# 07 Visions of Daniel and John

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#### Tagline

Prophetic Visions of History and Future

## Synopsis

When going back to study the visions of Daniel and John, I decided to chart out what could be determined as historical fulfillment and future fulfillment in each of their visions. What resulted was a comprehensive vision of the prophetic timeline that showed some amazing mirrors and foreshadows from history related to the future.

Revelation 17, covering Jerusalem and the Dragon through history and the unfaithful harlot. Daniel 2, Babylon to the Messianic Kingdom. Daniel 8, the abomination of desolation, foreshadowed and mirrored. Daniel 11-12, Antiochus to false christ. Daniel 7, the rise of the false christ kingdom. Revelation 11, the temple and two witnesses. Revelation 12, the faithful woman and the dragon. Revelation 13, the false christ Kingdom. Revelation 18, the unfaithful harlot in Jerusalem and her judgement.

When laying these out in a timeline showing the vision, interpretation given in scripture, and the historical record, the eight kingdoms suddenly made more sense and both Daniel and John's visions complimented and expounded upon each other in some eye opening ways.

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## Details Part 1: The Dragon and the Women

- Introduction
  - This study is an attempt at a comprehensive, yet somewhat basic, overview of the visions Daniel and John had related to Bible prophecy. These two prophets each contributed to the majority of comprehensive depictions of the historical and future prophecy that define the foundation of understanding the timeline of events. They were also pointed to directly by Yeshua regarding the time of the end. For this reason, these chapters are central to understanding God's plan for mankind. They each cover different perspectives of the same

timeline of human history.

- The <u>Daniel's 70 Weeks</u> study is technically part of this study, but as the final week of years is central to the whole narrative of the future I felt it should be addressed separately and will be referenced here as well in less detail. And while the <u>Man of Sin: False Christ</u> study is focused on the identifying features of the false prophet and false christ, this study focuses more on the Dragon's influence through history as related to Israel and how that reveals aspects about the future. It should be noted that the Dragon gives the false christ and false prophets their power, so even though these two are the visible aspect of the mystery of iniquity that is the Dragon, ultimately the Devil is behind them both and so remains the focus here. As such there will be overlap, but hopefully you will see the historical and future foreshadows and connections that make the study of Bible prophecy so fascinating.
- I'm not going to claim to have all the answers, but in my journey to interpret scripture with scripture and logic I feel more than ever that I've learned a narrative from scripture that makes sense of what was once very confusing to me and feel led to share. These visions are full of strange creatures and symbolism that is pulled from throughout scripture and each of these could be addressed individually with greater detail, but my goal with this series of studies is to present the overarching narrative more concisely, yet with enough detail to explain why I arrived at these conclusions. I know there are a myriad of other interpretations and with few exceptions I will not be getting into them because my goal is not to debate views, but to present a comprehensive and cohesive view and explain the reasoning behind it from scripture. It is up to you to search the scriptures and see if this is so.
- I'm not going to ask that you put aside your own interpretation of these things that you've come to, but I do ask that you walk through this study with me in the way I approached it. This opened my eyes to many things that began to make sense, using the foundation of the Bible and some basic logic. There are associations between the symbology that connect Daniel and John's visions together in many places, but not all places. Narratives have been built and popularized that make it very difficult to see other possibilities, but these also have their problems when trying to make connections not actually stated. We have a tendency to try and make connections to different prophecies in every way possible, but in each of these chapters we need to look at the details of each in isolation and only make the connections that are clearly there. When we try and mesh everything together there are many problems that obscure the basic things, and when we stick to the basics, things become less complicated and more clear. I think in some ways these things have been hidden over the centuries because of assumptions and men's teachings that feel it must be more complicated. But I've found approaching it with a narrow focus relying primarily on scripture to interpret itself, some interesting things have been revealed. Hopefully I will be able to explain myself along the way, but I know the draw to make associations is strong so I want to address that before getting into the study in hopes that while you may not be able to purge the ideas you hold now, you are aware you have preconceived notions during this presentation that won't be directly addressed. If this narrative is lacking perspective, I am open to learning and addressing them.
- Overview Timeline
  - Part 1 of the visions of Daniel and John is less focused on the timeline and more concepts of relationships that have developed throughout history and will come to fruition in the future.
- General overview
  - The primary context of all the unfulfilled symbology is focused temporally on the end of days during the final seven years before the Messianic Kingdom. We are given a timeline of history as it relates to Israel's relationship to God and the nations. Historically, Israel was God's portion while the rest of the world was left for the Dragon. Israel was supposed to be a kingdom of priests to show the glory of God. As discussed in the <u>Natural Israel & Spiritual</u> <u>Israel</u> study, natural Israel are the literal seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and eternal

