

In this final study of Daniel chapter 7, we revisit our discussion of the rise and fall of world empires in order to reveal the identity of the **Little Horn**. Recall, Daniel was given a detailed vision of the rise and fall of world empires that paralleled the prophecies of Daniel Chapter 2. The prophecies of both chapters were presented and interpreted by God, Who alone knows the beginning and the end.



Recall that the Little Horn, which is distinct from all other kingdoms of all times, depicts the last earthly kingdom in the prophecy. The Little Horn is curious in its rise to power, its characteristics, and its acts, such that it intrigued Daniel, prompting him to seek from God through his attending angel, an understanding of its meaning and identity. The purpose of this study is to reveal the identity of this significant world power that God desires all of His faithful followers to know. God's revelations of these truths are stark and compelling, based on prophetic details concealed in type throughout the Bible, yet fully confirmed through historical facts. We encourage the reader to embark upon this study with sincere prayer, giving heed to all Scripture references provided herein. Ask God's Holy Spirit to grant you wisdom and understanding, even right now!

**Q: What does a beast in Bible prophecy symbolize?**

**A:** A beast in Bible prophecy represents a kingdom, empire, or a nation (Daniel 7:17, 23).

**Q: From prior studies, what do horns on the head of a beast represent?**

**A:** Horns on a beast similarly represent strength/might, or kings or kingdoms (Daniel 7:24; Psalm 18:2; 2 Samuel 22:3; Luke 1:69).

**Q: From our study of Daniel chapters 2 and 7 -Part 1, we identified the fourth beast, which was different from all others, as representative of what world empire/nation?**

**A:** The fourth world empire depicted in the prophecies was the Roman Empire.

We have learned that the once mighty and massive Roman Empire became plagued by corruption and was divided by:

- Social Classes
- Politics
- Religions

The Empire would be severely weakened and would be splintered by ten barbarian tribes (see image to the right). These tribes would form 10 kingdoms occupying the former Roman Empire's territories.

Our study now focuses on eleven historical facts, affirming the validity of Bible prophecy, which unmask the Little Horn.



1. The Little Horn arises **out of the fourth beast** and is, therefore, *Roman* in origin and nature (Daniel 7:7, 8)
2. The Little Horn arose **among 10 other horns** or kingdoms. According to the prophecy, the Roman Empire needed to be divided into 10 parts **before** the Little Horn could arise. The 10<sup>th</sup> division of the Roman Empire was established in A.D.476. Therefore, the Little Horn must have arisen sometime **after A.D.476** (Daniel 7:8, 24)
3. The Little Horn, in its rise to power, **plucked up three of the ten kingdoms by the roots**, constituting the divided Roman Empire. Being plucked-up by the roots implies complete annihilation, to be made extinct (Compare: Dan 4:14, 15, 23, 26, 34, 36 to Matt 3:7-10)
4. The Little Horn's appearance in time became more stout [greater] than the other seven remaining horns. *Greatness* speaks of power, influence, wealth, and especially **self-exaltation** [pride and boastfulness] (Daniel 7:20)
5. The Little Horn has the eyes of a man. The Bible often calls those given wisdom and spiritual insights from God, prophets or *seers* (1 Samuel 9:9). Therefore, eyes can be interpreted as a symbol of knowledge, wisdom, understanding, and insight. Further God promises those who love Him: "*I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.*" (Psalm 32:8). However,



the Little Horn is said to have eyes like a man, implying **wisdom not drawn from God** and therefore drawn from Satan (Proverbs 16:25; Job 10:4; Isaiah 55:6-9; Matthew 12:30; James 3:14-18). Unlike the 10 barbarian tribes that divided Rome, the power represented by the Little Horn was noted for its intelligence, insight, and foresight. The actual term "*intelligence*" is used later in the book of Daniel in describing this same Little Horn, giving reference to the cunning craft, and strategic alliances it formed to achieve its ends (Daniel 7:8, 20; 11:30, 31)

6. The Little Horn has a mouth that "*shall speak [great] words against the Most High*" (Daniel 7:8, 20, 25).
  - a. "*Great words*" are pompous or **blasphemous words**, declaring oneself God. See: Revelation 13:5; John 10:30-33; Mark 2:7; Luke 5:21; Matthew 9:2-8
  - b. "*Against the Most High*" implies that in its boastful pride towards the Most High God, the Little Horn would set itself up as being **equal with God** - See: 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4; Ezekiel 28:1-9; Isaiah 14:12-14
7. The Little Horn makes **war against the saints** [God's faithful people – sons of God] and prevails against them for a period of time given by the term: "*a time, and times, and the dividing of times*" (Daniel 7:21, 25; Romans 1:7)
  - a. War implies lies, deception, and **persecution**, including imprisonment, banishment, and death (2 Cor 10:3-6)
  - b. **Rules the world**, "*wears out*" the saints of God, and prospers for a period of time given by the term: "*a time, and times, and dividing of times*" (Rev 6:9-11)

