, "Do You not answer? What is it that these men are testifying against You?"

*⁶¹ But He kept silent and did not answer. Again the high priest was questioning Him, and saying to Him,
"Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?"*

After His arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, the high priest questions Jesus, who responds by quoting from Daniel 7:13. Jesus knew He was quoting from Daniel, and He knew that the high priest would know this as well, thus inciting his fury. For this offense, they deemed Jesus as deserving of death. They spit on Him, struck Him, stripped Him, and crucified Him for this.

But the Ancient of Days judges Jesus, the Son of Man, the Word made Flesh, as worthy of everlasting dominion.

Jesus' Allusion to Daniel 7:13 Brought His Death Sentence

⁶² And Jesus said, "I am; and you shall see *THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN.*"

⁶³ Tearing his clothes, the high priest said,
"What further need do we have of witnesses?"

⁶⁴ "You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?"
And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death.

After His arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, the high priest questions Jesus, who responds by quoting from Daniel 7:13. Jesus knew He was quoting from Daniel, and He knew that the high priest would know this as well, thus inciting his fury. For this offense, they deemed Jesus as deserving of death. They spit on Him, struck Him, stripped Him, and crucified Him for this.

But the Ancient of Days judges Jesus, the Son of Man, the Word made Flesh, as worthy of everlasting dominion.

7:15-16 Daniel Seeks to Learn the Meaning of the Vision

¹⁵ “As for me, Daniel, my spirit was *distressed* within me, and the visions in my mind kept *alarming me*.”



Angel Gabriel in *The Annunciation*,
Leonardo da Vinci, 1472-1475,
Galleria degli Uffizi, Florence

¹⁶ “I approached one of those who were standing by and began asking him the exact meaning of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things:

15: These visions deeply impacted Daniel on an emotional level, just as Nebuchadnezzar’s dream of the tree did, 4:19.

Much of the book of Daniel interprets the book of Daniel. We don’t need to speculate about its meaning. The angel explained to Daniel what the different elements in his dream meant, the beasts and the horns.

¹⁷ *These great beasts, which are **four** in number, are **four kings** who will arise from the earth.*

Daniel 2 Vision

Daniel 7 Vision

Gold

Silver

Bronze

Iron



Babylon

605-539 B.C.

Medo-Persia

539-331 B.C.

Greece

331-146 B.C.

Rome

146 B.C.- A.D. 476



Repetition and enlargement--Critics dislike this chapter because of its accuracy. They make the last kingdom Greece. "An interesting motif of the four kingdoms is that they become increasingly large, diverse, violent and unstable. Babylon is portrayed as highly unified, while Persians in two parts (one dominant over the other). Greece has four heads and Rome has a multiplicity of divisions." NIV Archaeological Study Bible, Zondervan, 2005 p. 1388

While, there were literally thousands of kingdoms on the earth during the period of time from Babylon in 605 B.C. to the end of time, the relationship with Israel is what is being viewed. Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome were the great powers in control over the people of Israel. Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

God often uses the principle of repetition and enlargement in unfolding the development of prophecy. That means the same history is repeated using different symbolism as the themes are enlarged and described in fuller detail. Daniel 7 repeats and enlarges the prophecy of Daniel 2. (<http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan07.html>)

--Continuity of empires. Parallel to the image in chapter 2. Chapter 2 (Nebuchadnezzar's vision) gives the human viewpoint (a glorious image; Christ a rough stone); but this chapter (Daniel's vision) gives the divine perspective (human kingdoms are ravenous beasts).

God gave both Nebuchadnezzar (Ch.2) and Daniel (Ch.7) dreams about the future, but Daniel's dream has more details.

"Daniel 2:41-42 talks about the toes of the feet of Nebuchadnezzar's statue and Daniel 7 refers to ten horns on the monster. This is the future empire which will be a coalition of ten nations. It will control the world. This coalition of ten nations will come to power during a time we call the Tribulation. It will be a terrible time in which to live. Jesus spoke of this future empire during his last recorded sermon, the Olivet Discourse. He warned those who were listening and He warns us today about the misery this empire will cause.

But pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath; for then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall. And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short. (NASB) Matt. 24:20-22" Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D010/D0102.html>

1843 Daniel Chart by Apollos Hale and Charles Fitch



Christians have frequently attempted to calculate the end times, as evidenced by this chart created in 1843. Note the two calculations yielding the 1843 date on the right page upper middle.

It seems that in 1843 many people were in a bit of a hysteria, warning that 1843 would be the end, based upon their calculations from the book of Daniel and Revelation.

New York Tribune Article, 1843

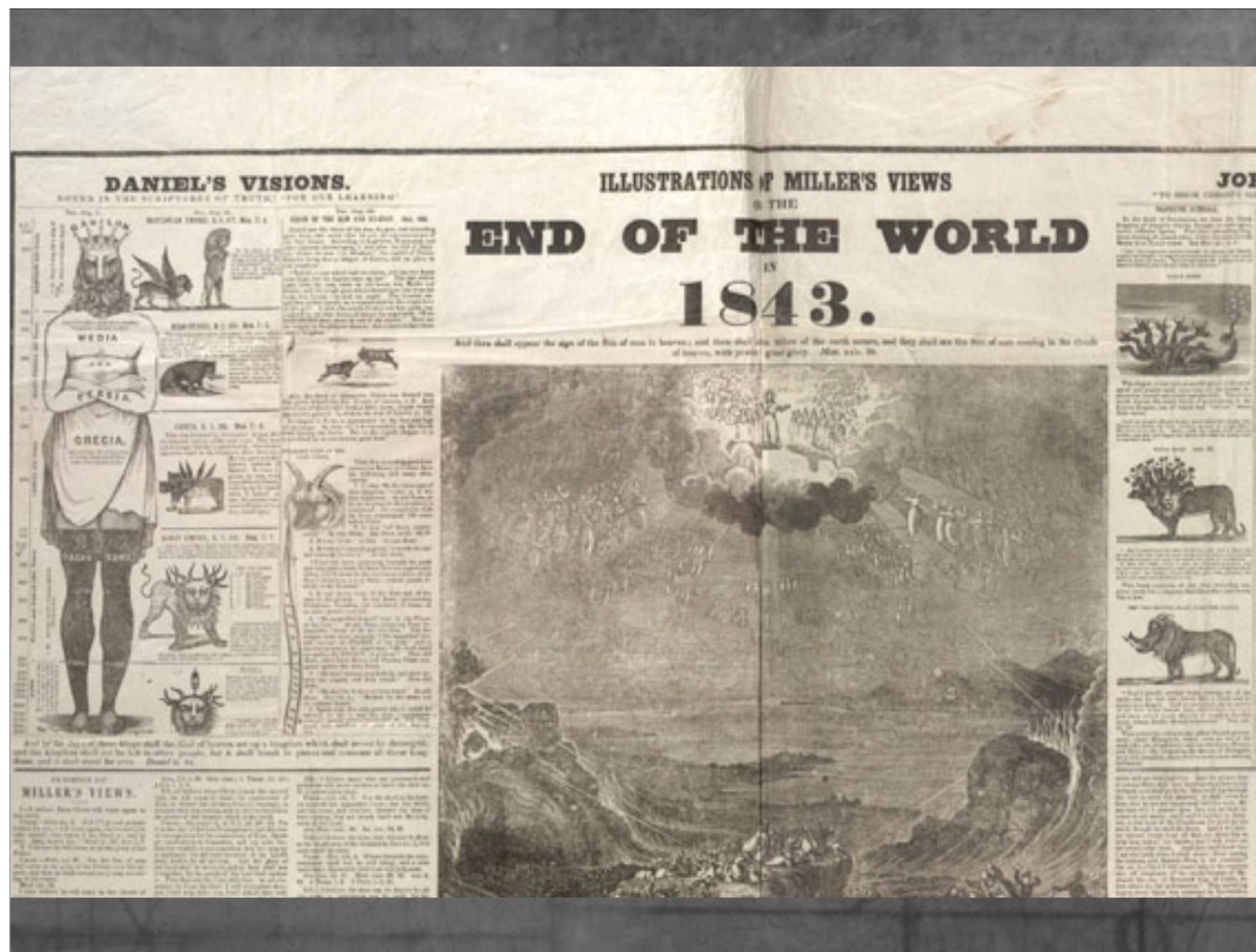
NEW-YORK EXTRA TRIBUNE

DANIEL'S VISIONS.



JOHN'S VISIONS.

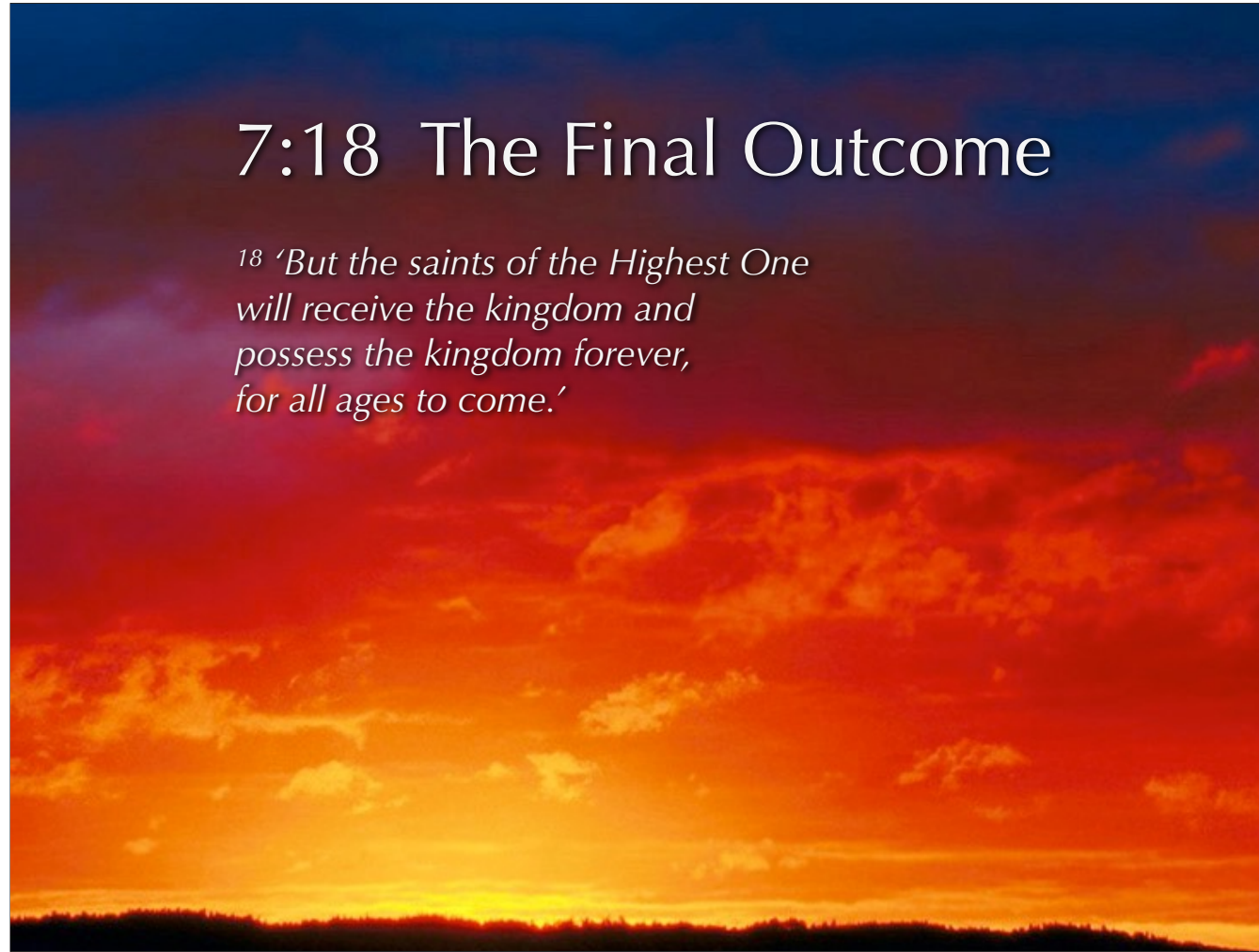




Here William Miller compares Daniel's visions to the Apostle John's revelations, again, in 1843, over 150 years ago, mistakenly believing that their generation would experience the end of the world.

7:18 The Final Outcome

*¹⁸ 'But the saints of the Highest One
will receive the kingdom and
possess the kingdom forever,
for all ages to come.'*



The saints! despised, reproached, persecuted, cast out; looked upon as the least likely of all men ever to realize their hopes--these shall take the kingdom, and possess it forever. The usurpation and misrule of the wicked shall come to an end. The inheritance forfeited because of sin shall be redeemed. Peace and righteousness shall reign eternally over all the fair expanse of the earth made new. Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm#f1>

v. 18 "For all ages to come" literally means "to the forever and to the forever of forevers" Source: John Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, eds., *The Bible Knowledge Commentary of the OT* (Wheaton, Illinois: SP Publications, Inc. 1985), 1350.

7:19-20 The Fourth Beast Intrigues Daniel

*¹⁹ “Then I desired to know the exact meaning of **the fourth beast**, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its claws of bronze, and which devoured, crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet,*

*²⁰ and the meaning of the **ten horns** that were on its head and the **other horn** which came up, and before which three of them fell, namely, **that horn** which had eyes and a mouth uttering great boasts and which was larger in appearance than its associates.*

•19-20 The emphasis is on the fourth beast and not the others. It is a composite kingdom made up of the other three. Daniel is especially concerned with "the other horn."

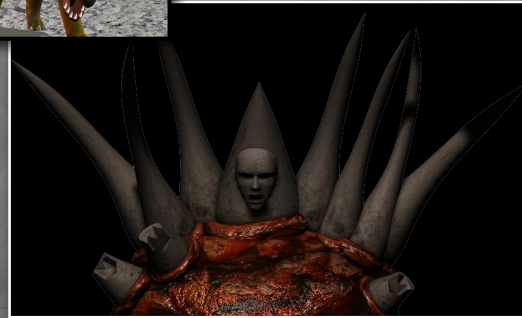
“Basically two possibilities exist for fulfillment of this prophecy. It must either apply to ancient Rome or it must be yet future. Some believe that the fourth beast and 10 horns applies to first century Rome. They point to the persecution under the Roman emperors Nero and Domitian. However, no historical 10 kingdoms seem to fit. I believe the precision of the prophecy calls for fulfillment yet to come in our future.

We call the era in which we live the church age. It began with the birth of the NT church in Acts 2 when God poured out His Spirit upon the disciples and added about three thousand to their number (see Acts 2:41). ... Many scholars hold that the time of the 10 horns is yet future, that the present church age is not seen in this vision, and that 10 kings will coexist over a future revived [or realigned] Roman Empire. If the 10-horned era of the fourth beast DOES overlap with the present age, it must be toward the end of it. ” Beth Moore, Daniel, P. 141

This will be the final kingdom of earthly power, which will set itself against the God of heaven. Out of this kingdom will arise a final king, the little horn, who will set himself against God and the people of God, the saints. This in summary is what book of Revelation is about from chapters 6 to 19. This is the final conflict between the kingdoms of men and god. Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>

Astounding as all (the previous beasts were) to the prophet, there was something still more remarkable that gripped his attention. A little horn came up, and true to the nature of the beast from which it sprang, thrust aside three of its fellows. Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan7.htm#f1>

7:21 The Eleventh Horn Wages War



The Beast Wages War Against the Saints,
ca 1325 Illuminated manuscript, Rev.13

²¹ "I kept looking, and that *horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them* ²² until the Ancient of Days came and judgment was passed...

•21 The eleventh horn made war with the saints--tribulation saints. Particular emphasis on the persecution of Israel.

The Little Horn = The Roman Papacy Argument: "As these horns denote kingdoms, the little horn must denote a kingdom also, yet not of the same nature, because it was diverse from the others. They were political kingdoms. Now we have but to inquire if, since A.D. 476, any kingdom has risen among the ten division of the Roman Empire which was diverse from them all; and if so, what one? The answer is, Yes, the spiritual kingdom of the papacy. It answers to the symbol in every particular, as we shall see as we proceed.

Daniel beheld this power making war upon the saints. Has such a war been waged by the papacy? Millions of martyrs answer, Yes. Witness the cruel persecutions of the Waldenses, the Albigenses, and Protestants in general, by the papal power. The first pastors, or bishops, of Rome enjoyed a respect proportionate to the rank of the city in which they resided. For the first few centuries of the Christian Era, Rome was the largest, richest, and most powerful city in the world. It was the seat of empire, the capital of the nations. "All the inhabitants of the earth belong to here," said Julian; and Claudian declared her to be the "fountain of laws." "If Rome is the queen of cities, why should not her pastor be the king of bishops?" was the reasoning these Roman pastors put forth. "Why should not the Roman Church be the mother of Christendom? Why should not all nations be her children, and her authority their sovereign law?" "Can anyone doubt that this is true of the papacy? The Inquisition, the 'persecutions of the Waldenses,' the ravages of the Duke of Alva; the fires of Smithfield; the tortures at Goa--indeed, the whole history of the papacy may be appealed to in proof that his is applicable to that power. If anything could have 'worn out the saints of the Most High'--could have cut them off from the earth of that evangelical religion would have become extinct, it would have been the persecutions of the papal power. In the year 1208, a crusade was proclaimed by Pope Innocent III against the Waldenses and Albigenses, in which a million of men perished. From the beginning of the order of the Jesuits, in the year 1540, to 1580, nine hundred thousand were destroyed. One hundred and fifty thousand perished by the Inquisition in thirty years. In the Low Countries fifty thousand persons were hanged, beheaded, burned, and buried alive, for the crime of heresy, within the space of thirty-eight years from the edict of Charles V against the Protestants, to the peace of Chateau Cambreses in 1559. Eighteen thousand suffered by the hand of the executioner in the space of five years and a half during the administration of the Duke of Alva. Indeed, the slightest acquaintance with the history of the papacy will convince any one that what is here said of 'making war with the saints' (verse 21), and 'wearing out the saints of the Most High' (verse 25), is strictly applicable to that power, and will accurately describe its history." "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 complete knowledge of history. Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drda7.htm>

The genocide of believers was especially gruesome and troubling to him (v.21). Source: <http://www.versebyverse.org/classnotes/Daniel/Daniel7.html><http://www.versebyverse.org/classnotes/Daniel/Daniel7.html><http://www.versebyverse.org/classnotes/Daniel/Daniel7.html>

7:24 Ten Horns = Ten Kings

²⁴ 'As for the *ten horns*, out of this kingdom *ten kings* will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings.



•24 The little horn conquers three nations in his rise to power, and the other seven submit to him. See Revelation 13:1; 17:12-13.

Rev. 13:1 ¶ And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore.

¶ Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.

Rev. 17:12 “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.

Rev. 17:13 “These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast.

“ In Daniel’s dream we find that the little horn - a world leader - rises up and gains control of three of the world leaders or nations. Now there are only seven of the original ten leaders or nations plus the little horn. The little horn is the antichrist and he rules this great world coalition. This world coalition is a group of nations who come together to control the world. We believe they will come from Europe and from European ancestry. This world coalition will take control during a period of time we call the Tribulation.” Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D010/D0103.html>

Another will arise: This “Little horn” is known as the Antichrist, or the false messiah in Judaism. He will deceive the whole world and persecute the people of God. God will allow this persecution to continue for a period. Revelation sheds more light on this individual and his program in the end:

5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.

6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.

7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. Revelation 13:5-8

Source: <http://www.truthnet.org/Daniel/Chapter7/>



Beast of the Sea, Matthaeus the Elder, 1630

Ten Horns in *Revelation*

Rev. 13:1 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.

Rev. 17:12-13 “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. “These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast.



The Great Red Dragon and the Beast from the Sea, William Blake, c. 1805, National Gallery of Art, Washington

7:25 The Little Horn Against God

25 'He will *speak out against the Most High ...*

2Th. 2:3-4 "Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and *the man of lawlessness* is revealed, the son of destruction, *who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship*, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God."

Rev. 13:5-6 "There was given to him *a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies*, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.
And he *opened his mouth in blasphemies against God*, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven."

The Unholy Trinity: Dragon, Beast, False Prophet

1

*Rev. 20:2-3 And he laid hold of **the dragon, the serpent** of old, who is **the devil** and **Satan**, and bound him for a thousand years; and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.*

2

*Rev. 19:19-20 And **the beast** was seized, and with him **the false prophet** who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.*

3

Just to make sure we're on the same page about the major characters in the end times.

Satan has multiple names, as is shown in Rev. 20: the dragon, the serpent, the devil. He's in cahoots with the beast (the fourth beast in Daniel 7– symbolic for a kingdom and its ruler, the antichrist), as well as the false prophet, who is a human being.

Four Titles for the Little Horn

“Antichrist”

*1 John 2:18 Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that **antichrist** is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.*

Little horn= man of lawlessness= son of destruction = the beast

He is not the dragon, nor the false prophet, who is also a human.

Four Titles for the Little Horn

“Man of Lawlessness/Son of Destruction”

*2 Th. 2:3-4 Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the **man of lawlessness** is revealed, the **son of destruction**, who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.*

Little horn= man of lawlessness= son of destruction = the beast

He is not the dragon, nor the false prophet, who is also a human.

Four Titles for the Little Horn

“The Beast”

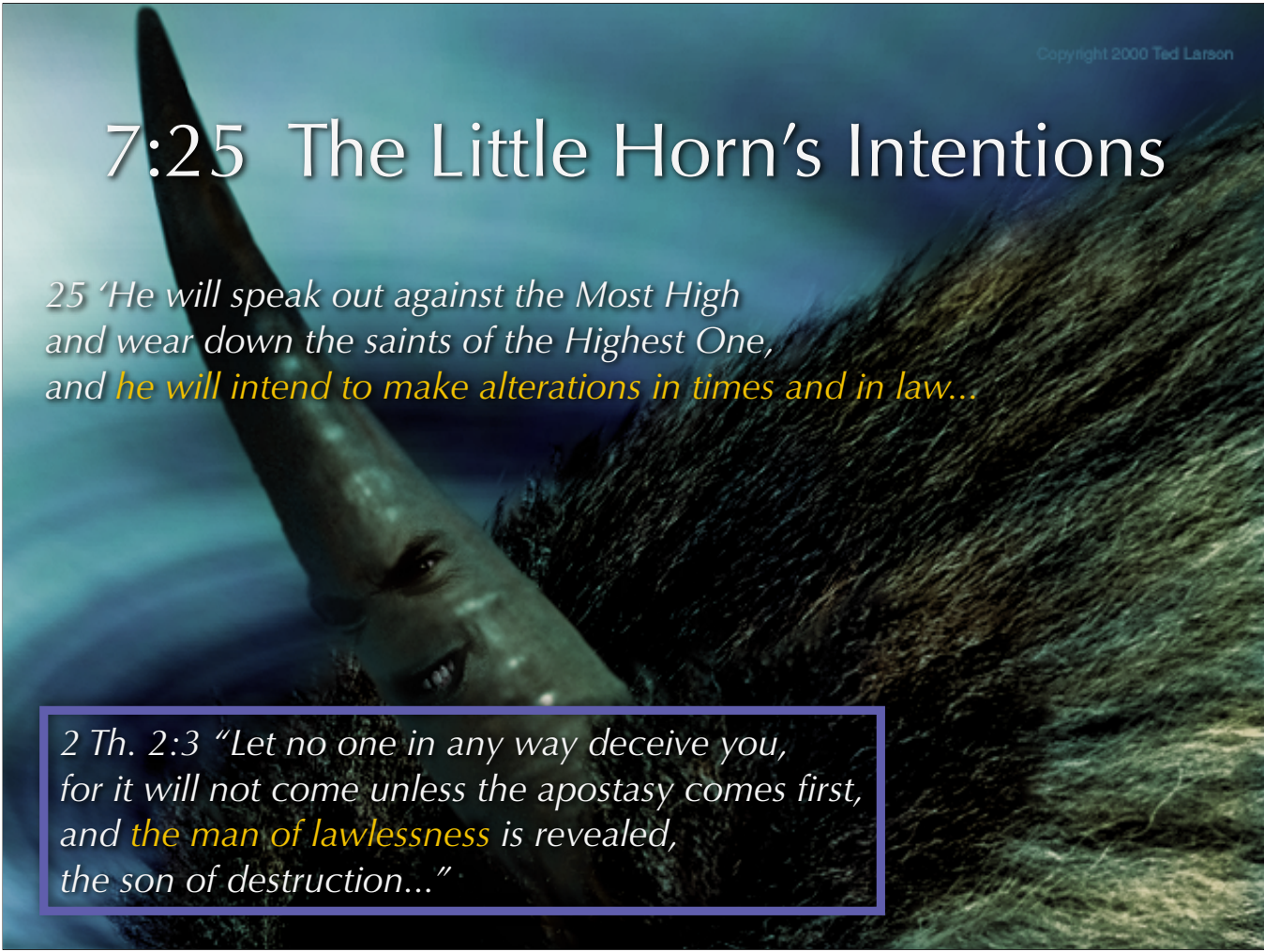
Rev. 13:1-2 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore.

*Then I saw a **beast** coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.*

*And **the beast** which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.*

Little horn= man of lawlessness= son of destruction = the beast

He is not the dragon, nor the false prophet, who is also a human.



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7:25 The Little Horn's Intentions

*25 'He will speak out against the Most High
and wear down the saints of the Highest One,
and **he will intend to make alterations in times and in law...***

*2 Th. 2:3 "Let no one in any way deceive you,
for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first,
and **the man of lawlessness** is revealed,
the son of destruction..."*

--"intend to make alterations in times and in law"/the man of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:3); he will attempt to change the calendar and legal system (the leaders of the French Revolution unsuccessfully attempted to replace the seven-day week established by God with a ten-day week).

"The Antichrist, is the one figure- unparalleled in earthly power who will fulfill all the prophecies concerning the little horn, the beast, and the man of lawlessness." Beth Moore, Daniel, P. 145

"One of the most notable characteristics of the antichrist is his genius. I believe he will be a Gentile (Rev. 13:1) emerging from a reunited Roman Empire (Dan. 7:8; 9"26) who is an intellectual genius (Dan. 8:23), an oratorical genius (Dan. 11:36), a political genius (Rev. 17:11-12), a commercial genius (Dan. 11:43; Rev. 13:16-17), a military genius (Rev. 6:2; 13:2), and a religious genius (2 Th. 2:4; Rev. 13:8)." Mark Hitchcock, The Complete Book of Bible Prophecy (Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, 1999), p131.

Profile of the Antichrist

- ☼ Gentile (Rev. 13:1)
- ☼ Emerges from a reunited Roman Empire (Dan. 7:8; 9:26)
- ☼ Intellectual genius (Dan. 8:23)
- ☼ Oratorical genius (Dan. 11:36; Rev. 13:16-17)

“The Antichrist, is the one figure- unparalleled in earthly power who will fulfill all the prophecies concerning the little horn, the beast, and the man of lawlessness.” Beth Moore, Daniel, P. 145

“He will likely be a magnetic and heroic figure, and people will feel they can trust him.” Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 148

“One of the most notable characteristics of the antichrist is his genius.
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emerging from a reunited Roman Empire (Dan. 7:8; 9:26) Dan. 7:8 “While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great boasts. Dan. 9:26 “Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.

who is an intellectual genius (Dan. 8:23), Dan. 8:23 “In the latter period of their rule, When the transgressors have run their course, A king will arise, Insolent and skilled in intrigue. Don't assume that the intelligent are necessarily right- God confounds the wisdom of the world. Smart doesn't necessarily mean right.

an oratorical genius (Dan. 11:36), Dan. 11:36 ¶ “Then the king will do as he pleases, and he will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will speak monstrous things against the God of gods; and he will prosper until the indignation is finished, for that which is decreed will be done.

a political genius (Rev. 17:11-12), Rev. 17:11 “The beast which was and is not, is himself also an eighth and is one of the seven, and he goes to destruction. Rev. 17:12 “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.

a commercial genius (Dan. 11:43; Rev. 13:16-17), Dan. 11:43 “But he will gain control over the hidden treasures of gold and silver and over all the precious things of Egypt; and Libyans and Ethiopians will follow at his heels. Rev. 13:16 And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, Rev. 13:17 and he provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name.

a military genius (Rev. 6:2; 13:2), Rev. 6:2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer. Rev. 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.

and a religious genius (2 Th. 2:4; Rev. 13:8).” 2Th. 2:4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God. Rev. 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.