Israel are the natural branches of Israel and wild branches of the world that were grafted onto the root, which is Christ, in belief and faith.

- Deuteronomy 26:16-19 "This day the LORD thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul. Thou hast avouched the LORD this day to be thy God, and to walk in his ways, and to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and to hearken unto his voice: And the LORD hath avouched thee this day to be his peculiar people, as he hath promised thee, and that [thou] shouldest keep all his commandments; And to make thee high above all nations which he hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honour; and that thou mayest be an holy people unto the LORD thy God, as he hath spoken."
  - This is speaking of natural branches of Israel before Christ, the 12 tribes of Israel. They were chosen and saved out of Egypt to accomplish God's purpose for them to be a mediator between God and the world just as the priesthood was a mediator between God and the people of Israel.
- <u>1 Peter 2:4-10</u> "To whom coming, [as unto] a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, [and] precious, Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe [he is] precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, [even to them] which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past [were] not a people, but [are] now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."
  - As covered in the <u>Milk Before Meat</u> study this is spiritual in nature, not carnal. This is all of eternal, spiritual Israel in Christ who conform to the image of Christ. These are the natural and wild branches, Jew and Gentile, temples of flesh representing the kingdom of God in the world today and living out the fulfillment of the Law by living by the Spirit of God that cohabitates with them. In this, obedient followers of Yeshua are the light of the world and as we will see, the Dragon's hatred is for God's people, but it is to the Jew first and also the Gentile.
- I make this point because there is no difference between Jew and Gentile in Christ, yet Bible prophecy is focused temporally on a specific time in history and on a specific location.
   Natural Israel is the focus for the simple reason that Yeshua blinded them because they did not recognize the time of His visitation. That blindness will not be lifted until the fulness of the Gentiles.
  - Luke 19:41-44 "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things [which belong] unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation."
  - <u>Romans 11:25-27</u> "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this [is] my covenant unto them, when I shall

take away their sins."

- The church without blinded natural Israel is not all of spiritual, eternal Israel. There is time before eternity where those that were blinded will be unblinded and come to accept Yeshua and that time of unblinding is at the fulness of the Gentiles. And as we saw confirmed in the 70 weeks prophecy regarding Israel and Jerusalem, God paused His work with Israel in her blindness from the end of the 69th week, although individual children of Israel have been coming to salvation through Christ throughout this time. But God is not done with His people, and a final week is coming to fulfill prophecy where the focus will once again be on Israel, Jerusalem, and the salvation of the natural branches broken off in unbelief. I believe the *Framework of the End* study will shine a lot of light on this timing and transition when all these studies are brought together and the incredible precision of Bible prophecy is revealed.
- So we will be focusing on natural Israel through history. Through spiritual adultery going after other gods, the protection promised was replaced by the curses promised, which Israel agreed to at Sinai. And so the surrounding nations carried out judgment on Israel time and time again when Israel was in a state of apostasy and God's presence and protection was not with them.
- Remember the context of the Bible is about God's plans for God's people. Throughout the Old and New Testaments, Israel and the Gentiles that come to Christ, and their relationship to God are in focus. The idea of marriage is wrapped around both of these groups, the Old and New Covenants, or Testaments. With Israel's covenant marriage to God and the Northern kingdom's bill of divorce given her by God and Christian's covenant marriage to Yeshua. So the question is, in this pivotal Biblical description of a harlot committing fornication why would this be describing anyone but God's people? You can't be an adulterous harlot if there's not a relationship already established. The idea of a harlot in ancient times was tied to adultery and prostitution, including cultic prostitution related to religious worship. So between the two groups of God's people, where does the Bible speak of a people God is in relationship with being a harlot? In speaking about the future symbol of harlotry, who then should come to mind in the context of scripture in representing apostasy and spiritual fornication going after other gods? Would this be related to the Gentile world that never really had a covenant relationship with God or Jews and Gentiles who committed to a covenant relationship with God already?
- For Christians, falling away is spiritual apostasy and harlotry, but the focus of Bible prophecy is centered around the redemption of blinded Israel. The unblinded Gentiles have already received the good news and either rejected it or fall away and become part of the whole world that continues in apostasy and adultery having known the truth and turned away to fables.
- But for Israel, they are the center of prophecy in the end and it is important to understand the two sides of the coin that is Israel, her times of faithfulness and her times of apostasy, adultery and harlotry. Ever since Israel dwelt in Jerusalem the coin has been flipping from one side to the other as generations fell away from God and then came back to Him. Israel lost Jerusalem in 70 AD, and until 1948 the people of Israel as a nation did not inhabit Jerusalem. Even now they do not live in the state they left it when the Messiah came and the clock was paused, but once they do, the clock will start again.
- Psalm 103:8-13 "The LORD [is] merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will he keep [his anger] for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, [so] great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, [so] far hath he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth [his] children, [so] the LORD pitieth them that fear him."
- Hosea 5:15-6:2 "I will go [and] return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early. Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. After

