

Daniel 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,

Note carefully verse 19:

Daniel is not unlike any of us: *Daniel desires to know more about this beast.*

We know that [the devouring, crushing & trampling] are

accomplished by the iron teeth and bronze claws.

So what is going on?

I don't want you to miss this, AS MANY DO, and not see what is being said here. There are some who do see this. (this is not new with me, others have taught this)

What is emphasized about this 4th beast is its man-made nature. Teeth of iron and claws of bronze, these are man-made metals, and it is its man-made nature that renders it so vicious.

God allows the sinful, evil, destructive nature of man to rule in this fourth beast.

Brief overview of Roman history

--- God allows the development of the empire
that will be at both Advents of Jesus Christ.

I. Rise of the Roman Republic:

[dreadful] is used to describe the rise of the Roman Republic ca 509-272

509 ca -establishment of the Roman Republic

272 ca -Rome's final defeat of Italy

[d readful] Roman conquest of the Mediterranean World (–The Great Sea–) and became a world power.

The Roman Empire



Eastern Mediterranean – two great powers: **SYRIA** and **EGYPT**;

SYRIA –under the Seleucas’s

while EGYPT was under the Ptolemy’s

Western Mediterranean MACEDONIA and ROME; to Spain

*Southern Mediterranean. NORTHERN AFRICA, including
CARTHAGE*

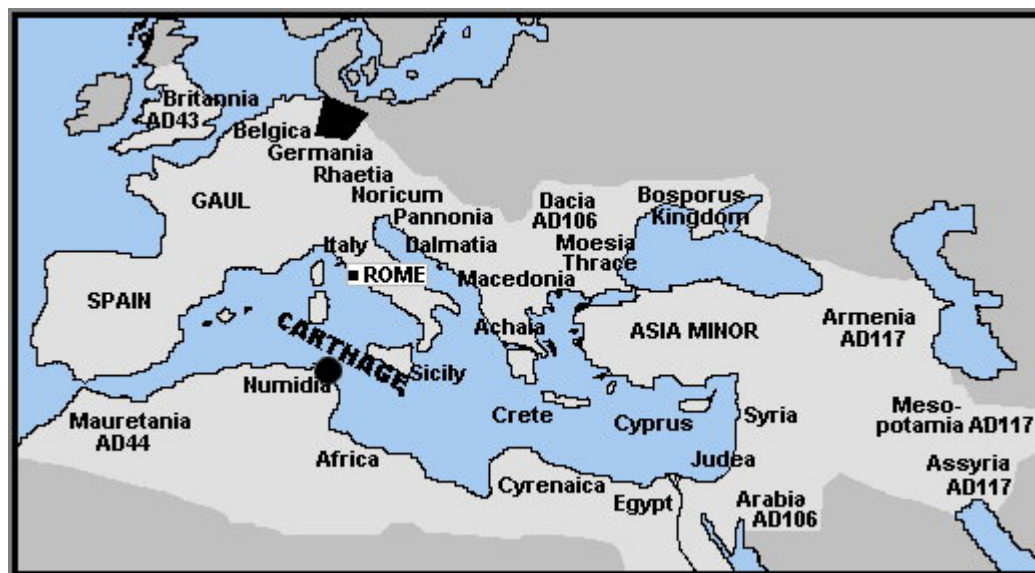
And these 5 great powers had to fight it out for supremacy.

11. Terrifying and extremely Strong and it had large iron teeth (is used to describe the expansion of Rome throughout the Great Sea. 272-146 bc

146 bc marks the end of the Punic Wars and dominance over the Great Sea.

This involves control of the Great Sea, including Greece and Carthage.

Carthage



This is the period of the Punic Wars.

“During the 3rd and 2nd centuries B.C., three wars were fought between Rome and Carthage. The name **Punic**, which is used to describe them, is derived from the Latin and Greek words for Phoenician. The city of **Carthage, located in what is now Tunisia in North Africa**, had been founded in 814 bc by

the Phoenicians (—a people whose home city was Tyre [now part of Lebanon].”)

<i>1st Punic War</i>	<i>Wars between Rome and Carthage 264-241 bc</i>
<i>2nd Punic War</i>	<i>218-201 bc (Hannibal)</i>
<i>3rd Punic War</i>	<i>149-146 bc</i>

Learn some of the history of Carthage: [never disarm] never weaken your Military, nor disarm your people... and again we must learn the destructive power of jealousy—the leaders of Carthage were jealous of Hannibal and refused to support him.

To advance their terrifying movement in history, after Rome conquered Greece and Northern Africa they conquered Eastern Mediterranean (Syria) until they controlled all the areas of the Great Sea.

*Two great City States were not only conquered but destroyed: **Carthage** and **Corinth** —marking the end of **Greece**—.*

During this terrifying period of the rise of the Roman dominance, Rome was not only securing northern Africa but also the eastern part of the Great Sea.