Source: Mark Hitchcock, The Complete Book of Bible Prophecy (Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, 1999), p131.



Profile of the Antichrist

- 🔱 Political genius (Rev. 17:11-12)
- 🔱 Commercial genius (Dan. 11:43; Rev. 13:16-17)
- 🔱 Military genius (Rev. 6:2; 13:2)
- 🔱 Religious genius (2 Th. 2:4; Rev. 13:8)

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Source: Mark Hitchcock, The Complete Book of Bible Prophecy (Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, 1999), p131.

7:25 The Little Horn's 3.5 Year Tirade

25 'He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be *given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.*

Dan. 12:7 "I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be *for a time, times, and half a time*; and as soon as they finish shattering the power of the holy people, all these events will be completed."

Rev. 12:14 "But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished *for a time and times and half a time*, from the presence of the serpent."

--"time, times, and half a time"/cf. 12:7; Revelation 12:14. Daniel 9:27--half a week. Revelation 11:2; 13:5--42 months. Revelation 11:3; 12:6--1,260 days. Thus, this equals 3.5 years. The true character of this little horn is not revealed for 3.5 years.

"Many scholars believe the saints in Daniel 7 refer specifically to the people of Israel and that Israel will be the focus of unparalleled persecution in the last days. Others refer to the saints in Daniel 7 as "believers." meaning people who place their faith in Christ during the terrible times of the last days, many of whom will be Jewish by heritage.. The New American Commentary identifies these as 'the followers of the 'son of man,' Jesus Christ described in vv. 13-14." " Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 146

"In v. 25 you noted that the antichrist will "oppress" the saints. Oppress 'literally means 'to wear away' or 'to wear out,' as one would wear out a garment.'" p. 146. "One of Satan's most effective schemes is simply to wear God's people out. Satan uses exhaustion and profound discouragement to persuade us to give up opposing him." Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 147

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HALF A WEEK:

Dan. 9:27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

42 MONTHS:

Rev. 11:2 "Leave out the court which is outside the temple and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months.

Rev. 13:5 There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.

1260 DAYS:

Rev. 11:3 "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

Rev. 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she *had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

“Time, Times, and Half a Time”

$$1X + 2X + \frac{1}{2}X = 3\frac{1}{2}X$$

$$3\frac{1}{2} \text{ years} = 42 \text{ months} = 1260 \text{ days}$$

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“Time and times and half a time” is an expression used in Daniel and in Revelation to refer to three-and-a-half years, or 1,260 days, or 42 months. The Hebrew word for time (iddan) is understood as year; this same word is used in Daniel 4:16,13, 25.

“Times” is two years and “half of time” is half of year= 3.5 years. This period is also repeated in Daniel 9:27 with the final 7 year period being cut in ½ into two 3.5 year periods. In Revelation 12:12, the 1260 day are equal to 3.5 years. Revelation also refers to 42 months and 3 ½ years in Revelation 11:2, 13:5

Daniel also refers to 1290 days and 1335 days in chapter 12, all these reference correlate with an event known as the Abomination of desolation, the final desecration of a future Jewish Temple.

"Three times and an half; that is, for 1260 solar years, reckoning a time for a calendar year of 360 days, and a day for a solar year. After which 'the judgment is to sit, and they shall take away his dominion,' not at once, but by degrees, to consume and to destroy it unto the end." [Sir Issac Newton, Observations Upon the Prophecies of Daniel, pp. 127, 128.]

The Bible year, which must be used as the basis of reckoning, contained three hundred and sixty days. (See comments below on Revelation 11: 3.) Three years and a half contained twelve hundred and sixty days. As each day stands for a year, we have twelve hundred and sixty years for the continuation of the supremacy of this horn.

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drden7.htm>

The period of "a thousand two hundred and three score days" is variously referred to in the Scriptures. It appears in three forms:

As 1260 days in this verse and Revelation 12: 6.

As 42 months in Revelation 11: 2 and 13: 5.

As 3 1/2 times in Daniel 7: 25 and 12: 7, and Revelation 12: 14.

These all refer to the same period and can be easily be calculated. A time is a year, as is evident from Daniel 11: 13, marginal reading. A year has twelve months, and a Biblical month contains thirty days. Thus we have the following:

1 year of 12 months at 30 days - - - - 360 days

3 1/2 years, or times, of 360 days - - - - 1260 days

42 months of 30 days - - - - - 1260 days

A year made up of 12 months will be readily conceded, but that the month has 30 days needs perhaps to be demonstrated. This can readily be seen by referring to the record of the flood in Genesis 7 and 8. There we learn the following:

1. That the flood came on the seventeenth day of the second month. (Genesis 7: 11.)

2. That the waters subsided on the seventeenth day of the seventh month. (Genesis 8: 4.)

3. That the flood continued for five months--from the second to the seventh month.

Reference to Genesis 7: 24 reveals the fact that "the waters prevailed upon the earth a hundred and fifty days." Our calculation showed five months. This text mentions 150 days; hence we have five months equaling 150 days, or 30 days to a month.

Thus we have a definite measure for calculating the prophetic periods, bearing in mind that in prophecy a day is equal to a year of ordinary time.

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drrev11.htm>

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Thus we have a definite measure for calculating the prophetic periods, bearing in mind that in prophecy a day is equal to a year of ordinary time.

Source: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drrev11.htm>

7:22 The Father and the Son

²¹ “I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them
²² until *the Ancient of Days* came and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of *the Highest One*, and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom.



•26-27 The important thing in Daniel 7 is not the little horn, but what will happen to the little horn, and who will reign forever. See 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12.

--The Ancient of Days is the Father, and the Highest One is the Son; cf. v. 22.

Note the understatement in this passage- the horn is winning this battle, overpowering the saints, so that, short of the intervention of God, the saints would be defeated. But the Ancient of Days intervenes on behalf of His beloved saints.

Kingdom	Daniel 2	Daniel 7	Additional Info
	Metallic Man	Wild Beasts	
	Repetition		Enlargement
Babylon	Head of gold	Lion	Wings
Medo-Persia	Chest of silver	Bear	Higher on one side. 3 ribs in mouth
Greece	Belly & thighs of brass	Leopard	4 heads and 4 wings
Rome	Legs of Iron	Terrible beast	Terrible nature
		Little horn	Different type of power
Revived Rome	Ten toes	Ten horns	3 horns removed by little horn
Kingdom of God	Rock	Judgment	A judgment scene

Let's demonstrate the principle of repetition and enlargement. Daniel has a vision about the same empires in King Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the metal statue. But Daniel's vision includes more detail about the subsequent divisions and partnerships in the empires. It also introduces a new power (the little horn) and new information about the judgment. In particular, Daniel 7 relates the kingdoms of Daniel 2 to God, and shows the true character of these empires, as symbolized by wild, ravenous beasts.

<http://www.teachinghearts.org/dre17hdan07.html>

Objection: “Ten toes / horns find no exact match in the history of the Roman Empire and so many commentators of the dispensational view interpret them as the ten nations of a confederation to be formed in the Last Days - the revived Roman Empire. The little horn is the Antichrist, the world dictator of the last days (Archer, 1985a: 25, 47-48, 86-87, 93-94).” http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/article_daniel.html#t8

Counter Objection: “But all historians agree in this, that out of the territory of Western Rome, ten separate kingdoms were ultimately established, and we may safely assign them to the time between the dates above named; namely A.D. 351 and 476.

The ten nations which were most instrumental in breaking up the Roman Empire, and which at some time in their history held respectively portions of Roman territory as separate and independent kingdoms, may be enumerated (without respect to the time of their establishment) as follows: Huns, Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Franks, Vandals, Suevi, Burgundians, Heruli, Anglo-Saxons, and Lombards. [*] The connection between these and some of the modern nations of Europe, is still traceable in the names, as England, Burgundy, Lombardy, France, etc.” <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/clt4/drdan2.htm>

7:26-27 The Little Horn's Destruction

²⁶ *'But the court will sit for judgment, and **his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever.***

²⁷ *'Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.'*



•26-27 The important thing in Daniel 7 is not the little horn, but what will happen to the little horn, and who will reign forever. See 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12.

--The Ancient of Days is the Father, and the Highest One is the Son; cf. v. 22.

v. 26 Daniel was observing a court scene, where God, the Judge, the Ancient of Days, will correct all wrongs.

v.27 Represents the end of the coronation of the King, the Son of Man, who is given everlasting dominion.

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 “Then *that lawless one* will be revealed *whom the Lord will slay* with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.

For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.”



Pazuzu, Babylonian Demon Figurine,
Oriental Museum, Chicago, Il.

•26-27 The important thing in Daniel 7 is not the little horn, but what will happen to the little horn, and who will reign forever. [See 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12.](#)

Contrast Between Daniel 2 and 7

	<i>Daniel 2</i>	<i>Daniel 7</i>
<i>Time</i>	Babylon strong	Babylon declining
<i>Vision</i>	Heathen king	Godly prophet
<i>Interpreter</i>	Daniel	Angel
<i>Form</i>	Human	Animals
<i>Distinctives</i>	Various metals	Various animals
<i>Characteristics</i>	Human aspects	Animalistic
<i>Interpretation</i>	All 5 kingdoms	4th & 5th kingdom
<i>Emphasis</i>	Ten toes	Little horn

--Contrast between Daniel 2 and 7: Time--Babylon strong vs. Babylon declining. Vision--heathen king vs. godly prophet. Interpreter--Daniel vs. angel. Form--human vs. animals. Distinctives--various metals vs. various animals. Characteristics--human aspects vs. animalistic. Interpretation--all five kingdoms vs. fourth and fifth kingdom. Emphasis--ten toes vs. little horn.

Daniel 7 Outline of the End Times

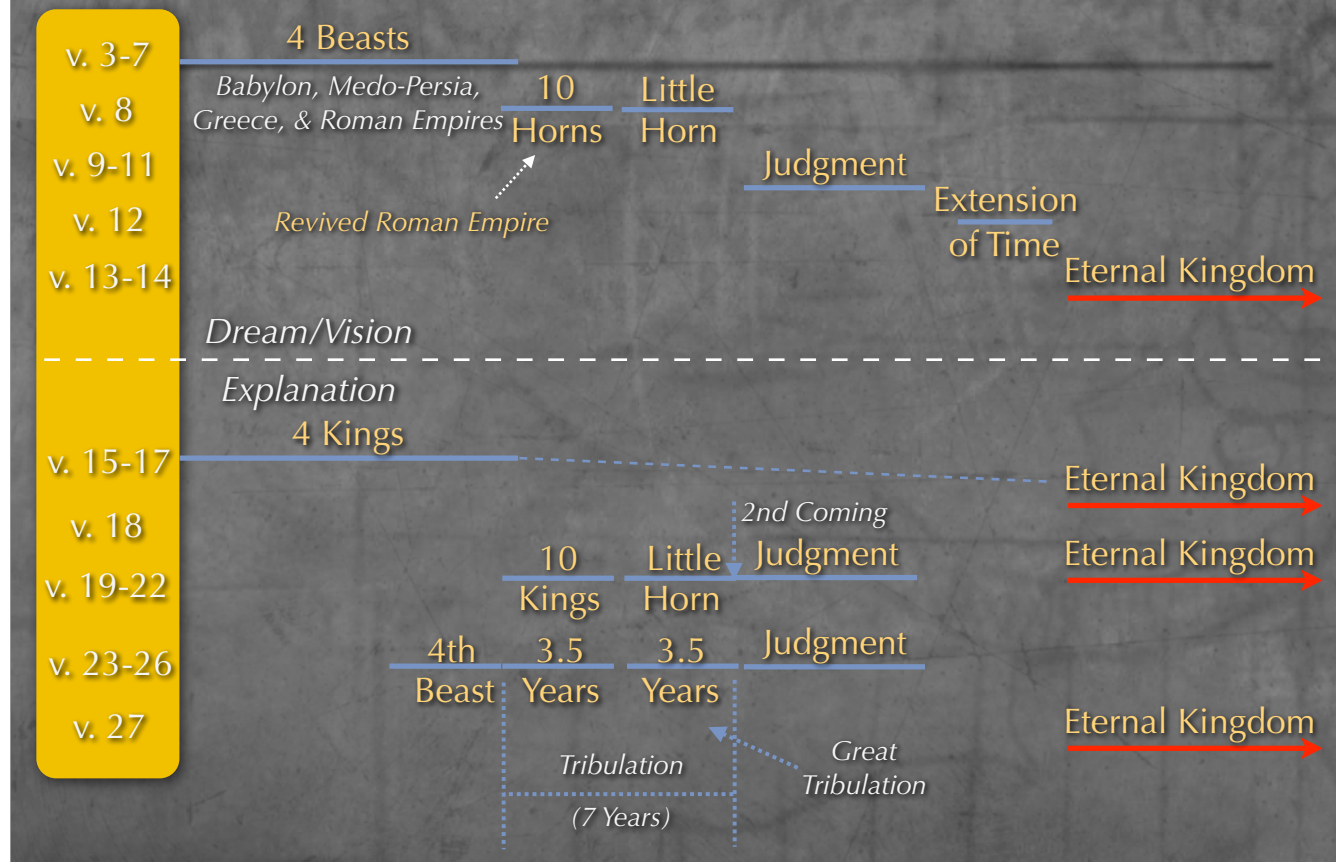


Chart Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D020/D0202.html>

Basic Eschatological Positions

Eschatological Position	Meaning
Amillennialism	It is happening today
Postmillennialism	It will happen as a consequence of Gospel growth
Premillennialism	It is going to happen after the tribulation

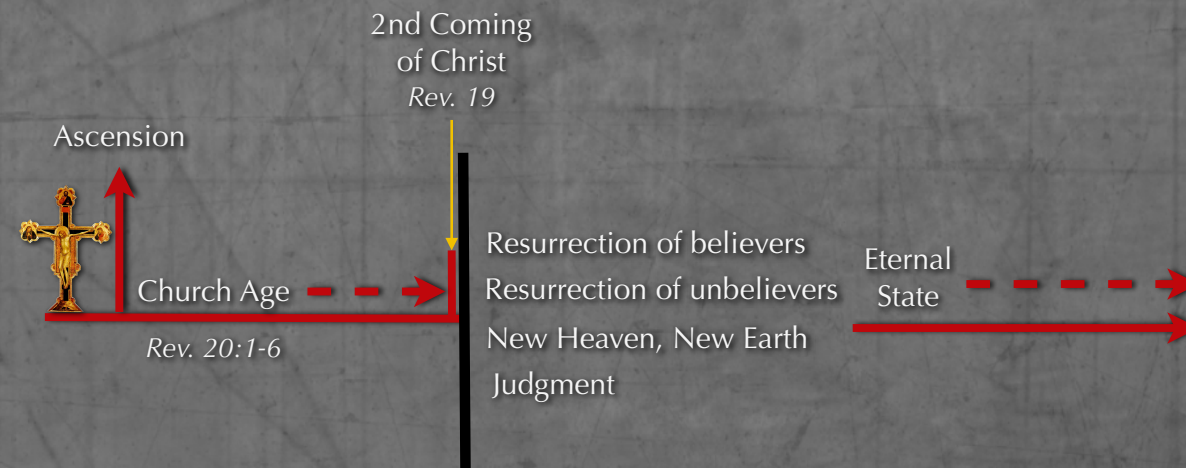
Whilst the study of the 'end times' is extremely complex and it sometimes appears that no two believers are in full agreement it is generally possible to classify eschatological approaches against two markers: a persons millennial position and a persons tribulation position. It is generally true that the differences between believers with differing millennial positions are far greater than the differences between believers with differing tribulation positions. The reason is that there is a direct correlation between your millennial position and the way you read the bible.

It is unequivocally true that taken literally the Bible predicts a period of incredible spiritual and material prosperity. A time when food will be plentiful[1], the knowledge of God will abound[2], Satan will be bound[3] and the Davidic kingdom restored[4]. Further this occurs after incredible geologic upheaval[5] and the intervention of the Lord Himself[6]. A persons' millennial position essentially correlates to how one interprets these statements.

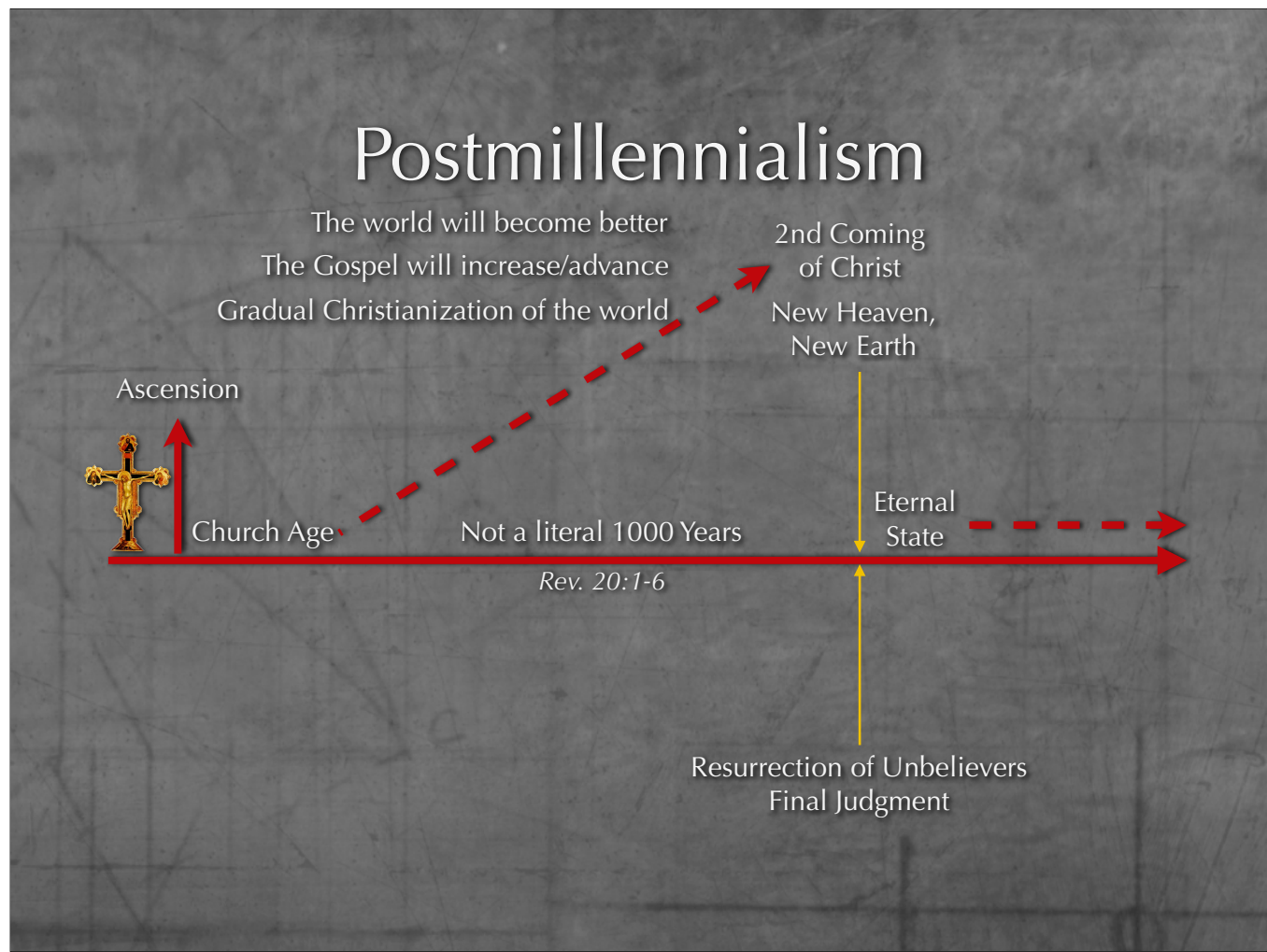
- a) It isn't going to happen – This is essentially the position of the 'No Millenium' camp. The events mentioned above are purely allegoric descriptions of spiritual events in the Christian life.
- b) It already happened – (Past Millennialism) Usually deemed to be 400-1400AD. Obviously a number of the references have to be 'reinterpreted' to avoid the fact that the relatively extreme claims of the biblical text didn't happen
- c) It is happening today – (Amillennialism, dominant Catholic view) The millennium is a description of the Christian era. Clearly the extremity of the references has to be toned down; for example – is Satan really bound at the moment?
- d) It will happen as a consequence of Gospel growth – (Post millennialism) This view does not have to water down the magnitude of the references; however it does have to re-cast many of the specifically Jewish references into 'church' ones. In practice it does have to skip over or allegorize to avoid the obviously Jewish slants; for example Ezekiel's temple.
- e) It is going to happen after the tribulation – (Pre millennialism) This view essentially says you take the Bible at face value. There is going to be a huge and terrible tribulation followed by a period of a thousand years of untold blessing.

Source: http://www.dabhand.org/Essays/BI611_eschatological_position.htm

Amillennialism



"The Latin word for one thousand years is millennium. Christians have held several major views concerning references to the millennium...brilliant scholars interpret these Scriptures very differently."
Beth Moore, Daniel, p.150



"The postmillennialist believes that the millennium is an era (not necessarily a literal thousand years) during which Christ will reign over the earth, not from a literal and earthly throne, but through the gradual increase of the Gospel and its power to change lives. After this gradual Christianization of the world, Christ will return and immediately usher the church into their eternal state after judging the wicked. This is called postmillennialism because, by its view, Christ will return after the millennium."

Source: http://68.178.210.101/?page_id=77

* "Premillennialism: Christ's Second coming before or pre- a literal thousand years, preceded by a gradual deterioration of human society and the expanse of evil. Can be divided into two main interpretations: Dispensational and Historic Premillennialism.

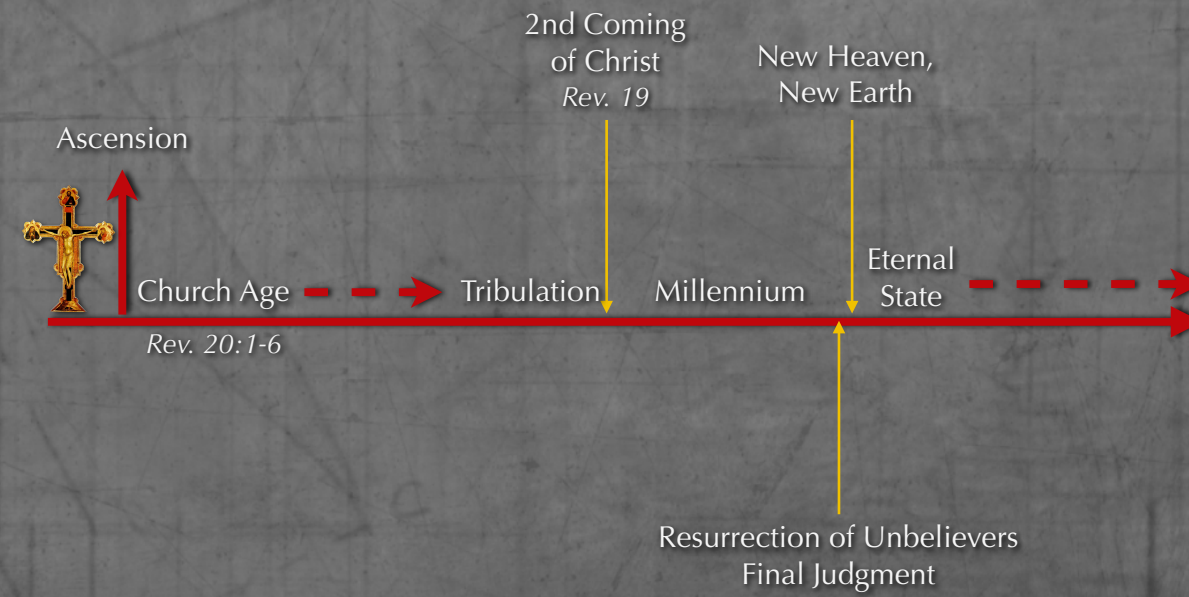
- o Dispensational Premillennialism: The return of Christ is preceded by the secret rapture of Christians, followed by the rise of Antichrist to rule during a literal three and a half year tribulation then Armageddon, followed by the return of Christ.
- o Historic Premillennialism: The rapture of the church happens after a period of tribulation, with the church being caught up to meet Christ in the air and accompany him to earth to share in his (literal or figurative) thousand year rule.

* Postmillennialism: Christ's Second coming after or post- thousand years. Also divided into two schools of interpretation: Revivalist and Reconstructionist Postmillennialism:

- o Revivalist Postmillennialism: the millennium represents an unknown period of time marked by gradual Christian revival and widespread successful evangelism, followed by Christ's return.
- o Reconstructionist Postmillennialism: the Church increases its influence through successful evangelism and expansion, finally establishing a theocratic kingdom of 1000 years duration (literal or figurative) followed by the return of Christ.

* Amillennialism: Non-literal "thousand years" or long age between Christ's first and second comings; the millennial reign of Christ as pictured in the book of Revelation is now, as Christ is reigning at the right hand of the Father. It can be hard to draw a fine line between Amillennialism and Revivalist Postmillennialism. Amillennialism tends to believe society will, through growing rebellion, continue to deteriorate, while Postmillennialism believes the Church will influence the world producing greater righteousness." Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Summary_of_Christian_eschatological_differences

Premillennialism



Believer's Resurrection and Judgement discussed in Ch. 8

Daniel's Perspective



The book of Daniel gives us both perspective and comfort;
it gives us comfort because it gives us perspective.

Panmillennialism

"It will all pan out in the end"

"In the essentials **unity**,
in the non-essentials **liberty**,
and in all things, **charity**."

- Augustine

Chapter 7 Applications

- ☼ God sees human history as a chronicle of immorality, brutality, and depravity
- ☼ Human history will not continue indefinitely, nor will humans annihilate themselves: God will intervene



--"Though men glory in the advances and achievements of civilization through the centuries, God clearly sees human history as a chronicle of immorality, brutality, and depravity." (Campbell, 88). Cf. the conversation between Konrad Adenauer (then Chancellor of West Germany) and Billy Graham in Campbell, 89: "Do you believe Jesus Christ rose again from the dead?" Graham replied, "Yes, sir, I do." "Do you believe He ascended and is in heaven now?" "Yes, sir, I do." "Some say Jesus Christ will return and reign on this earth. Do you believe that?" "Yes, sir, I do." After a brief pause, Adenauer said, "So do I. If He doesn't, there is no hope for this world!"

--"Human history will not continue indefinitely on its present course, nor will it come to an end with mankind annihilating itself in some great nuclear cataclysm." (Campbell, 88) God Himself will intervene in human history (Isa. 64:1; 65:17; Rev. 19:11).

--Daniel knew who he served. His service was always to the One whose kingdom will never be destroyed, not the fleeting rulers on this earth. Understand that your purpose transcends the kingdoms of this world. If you seek His glory and serve others, how and where you serve are inconsequential (remember Daniel's roller coaster ride back and forth from obscurity to prominence). See Joshua 24:15. Who do you serve, and why? You can serve God or you can serve goods. But in the end, the only kingdom that will be left is God's; everything else will perish.

--Worship: use biblical images.