two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight."

- Yeshua ascended to the Father to prepare a place for us and will return to gather us to Himself. As we will see in these studies, this coincides with the end of the time of Jacob's trouble when they will again seek God in their great affliction, and when the fulness of the Gentiles has come in they will have their blindness removed and God will speak comfortably to them in the wilderness and woo them back to Him in His lovingkindness.
- Time of authorship
  - Almost 700 years apart, the book of Daniel and the book of Revelation are intricately tied together in visions of the prophetic narrative pointing to the events around the first and second coming of Christ.
  - Daniel was written after various visions while in captivity in Babylon after 598 BC.
    - While the Dead Sea Scrolls in many cases, such as Daniel, were only found in part, the parts we do have match with the Masoretic text that is the foundation of our Old Testament today. Discovered in 1947-1948, coincidental with the rebirth of the state of Israel, the Dead Sea Scrolls are like a gift from God to build the faith of His church in the Word we have today being true and reliable.
    - The skeptical view that Daniel was written in the 2nd century BC attempts to avoid many of the detailed prophecies that came to pass in great detail. Even if this assumption was true, Daniel had some very pointed prophecies about the Messiah that would have come to pass several centuries after it was written. With the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the number of fulfilled prophecies from before Christ are even greater. And so the science of archaeology proves the Bible to be more true than was accepted by skeptics before Israel was a nation again. The time after WWII in the land of Israel shifted the understanding of Bible prophecy in earth-shaking ways and archaeological finds continue to do so.
  - John wrote Revelation after visions on the Island of Patmos toward the end of Domitian's reign, which was between 81 and 96 AD
    - □ Likewise with the Greek New Testament, including Revelation, we have the following number of discovered copies. Minuscules (lower case letters) = 2,903; majuscules (uncials or capital letters) = 320; papyri = 127; lectionaries = 2,445 for a total of **5,795 copies**, some with a gap of **40 years** from events they wrote of. "But the text of the NT is also supported by translations into other languages where there are **18,000+ copies**! Out of all these, textual criticism finds 99% of the differences between them are related to errors like spelling and the rest can be discerned by comparison and extensive references by the early church so as to not affect the meaning of the text. There are many people focusing on the trees, and through their diligent work we are allowed to step back and see the forest, being able to trust the Word we have today is accurate as it was originally intended.
    - □ Specific to the book of Revelation, we also have historical evidence of when the book was written/dictated by John on the Island of Patmos.
      - <u>Dating Revelation</u> information just collected here, presentation script shouldn't include this line, just the contents of it below.
      - <u>Revelation 1:9-10</u> "I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,"
      - Irenaeus, one of the church fathers, in speaking of not naming the antichrist, specifies that John received the vision recorded in Revelation toward the end of Domitian's reign, who was emperor of Rome for 15 years from 81 to 96 AD, according to secular records, and he was the last

of the Flavian Dynasty.