An ill-advised alliance was made by one of Alexander's successors who ruled as the successor to Cassander in Macedonia and Greece. He made

an alliance with the Carthaginians against Rome because the Greeks were becoming fearful over the rising Roman power in the west.

The Greeks had agreed to attack Rome from the east while Carthage attacked from the west.

After the Romans had reduced Carthage to rubble they, decided to finalize their dominance over Greece... they attacked Greece. Philip, the then ruler of Greece, called upon the Syrians and other nations from the remains of Alexander's empire to come over and help the Greeks defend against the Roman attack. These eastern nations gathered together into an army under Seleucid leadership and they moved westward where they were met and were defeated by the Romans in the battle of Magnesia.

In the defeat of this eastern alliance coming to help Greece the Romans imposed the most severe penalty all of ancient history they demanded of these nations 12 annual payments of tribute to Rome, indemnities for attacking imperial Rome. Later in history it was this paying of tribute to Rome that caused a lot of suffering for the Jews, for the Syrians got their tribute money from the Jews to pay off the Romans.

During this period of expansion, the Romans wound up controlling the entire Mediterranean.

I.

Rise of the Roman Republic 509-272 bc

II.

Expanding Throughout the Great Sea 272-146 bc

Before we continue... I hope that you are seeing a few things in history of man from the 1st to this 4th fourth terrible beast. War! There has always been war and there will be wars until Jesus Christ returns to earth. Many people, some Christians, shout for disarmament, for US to lay down its weapons...people learn from history, and from our Lord Jesus Christ — there will always be wars. Just examine conditions inside of nations. The number of murders, rapes, people stealing from his neighbors.

So it is between nations.

III.

Rome shrugs under Civil wars 145-30 bc

The city of Rome grew enormously and grew quickly.

Society became demoralized and most people moved into Rome -

Rise of Industrial Organization —but also multitude of problems emerged: starvation, poverty, unbelievable immorality; hungry people—breaking laws and rioting and killing for food.

The population continued to increase and the economy was not able to handle it. (China limited the number of children)

In Rome:

Capitalism (–free enterprise–) led to Socialism where the people demanded to be taken care of.

Moral and Political decay continued to grow.

Roman Republic was on its way out of existence, along with Rome itself. This set the conditions for the rise of a dictator.

Dictatorship can be either the worst form of government or it can be the best, it all depends on the dictator.

The Greeks introduced a Democracy, which cannot last over some 200 years. Rome introduced a Republic which again is so dependent on many factors of morality and respect of Law and if these are lost so is the Republic. We now come to a dictatorship which will not last very long.

This political, moral instability brought about three unbelievable circumstances of history.

Rise of a genius –Gaius Julius Caesar

IV.

The Roman Empire 30 bc - forward

Most people have heard of Julius Caesar but it was his nephew, Augustus Caesar who really formed the next 500 years of Roman history and especially the fullness of time of our Lord Jesus Christ's incarnation. God caused to rise on the scene of history an unbeliever who was a genius.

Beginning in 30 bc, Augustus set up an administrative system for

governing not just the City State of Rome but of the entire ancient world.

A system that will last some 400 yrs.

We now move to the Fullness of Time (Galatians 4:4) when God would become man, the incarnation of Jesus Christ and the political environment that saw the spread of the Word of God.

it was different from all the beast that were before it

What specifically made this fourth empire different from the empires before it? The answer to this question saturates **The Bible.**

Right to it:**Law,**

The Source of Law!

Satan has long desired to control by Law!

What set this 4th Kingdom different than the Babylonians or the Medo-Persians or even the Greeks was it's contention that the source of Law is from man himself.

Therefore as we move into the Church Age the nations become more and more man-centered.

Borrowing from, but advancing what he learned, from the Greeks, the Romans came to the point where he claimed that *man is the source of Law*. While the Romans did not abandon the belief of gods and goddesses **they reached the point where the source of man's law did not come from gods in decrees, as in the oracles of Delphi, or casting of lots.**

This advancement by man, **about man being the source of Law**, set the stage for Church History, where nations set up their own laws abandoning the Laws of God.

What now was placed above even the gods?

It was the GOVERNMENT, the SOURCE OF LAW.

Therefore the citizens of Rome were to place full allegiance to the Law of Rome! And the law of Rome was ruled by the Caesar of Rome; therefore allegiance to Rome was allegiance to Caesar and to the Law of Rome, for Caesar was god!

Rome (**crushed**) the world demanding that everyone become part of the melting pot of Rome. Rome did not care how many gods there may be, as long as there is not a god who claims to be God alone, and Caesar is not god. All must say of Caesar, he is Lord and God. If you would not say this... you were *crushed*. A religion that proclaimed there were two divisions of people, 'the saved and the lost', simply did not fit into this melting pot under the Law of Rome.