Chapter 7 Applications

- Daniel knew Whom he served
- Our purpose transcends the kingdoms of earth
- Biblical imagery can enhance worship



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Chapter 7 Applications

- ☼ God speaks in 25 dreams/visions in the Bible
- ☼ Kingdoms of men are brief in their supremacy, and transient in their glory
- ☼ Take heart: we can withstand injustice and unanswered questions because the Ancient of Days will right all wrongs



God does not always speak through dreams and visions.

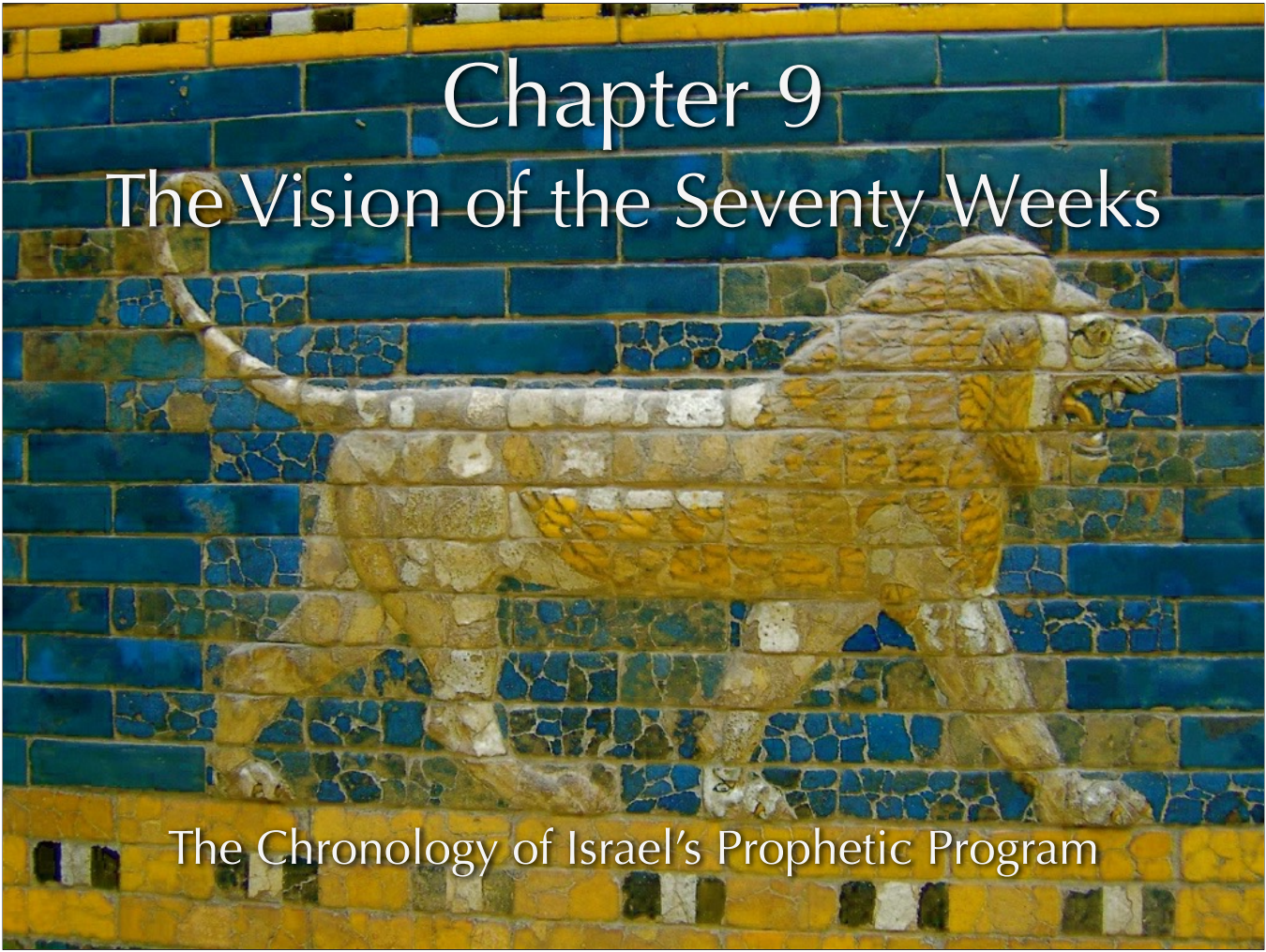
. . . And word from the LORD was rare in those days, visions were infrequent. (NASB) 1 Samuel 3:1

God has already spoken to us in sixty-six books, 1189 chapters, 31,173 verses, and 807,361 words. We call it the Bible. There are fewer than 25 dreams and visions in the Bible. Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D010/D0103.html>

So brief was Babylon in its supremacy, so transient its glory. Don't give your life in exchange for the kingdoms of men.

"Seeing God as the Ancient of Days brings both untold comfort and answered questions in a world filled with injustice. Take heart, Dear One. Time doesn't diminish God's judgment." Beth Moore, Daniel, p. 137

David Rheinstein adds: in the courtroom of the Ancient of Days, there will be "no attorneys, no jury, no depositions, and no discovery, because He already knows all the information." The flip-side to this is the comforting news about this is that He already knew what He was getting when He bought me. Sometimes this knowledge keeps me from total despair, because He knew what He was getting when He bought me. He always operates with full disclosure. Because I didn't know what He was getting...I thought I was a much better man than in fact I have turned out to be" Mt. 7:13-27 CD at Callaway Gardens, 2005.

A mosaic of a dragon or serpent, likely from the Ishtar Gate in Babylon, set against a background of blue and gold tiles. The dragon is depicted in profile, facing right, with its head raised and its body coiled. The mosaic is made of small, irregular tiles in shades of blue, gold, and brown.

Chapter 9

The Vision of the Seventy Weeks

The Chronology of Israel's Prophetic Program

•Daniel's third vision. This chapter has been called the high point of the Book of Daniel. The vision of the seventy weeks gives us the chronology of Israel's prophetic program during the times of the Gentiles. While Daniel 2 and 7 outline the prophetic program of the Gentile nations, this chapter reveals God's prophetic program for the Jews.

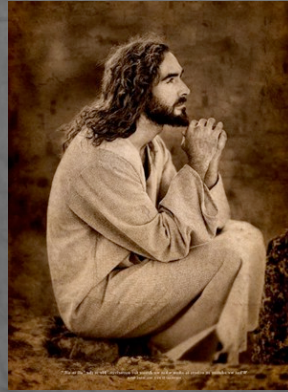
Eschatology

eschaton + ology

“end times”
“last days”

“study of”

Why Eschatology Matters



*Jesus, by Michael Belk,
Journeys with the Messiah*

- ☼ Taught by Jesus, Paul, Peter, Matthew, Luke, John, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Zephaniah, Malachi
- ☼ The books of Daniel and Revelation are largely devoted to the subject

Eschatology

Ecclesiology

Mission





Daniel is my favorite prophetic book, and possibly my favorite OT book. I love it because in it, God answers some fundamental questions with which I struggle:

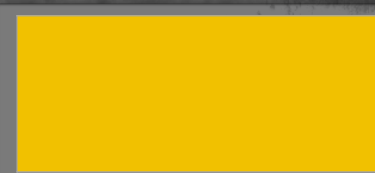
1. Will God forsake those whom He disciplines?
2. Does God reject those whom he chastises?
3. Does God comfort His rebellious children?
4. Does Israel have a future?

Jeremiah 31:35-37

³⁵ *“Thus says the LORD,
Who gives the sun for light by day;
And the fixed order of the moon and the stars by night,
Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar;
The LORD of hosts is His name;*

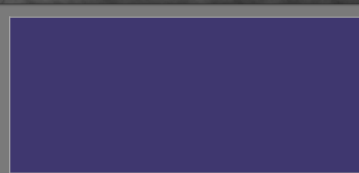
³⁶ *“If this fixed order departs
From before Me,” declares the LORD,
Then the offspring of Israel also shall cease
From being a nation before Me forever”*

³⁷ *Thus says the LORD,
“If the heavens above can be measured,
and the foundations of the earth searched out below,
Then I will also cast off all the offspring of Israel
For all that they have done,”
declares the LORD.”*



Section I:
Personal History
of the Prophet, 1

Daniel's life



Section II:
Prophetic History
of the Gentiles, 2-7

Dreams, images, feasts, and visions



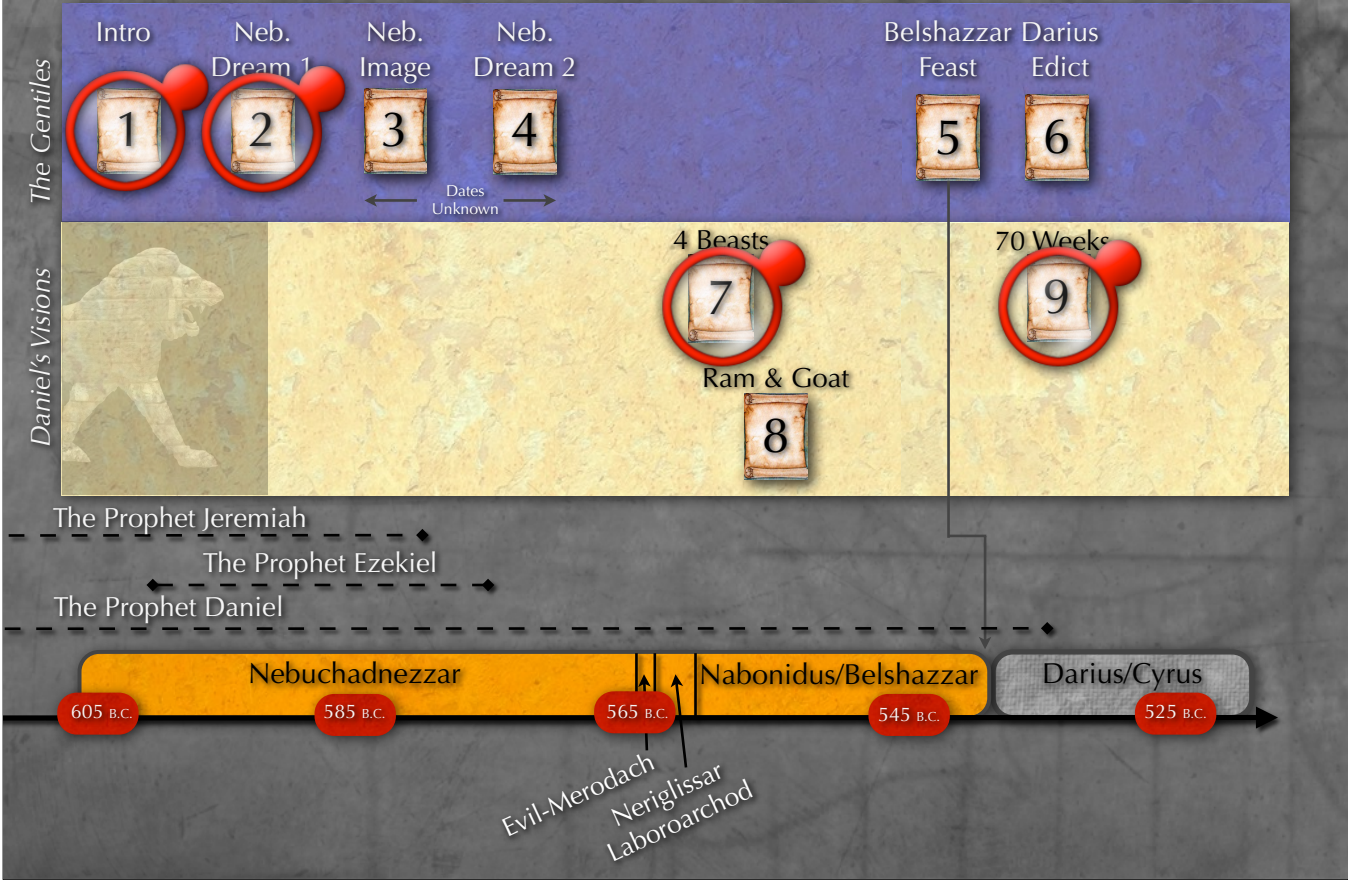
Section III:
Prophetic History
of Israel, 8-12

Daniel's visions

Book of Daniel Overview



Daniel Visual Outline



The Occasion of Daniel's Prayer

¹ *In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans—*

² *in the first year of his reign,*

*I, Daniel, observed in the books the number of the years which was revealed as the word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, **seventy years**.*



•1-2 The occasion of Daniel's prayer. The first reign of the Persian king Darius, 538 B.C. About the time of Daniel's experience in the lions' den. In those days Daniel would have been reading a parchment scroll. Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D014/D014.html>

Daniel Studies *Jeremiah*

*Jeremiah 25:11-12 “And the whole land shall be a desolation and a horror, and these nations **shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years**. Then it will be when **seventy years** are completed I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, declares the LORD...”*

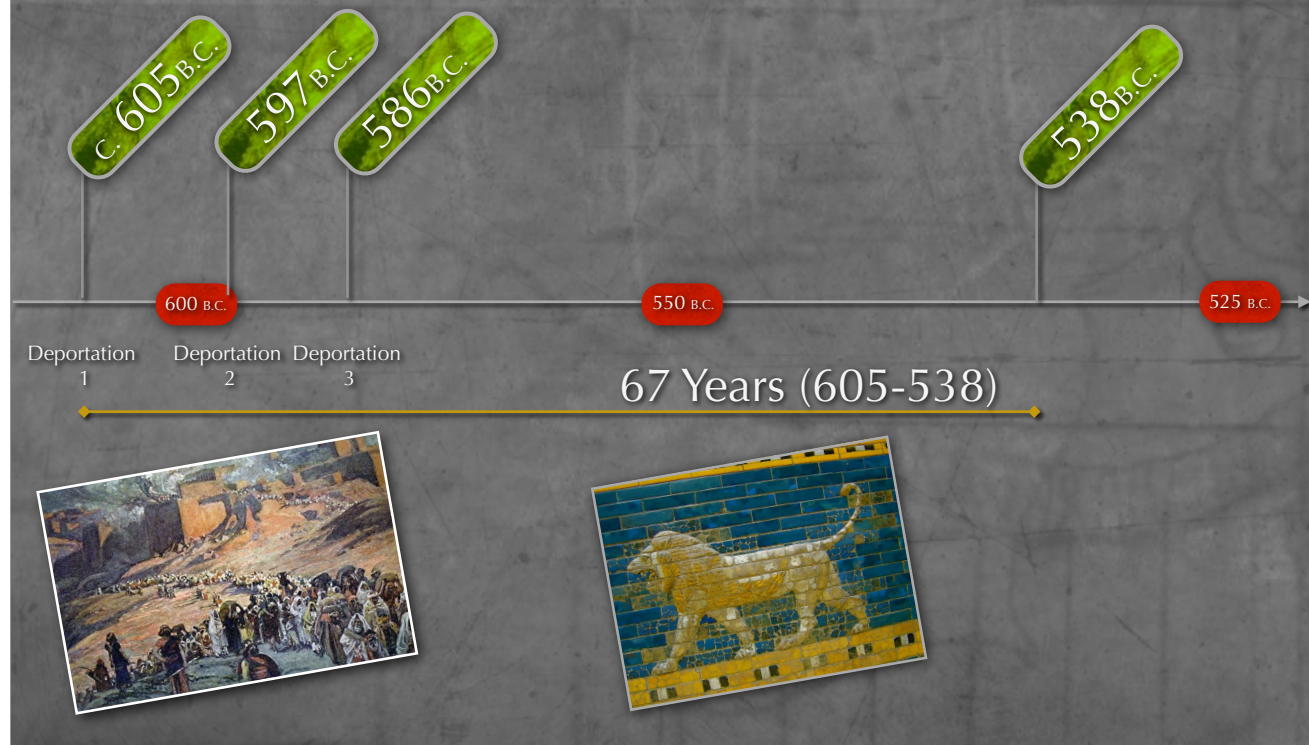
*Jeremiah 29:10
“For thus says the LORD,
‘When **seventy years have been completed for Babylon**, I will visit you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place’*

--In the providence of God, he focused his attention on Jeremiah's prediction that the captivity of the Jews would last for 70 years ([read](#) Jer. 25:11-12; 29:10).

John Walvoord explains Jeremiah's prophecy and the fulfillment of it this way:

“From the first subjugation of Jerusalem (605 B.C.) until the Jews returned and rebuilt the temple foundation (536) was approximately 70 years. From the destruction of the temple (586) until the temple was rebuilt (515) was also about 70 years. So Jeremiah's prophecy about the 70-year duration of the Babylon Exile was literally fulfilled.” Source: John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, eds., *The Bible Knowledge Commentary of the Old Testament* (Wheaton, Illinois: SP Publications, Inc. 1985). 1346-1347

70 Years of Babylonian Captivity



The captivity began in 605 (with two other deportations in 597 and 586), so in 538, 67 of the 70 years had elapsed. Daniel realized his people were on the threshold of this fulfillment. This motivated him to intercede on behalf of the Jewish people.

God's Command of the Sabbath Year

*Leviticus 25:1-4 "The LORD then spoke to Moses at Mount Sinai, saying, 'Speak to the sons of Israel, and say to them, "When you come into the land which I shall give you, then **the land shall have a sabbath to the LORD.**"*



*Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in its crop, but during **the seventh year the land shall have a sabbath rest, a sabbath** to the LORD; you shall not sow your field nor prune your vineyard.'"*

--Leviticus 25:1-3; 26:33-35/the 70 years corresponds to the sabbatical years that were violated. Daniel 9:2, 24-27 alludes to 70 weeks of years in the past and 70 weeks of years in the future: 490 << >> 490.

Prophecy of the Land Resting and Enjoying its Sabbaths

*Leviticus 26:33-35 "You, however,
I will scatter among the nations and will draw out a sword after you,
as your land becomes desolate and your cities become waste.
Then the land will enjoy its sabbaths all the days of the desolation,
while you are in your enemies land;
then the land will rest and enjoy its sabbaths."*

70 Years of Captivity = **70** Years of Violated Sabbatical Years

--Leviticus 25:1-3; 26:33-35/ the 70 years corresponds to the sabbatical years that were violated. Daniel 9:2, 24-27 alludes to 70 weeks of years in the past and 70 weeks of years in the future: 490 << >> 490.

70 Weeks of Years

² in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, observed in the books the number of the years which was revealed as the word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, *seventy years*.

²⁴ *“Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy place.*

70 Weeks of Years in the Past :: 70 Weeks of Years in the Future

490 years past :: 490 years future

Prophecy of Restoration Following Captivity

Jeremiah 29:10

“For thus says the LORD,

*‘When **seventy years have been completed for Babylon**, I will visit
you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place’*

--Jeremiah 29:11-14 follows the prediction in 29:10 of the 70 year captivity. Daniel applied this passage in vv. 3-19. He knew the Jews were not seeking God, and many were too comfortable in Babylon to want to go back to Jerusalem as pioneers. So Daniel interceded for them and claimed God's promise.

Prophecy of Restoration Following Captivity

Jeremiah 29:11-14

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD,
‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.
Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me,
and I will listen to you.*

*And you will seek Me and find Me,
when you search for Me with all your heart.
And I will be found by you,” declares the LORD,
‘and I will restore your fortunes
and will gather you from all the nations
and from all the places where I have driven you,’ declares the LORD,
‘and I will bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile.’ ”*

—Jeremiah 29:11-14 follows the prediction in 29:10 of the 70 year captivity. Daniel applied this passage in vv. 3-19. He knew the Jews were not seeking God, and many were too comfortable in Babylon to want to go back to Jerusalem as pioneers. So Daniel interceded for them and claimed God's promise.



Daniel Answers

- ❁ Does God **comfort** His rebellious children?
- ❁ Where is history going and how will it work out? (**destiny**)

Daniel is my favorite prophetic book, and possibly my favorite OT book. I love it because in it, God answers some fundamental questions with which I struggle:

1. Will God forsake those whom He disciplines?
2. Does God reject those whom he chastises?
3. Does God comfort His rebellious children?
4. Does Israel have a future?

9:3-19 Daniel's Great Intercessory Prayer

🌻 Elements of Daniel's prayer :

🌻 Humility, v. 3

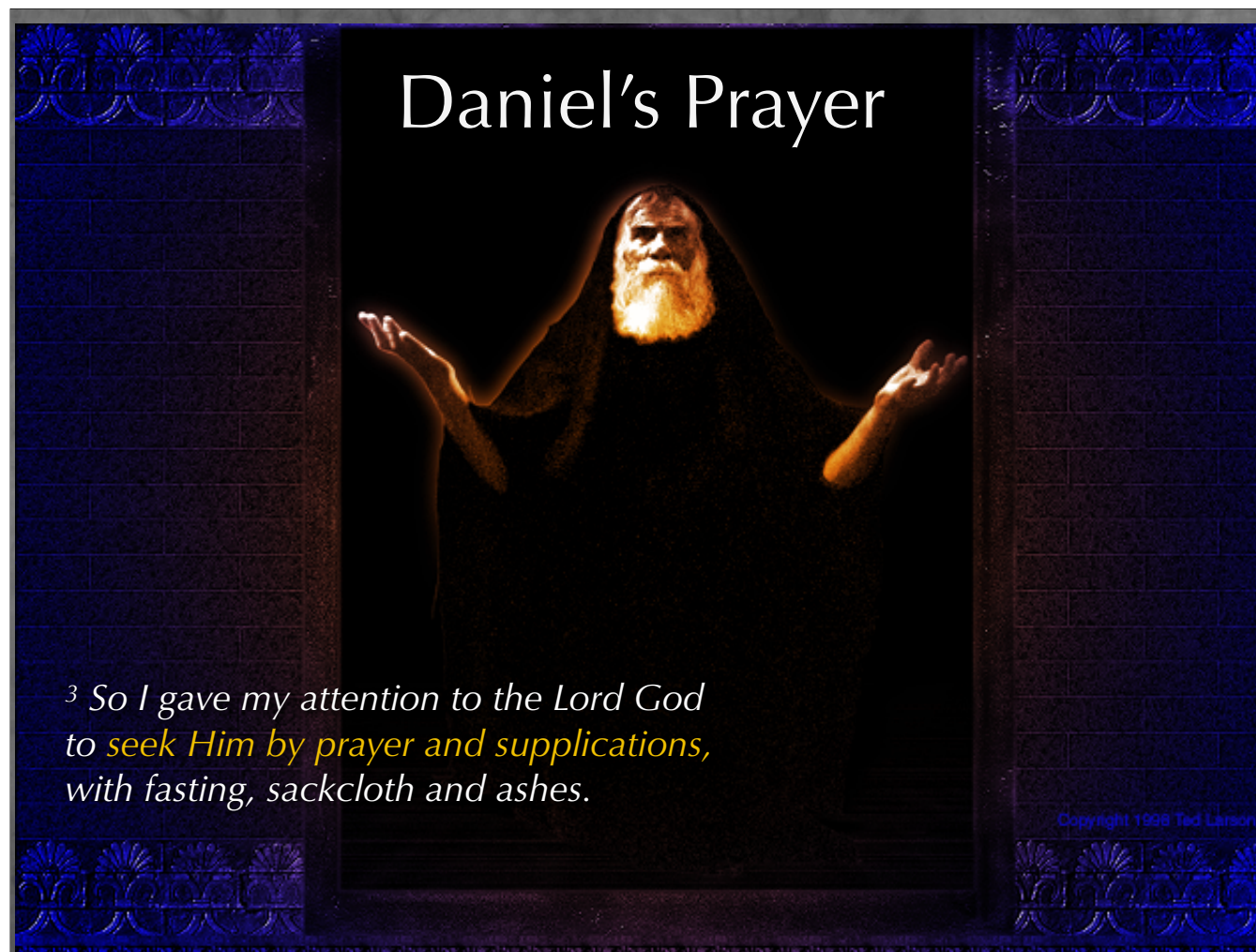
🌻 Worship, v. 4

🌻 Confession, vv. 5-14

🌻 Petition, vv. 15-19



•3-19 This is one of the great intercessory prayers of the Bible. This prayer is characterized by humility (v. 3), worship (v. 4), confession (vv. 5-14), and petition (vv. 15-19).



³ So I gave my attention to the Lord God
to *seek Him by prayer and supplications,*
with fasting, sackcloth and ashes.

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- 3 Daniel's humility and identification with the sins of his people.

Daniel Expresses Key Aspects of God's Character

*⁴ I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed and said,
"Alas, O Lord,
the great and awesome God,
who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness
for those who love Him and keep His commandments,*

Contrast #1 God's Holiness and the Israelites' Sinfulness

⁵ we have *sinned,*
committed iniquity,
acted wickedly
and rebelled,
even *turning aside*
from Your commandments and ordinances.

- 5 God's holiness contrasts with the sinfulness of the people. A forceful accumulation of verbs; sins of every kind.

None are Exempt

⁶ *“Moreover,
we have not listened to Your servants the prophets,
who spoke in Your name to
our kings,
our princes,
our fathers and
all the people of the land.*

•⁶ None of the people are exempt.
They ignored His teachings. They ignored God. And they ignored His messengers, the prophets, including leaders/rescuers He sent, like Moses.

Eight Reasons Why We Suffer

- ☼ Being disciplined by God (Heb. 12:4-13)
- ☼ Refusal to listen to God (Dan. 9:6-8)
- ☼ Refusal to listen to God's prophets (Dan. 9:6-8)
- ☼ The sins of our nation, previous generations, and parents (Dan. 9:6-8)

Daniel says they did not listen to the prophets. That is true. They had not listened to Isaiah, Jeremiah, Micah, Hosea, Nahum and Ezekiel. In Ezekiel and Lamentations we discover that they ignored the prophets and priests and did not honor the elders (Ezek. 33:29-33; Lam. 4:16). Does God discipline us for the sins of our nation, grandparents, and parents? The answer is yes! Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D014/D0143.html>

Eight Reasons Why We Suffer

- ☼ Living in a fallen world (Acts 28:1-6)
- ☼ For spiritual growth (2 Cor. 12:8-10; Ja. 1:2-3)
- ☼ To know that He is the LORD (Ezek. 30:8)
- ☼ To glorify God (Jn. 11:4)

Daniel says they did not listen to the prophets. That is true. They had not listened to Isaiah, Jeremiah, Micah, Hosea, Nahum and Ezekiel. In Ezekiel and Lamentations we discover that they ignored the prophets and priests and did not honor the elders (Ezek. 33:29-33; Lam. 4:16). Does God discipline us for the sins of our nation, grandparents, and parents? The answer is yes! Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D014/D0143.html>

Bitterest of All

by F.B. Meyer

This is the bitterest of all- to know that suffering need
not have been;
that it has resulted from indiscretion and inconsistency;
that it is the harvest of one's own sowing;
that the vulture which feeds on the vitals is a nestling of
one's own rearing.
Ah, me! this is pain!

F.B. Meyer, Christ in Isaiah



Contrast #2 God's Character and His People's Character

⁷ *"Righteousness belongs to You, O Lord,
but to us open shame, as it is this day
—to the men of Judah,
the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel,
those who are nearby and those who are far away
in all the countries to which You have driven them,
because of their unfaithful deeds which they have committed
against You.*

⁸ *"Open shame belongs to us, O Lord,
to our kings,
our princes and our fathers,
because we have sinned against You.*

•7-8 Another contrast between the character of God and the character of His people. Israel's sins led to the open shame of the dispersion and captivity.