- "We will not, however, incur the risk of pronouncing positively as to the name of Antichrist; for if it were necessary that his name should be distinctly revealed in this present time, it would have been announced by him who beheld the apocalyptic vision. For that was seen not very long time since, but almost in our day, towards the end of Domitian's reign." <u>Against Heresies (Book V, Chapter 30)</u>, Irenaeus (130-202 AD)
- Eusebius (260-339 AD) wrote in <u>Chronicle (Book 1)</u>, regarding The Greek Olympiads, that the 215th Olympiad, which took place in 81 A.D., "Hermogenes of Xanthus, stadion race. [During this Olympiad] Domitian became emperor of the Romans."
- <u>2.11.4.2 External Evidence for a Late Date</u> "In the Chronicle, Eusebius lists these events in the fourteenth year of Domitian: 'Persecution of Christians and under him the apostle John is banished to Patmos and sees his Apocalypse, as Irenaeus mentions.'" Eusebius also records that "ancient Christian tradition" held that John had been banished under Domitian:
  - "But after Domitian had reigned fifteen years, and Nerva had succeeded to the empire, the Roman Senate, according to the writers that record the history of those days, voted that Domitian's honors should be cancelled, and that those who had been unjustly banished should return to their homes and have their property restored to them. It was at this time that the apostle John returned from his banishment in the island and took up his abode at Ephesus, according to an ancient Christian tradition." | <u>Church History (Book</u> <u>3, Chapter 20:10-11</u>), Eusebius (260-339 AD)
- So in the first centuries after it was written, the church fathers pointed to John's imprisonment at Patmos as being toward the end of Domitian's reign, which started in 81 AD and ended in 96 AD, and further they state it was in the 14th year of his reign, or 95 AD that John had his vision. This means the book of Revelation was written 25 years after the destruction of the second temple in 70 AD.
- And so the full preterist, or historical, view of the fulfillment of Bible prophecy in its entirety is incompatible with both Bible prophecy itself, as many earth-shaking events written in Revelation have not yet happened, and with the historical record according to those closest to the time of its writing who would have known the details of the origin of the book of Revelation. These mentions by the church fathers were not some attempt to prove anything, but off-handed comments when addressing other concerns like identifying the antichrist or simply documenting historical events relevant to the church.
- In addition, as we saw in the Daniel's 70 Weeks prophecy, one of the things that would be complete with the fulfillment of this prophecy was "to seal up the vision and prophecy." Clearly 25 years after Israel was disbursed into the nations with the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple was well past the 7 years for the final week and yet John had a vision and prophecy in 95 AD.
  - Revelation 1:1-3 "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified [it] by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed [is] he that

#### readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep

those things which are written therein: for the time [is] at hand."

- □ As we review these prophecies, it should be remembered that they were indeed written before the fulfillments, which in Daniel's case gives us a strong testimony to the validity of both the fulfilled and yet future prophecies and in John's case tells us that the prophetic narrative of Revelation is yet future. As these two are tied together in much of their prophetic content, I am addressing them together as both a declaration of fulfilled prophecy and by reason of that, a reliance on the truth of the Word regarding what is to come.
- Daniel's visions, or the interpretations given to him of them, provide prophecies that are both fully historical at this time, but are also intertwined with future unfulfilled prophecy that is in agreement with John's vision. These two together expound on each other giving us some detail that is often missed. While both Daniel and John are shown prophecies yet to be fulfilled from their respective days, many of those future prophecies to Daniel were already fulfilled by John's day and the only events left to be fulfilled from John's time are those that will fall in and around the 70th week of Daniel.
  - Some sort of visualization showing this, perhaps a derivative of the Rev. 17 chart of 7 heads?
- Before reviewing all the visions of Daniel and John, I feel it is important to cover a few foundational elements that apply as we examine the history and future explained in these prophecies. There are three main symbolic characters we see in John's vision, the faithful woman, the unfaithful harlot, and the Dragon. Daniel definitely saw the future of the Dragon's influence at the end, while not having the benefit of looking back through history as John's vision does. Out of the depiction of the dragon's symbology we are opened to a timeline of this relationship between the dragon and the woman at times of faithfulness and unfaithfulness.