- i. One day in Bible prophecy [1 prophetic day] = 1 literal Hebrew calendar year (Ezekiel 4:6; Numbers 14:34)
- ii. A time = 360 prophetic days = **360 literal years**
- iii. A times = 2x (A time) = 2x360 literal years= **720yrs**
- iv. A dividing of time = ½ x 360 literal years = **180yrs**
- v. Total: **1,260 literal year reign** (Rev 12:6)

8. The Little Horn "shall think to change times and law" (Daniel 7:25). The Bible proclaims that neither God nor His laws will ever change. However, in its pride and blasphemy, the Little Horn will **claim to have the authority to alter God's immutable laws** (Matt 5:18; Heb. 6:16-18, 13:8; Ps 12:6, 7, 89:34). In particular, the Little Horn has attacked the one law in God's 10 Commandments dealing with both time and worship, namely, the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment (Exodus 20:8-11). By its own devices, it has established a **counterfeit day of worship, Sunday**, the day of the sun



- 9. The Little Horn shall be **different** from the other kingdoms in that it shall exercise both **civil and religious authority** (Daniel 7:24, 3:2-6; Genesis 11:4)
- 10. The Little Horn shall be **judged by the Ancient of Days** and the heavenly court; the ruling will be in favor of the saints, the faithful followers of Christ (Daniel 7:22, 26)
- 11. The Little Horn will ultimately be **slain by God**, and given to the burning flames, which is the **Second Death** (Daniel 7:11, 26; Revelation 18:1-19, 20:10-15).

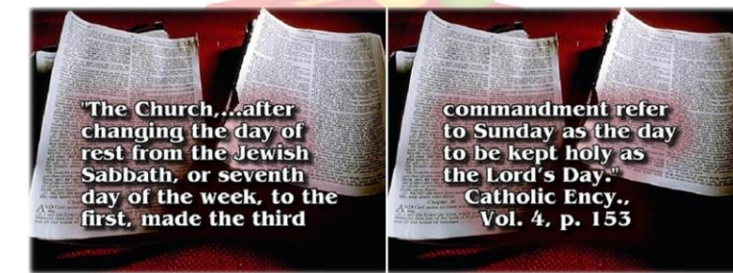
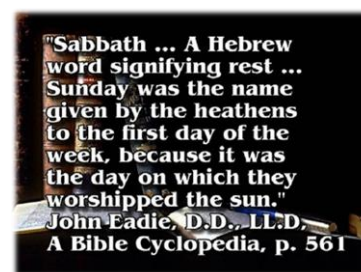
In contrast to the other fallen world powers, Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece that remained for a period of time in some form after their conquest, the Little Horn will be *utterly destroyed by God* at Christ's Second Coming (Daniel 7:11, 12; 2 Thessalonians 2:8)

The only world power and system that perfectly fits the description given of the Little Horn of Daniel 7 is **Papal Rome, the Roman Catholic Church**. Formally arising out of

The Convert's Catechism	
<p><b>Q: Which is the Sabbath Day?</b>  <b>A: Saturday is the Sabbath Day.</b>  <b>Q: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?</b></p>	<p><b>A: Because the Catholic Church transferred solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.</b>   <b>Peter Gieremean, 1948, p. 50</b></p>

*Click this image to view excerpts from The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*

the divided Roman Empire after A.D.476, Papal authority grew over the course of time, mixing political and religious stratagem. By A.D.538, its influence and power held kings of the world completely in its sway. In its pride, it exalted itself above God, His saints, and His law (Isaiah 14:12-14; 2 Thess 2:3-9), especially through the promotion of Sunday sacredness, in opposition to God's seventh-day *Sabbath*, Saturday. Unsuspecting, *sincere lovers of God who unknowingly* follow the dogmas of this church, have long remained in ignorance of the traditions and relics of former pagan origin it promotes [i.e. sun worship, immortal soul,



idolatry]. Through **craft**, making error appear as truth and truth as error, these pagan relics were suffused by this church system to the Christian faith (Isaiah 5:20-24). The Bible declares that this power will remain until God levies final judgment against it, followed only by the coronation of *Christ's Eternal Kingdom*. The mystery of the

Little Horn is one that has been researched for numerous centuries. Understanding has been granted to zealous followers of Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, have diligently searched both the Bible and world history for answers. We will continue our exposé of this world power and system - its rise, its doctrine, its fall, and ultimately the great victory of God and His saints in subsequent chapters of Daniel and the Revelation (Daniel 7:13, 14, 27; Rev 20:4).

For additional Bible studies or if you have questions, please write or contact: *Life More Abundant*  
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# Unmasking the Little Horn

## Daniel Chapter 7 - Part 3 [Based on verses 8, 11, 12, 19-27]