Contrast #3: God's Faithfulness and Israel's Rebellion

⁹ *"To the Lord our God belong compassion and forgiveness,
for we have rebelled against Him;
¹⁰ nor have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God,
to walk in His teachings
which He set before us through His servants the
prophets.*

9:11-14 Inciting God's Curse

¹¹ *“Indeed **all Israel has transgressed Your law** and turned aside, not obeying Your voice; **so the curse has been poured out on us**, along with the oath which is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, for we have sinned against Him.*

¹² *“Thus He has confirmed His words which He had spoken against us and against our rulers who ruled us, **to bring on us great calamity**; for under the whole heaven there has not been done anything like what was done to Jerusalem.*

•11-14 They brought the curse of God upon themselves. Daniel alludes to Leviticus 26:14-39 and Deuteronomy 28:15-68.

“But if you do not obey Me and do not carry out all these commandments....I will appoint over you a sudden terror, consumption and fever that shall waste away the eyes and cause the soul to pine away; also, you shall sow your seed uselessly, for your enemies shall eat it up...” Leviticus 26:14-16

9:11-14 Inciting God's Curse

¹³ *“As it is written in the law of Moses,
all this calamity has come on us;
yet we have not sought the favor of the LORD our God by turning from
our iniquity and giving attention to Your truth.*

¹⁴ *Therefore, the LORD has kept the calamity in store
and brought it on us;
for the LORD our God is righteous with respect to all His deeds
which He has done,
but we have not obeyed His voice.*

•11-14 They brought the curse of God upon themselves. Daniel alludes to Leviticus 26:14-39 and Deuteronomy 28:15-68.

“But if you do not obey Me and do not carry out all these commandments....I will appoint over you a sudden terror, consumption and fever that shall waste away the eyes and cause the soul to pine away; also, you shall sow your seed uselessly, for your enemies shall eat it up...” Leviticus 26:14-16

9:15-19 Daniel's Earnest Petition

- 
- ☼ The basis for Daniel's petition:
 - ☼ God's past deliverance, v. 15
 - ☼ God's people, city, and sanctuary, vv. 16-17
 - ☼ God's compassion, v. 18
 - ☼ God's reputation, v. 19

•15-19 Daniel's earnest petition. The basis for his petition: God's past deliverance (v. 15); God's people, city, and sanctuary are a reproach to the surrounding nations (vv. 16-17); God's compassion (v. 18; cf. Ps. 51:1); and God's reputation (v. 19).

9:20-23 God Answers Daniel's Prayer

*²⁰ “Now while 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
in behalf of the holy mountain of my God,
²¹ while I was still speaking in prayer,
then the man, Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously,
came to me in my extreme weariness,
about the time of the evening offering.*

•20-27 The answer to Daniel's prayer.

•20-23 God responded by assigning to Gabriel the mission of returning to earth (cf. 8:16) to give the answer to His "highly esteemed" servant. There is no space-time limitation to prayer; when we pray in the Spirit, we are heard in the heaven of heavens.

The Hebrew word for “highly esteemed” has the idea of precious. That was God's view of Daniel. What a contrast. This precious man prayed for the sins of others as though they were his own.

Daniel was part of a special group - a small group men who were special to God. There have been certain men that God has highly respected because of their heart for Him. Men like Enoch, Moses, Elijah, Abraham, the apostle John, and Daniel. Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D014/D0145.html>

9:20-23 God Answers Daniel's Prayer

*²² And he gave me instruction and talked with me and said,
'O Daniel, I have now come forth
to give you insight with understanding.*

*²³ At the beginning of your supplications the command was issued,
and I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed;
so give heed to the message and gain understanding of the vision."*

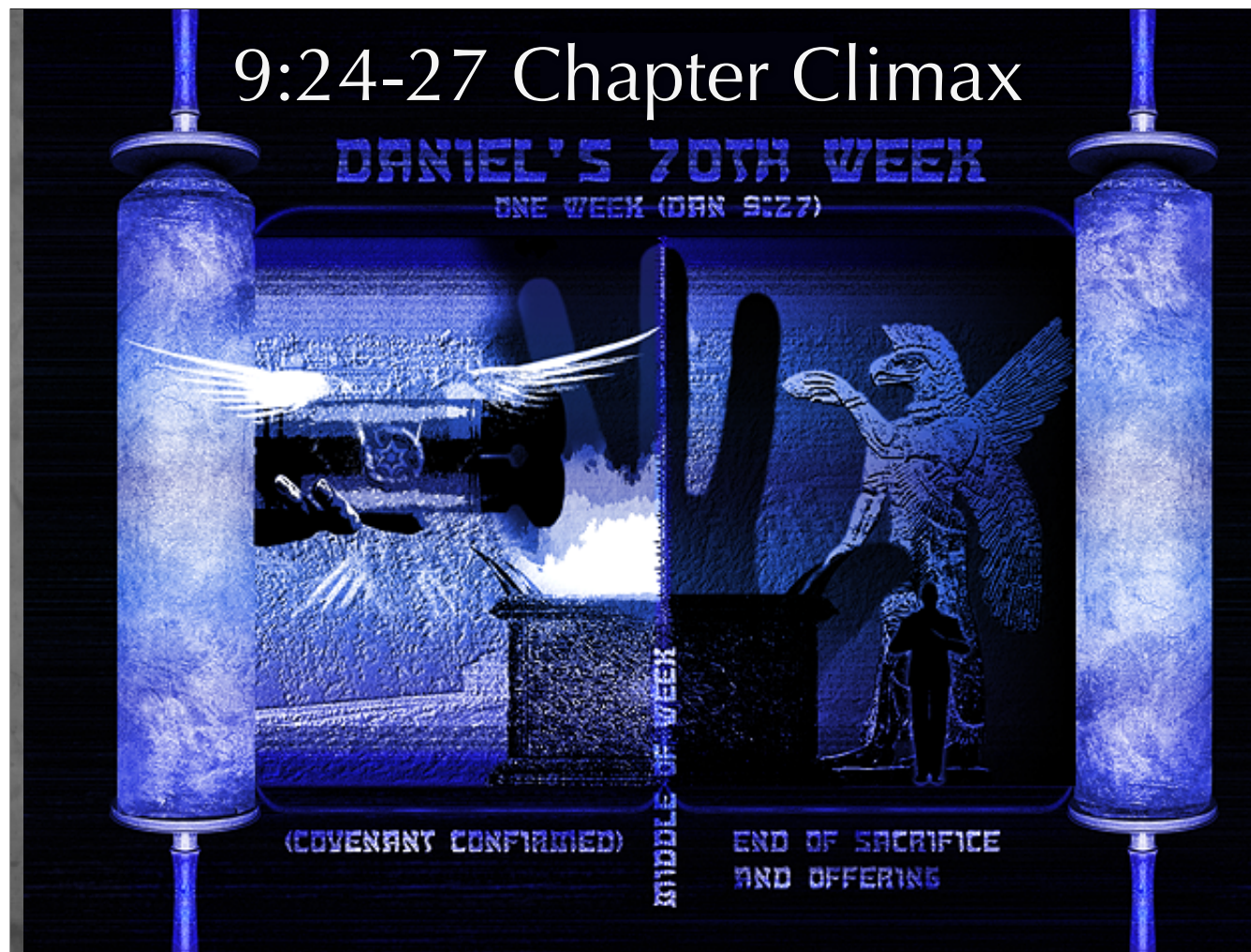
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9:24-27 Chapter Climax



- 24-27 The climax of the chapter. This prophecy concerns the Jews and Jerusalem. It does not deal with the Gentile nations or with the church.

9:24-27 Three Deliverances

- ☼ From bondage to Babylon
- ☼ Study From bondage to sin (first coming)
- ☼ From oppression (second coming)



Lion of Ishtar Gate, Babylon
ca 600 B.C., Oriental Museum, Chicago

--Three deliverance's: from bondage to Babylon, from bondage to sin (first coming), and from oppression (second coming).

9:24 Seventy Sevens (*Heptads*)

²⁴ “*Seventy weeks* have been decreed for your people and your holy city...

= “seventy sevens” of years = $70 \times 7 = 490$ years

☛ “Seventy sevens” are years because:

☛ 9:24-27 could not have occurred in 490 days or weeks

☛ Context refers to years; parallel with Sabbath rest

•²⁴ Seventy sevens or heptads.

These are years:

(1) The events of 9:24-27 could not have taken place in 490 days or weeks.

(2) The context refers to years; parallel between the 490 years (70 weeks of years) of not letting the land rest and this 490 year period.

(3) 10:2-3 literally says three sevens of days; the word "days" specifically has to mention days (he certainly didn't fast for 21 years).

(4) 9:27 speaks of a half-week. 3.5 years=1260 days=42 months. These are 360-day years. [The flood is dated this way; it began on the 17th day of the second month (Gen. 7:11) and ended on the 17th day of the seventh month (Gen. 8:4); its duration was 150 days (Gen. 7:24; 8:3).]

9:24 Seventy Sevens (*Heptads*)

²⁴ “*Seventy weeks* have been decreed for your people and your holy city...

= “seventy sevens” of years = $70 \times 7 = 490$ years

☼ “Seventy sevens” are years because:

☼ 10:2-3 Daniel says he fasted “three sevens of *days*”

☼ 9:27 speaks of a half-week = $3\frac{1}{2}$ years = 1260 days
= 42 months (based upon 360-day years)

•24 Seventy sevens or heptads.

These are years:

(1) The events of 9:24-27 could not have taken place in 490 days or weeks.

(2) The context refers to years; parallel between the 490 years (70 weeks of years) of not letting the land rest and this 490 year period.

(3) 10:2-3 literally says three sevens of days; the word "days" specifically has to mention days (he certainly didn't fast for 21 years).

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Flood Dated Upon a 360-day Year

Genesis 7:11 *"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life,
in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month,
on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open,
and the flood gates of the sky were opened."
(Flood started February 17)*

Genesis 8:4 *"And in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of
the month, the ark rested upon the mountains of Ararat."
(Flood ended July 17)*

Genesis 7:24 (cf. Gen. 8:3) *"And the water prevailed upon the
earth one hundred and fifty days." (Flood duration: 150 days)*

Feb. 17 - July 17 = 5 months

5 months x 30 days = 150 days

These are 360-day years. [The flood is dated this way; it began on the 17th day of the second month (Gen. 7:11) and ended on the 17th day of the seventh month (Gen. 8:4); its duration was 150 days (Gen. 7:24; 8:3).]

Six Events of the Seventy Weeks

²⁴ "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city,
to *finish the transgression*, 1
to *make an end of sin*, 2
to *make atonement for iniquity*, 3
to *bring in everlasting righteousness*, 4
to *seal up vision and prophecy and* 5
to *anoint the most holy place*. 6

First three are negative in force, and the last three are positive in force.

Six Events of the Seventy Weeks



1st Advent

2nd Advent

1. "Finish the transgression"

4. "Bring in everlasting righteousness"

2. "Make an end of sin"

5. "Seal up vision and prophecy"

3. "Make atonement for iniquity"

6. "Anoint the most holy place"

--Six events: the first three were fulfilled at the first advent of Christ, and the second three will be fulfilled at the second advent.

Six Events of the Seventy Weeks

1st Advent

2nd Advent

1. "Finish the transgression"

Zech. 1:12-17

2. "Make an end of sin"

Messiah comes

3. "Make atonement for iniquity"

Provision made at first advent,
fulfillment at the second advent

4. "Bring in everlasting righteousness"

Jer. 23:5-6; Is. 11:2-9

5. "Seal up vision and prophecy"

Prophecies all fulfilled

6. "Anoint the most holy place"

The millennial temple

Alternate view: the first three deal with Israel's sin, and all six await their complete fulfillment at the second advent. (1) "finish the transgression"/Zechariah 12-13; (2) "make an end of sin"/Messiah comes, Satan bound; (3) "make atonement for iniquity"/provision made at first advent, fulfillment at the second advent; (4) "bring in everlasting righteousness"/Jeremiah 23:5-6; Isaiah 11:2-9; (5) "seal up vision and prophecy"/prophecies all fulfilled; (6) "anoint the most holy place"/the millennial temple.

Zechariah 1:12 "Then the angel of the LORD answered and said, "O LORD of hosts, how long wilt Thou have no compassion for Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, with which Thou hast been indignant these seventy years?"

13 And the LORD answered the angel who was speaking with me with gracious words, comforting words.

14 So the angel who was speaking with me said to me, "Proclaim, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "I am exceedingly jealous for Jerusalem and Zion.

15 "But I am very angry with the nations who are at ease; for while I was only a little angry, they furthered the disaster."

16 "Therefore, thus says the LORD, "I will return to Jerusalem with compassion; My house will be built in it," declares the LORD of hosts, "and a measuring line will be stretched over Jerusalem."

17 "Again, proclaim, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "My cities will again overflow with prosperity, and the LORD will again comfort Zion and again choose Jerusalem.'"

Isaiah 11: 2 And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

3 And He will delight in the fear of the LORD, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make a decision by what His ears hear;

4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor, And decide with fairness for the afflicted of the earth; And He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked.

5 Also righteousness will be the belt about His loins, And faithfulness the belt about His waist.

6 And the wolf will dwell with the lamb, And the leopard will lie down with the kid, And the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; And a little boy will lead them.

7 Also the cow and the bear will graze; Their young will lie down together; And the lion will eat straw like the ox.

8 And the nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den.

9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea.

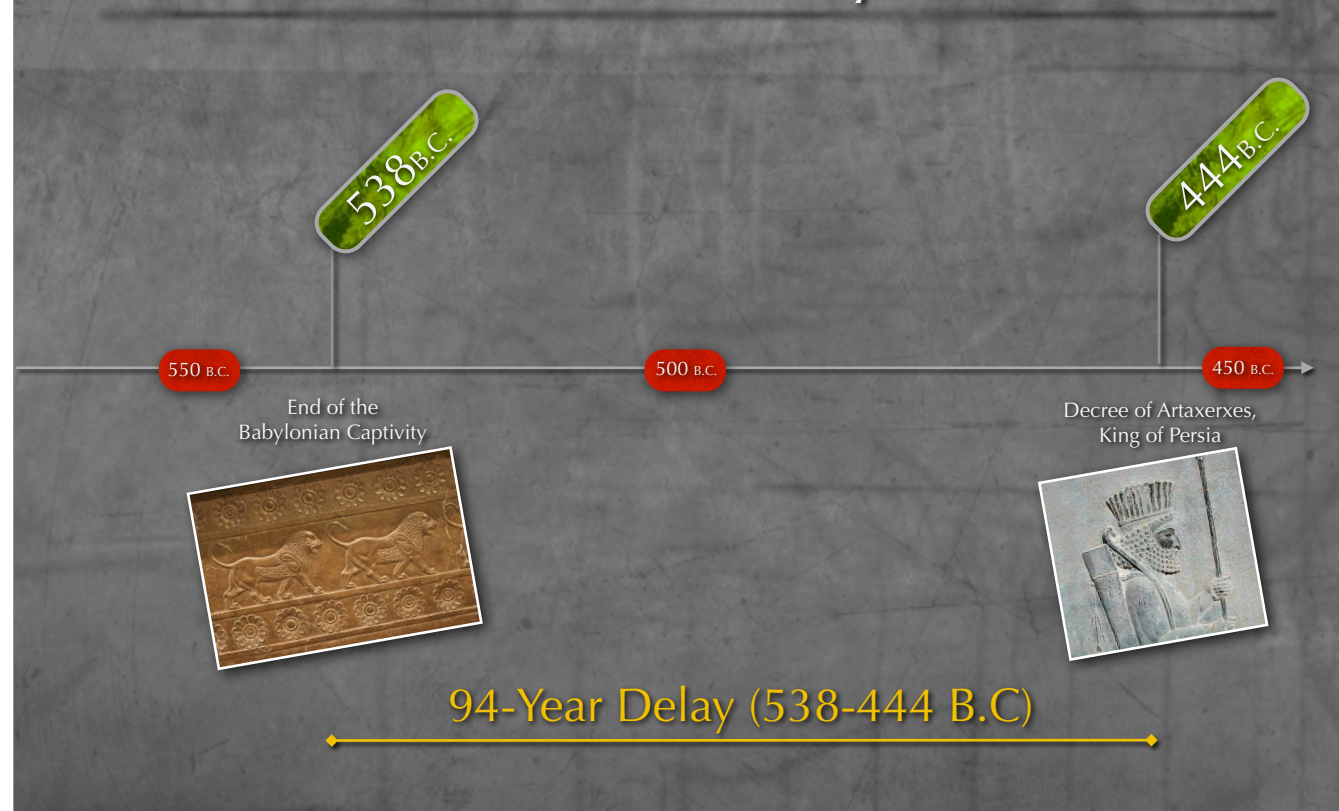
7 + 62 = 69 Weeks

²⁵ "So you are to know and discern that
from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem
until Messiah the Prince
there will be *seven weeks and sixty-two weeks*;
it will be built again,
with plaza and moat,
even in times of distress.



Model of Rebuilt Temple, Jerusalem

Start of the Seventy Weeks



- 25 The 70 weeks would not begin for 94 years (from 538 until the decree of Artaxerxes in 444).

See next slide:

[The decrees of Cyrus (536; Ezra 1:1-3), Darius (Ezra 6:3-8), and of Artaxerxes (458; Ezra 7) do not fit 9:25.] Read Nehemiah 2:1-8 (note his prayer in 1:4-11). The seven weeks are from 444-395; the walls were quickly rebuilt (Neh. 6:15), but it took years to restore the rest of the city. The 62 weeks (434 years) lead up to the time of Messiah's presentation of Himself as Israel's Messiah-King at the triumphal entry (see Matt. 21:1-11; Zech. 9:9).

Incorrect Start Dates of 70 Weeks Based Upon the Book of Ezra

- ❖ Decree of Cyrus, 536 B.C., (Ezra 1:1-3)
- ❖ Decree of Darius, (Ezra 6:3-8)
- ❖ Decree of Artaxerxes, 458 B.C., (Ezra 7)



[The decrees of Cyrus (536; Ezra 1:1-3), Darius (Ezra 6:3-8), and of Artaxerxes (458; Ezra 7) do not fit 9:25.]

Correct Start Dates of 70 Weeks Based Upon the Book of Nehemiah

- ☼ Nehemiah 2:1-8
- ☼ Nehemiah's prayer, 1:4-11
- ☼ 7 weeks (49 years) are from 444-395 B.C.
- ☼ Walls quickly rebuilt, Neh. 6:15
- ☼ 62 weeks (434 years) until triumphal entry
- ☼ 69th week described: Matt. 21:1-11; Zech. 9:9

[The decrees of Cyrus (536; Ezra 1:1-3), Darius (Ezra 6:3-8), and of Artaxerxes (458; Ezra 7) do not fit 9:25.] Read Nehemiah 2:1-8 (note his prayer in 1:4-11). The seven weeks are from 444-395; the walls were quickly rebuilt (Neh. 6:15), but it took years to restore the rest of the city. The 62 weeks (434 years) lead up to the time of Messiah's presentation of Himself as Israel's Messiah-King at the triumphal entry (see Matt. 21:1-11; Zech. 9:9).

Failing to Recognize the Time of Their Visitation

*Luke 19:42-44 "...if you had known in this day, even you,
the things which make for peace!
But now they have been **hidden from your eyes**.*

*For the days shall come upon you when your enemies
will throw up a bank before you,
and surround you,
and hem you in on every side,
and will level you to the ground and your children within you,
and they will not leave in you one stone upon another,
because you did not recognize the time of your visitation."*

--They did not recognize the time of their visitation; Luke 19:42-44.

Messiah Will Be Cut Off

²⁶ “Then after the sixty-two weeks
the *Messiah will be cut off and have nothing...*”



- 26 "the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing" / Jesus had nothing when He was crucified; He was deserted by His friends and disciples, mocked by His enemies, and forsaken by the Father.



Roman Antichrist

²⁶ “Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and *the people of the prince who is to come* will destroy the city and the sanctuary...”

--"the people of the prince who is to come"/the Antichrist will be a Roman prince.

Messiah Will Be Cut Off

²⁶ *“Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary...”*



Destruction of Second Temple by Romans



Depiction in the Arch of Titus, Rome, A.D. 70

--Titus Vespasian led four Roman legions to besiege and destroy Jerusalem in A.D. 70. The temple that was built in the time of Ezra and rebuilt by Herod was destroyed. General Titus ordered his soldiers to leave the temple intact, but Jesus' prediction in Matthew 24:2 was fulfilled when (it is said) a torch was thrown through an archway by a soldier; this set the tapestries on fire, and the whole building became an inferno. The decorative gold melted and ran down into the cracks of the stone floors. When the remains cooled, the soldiers in their greed for wealth literally overturned the stones in search of the gold.

Jesus' Prophecy of the Temple Destruction

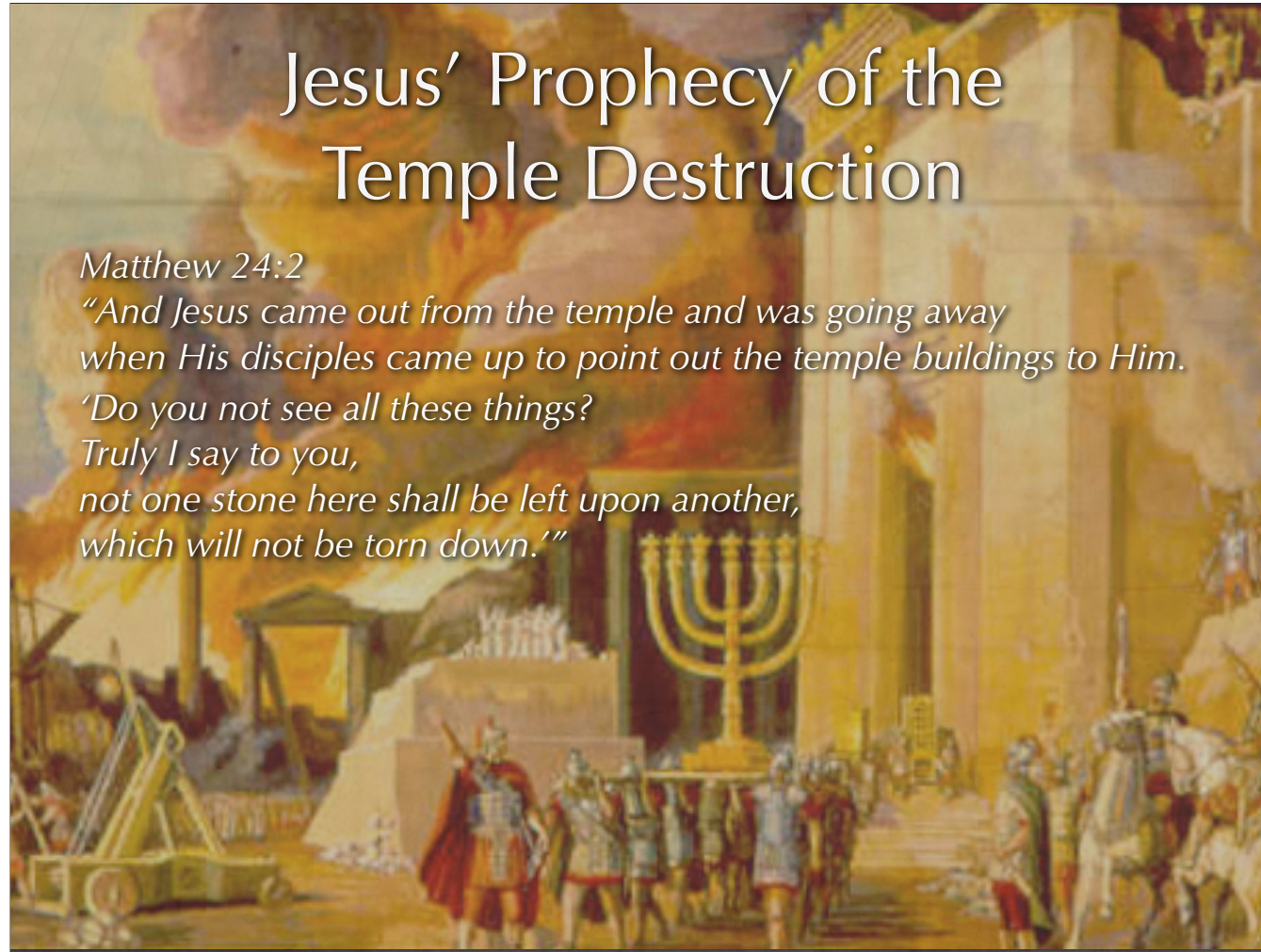
Matthew 24:2

"And Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him.

'Do you not see all these things?

Truly I say to you,

not one stone here shall be left upon another,
which will not be torn down.'"



“Desolations Are Determined”

²⁶ “....And its end will come with a flood;
even to the end there will be *war*;
desolations are determined.”

--"desolations are determined"/ war and desolation will be the continuing experience of the Jewish people between the 69th and 70th weeks.

Future Antichrist Prince

²⁷ “And *he* will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 “that is, the one whose coming is in accord with *the activity of Satan*, with all power and signs and false wonders, and with all the *deception* of wickedness for those who perish...”



Rebuilding a Future Third Temple

²⁷ *“And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week **he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering;***

- ☼ Solomon’s temple destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, 586 B.C.
- ☼ Herod’s temple destroyed by Titus, A.D. 70
- ☼ Future temple required



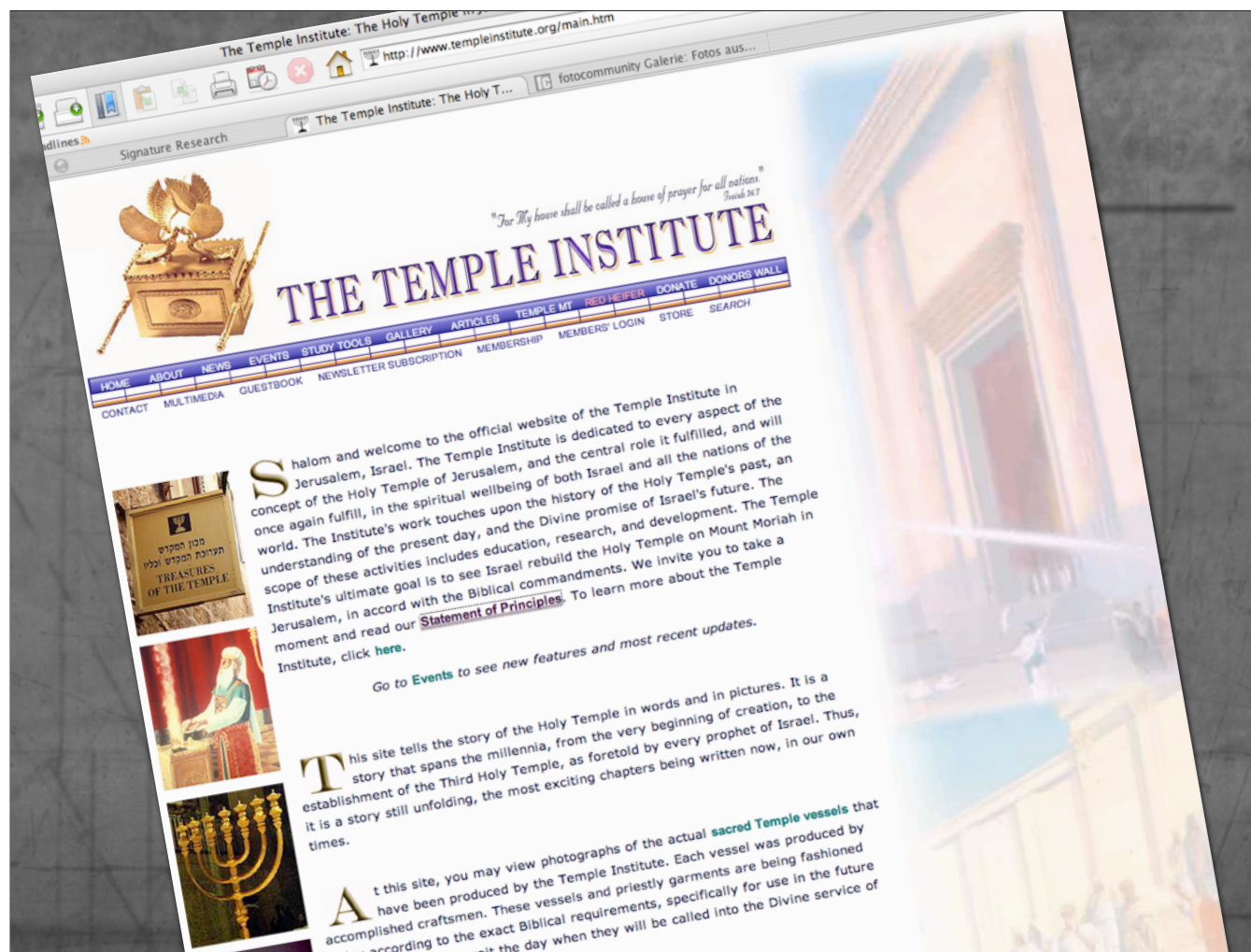
Wish of Many Jews

--[Two Christians, observing the model of first century Jerusalem at the Holy Land Hotel were discussing the future building of the temple. A stranger stood nearby listening to their conversation and then introduced himself as a New York rabbi. He asked in amazement, "Do Christians really believe in the rebuilding of a temple in Jerusalem?" One of the Christians replied, "Haven't you read your prophets, Ezekiel and Daniel?" The rabbi said, "No, because when I was studying to be a rabbi I was told not to read Daniel and was particularly forbidden to compute the prophecy of the 70 weeks in Daniel chapter 9!"] Romans 11:25.

Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Solomon’s Temple in 586 B.C.. The Jews would rebuild it as Herod’s Temple over decades, completing it in 68 A.D., only to be destroyed by the Romans in 70A.D., with the Roman general Titus carrying off the temple vessels.

The destruction of the Second Temple and its plunder by the Roman legions marked the beginning of Israel's long exile, which ended with the birth of the state of Israel.

Today, Jews want to reclaim Mt. Moriah and begin rebuilding the third temple, as this scene superimposed upon the Jerusalem landscape shows.



--The Temple Institute, an organization in Jerusalem trying to rebuild the Jewish temple, already has built 53 of the 92 articles and vessels the Bible says were used in the ancient temple. (*National & International Religion Report*, 1/14/91)

5/11/06 Update: "In this manner, over sixty sacred Temple vessels have already been restored, including some of the most difficult and complicated projects, ..."
<http://www.templeinstitute.org/about.htm>

Protector of the Jews to Become the Persecutor of the Jews

*2 Thessalonians 2:4 "who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, **displaying himself as being God.**"*

*Revelation 13:14 "And **he deceives** those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast..."*



--In the middle of the week, the protector of the Jews will become the persecutor of the Jews. He will desecrate the holy place and demand worship (2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:14). Matthew 24:15-16 refers to this abomination and warns the Jews at that time to flee Jerusalem.

²⁷ “And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; *and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate...*”

Matthew 24:15-16 “Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), *then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains...*”



--In the middle of the week, the protector of the Jews will become the persecutor of the Jews. He will desecrate the holy place and demand worship (2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:14). Matthew 24:15-16 refers to this abomination and warns the Jews at that time to flee Jerusalem.

Antichrist's Final Destruction

*²⁷ “And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even **until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.**”*

☼ Fulfilled in:

☼ Zechariah 14:1-4

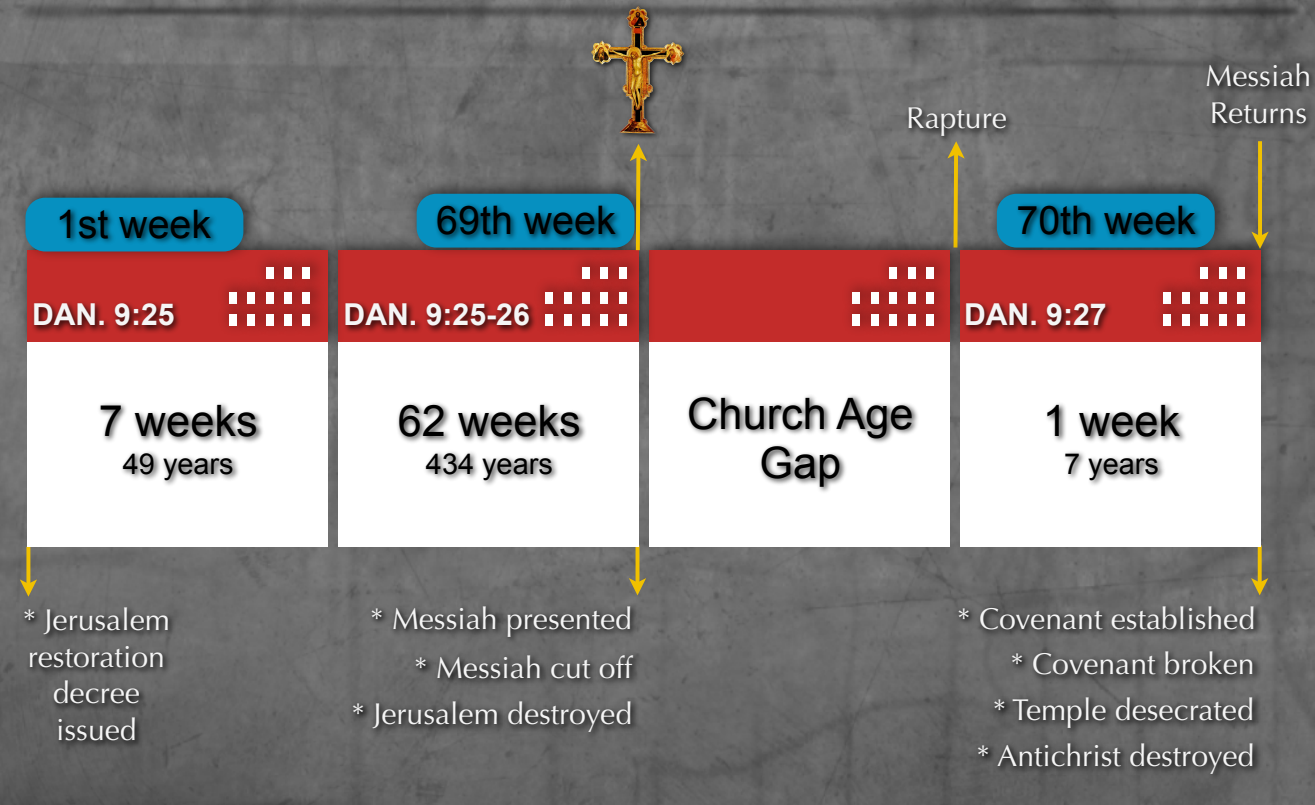
☼ Revelation 19:11, 20-21

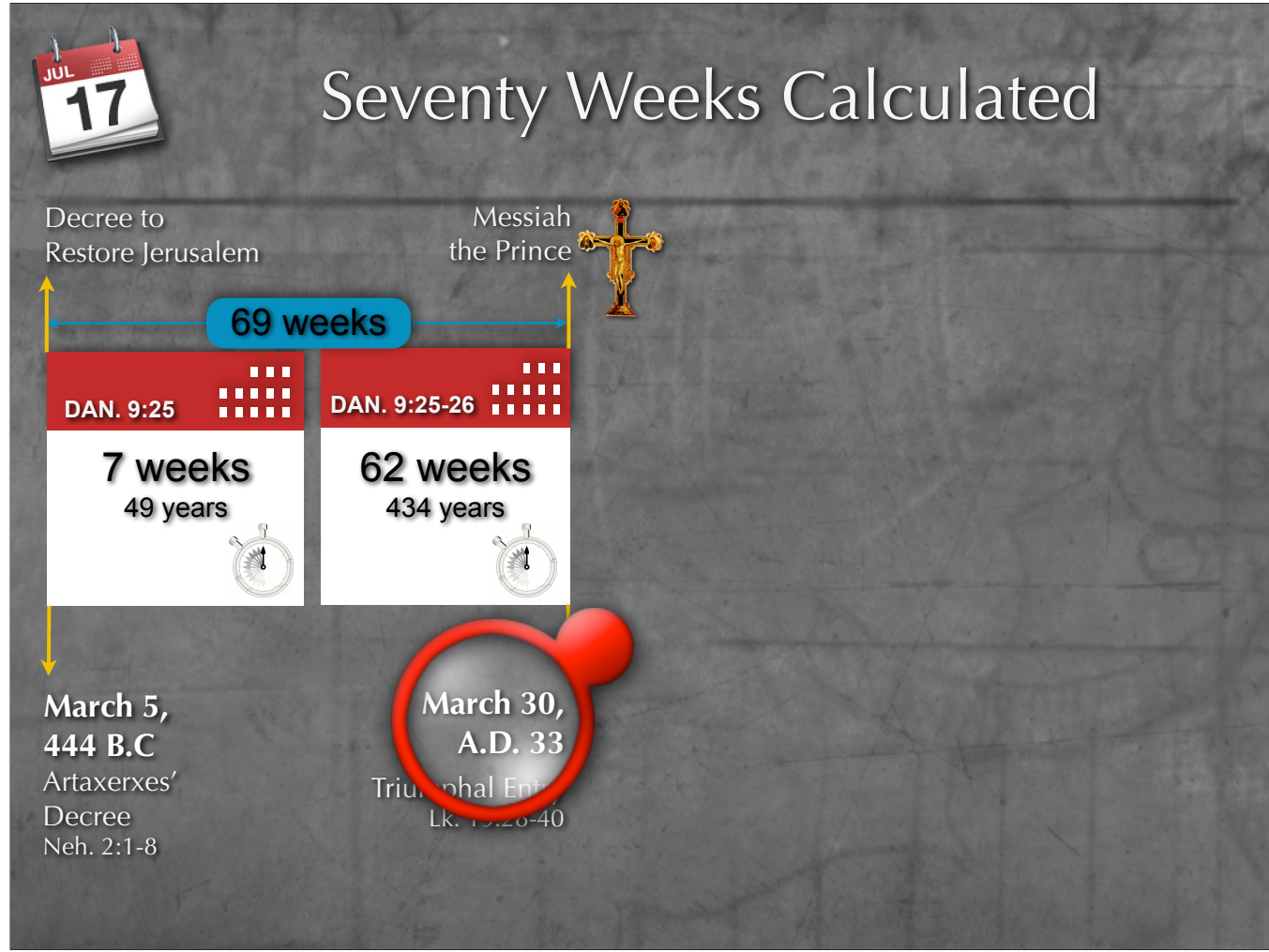
--The last part of this verse will be fulfilled in Zechariah 14:1-4 and Revelation 19:11, 20-21.



Daniel's Seventy Weeks Overview

Daniel 9:24-27





Church Age Gap: Parenthesis between Dan. 9:26 and 27, where the "time clock" is stopped. It represents an indefinite time-period or postponement of national Israel's restoration. The "time clock" will start ticking again at an unknown date in the near future. When antichrist makes a covenant with Israel, this will start the Seventieth-Week "time clock." Rebuilding of the Temple commences immediately (Dan. 9:27a).



Seventy Weeks Calculated

* Proof: 444 B.C. to A.D. 33 = 476 years

Decree to
Restore
Jerusalem

476 x 365.242 days = 173,855 days
From March 5 to March 30 = +25 days

Messiah
the Prince



173,880 days

69 weeks

DAN. 9:25

7 weeks
49 years



DAN. 9:25-26

62 weeks
434 years

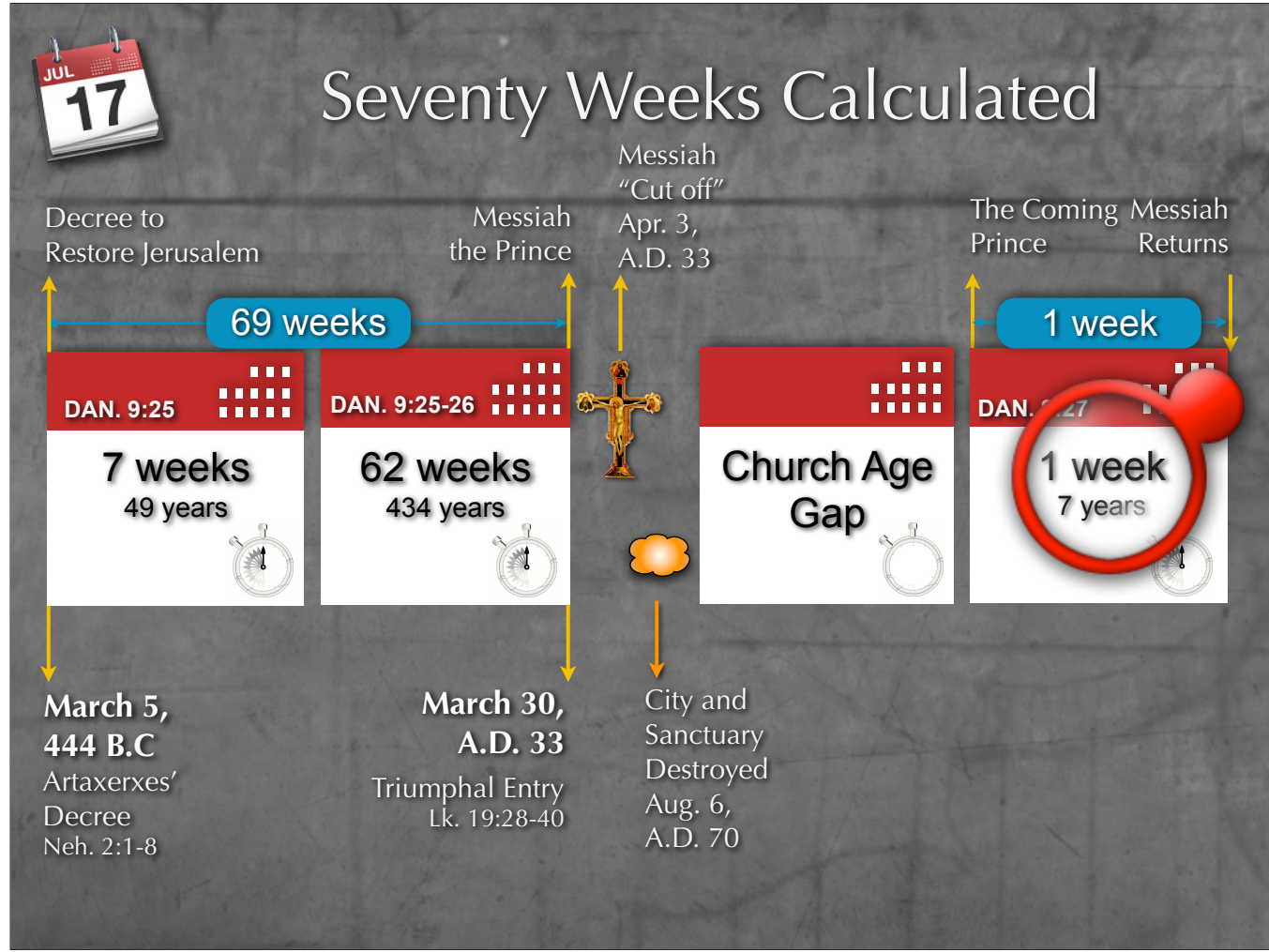


69 x 7 x 360 = 173,880 days

March 5, 444 B.C. + 173,880 days = March 30, A.D. 33*

March 5, 444 B.C.
Artaxerxes'
Decree
Nehemiah 2:1-8

March 30, A.D. 33
Triumphal Entry
Luke 19:28-40



Church Age Gap: Parenthesis between Dan. 9:26 and 27, where the “time clock” is stopped. It represents an indefinite time-period or postponement of national Israel’s restoration. The “time clock” will start ticking again at an unknown date in the near future. When antichrist makes a covenant with Israel, this will start the Seventieth-Week “time clock.” Rebuilding of the Temple commences immediately (Dan. 9:27a).



Seventy Weeks Calculated

Prophetic Year = 360 days

½ week (Dan. 9:27)

The Coming Prince

Messiah Returns

1 week

DAN. 9:27

1 week
7 years

1/2 week | 1/2 week

*Dan. 9:27 “And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but **in the middle of the week** he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering;*

Dan. 9:27 “And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

Dan. 7:25 ‘He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

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

Rev. 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she *had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.



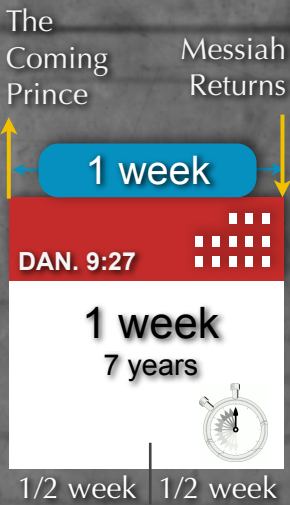
Seventy Weeks Calculated

Prophetic Year = 360 days

1/2 week (Dan. 9:27) = Time, times, 1/2 time

Dan. 7:25 'He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

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Seventy Weeks Calculated

Prophetic Year = 360 days

½ week (Dan. 9:27) = Time, times, ½ time (Dan. 7:25; Rev. 12:14)
= 1,260 days (Rev. 12:6)

The Coming Prince

Messiah Returns

1 week

DAN. 9:27

1 week
7 years

1/2 week | 1/2 week

Rev. 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

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Rev. 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she *had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.



Seventy Weeks Calculated

Prophetic Year = 360 days

½ week (Dan. 9:27) = Time, times, ½ time (Dan. 7:25; Rev. 12:14)

= 1,260 days (Rev. 12:6)

= 42 months (Rev. 13:5)

= 3½ years (42 x 12)

1260 ÷ 42 = 30 day months = 360 day year

The Coming Prince

Messiah Returns

1 week

DAN. 9:27

1 week
7 years

1/2 week | 1/2 week

*Rev. 13:5 There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for **forty-two months** was given to him.*

Dan. 9:27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

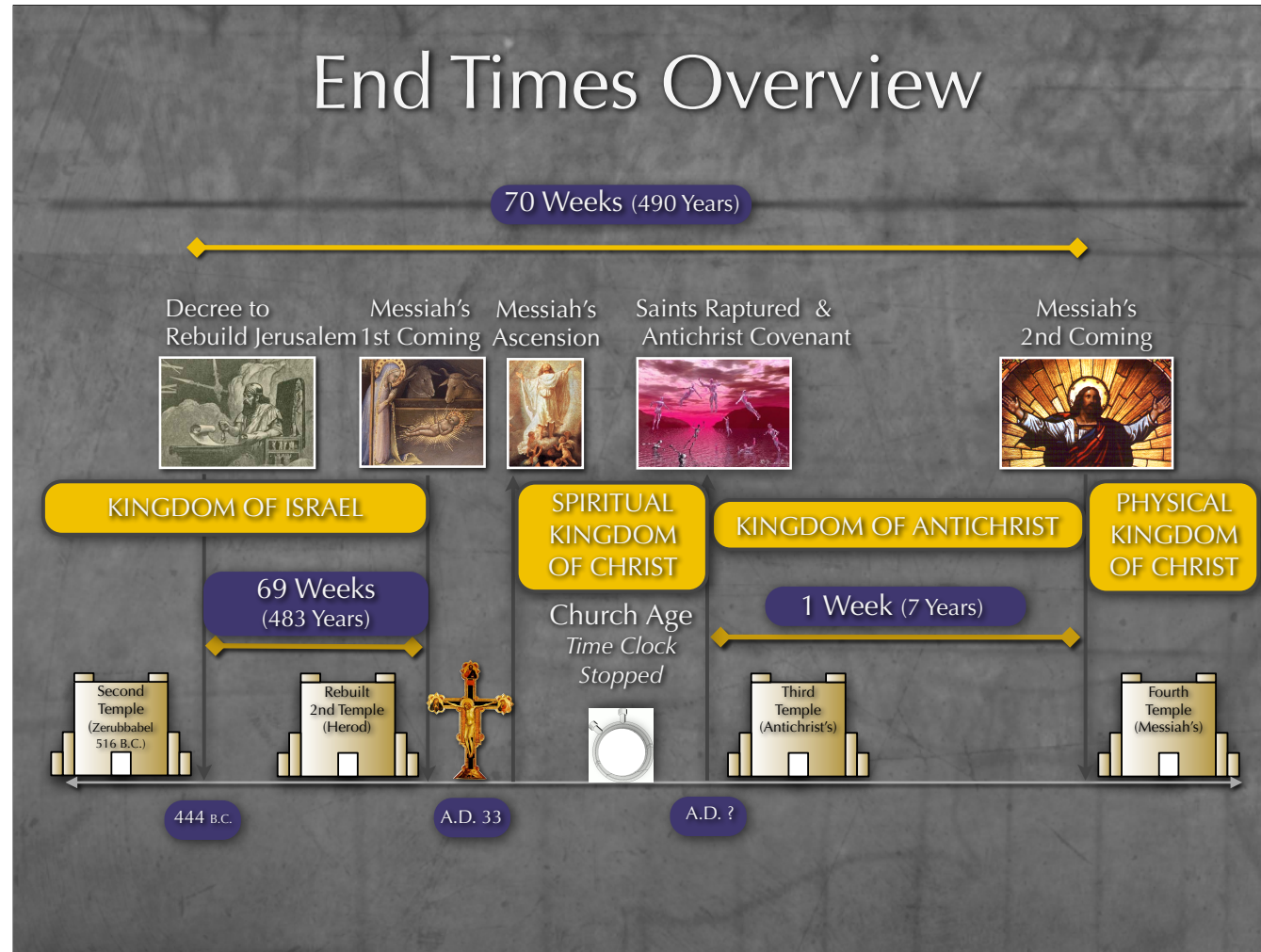
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Rev. 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she *had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Rev. 13:5 There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.

End Times Overview



The second temple (Zerubbabel) was built in 516 B.C.

Chapter 9 Applications

- Daniel's great responsibilities did not prevent him from engaging in the disciplines of prayer (6:10) and Scripture study (9:2)
- Study of prophecy is not escapism from the present, but a motivation for the present



-- Daniel's great responsibilities did not prevent him from engaging in the disciplines of prayer (three times a day; 6:10) and study of Scripture (9:2).

--The study of prophecy is not escapism from the present, in spite of abuses along these lines. Instead, it provides a motivation for the present. Daniel's study of the prophecies of Jeremiah prompted clear action in his life. Instead of being passive or fatalistic, Daniel actively interceded on behalf of the Jews. The window of opportunity is open for only a short while; John 9:4.

Chapter 9 Applications

- ☼ Put your hope only in the promises and character of God
- ☼ Sin inevitably brings divine judgment (9:11-14)
- ☼ Spiritual growth is characterized by an increasing awareness of the holiness of God and the destructiveness of sin (9:4-5)



--Put your hope only in the promises and character of God. Daniel hoped in the fulfillment of God's promise in Jeremiah.

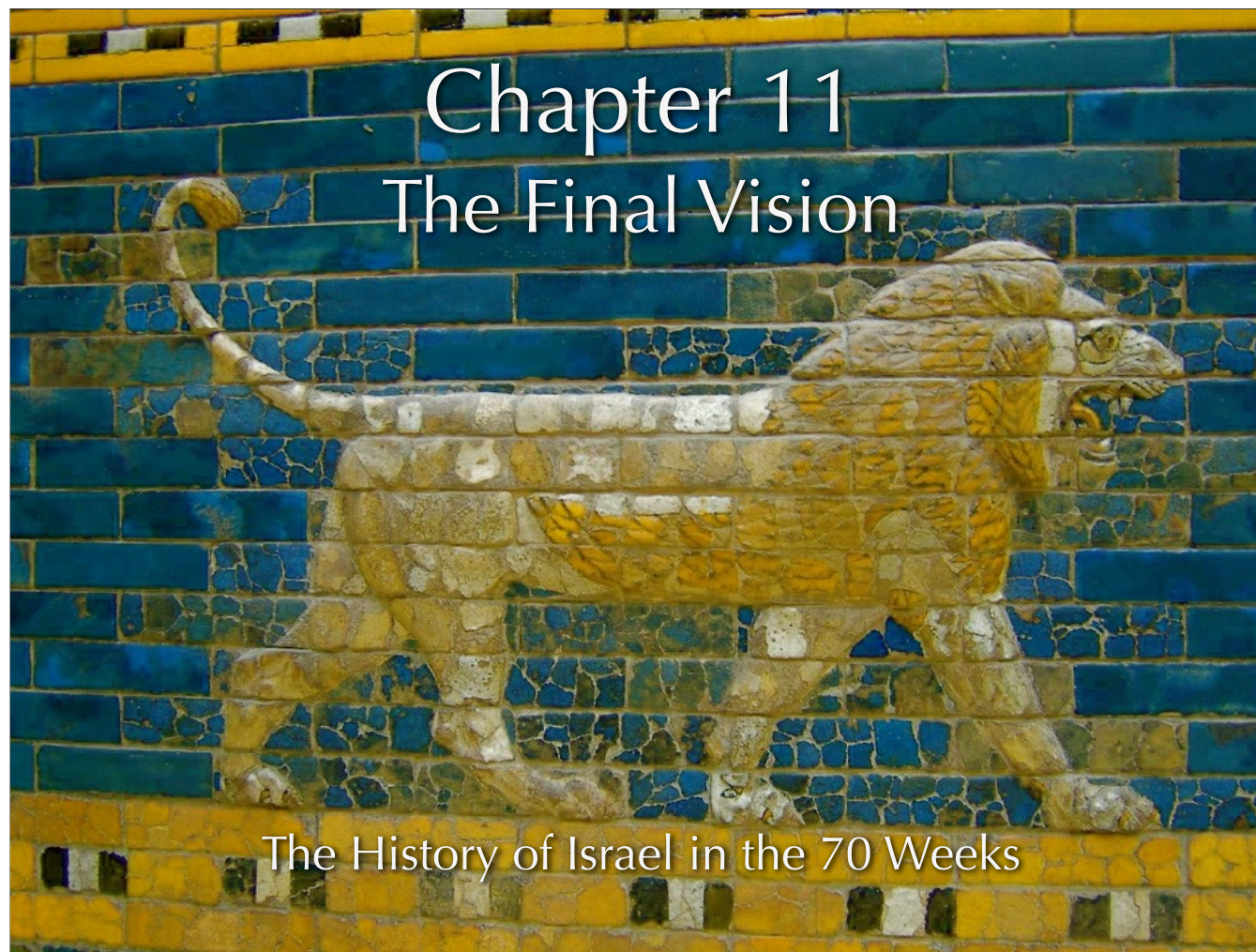
--Spiritual growth is characterized by an increasing awareness of the holiness of God and the destructiveness of sin (9:4-5). The fear of the Lord involves not only an awe, love, and submission to God, but also the hatred of evil (Prov. 8:13).

--Sin inevitably brings divine judgment (9:11-14). The mills of God may grind slowly, but they "grind exceeding fine." In spite of Ecclesiastes 8:11, God is not mocked (Gal. 6:7). The two options of blessing for obedience and cursing for disobedience still apply (though there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ). The sanity of holiness.

Chapter 11

The Final Vision

The History of Israel in the 70 Weeks



Daniel: Accurate Predictive Prophecy

✦ +135 prophecies literally fulfilled in 11:1-35

✦ Porphyry, AD 3 claimed *Daniel* was historical fiction written in 165 B.C.

•At least 135 prophecies which have been literally fulfilled in vv. 1-35. Porphyry, a third century A.D. philosopher, was one of the first to take the position that the Book of Daniel was historical fiction written by someone in Judea about 165 B.C. to encourage resistance against Antiochus Epiphanes. A strong pressure to maintain this position in the academic community. Again, the issue is whether such accurate predictive prophecy is possible; if God is omniscient about the future, it is.