#### The Dragon and the Faithful Woman

- Not every detail of each chapter that is read will be covered, the goal of this study is to bring together the symbology to interpret it from scripture so when we continue in other studies, the more clear identities interpreted from scripture will come to mind. Some of the other details of these chapters will be covered elsewhere.
- **<u>Revelation 12</u>** read in its entirety before going over these details
  - John's vision of the dragon and the woman is a pivotal connection point for deciphering the sequence of events and timing, specifically understanding the *Great Tribulation*, covered in a later study. We're introduced to the main spiritual war behind the time of the end. Throughout Bible prophecy we see God dealing with His people, the children of Israel. He is trying time and again to have a relationship with those that are faithful to Him, but they are continually brought back to the carnal and false gods. However, through all this we also see a remnant of Israel who remains true to God. So too we see the Dragon, who is behind the mystery of iniquity at work throughout human history to pull mankind to destruction with him.
  - This chapter gives both an overview of a woman from whom the Messiah is born, but is also hated by the Dragon.
  - $\circ~$  Faithful woman clothed with the sun, and the moon at her feet and a crown of 12 stars
    - This identifies with the faithful woman from whom the Messiah would come.
    - Genesis 37:9-11 "And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. And he told [it] to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What [is] this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying."

- The symbology of this woman doesn't require any special revelation outside of what we already have from scripture. Joseph dreams that the sun, moon, and 11 stars bow to him and Jacob (Israel) interprets that as being himself (sun), his mother Rachel (moon), his 11 brothers (11 stars). Joseph being the 12th star, we see this image of the woman tied to the nation of Israel.
- She gave birth to the child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron
  - <u>Matthew 1:1-17</u> the lineage of Yeshua is laid out from Abraham through David to Joseph then Him.
  - Luke 3:23-38 the lineage of Yeshua is laid out from Adam to Joseph to Him, but is believed to actually be the lineage of Mary, His mother.
    - In this the Messiah was born of the house of Israel through both legal and royal lineage of the seed of the woman because of the virgin birth and having a heavenly Father.
  - Mary gave birth to Yeshua in the literal sense. Interestingly, this is also seen in the night sky in the constellation Virgo the virgin. Because the 12 constellations are on the ecliptic, they every so often make this exact sign in the heavens where the sun will be in the midst of the constellation Virgo and the moon will be at her feet in early fall. Leo is above her head, which is composed of only 9 stars in modern astronomy, but the number of stars depends on the interpreter of the time.
  - There is good reason to believe Yeshua was actually born in the fall, when shepherds would actually be out in the fields, and that the reason they could not find lodging we because it was the time of Sukkot when every male had to present himself before God. The sukkot were also built to celebrate this appointed time and originated from Jacob's sukkot for his animals. So it may be that Yeshua was born in a sukkot, or a manger, at that time of year.
  - If the wonder in heaven of the woman is symbolizing Israel, then her giving birth would be the lineage of the Messiah to the virgin birth of Yeshua. Gods portion of the nations was Israel, and through her the Messiah that would take away the sins of the whole world would come.
  - Deuteronomy 32:7-12 "Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee. When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel. For the LORD'S portion [is] his people; Jacob [is] the lot of his inheritance. He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: [So] the LORD alone did lead him, and [there was] no strange god with him."
  - Through His sacrifice, Yeshua would unite those that believe in Him from His portion Israel and the Gentiles to be joined in His kingdom, grafted to Him in belief for eternity.
  - However, the Gentiles have not been blinded as Israel has been. The fulness of the Gentiles has been building since Yeshua brought the Gospel. The time of the end is about the unblinding of Israel and redemption of His people who will never again go after other gods, but follow Him forever. We will see this later in Daniel 2.
  - <u>Psalm 2</u> speaks to reign of Messiah in His kingdom with a rod of iron, and <u>Revelation</u> <u>2:26-29</u> and <u>Revelation 19:11-16</u> directly correlate this to Yeshua's rule.
    - Psalm 2:1-12 "Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, [saying], Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his

wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou [art] my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give [thee] the heathen [for] thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth [for] thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish [from] the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed [are] all they that put their trust in him."