“All religion in the Roman Empire was subservient to man-made Roman law. The religions that agreed with Roman law were the legitimate religions and the religions that would not go along with Roman law were illegitimate religions;” *man’s law determined what was true and what was false.*

Man is the source of law and to pay allegiance to any law or religious thinking that opposes the law of the state is to considered an act of a terrorist.

Man, by man’s thinking and man’s law, **will usher in the perfect utopia society.** **A few men** will be in charge of determining what is best for all members of society.

This thinking is what our forefathers left Europe to get away from and

what they established in our constitution but to which we are quickly sinking back into.

A nation whose man-made laws overrule God's Laws

and

Laws that go against the Word of God.

Introduction of the Antichrist

End of verse 7⁷ "...it was different from all the beasts that were before it and it had ten horns."

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* (blasphemy).

To what do these TEN HORNS refer?

There are numerous interpretations.

The liberal theologians teach that this refers to symbols dealing with the Greeks; but no clear explanation has been given.

Then the Amillennialists the Post Millennialists argue that the TEN HORNS have already come to pass because--- in their understanding--- the Fifth Kingdom of Daniel 2 is The Church... and The Church has either already destroyed or is in the process of destroying the Fourth Kingdom.

So they date these 10 HORNS as somewhere in the past, usually citing the 10 consecutive Caesar's. The problem here is that since three are taken

out by the ONE HORN here in Daniel 7 then the TEN HORNS were in rule at the same time.

**The primary principle in interpreting the Bible is
use the Bible to interpret the Bible**

1. These **10 HORNS** is yet another reason that this 4th beast is different from the first three. The first reason it is different is it's man-made iron and bronze –referring to MAKING MAN THE SOURCE OF LAW. The second reason it is different is that it has 10 HORNS. The number 10 in Scripture draws attention to angels and the Angelic Conflict, (the Invisible Spiritual warfare we are in.)

Horn represents power; Ruler-ship as well as Nations. Eph. 6:12

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

2. Daniel 7:24-25 The bible interprets the bible: *TEN HORNS are TEN KINGDOMS.*

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.

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(year), times(2 years), and half a time(half year). (totals 3 ½ years)

3. These 10 HORNS correspond to the 10 TOES on Nebuchadnezzar's great statue in Daniel chapter 2.
4. We also learned from Daniel 2 that Roman Empire was divided into two parts—two legs, eastern and western empires
5. Then we saw how it would rise again in the form of a 10-nation confederation, the TEN HORNS---**This is yet future.**

The last kingdom will rise in world power promising world peace, world security and world prosperity! (sounds good doesn't it?) And this is why so many people will be fooled by the Revised Roman Empire.

Remember that Rome has never been completely defeated, it lost its dominance in 476 AD but never really destroyed. *Or if one chooses to see it as that which was dead and yet became alive again.* We refer to it as the **Revived Roman Empire.** Now God the Holy Spirit gives us new information.

6. The world will be in great turmoil as this 10-NATION confederation comes into power but due to wars and economic collapse another kingdom rises up among them –**LITTLE HORN** –We move from the 4th beast to the **10 HORNS** and now our attention is focused on this one **LITTLE HORN**. *Verse 8 arises*, headed by what many call The Anti-Christ or The dictator of the Revised Roman Empire. Composed of these 10 HORNS. (Revelation 13) there are some 27 names for the Anti-christ and *LITTLE HORN* is the first.

7. Chapter 7 introduces the Anti-Christ as the *LITTLE HORN* and also tells us that the (ANCIENT OF DAYS) will completely defeat the Anti-Christ

(God the Father)

8. In verse 8, as this dictator tries to gain full power, three of the tenations rebel and are destroyed by this dictator. In chapter 11 we will learn that one of these nations is Egypt and will be destroyed by the dictator. (11:42)

9. So the flow of history in chapter 7: starting in verse 7:

-Rise of the Revised Roman Empire—10 HORNS-which will rule the whole world (7:23) not just the empires around the Great Sea.

-This is in the Tribulation

-Rise of the Anti-Christ---LITTLE HORN

-Coming of Jesus Christ to end the terror of the LITTLE HORN or of the Anti-Christ

And in it we have the flow of history of the Tribulation:

1st Beginning of the Tribulation –chaos and turmoil

2. The rise of power of the 10-nations
3. The rise of power of the LITTLE HORN Revelation 13

We have so much about this **LITTLE HORN**:

1. Comes out above the 10 HORNS of the 4th beast
2. Has eyes like a man verse 8—wisdom of a man-
3. Utters boast of blasphemy against God verse 8 and verse 25
(Rev.13:5-6)
4. Was larger than any of the other 10 HORNS verse 20
5. But is described as small---but it's major characteristic is to blaspheme the Ancient of Days.—it rules by its mouth--words
6. It waged war with the saints and overpowering them verse 20
7. He will subdue 3 of the 10 HORNS verse 24
8. He will be annihilated verse 26

But he will be defeated by JESUS CHRIST at THE Second Advent!