Daniel 11 Outline

vv. 1-35

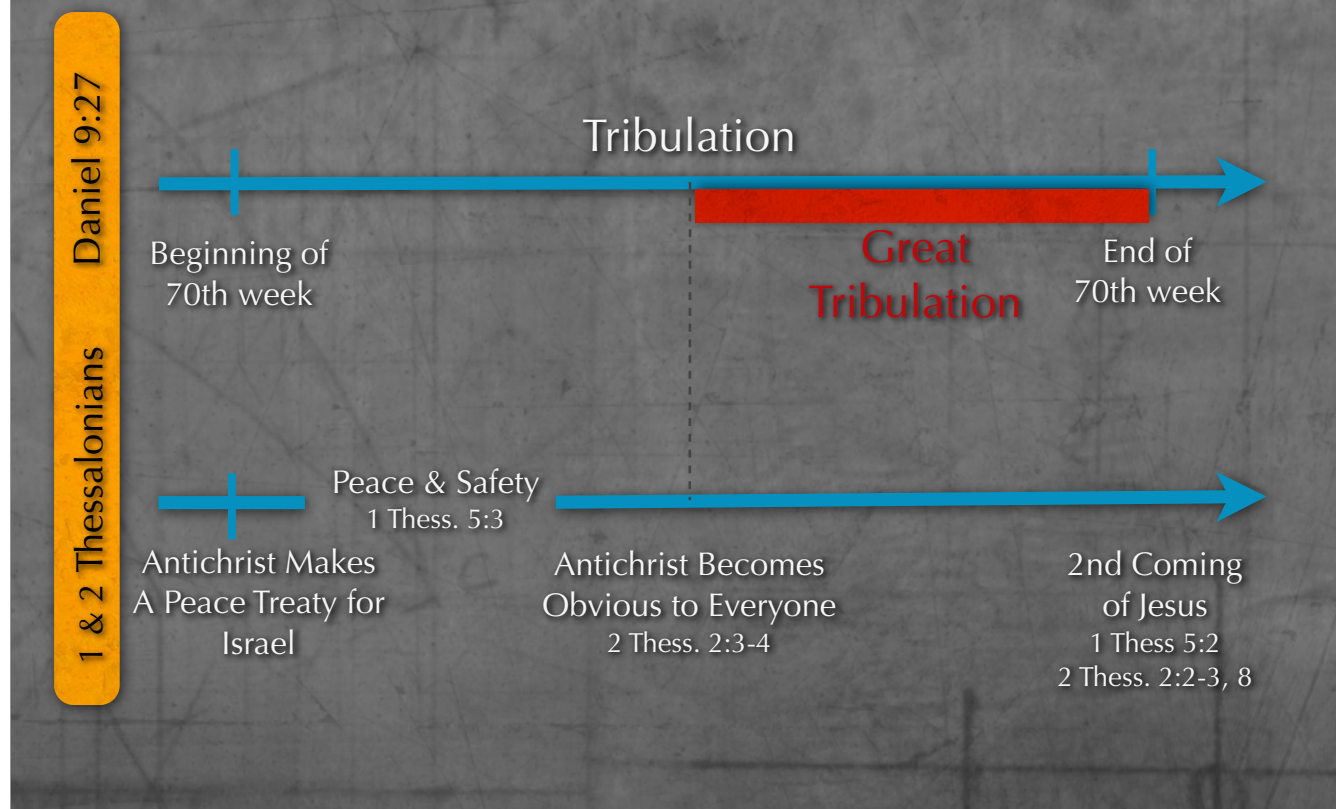
- * Israel's history in the 69 weeks
- * Climax with Antiochus Epiphanes

vv. 36-45

- * Israel's sufferings under Antichrist in the 70th week

•Verses 1-35 portray Israel's history in the 69 weeks and climax with Antiochus Epiphanes; vv. 36-45 depict Israel's sufferings under Antichrist in the 70th week.

Daniel's Seventieth Week



Here is another clue that we have jumped in time. Antiochus IV Epiphanes was not a "king." Remember that he was not of royal blood and had no right to the throne. He stole it.

The Antichrist will be like Antiochus, but he will be more evil. Ancient historians tell us that Antiochus believed in his gods, but the Antichrist will be godless, because it says, "... he will exalt and magnify himself above every god, and will speak monstrous things against the God of gods" He will not respect any god. He has made himself a god.

And he will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the desire of women, nor will he show regard for any other god; for he will magnify himself above them all. (NASB) Dan. 11:37

The Antichrist apparently is a homosexual because he has no regard for or he is not interested in women. This man is evil, apparently a homosexual, and possesses great pride.

Antichrist - His Love. The Antichrist does love something besides himself.

But instead he will honor a god of fortresses, a god whom his fathers did not know; he will honor him with gold, silver, costly stones, and treasures. And he will take action against the strongest of fortresses with the help of a foreign god; he will give great honor to those who acknowledge him, and he will cause them to rule over the many, and will parcel out land for a price. (NASB) Dan. 11:38-39 He loves power, fortresses, and wealth. Does that sound like a politician? This leader is very powerful. He has the power of a great nation under his control. His actions are more powerful than any before his time, and he has help from a foreign god - Satan. We will see that in our future study of Revelation 13:4. 2 Thessalonians 2:9 also tells that Satan will support this world leader. This occurs during the last half of the Tribulation Period.

Antichrist - Last Battle. At the end of the Tribulation, it appears that a group of Arab nations from the south and the north will come against the Antichrist.

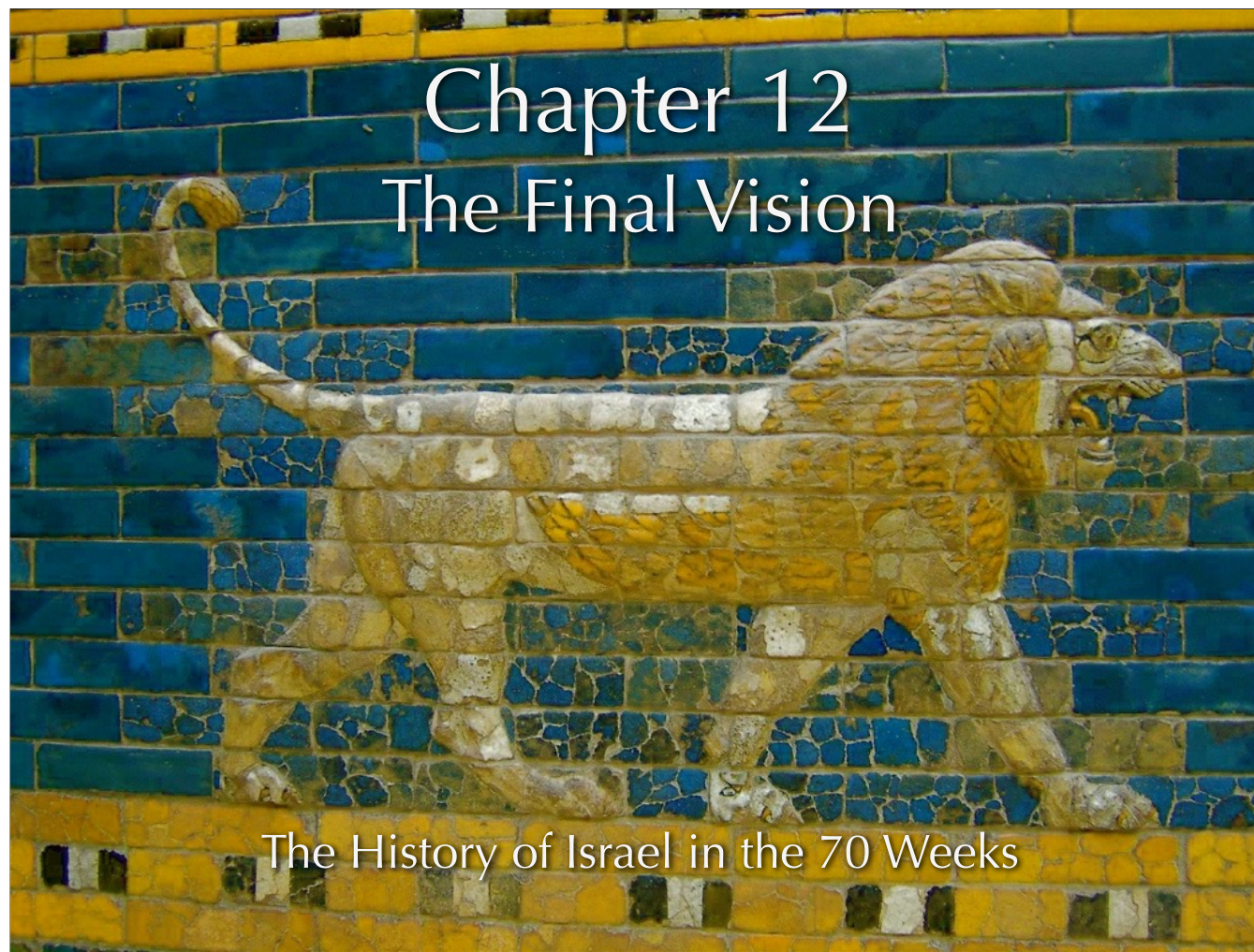
And at the end time the king of the South will collide with him, and the king of the North will storm against him with chariots, with horsemen, and with many ships; and he will enter countries, overflow them, and pass through. (NASB) Dan. 11:40

Source: <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/series/DAN/D019/D0194.html>

Chapter 12

The Final Vision

The History of Israel in the 70 Weeks



The Great Tribulation

Deut. 4:30 "When you are in distress and all these things have come upon you, in the latter days you will return to the LORD your God and listen to His voice.

*Jer. 30:7 'Alas! for that day is great,
There is none like it;
And it is the time of Jacob's distress,
But he will be saved from it.*

*Joel 2:2 A day of darkness and gloom,
A day of clouds and thick darkness.
As the dawn is spread over the mountains,
So there is a great and mighty people;
There has never been anything like it,
Nor will there be again after it
To the years of many generations.*

--The tribulation: Deuteronomy 4:30; Jeremiah 30:7; Joel 2:2; Revelation 6-19. Compare the middle of this verse with Matthew 24:21-22.

The Great Tribulation

Matt. 24:21-22 *“For then **there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.***

“Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

--The tribulation: Deuteronomy 4:30; Jeremiah 30:7; Joel 2:2; Revelation 6-19. Compare the middle of this verse with Matthew 24:21-22.

Not occurred: intensity, frequency, duration, nature

Jews Long for Jesus' Return

Is. 64:1 Oh, that You would rend the heavens and come down,

Zech. 12:10 "I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn."

--The surviving Jews will realize that they had rejected their Messiah and ask Him to return. Isaiah 53; 64:1a; Zechariah 12:10; Matthew 23:37-39.

v. 2 The First Resurrection: The Tribulation Saints

² “Many of *those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.*”

•² The resurrection of tribulation saints; probably the same time as the resurrection of Old Testament saints; cf. Revelation 20:4-6. There is not one general resurrection of the just and the unjust; Revelation 20 tells us that there is 1,000 years between the two resurrections in Daniel 12:2 and John 5:28-29. This is hinted at in the word "many," and Jewish commentators have paraphrased this "and many from among the sleepers of the dust of the earth shall awake; these shall be unto everlasting life; but those the rest of the sleepers, those who do not awake at this time, shall be unto shame and everlasting contempt."

The First Resurrection

*Rev. 20:4-6 Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and **they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.***

*The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. **This is the first resurrection.***

*Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in **the first resurrection**; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.*

The resurrection of tribulation saints; probably the same time as the resurrection of Old Testament saints; cf. Revelation 20:4-6. There is not one general resurrection of the just and the unjust; Revelation 20 tells us that there is 1,000 years between the two resurrections in Daniel 12:2 and John 5:28-29. This is hinted at in the word "many," and Jewish commentators have paraphrased this "and many from among the sleepers of the dust of the earth shall awake; these shall be unto everlasting life; but those the rest of the sleepers, those who do not awake at this time, shall be unto shame and everlasting contempt."

The Second Resurrection: The Just and Unjust

John 5:28-29 "Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment."



There is not one general resurrection of the just and the unjust; Revelation 20 tells us that there is 1,000 years between the two resurrections in Daniel 12:2 and John 5:28-29. This is hinted at in the word "many," and Jewish commentators have paraphrased this "and many from among the sleepers of the dust of the earth shall awake; these shall be unto everlasting life; but those the rest of the sleepers, those who do not awake at this time, shall be unto shame and everlasting contempt."

v. 4 Sealed Revelation

*⁴ “But as for you, Daniel,
conceal these words and
seal up the book
until the end of time;

many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase.”*

*Amos 8:12 “People will stagger from sea to sea
And from the north even to the east;
They will go to and fro to seek the word of the LORD,
But they will not find it.*

•4 The words of this book are being preserved for those in the tribulation period when they will have their fullest application and greatest clarity.

--Newton predicted on the basis of this verse that the day would come when knowledge would be so increased that people would be able to travel 50 miles an hour! Voltaire in response cast great ridicule upon Newton and the Bible.

--Alternatively, this verse could be interpreted to mean that they will peruse to and fro in Daniel, and then they will gain understanding (cf. Amos 8:12).

“Knowledge Will Increase”

Daniel to Christ (600 years)

Sundial (700), coins (650), cast iron (512) catapult (400), Archimedes screw (210), glass blowing (100)

100 A.D. to 1399 (1300 years)

Paper, stirrups (300), horse collar (475), Plow (600), horse shoes (770), saddle (365).

Arabic Numerals (810), gunpowder (1000), water powered mills (1060), wind mill (1180), compass, eyeglasses (1286), mirror (1291), mechanical clock (1335)

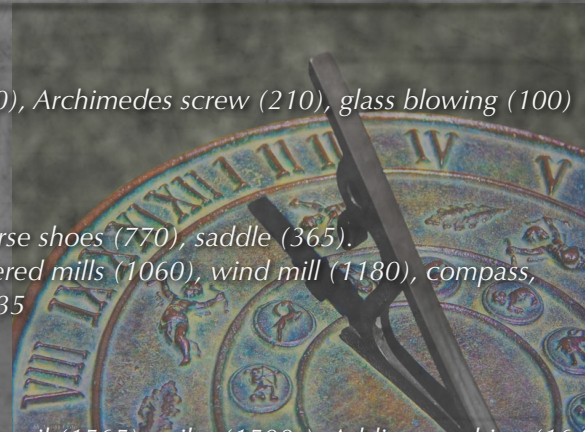
1400-1799 (400 years)

Guns, printing press (1450) Guttenberg bible (1456), pencil (1565), toilet (1500s), Adding machine (1642), microscope (1674), telescope (1608), sewing machine (1755), battery (1790), bifocal glasses (1760), vaccination (1796)

1800-1843 (40 years)

Battery (1800), clothes dryer (1800), refrigerator (1805), Morse code (1840), fax machine (1843)

Prophecies of Daniel: The first angel's message reminds the world about creation as the theory of evolution emerges and is popularized by Darwin in 1863.



“Knowledge Will Increase”

1844-1899 (50 years)

First telegraph message (1844), anesthesia (1846), safety pin (1849), dishwasher (1850), lawnmower, elevator (1852), steel (1856), can opener (1858), machine gun (1861), typewriter (1864), dynamite (1867), keyboard (1868)

In 1875 the director of the patent office resigned, saying "there is nothing else to invent."

Discoveries:

Electric light (1878), radio waves, AC electricity (1888), telephone (1876), recorded sound (1877), aspirin (1877), first telephone switchboard (1877), light bulb (1879), Film (1884), motion pictures (1893), Internal combustion engine (1885), camera (1888), automobile (1889), matches (1889), zipper (1893), corn flakes (1894), wireless telegraph (1895)



“Knowledge Will Increase”

After 1900 (100 years)

Medicine: Insulin (1921), penicillin (1929)

Consumer Products: Plastic (1907), Credit cards (1920's), Crayons (1903), ball-point pen (1935), sliced bread (1928), flashlight (1910), hair dryer, refrigerator (1911), vacuum cleaner, washing machine, velcro, traffic light, television, silly putty (1946), smoke alarm, nylon stockings (1938), microwave oven (1945), disposable diapers (1946)

Communication: Radio transmission (1901), Broadcast radio (1920), television broadcast (1936), color television (1950), communication satellites (1958)



“Knowledge Will Increase”

After 1900 (100 years)

Computer: ENIAC computer (1945), mouse (1964), Arpanet (1969), Internet (1973), Personal Computer (1976), modem (1977), world wide web (1991) DVD (1995)

Transportation: Zeppelin (1900), Air plane (1903), Space shuttle (1981), Jet engine (1937), radar (1938), skylab (1973)

Other: Genetic engineering (1974), Laser (1960), solar battery (1954), CAT Scan (1975), fiberoptics, Nuclear technology (1942), atom bomb (1945), Hubble telescope, space station, moon landing, mars landing, ICBM, wireless technology



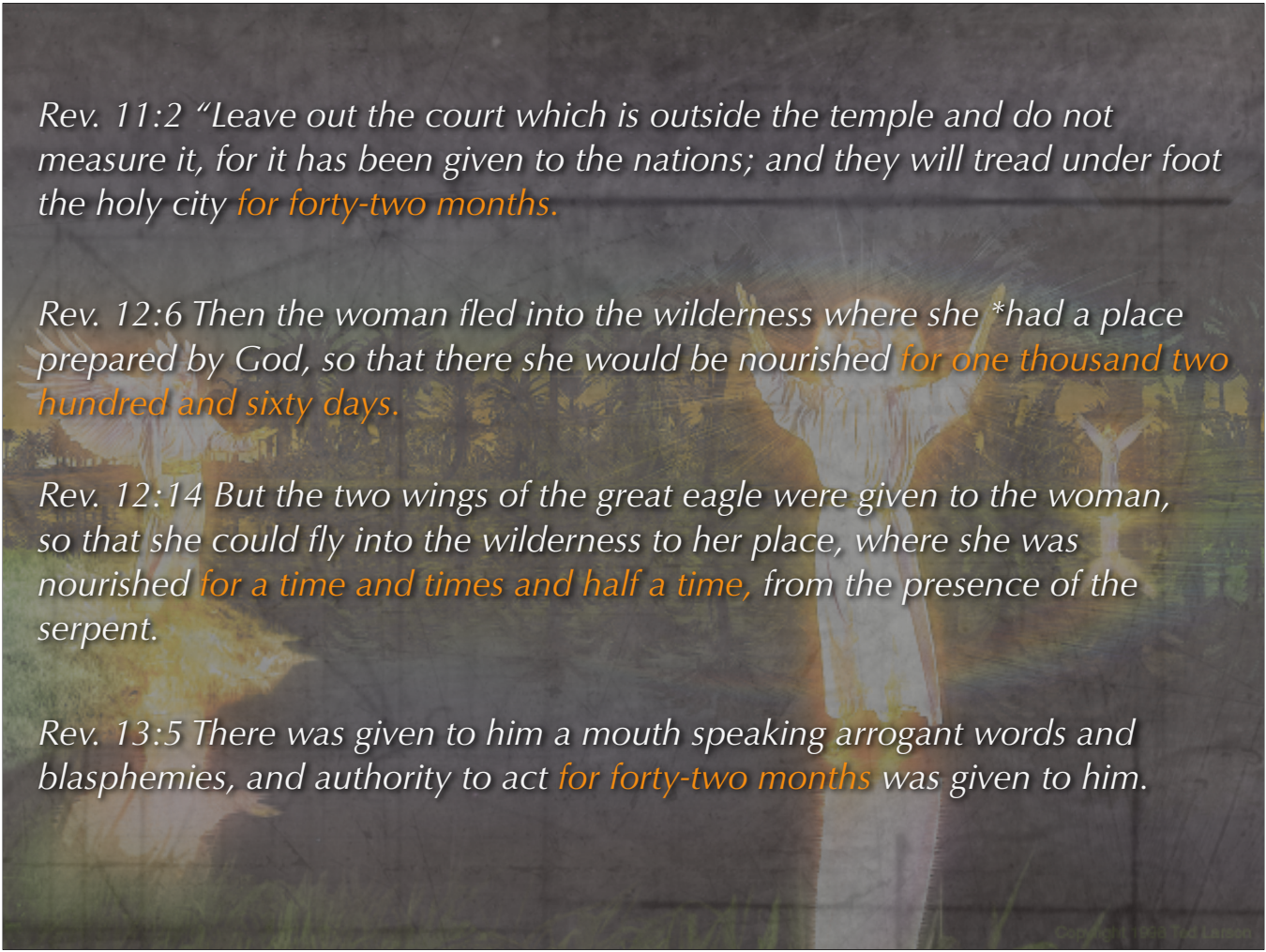
3½ Years from the Breaking of the Covenant to Consummation

Dan. 7:25 'He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

Dan. 9:27 "And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

Dan. 12:11-12 "From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. "How blessed is he who keeps waiting and attains to the 1,335 days!

--Three and one-half years from the breaking of the covenant until the consummation (cf. 7:25; 9:27; 12:11-12; Rev. 11:2; 12:6, 14; 13:5).



Rev. 11:2 “Leave out the court which is outside the temple and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city *for forty-two months*.”

Rev. 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she **had* a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished *for one thousand two hundred and sixty days*.

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

Rev. 13:5 There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act *for forty-two months* was given to him.

--Three and one-half years from the breaking of the covenant until the consummation (cf. 7:25; 9:27; 12:11-12; Rev. 11:2; 12:6, 14; 13:5).

v. 8 Daniel's Question

*⁸ As for me,
I heard but could not understand;
so I said,
“My lord, what will be the outcome of these events?”*



vv. 9-13 The Man's Reply to Daniel's Question



⁹ He said, "Go your way, Daniel, for these words are *concealed and sealed up until the end time*.

¹⁰ "Many will be *purged, purified and refined*, but the wicked will act wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand.

- 9 These events would be far in the future.
- 10 The hearts of men will be revealed.

vv. 9-13 The Man's Reply to Daniel's Question



¹¹ *“From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days.*

- v. 11 may relate to:

- Regathering/Judgment of Israel (Ezek. 20:34-38; Matt. 25:1-20)

- Gathering/Judgment of Nations (Joel 3:1-2; Matt. 25:31-46)

•11 An additional 30 days beyond the Second Advent. May relate to the regathering and judgment of Israel (Ezek. 20:34-38; Matt. 25:1-30) and the gathering and judgment of the nations (Joel 3:1-2; Matt. 25:31-46).

Ezek. 20:34 “I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you from the lands where you are scattered, with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out;

Ezek. 20:35 and I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will enter into judgment with you face to face.

Ezek. 20:36 “As I entered into judgment with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgment with you,” declares the Lord GOD.

Ezek. 20:37 “I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant;

Ezek. 20:38 and I will purge from you the rebels and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the land where they sojourn, but they will not enter the land of Israel. Thus you will know that I am the LORD.

Joel 3:1 ¶ “For behold, in those days and at that time,
When I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem,

Joel 3:2 I will gather all the nations
And bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat.
Then I will enter into judgment with them there
On behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel,
Whom they have scattered among the nations;
And they have divided up My land.

Matt. 25:31 ¶ “But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

Matt. 25:32 “All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;

Matt. 25:33 and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.

Matt. 25:34 ¶ “Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

Matt. 25:35 ‘For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in;

Matt. 25:36 naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’

Matt. 25:37 “Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink?

Matt. 25:38 ‘And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You?

Matt. 25:39 ‘When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’

Matt. 25:40 “The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.’

Matt. 25:41 ¶ “Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;

Matt. 25:42 for I was hungry, and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink;

Matt. 25:43 I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’

Matt. 25:44 “Then they themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’

Matt. 25:45 “Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’

Matt. 25:46 “These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

vv. 9-13 The Man's Reply to Daniel's Question



¹² *"How blessed is he
who keeps waiting and
attains to the 1,335 days!"*

- ¹² An additional 45 days beyond these 30 days. This may relate to the time necessary to set up the governmental machinery for carrying on the rule of Christ.