- <u>Revelation 2:26-29</u> "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."
- Revelation 19:11-16 "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on [his] vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."
- Her child was caught up to God and to His throne
  - □ This clearly leapt forward to Yeshua's ascension to heaven following His death and resurrection.
  - Acts 1:9-11 "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."
- In the prophetic context, the faithful of Israel is that seen in Revelation 12. We know she must represent the faithful of Israel because the Dragon hates her and her seed. It was through her the Messiah was delivered to man for an atoning sacrifice and who is hated by the Dragon, our accuser, because of this. It is the Dragon who gives the false christ his power and great authority.
- Great red dragon
  - The dragon is representative of the accuser, the Devil, and as we will see his control over the nations through history. But this is just an initial introduction as we will also see more definition surrounding the symbology of these heads, crowns, and horns when we look at Revelation 17 and what it all means.
  - <u>Revelation 12:3-4a</u> "And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth:"
    - □ The dragon is red (pyrrhós fire-like, flame-colored: red)
    - □ 7 heads with 7 crowns upon his heads
      - This identifies the great red dragon with 7 heads wearing 7 crowns.
      - Each of the 7 heads has a crown and a crown is a sign of royalty or

kingship, implying the leader of a kingdom, which we will see confirmed in Revelation 13 and 17.

- □ 10 horns
  - It isn't clarified if each head has 1 or 2 horns or if one head has all the horns. Clearly 10 horns don't fit evenly on 7 heads. However, in combination with the 7 heads, the 10 horns give us a solid point to connect other visions that Daniel and John have about the Dragon. These associations will clarify the answers.
- □ This combination of 7 heads and 10 horns is an example of a clear connection between several different chapters that we can safely make to associate the identity in those various chapters. There are other elements seen elsewhere that do not have this kind of clear association that we should be careful not to jump to conclusions on. If we try and relate unclear associations we can find ourselves tied in knots trying to figure out a mess of confusing relationships and painting ourselves into a corner. Make the clear associations one at a time and see where it leads. That is the principle I am approaching this study with.
- <u>Revelation 12:7-12</u> "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. Therefore rejoice, [ye] heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time."
  - Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels and the dragon did not prevail
    - This will be covered in greater detail in <u>The Restrainer</u> study. The casting of the Dragon and his angels from heaven and the unparalleled time of great tribulation would seem to coincide, and there is another event that starts this unparalleled time, which will be covered in greater detail in the <u>Abomination of Desolation</u> study.
  - □ Just as verse 4a states that his tail draws 1/3 of the stars from heaven, we see in the war in heaven why that is. The dragon and his angels that rebelled with him are cast out of heaven to the earth. We see glimpses of them putting aside their incorruptible bodies for corruption to pollute the lineage of mankind, possibly in an attempt to prevent the seed of the woman promised to destroy them. These are the fallen angels that rebelled with the Dragon.
    - Jude 1:6 "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."
    - <u>Genesis 6:1-2</u> "And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they [were] fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose."
  - A hint at the mystery of iniquity, we see the accuser in heaven of God's people who overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony, willingly giving up their lives for this cause. From the beginnings of the church to today, God's people have been hated and killed by the world. At the very start, Jews who saw Christianity as blasphemy such as Paul, would persecute believers

until the diaspora. Later, even at times in what was called the church, wicked leaders killed followers of Christ who refused to conform to false teachings of men. The Dragon has been seeking the destruction of God's people through history, and using his wicked followers in the world to do it. Thought is the voice of the spirit realm, and the angel and devil on the shoulder popularized by cartoons may not be such a far off possibility. Have you ever had thoughts that felt foreign to you? Is it so hard to believe that people living in the works of the flesh and puffed up with pride couldn't be manipulated by a thought whispered into the mind? Is it so hard to believe that God's still, small voice is His Spirit there to guide us in all righteousness? The Word of God is the foundation and plumbline to which all our thoughts should be captured and assessed if they are of God or not.