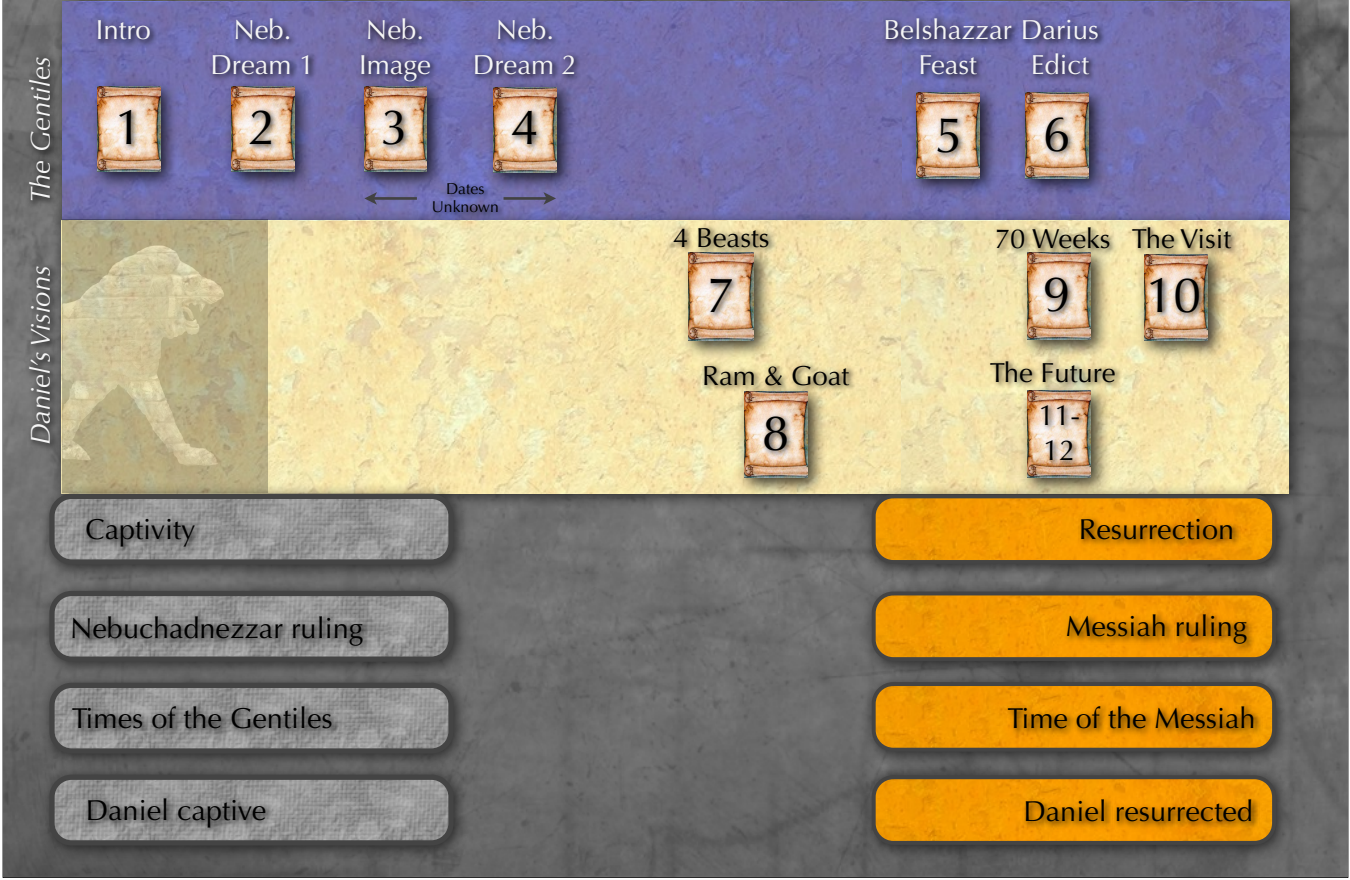
vv. 9-13 The Man's Reply to Daniel's Question



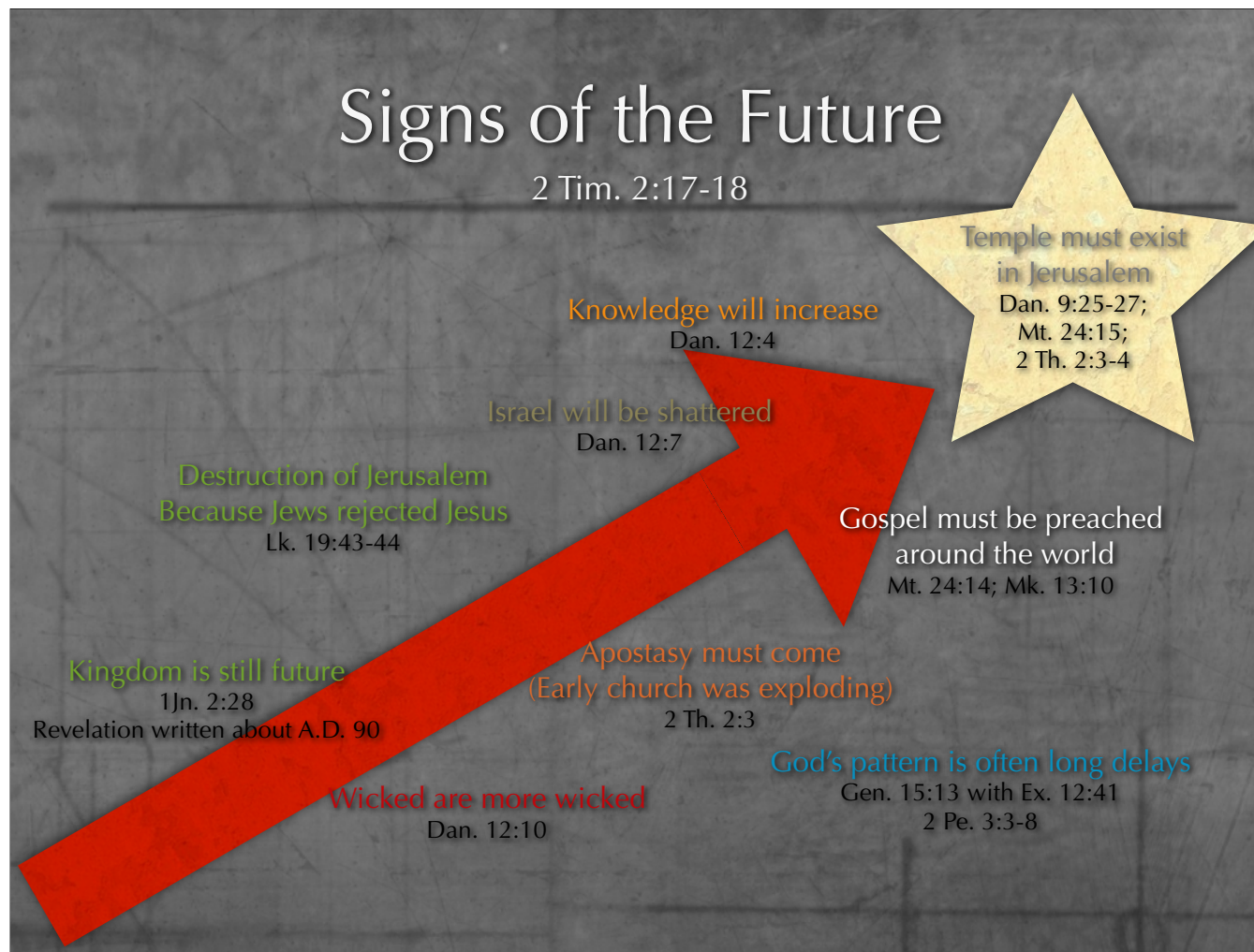
Alleged Location of Daniel's Tomb,
Susa, Iran

¹³ *"But as for you, go your way to the end;
then **you will enter into rest and rise again**
for your allotted portion at the end of the age."*

Daniel Visual Outline



•Daniel begins with captivity and ends with resurrection;
begins with Nebuchadnezzar ruling and ends with Messiah ruling;
begins with the times of the Gentiles and ends with the time of the Messiah;
begins with Daniel captive and ends with Daniel resurrected.



2Tim. 2:17 and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,
2Tim. 2:18 men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some.

Destruction of Jerusalem

_____ Luke 19:43 “For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side,
_____ Luke 19:44 and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.”

God’s pattern is often long delays

_____ Gen. 15:13 God said to Abram, “Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years.
_____ Ex. 12:41 And at the end of four hundred and thirty years, to the very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

_____ Hab. 2:3 “For the vision is yet for the appointed time;
It hastens toward the goal and it will not fail.
Though it tarries, wait for it;
For it will certainly come, it will not delay.
_____ Hab. 2:4 ¶ “Behold, as for the proud one,
His soul is not right within him;
But the righteous will live by his faith.
_____ Heb. 10:37 FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE,
HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY.

Kingdom is still future

_____ 1John 2:28 ¶ Now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming.

Apostasy must come

_____ 2Th. 2:3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,

Gospel must be preached around the world

_____ Matt. 24:14 “This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.
_____ Mark 13:10 “The gospel must first be preached to all the nations.

Temple must exist in Jerusalem

_____ 2Th. 2:3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,
_____ 2Th. 2:4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.
_____ Matt. 24:15 ¶ “Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),
_____ Dan. 9:25 “So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress.

Dan. 9:26 “Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.

Dan. 9:27 “And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

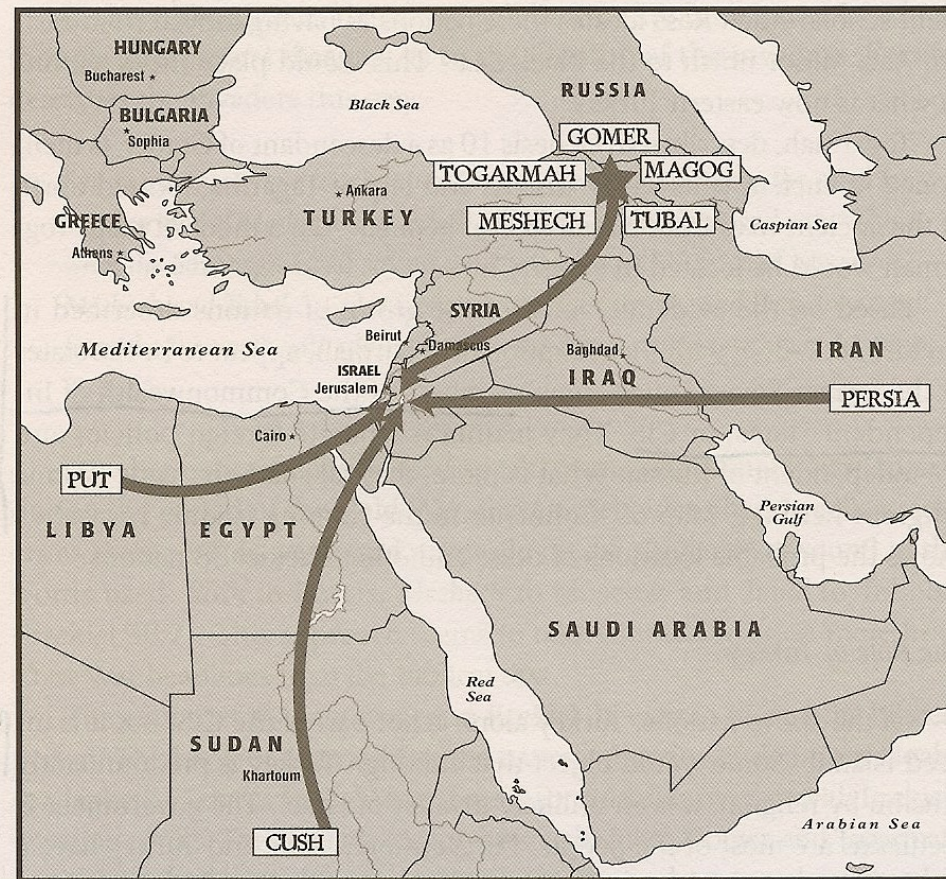
Unprecedented Evidences for the Last Days

- The rebirth of a united Israel and taking of Jerusalem (Isaiah 11:11-12; 66:7-8; Ezekiel 37:21-22; Zechariah 8:4-8)
- Unprecedented numbers of Jews coming to Messiah (Romans 11:25-27)
- Centrality of Israel and the Middle East in the world today (Ezekiel 38:1-23; Zechariah 12:2-3)
- A worldwide Islamic jihadist movement (Ezekiel 38:1-23)

Babylonian Demon-god, Pazuzu



COUNTRIES IN THE COMING ISLAMIC INVASION



Unprecedented Evidences for the Last Days

- A united Europe for the first time since the Roman Empire (Daniel 2:36-43)
- The gospel has now reached every nation (Matthew 24:14)
- The capacity to destroy the world for the first time in human history (Matthew 24:6-8; Revelation 6-11, 16)
- Unprecedented and accelerating global environmental damage (Matthew 24:7-8; Luke 21:11)

Babylonian Demon-god, Pazuzu



Unprecedented Evidences for the Last Days

- Exponential growth of information and technology
(Daniel 12:4)

Babylonian Demon-god, Pazuzu



Unprecedented Evidences for the Last Days

- A global computer network allowing unprecedented dimensions of communication and access to the full scope of human knowledge as well as personal information (Revelation 11:9-11)
- An interconnected one-world economy (Revelation 13:16-17)
- The technology of distraction: rapidly escalating violence and sexuality in films, video games, the Internet, television, music, books, and comics

Babylonian Demon-god, Pazuzu



Unprecedented Evidences for the Last Days

- The loss of moral absolutes (Isaiah 5:20; 2 Timothy 3:1-4)
- The development of bioengineering, nanotechnology, and robotics (Revelation 13:13-15)
- Radical redefinition of sexuality, marriage, and the family

Babylonian Demon-god, Pazuzu



Unprecedented Evidences for the Last Days

- Dramatic rise of intolerance and criticism of Christianity (1 Peter 4:12-19)
- Unprecedented degree of apostasy in the church (2 Timothy 4:3-4)
- Unprecedented number of false Christs (Matthew 24:5, 11, 24)

Babylonian Demon-god, Pazuzu



							
	Passover	Unleavened Bread	First Fruits	Weeks (Pentecost)	Trumpets	Day of Atonement	Tabernacles
Month/ Day(s)	1st 14	1st 15-21	1st 16	3rd 6	7th 1	7th 10	7th 15-22
Looks back on...	Redemption of Firstborn	Separation from Other Nations	Harvest in the Land	Completion of Harvest	Israel's New Year	Israel's National Sin	Israel in the Wilderness
Looks ahead to...	Christ's redeeming death	Holy Walk of Believers	Resurrection of Christ	Sending of the Holy Spirit	Israel's Regathering	Israel's National Conversion	Israel in the Kingdom
Scripture	1 Cor. 5:7 1 Pe. 1:18-19	1 Cor. 5:7-8 Gal. 5:9, 16-17	1 Cor. 15:20 -23 Rev. 1:5	Acts 2:1-47 1 Cor. 12:13	Is. 27:12-13 Matt. 24:21 -31	Zech. 12:10 Rom. 11:26 -27	Zech. 14:4-6 Rev. 7:9-17



Fulfillment





Spring Feasts

Fall Feasts

First Coming

Second Coming

↔
Summer Gap

Literal Fulfillment

Literal
Fulfillment?

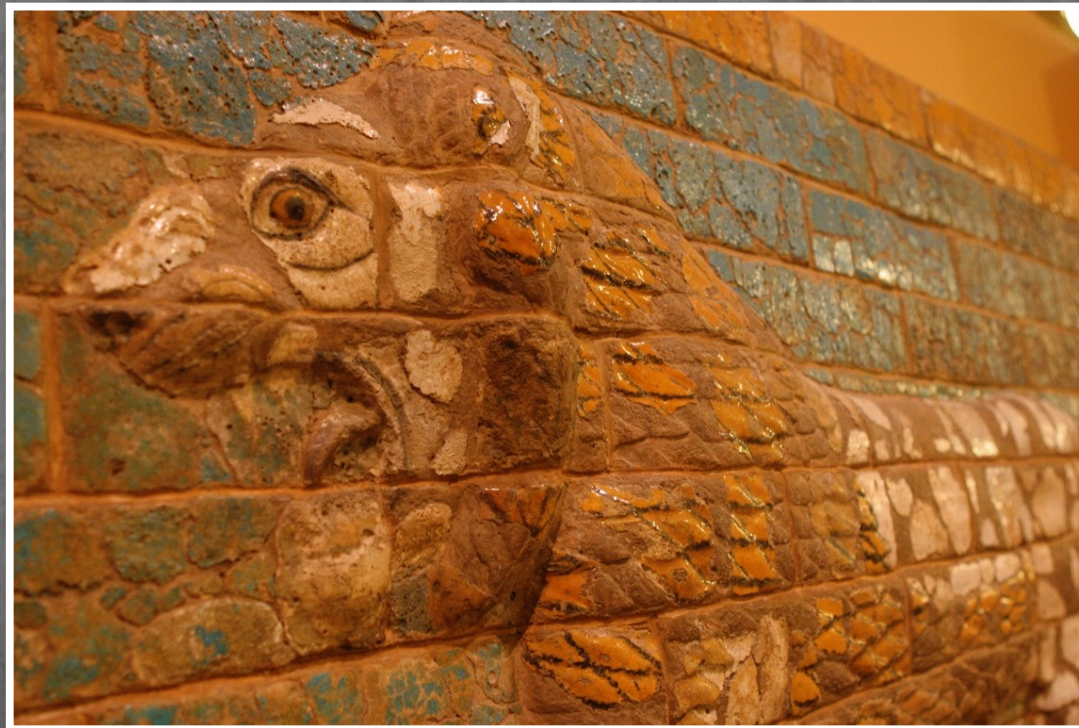
First Coming of Christ

Eternity



MILLENNIAL TEACHINGS

The End



The Roman Empire and the United States



Dr. Kenneth Boa and Bill Ibsen

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Adapted from "When Nations Die" by Jim Nelson Black, 1994

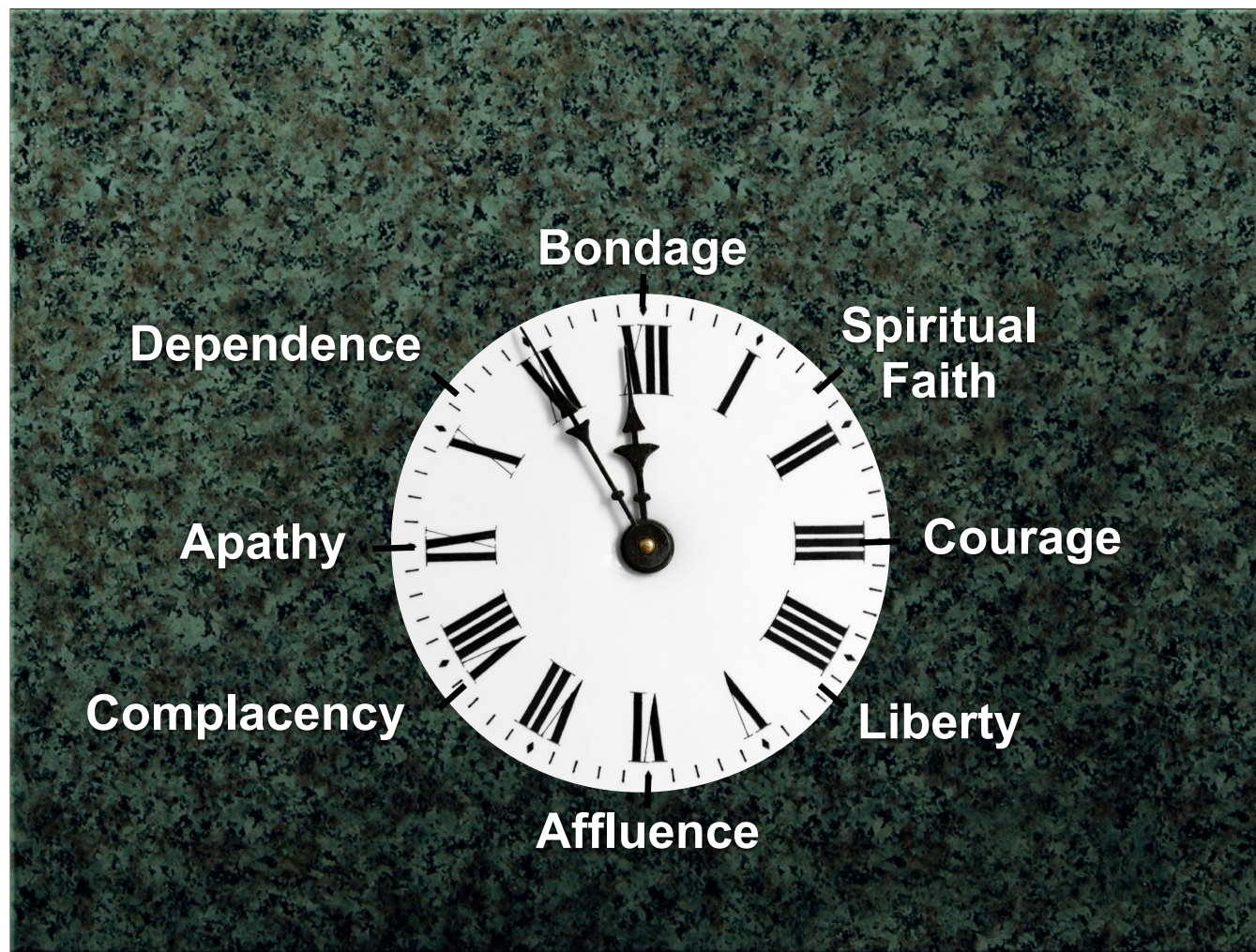


- Soviet Union
- German Reich
- Austro-Hungarian Empire
- Italian Empire of Benito Mussolini
- Japanese Empire of Hirohito
- British Empire

English historian Arnold Toynbee published his "Study of History" (12 volumes, 1934–1972), he identified as many as 35 distinct civilizations. Only 6 remain today. p.264

The Roman Empire fell in 455 at the hands of invading Visigoths and Vandals.

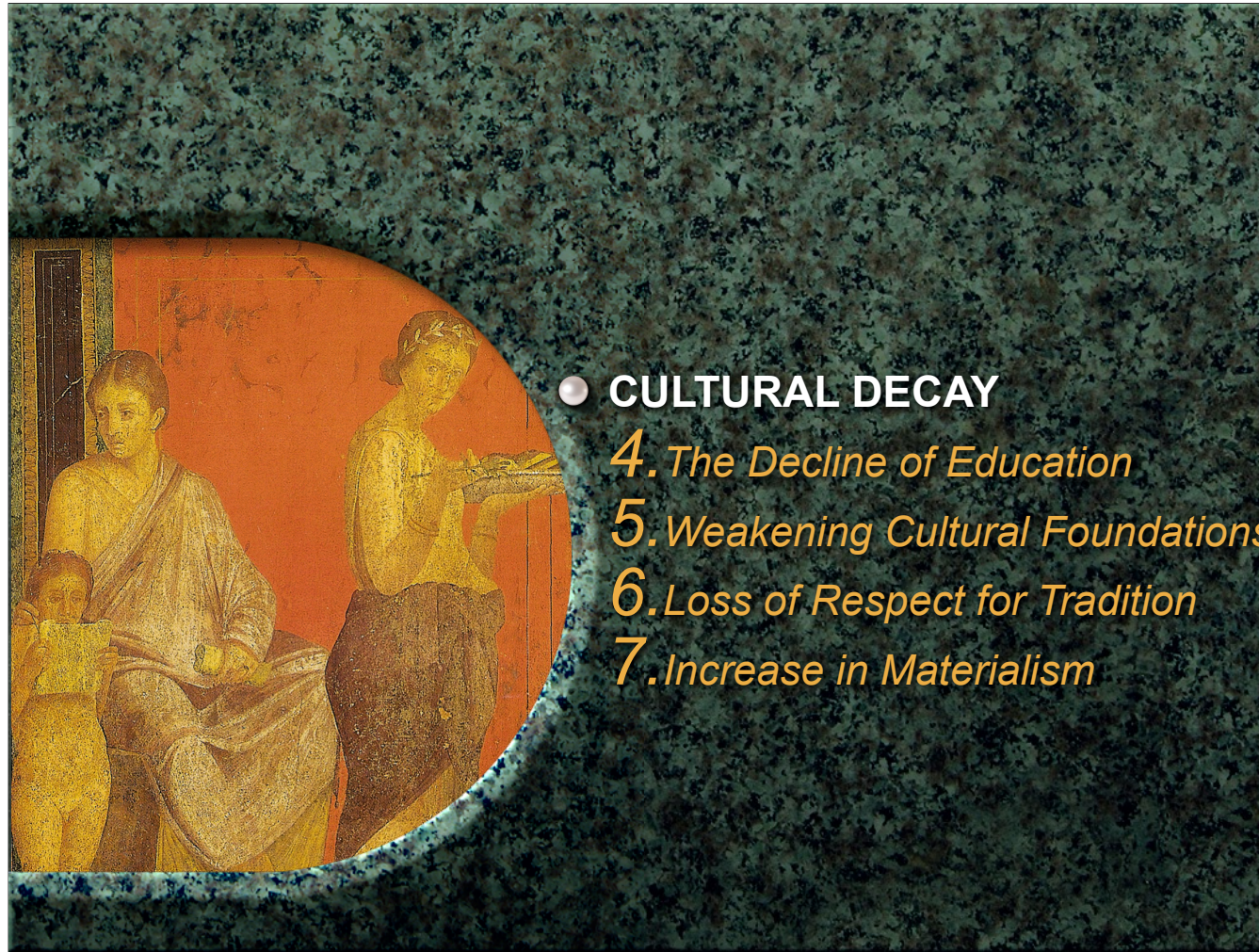
What causes certain societies to rise so high and then collapse so suddenly?



● **SOCIAL DECAY**

- 1. The Crisis of Lawlessness*
- 2. Loss of Economic Discipline*
- 3. Rising Bureaucracy*





● CULTURAL DECAY

4. *The Decline of Education*
5. *Weakening Cultural Foundations*
6. *Loss of Respect for Tradition*
7. *Increase in Materialism*

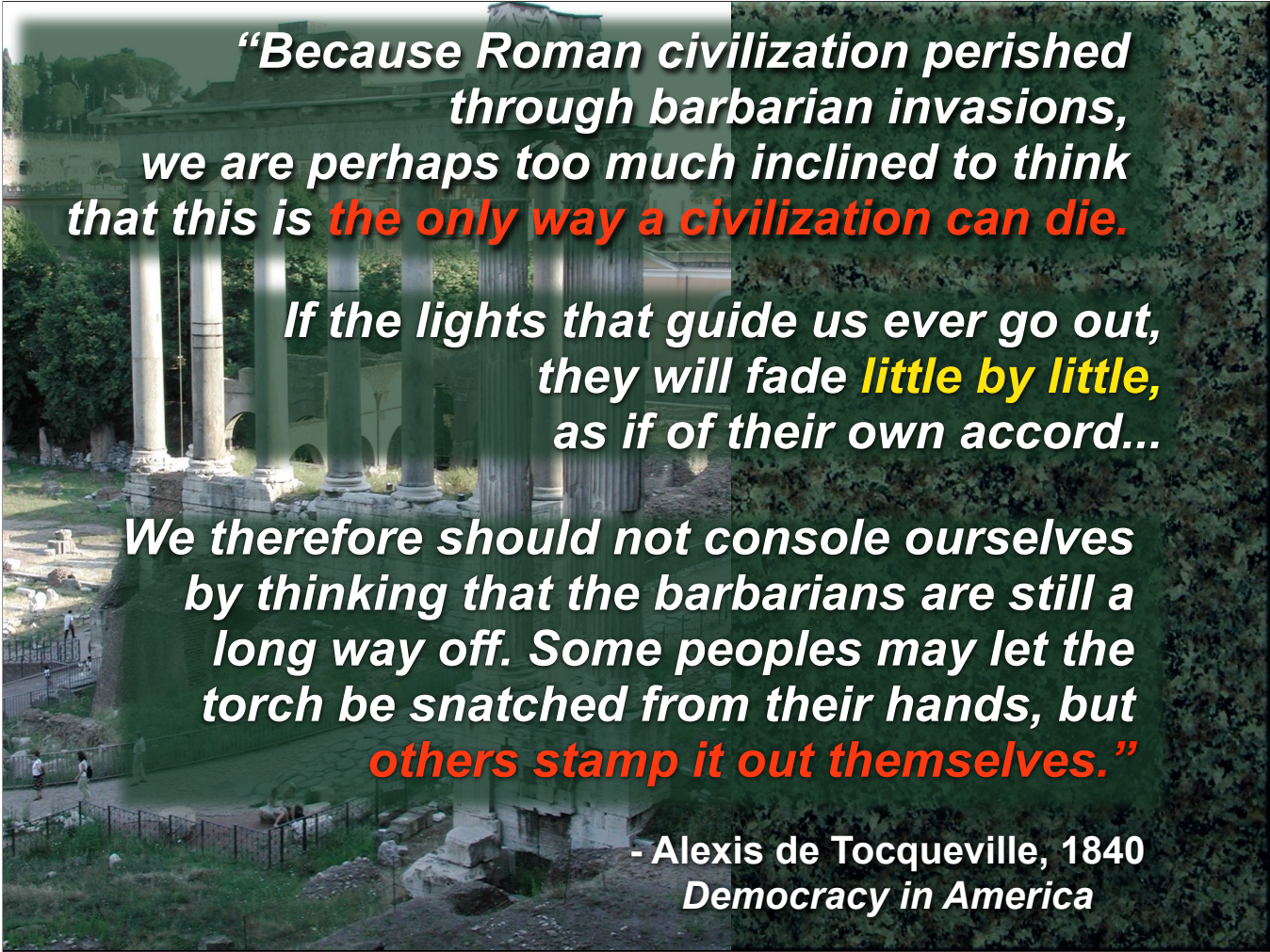
● **MORAL DECAY**

8. The Rise in Immorality

9. Decay of Religious Belief

10. Devaluing of Human Life



The background of the slide is a photograph of the Temple of Vesta in Rome, Italy. The image shows several large, white marble columns standing amidst the ruins of the ancient temple. The scene is set in a park-like area with green grass and trees in the background. The lighting is soft, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image, with some words highlighted in red and yellow.

*“Because Roman civilization perished
through barbarian invasions,
we are perhaps too much inclined to think
that this is **the only way a civilization can die.***

*If the lights that guide us ever go out,
they will fade **little by little,**
as if of their own accord...*

*We therefore should not console ourselves
by thinking that the barbarians are still a
long way off. Some peoples may let the
torch be snatched from their hands, but
others stamp it out themselves.”*

*- Alexis de Tocqueville, 1840
Democracy in America*



THESE ARE GENERAL TRENDS AND DATES!

Bondage: In bondage to the British Empire

Spiritual Faith: Awakening of 1734-35; 1740-42; first and second Great Awakenings.

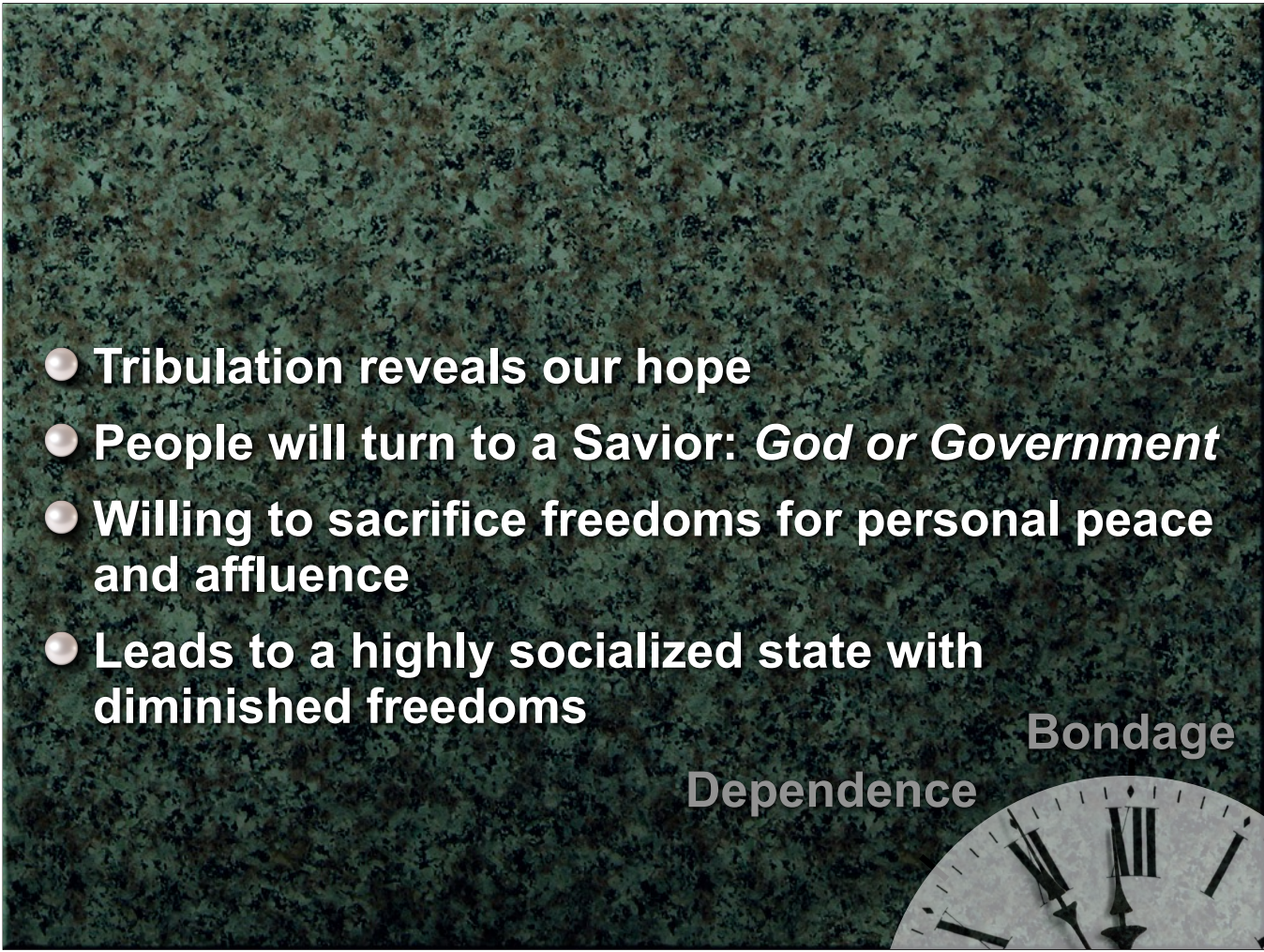
Affluence: The age of Robber barons and industrialists.

Courage:

Apathy: is concerned with personal peace.

Complacency: is associated with material abundance. The glut of materialism.

Dependence: increasing dependence upon the state to provide for personal peace and affluence. Increasing loss of freedom as the government interferes with schools, etc.

- 
- Tribulation reveals our hope
 - People will turn to a Savior: *God or Government*
 - Willing to sacrifice freedoms for personal peace and affluence
 - Leads to a highly socialized state with diminished freedoms

Bondage
Dependence

People turned to themselves: max'd out credit cards, home equity lines

The credit crunch has essentially eliminated home equity loans. Predicts that credit card debt will be capped in the future. Now where are people going to get money? All that's left are existing resources: retirement funds (if any), or their home, or other existing assets. Point: they have no place to turn for more money. This in turn leads to inability to purchase: downward spiral. The deeper it spirals, the only possible alternative in such a credit crunch would be the Government.



Credit Card Debt:

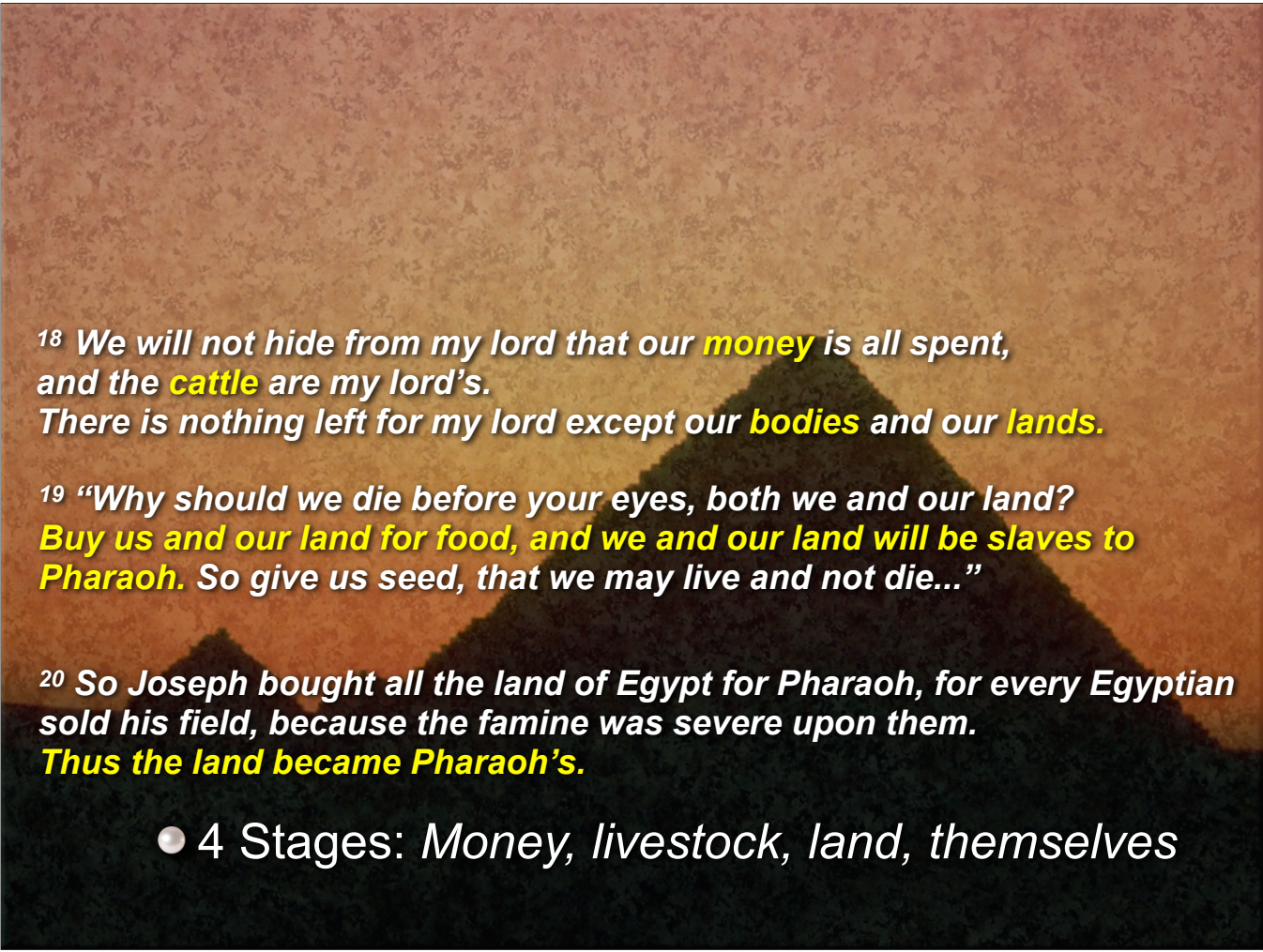
Believe it or not, American consumers could be up to their eyeballs in \$1 trillion of revolving debt by the end of this year. Consumer revolving credit continued its upward push in July as Americans tacked on nearly \$4 billion in net new debt, mostly credit card debt, after adding about \$3 billion in the prior month. Revolving consumer credit has now reached a record \$969.9 billion and is growing by 4.8% per annum. Based on revised figures, revolving debt rose by 3.5% in June after growing by 7.1% in May. According to data released by the Federal Reserve, total revolving credit has expanded by about \$70 billion over the past twelve months. Bank credit card debt (excluding store and gas credit cards) at the end of the second quarter was about \$825 billion or roughly 85% of total revolving credit, according to CardData (www.carddata.com). Store and gas credit cards had about \$109 billion in outstandings at year-end 2007. At the end of July, Americans were \$2587 billion in debt, excluding home mortgages. Source: http://www.cardtrak.com/news/2008/09/10/july_debt

REVOLVING CREDIT HISTORICAL (\$billions)

	Jul 08	Jun 08	May 08	Apr 08	Mar 08	Feb 08
GRWTH:	4.8%	3.5	7.1	0.3	7.7	5.3
\$OWED:	\$969.9	966.0	963.2	956.8	957.5	950.7

Source: Federal Reserve; revised figures as of 9/8/08;

For complete historical data, visit CardData (www.carddata.com)



¹⁸ We will not hide from my lord that our **money** is all spent,
and the **cattle** are my lord's.
There is nothing left for my lord except our **bodies** and our **lands**.

¹⁹ “Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land?
**Buy us and our land for food, and we and our land will be slaves to
Pharaoh.** So give us seed, that we may live and not die...”

²⁰ So Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh, for every Egyptian
sold his field, because the famine was severe upon them.
Thus the land became Pharaoh's.

● 4 Stages: *Money, livestock, land, themselves*

- The Egypt syndrome (Genesis 47:13-26; money, livestock, land, and themselves)

- 70 years of ascendant socialism

- A philosophical tipping point; moving away from the American free-market model to a social market economy

- Moving from creation to protection







From: The Truth Project

Rev. 2:5

Goes from beyond Politics to the Spiritual Realm

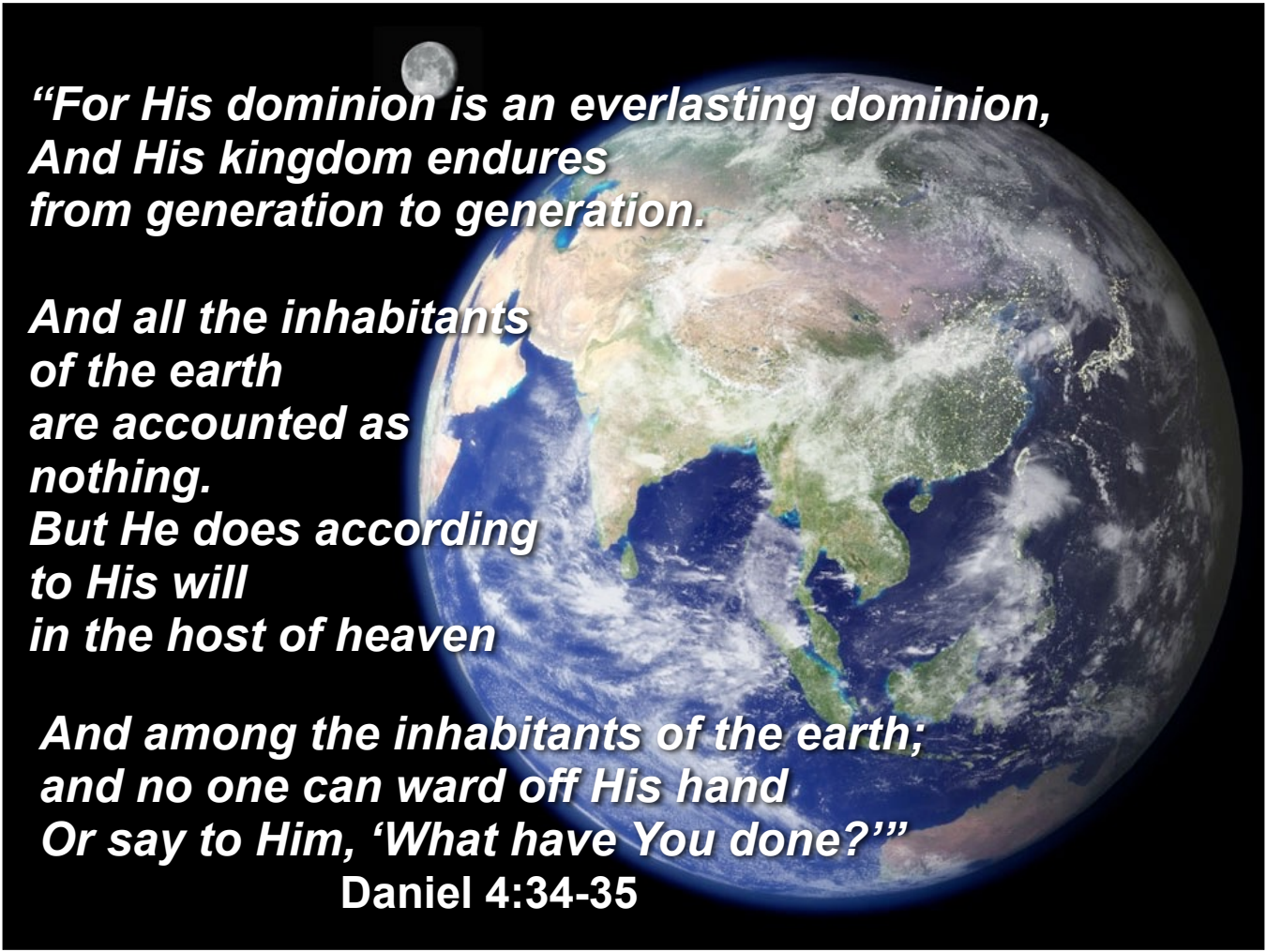




*“Let the name of God
be blessed forever and ever,
For wisdom and power belong to Him.
And it is **He who changes
the times** and the epochs,*

***He** removes kings
and establishes kings...”
Daniel 2:20-21*

The whole theme of the book of daniel can be summarized in Dan. 2: 20-21

A composite image of Earth from space, showing the Americas and parts of Europe and Africa. The Moon is visible in the upper left corner against the black background of space. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

***“For His dominion is an everlasting dominion,
And His kingdom endures
from generation to generation.***

***And all the inhabitants
of the earth
are accounted as
nothing.***

***But He does according
to His will
in the host of heaven***

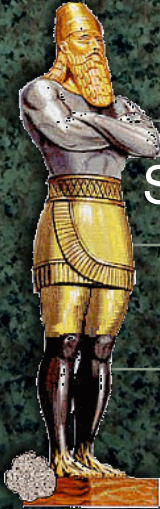
***And among the inhabitants of the earth;
and no one can ward off His hand
Or say to Him, ‘What have You done?’”***

Daniel 4:34-35

This has all happened before: Direct impact of Israel: 6 down, 1 to go. Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, the last one will be the ultimate the Beast is an amalgamation of the other four nations.

In spite of the cycle of birth, growth, decay and death, approaching a climax, then a rock made without hands destroys the image for an everlasting kingdom. The kingdoms of this world will not endure.

Neb. is brought down low until he acknowledges God. Dan. 2 interprets his dream. Dan.3 Neb gets another theological lesson. Only in the third lesson when God takes Neb down, does Neb get the full theological picture as in Dan. 4:34-35.



Metal: Empire	Years of Dominion Over Israel
Gold: Babylonian	605-539 B.C.
Silver: Medo-Persian	539-331 B.C.
Brass: Grecian	331-63 B.C.
Iron: Roman	63 B.C.-(476 A.D.)

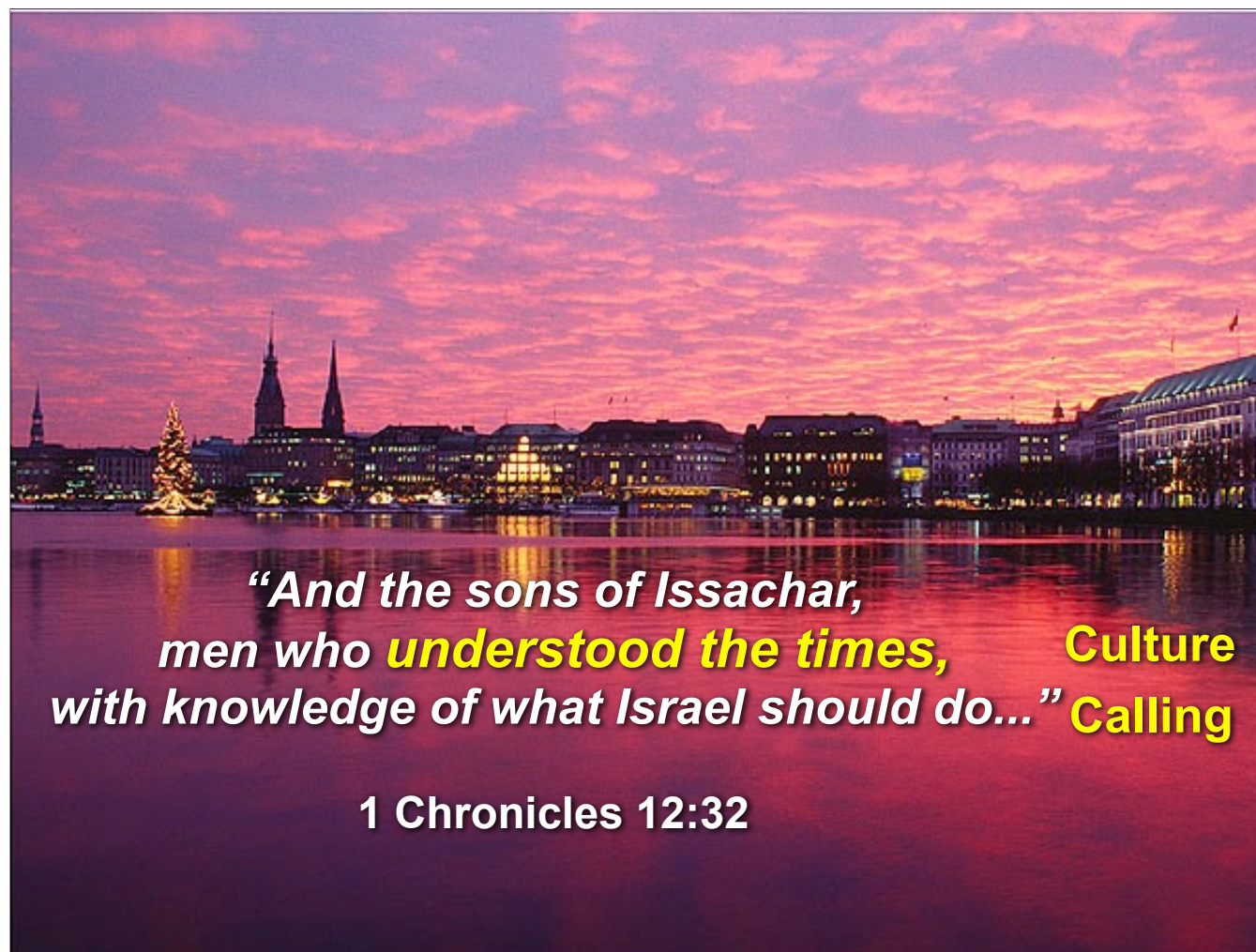
Note: Israel was no longer after 70 A.D.
Two other empires associated with Israel prior to Daniel: Egypt and Assyria.
This makes six empires, and the seventh is yet to come.



**“And in the days of those kings the God of heaven
will set up a kingdom which will never be
destroyed,**

**and that kingdom will not be left for another
people;**

**it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms,
but it will itself endure forever”
Dan. 2:44**



*“And the sons of Issachar,
men who **understood the times**, **Culture**
with knowledge of what Israel should do...” **Calling***

1 Chronicles 12:32

That the men of Issachar understood their times means that they knew their culture; with knowledge of what Israel should do represents their calling. Like the men of Issachar, we need to embed our calling in our culture.



*“... that you may prove yourselves to be
blameless and innocent, children of God
above reproach*

Character

*in the midst of **a crooked and
perverse generation,***

Culture

*among whom you appear as lights in the
world, holding fast the word of life,
so that in the day of Christ I may have
cause to glory...”*

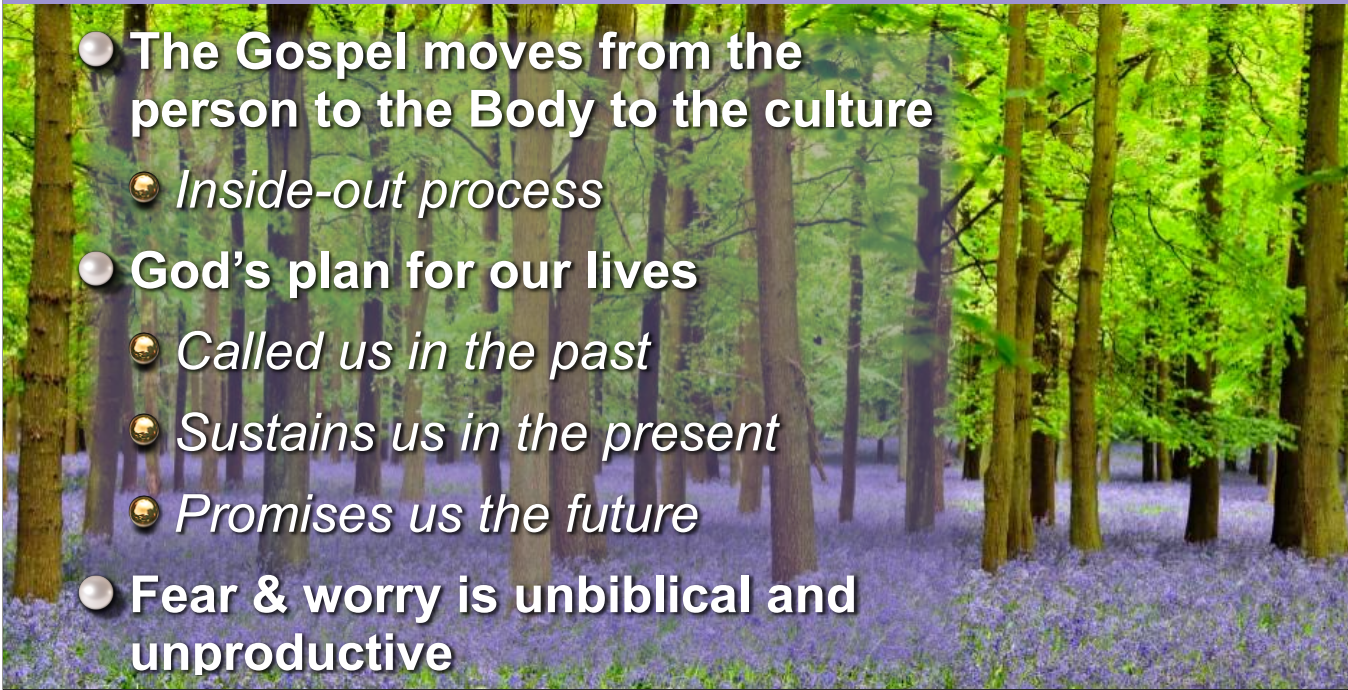
Calling

**Coming
of
Christ**

Phillipians 2:15-16

We need to manifest that we are children of God by being above reproach, blameless, and innocent. This has to do with our CHARACTER. In the midst of a crooked and perverse generation among whom you appear as lights in the world: This is our CULTURE. Holding fast the word of life is our CALLING. We should live out our calling until, the day of Christ (COMING OF CHRIST).

We're holding fast the word of life; not wringing our hands. Instead, we have our eyes wide open. We're to cultivate Christ-like character, be students of the culture in which we live until Christ returns and sets up His kingdom which will endure forever.



- The Gospel moves from the person to the Body to the culture

- *Inside-out process*

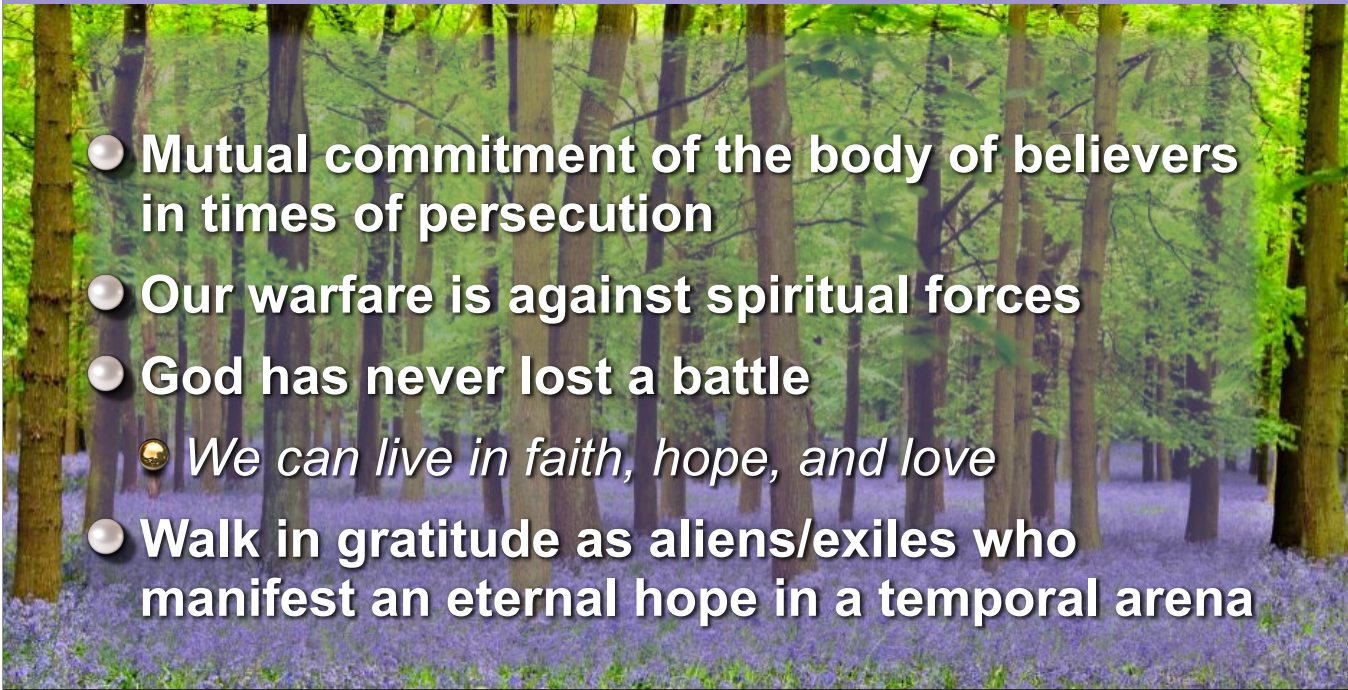
- God's plan for our lives

- *Called us in the past*

- *Sustains us in the present*

- *Promises us the future*

- Fear & worry is unbiblical and unproductive

- 
- Mutual commitment of the body of believers in times of persecution
 - Our warfare is against spiritual forces
 - God has never lost a battle
 - *We can live in faith, hope, and love*
 - Walk in gratitude as aliens/exiles who manifest an eternal hope in a temporal arena

***“Therefore be careful how you walk,
not as unwise men but as wise,
making the most of your time,
because the days are evil.”***

Ephesians 5:15-16





Adapted from "When Nations Die" by Jim Nelson Black, 1994

Reflections Ministries Resources

- ▶ Reflections - A free monthly teaching letter
- ▶ [KenBoa.org website](http://KenBoa.org) - Daily Growth email and free text and audio resources