- <u>2 Corinthians 10:3-6</u> "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare [are] not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled."
- "Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! For the devil is come down to you having great wrath because he knows he has a short time."
  - As we will see, in the dragon's casting from heaven, events on the earth will change in such a drastic way as to completely upend civilization as we know it today.
- This dragon is identified for us as that old serpent, the Devil, and ha satan (the accuser) who deceives the whole earth. This clearly defines who the dragon symbolizes. Additionally his tail drew 1/3 of the stars from heaven and cast them to earth just as his fallen angels are cast out of heaven with him. If they have all been limited to influencing when allowed, how much more will things change when they are given full influence while being directly on the earth with humanity? As we will see, neither the false christ will be restrained nor the Dragon as God allows them to carry out their plan, even sending a strong delusion that will test those on the earth as to whether they will believe the lie.

Now we should also be able to take this identity of the Dragon with 7 heads and 10 horns as the Devil wherever else we see it, since this combination is stated outright.

- The relationship
  - I purposely skipped around a bit to define both the faithful woman and the dragon separately, but this chapter is about both their individual identities and their relationship, which will be depicted later as their whole time in Jerusalem and at the time of the end. Highlighted in this chapter, are some critical pieces of information about that relationship that will apply to other topics covered later.
    - Dragon stood before the woman to devour her child when born
      - □ The Messiah came through the lineage of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and the tribe of Judah. The dragon wanted to destroy Yeshua and this symbolic reference was likely fulfilled when the wise men from the East arrived, Herod ordered male children under 2 years old to be killed in an attempt to kill the future king of the Jews. His mind was carnal like most humans, and in the context of the time looking for a conquering king that would take the throne of Israel and set up the Messianic Kingdom. In his pride and selfishness he did not want to give up his power.
      - Matthew 2:16-18 "Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under,

according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping [for] her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not."

- This also supports the idea of the mystery of iniquity since we see this event symbolized in the Dragon waiting to devour the child as soon as it was delivered. How much was the Devil whispering thoughts into the mind of a man given over to wickedness to the end of killing children 2 and under in hopes of destroying the Messiah? I don't know, but perhaps that's why it's called the mystery of iniquity. It's been at work through history subtly making plans and guiding those who listen to those ends.
- This prophecy isn't focused on Christ's ministry and it jumps from His birth to the completion of His ministry and our salvation, Yeshua was caught up to God where He prepares a place for His bride.
- After her child was caught up to God, the woman fled to the wilderness where she had a place prepared of God, that they should feed here there 1,260 days.
  - This is connected to the future verses 14-16 connecting 1,260 days to 3.5 years. As was covered in <u>The Moedim: Appointed Times</u> study, the lunar calendar is tied to 30-day months and as we will cover in greater detail in the <u>Framework of</u> <u>the End</u> study, the connection of the appointed times and the lunar calendar to the 70th week of Daniel brings some fascinating connections together.
  - □ Some believe it is speaking to Joseph and Mary taking Yeshua to Egypt because of Herod. We don't know exactly how long they were in Egypt but also Egypt is not the wilderness. In addition, the flow of this passage is that the woman is protected in the wilderness after Yeshua is caught up to the throne, not before His ministry starts. I therefore hold the position that this is meant to associate 1,260 days to 3.5 years for a reason. The seemingly clear reason is to associate these times to the appointed times, which are in turn tied to the lunar calendar that is 29.53 days long, effectively 30-day months.
- When the dragon saw he was cast to the earth he persecuted the woman that brought forth the man child
  - □ As mentioned before, this time when the dragon is cast to the earth is associated with Michael the archangel and he is also associated with the revealing of the man of sin.
  - Daniel 11:45-12:1 "And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation [even] to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."
  - Matthew 24:15, 21-22 "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) ... For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."
  - Daniel 9:27 "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."
  - □ 2 Thessalonians 2:6-9 "And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be

revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth [will let], until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: [Even him], whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,"

- Revelation 13:3-5 "And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty [and] two months."
- □ This sampling of some key scriptures associated with this time in history connect the Dragon giving the false christ his power around the time of his revealing at the abomination of desolation when Michael stands up to cast the dragon from heaven in the midst of the 70th week of Daniel. We will get more into the symbology of this later and how that is in agreement, but the point is that when the dragon is cast to the earth, the time of unparalleled tribulation begins. We know this is manifested in the faithful woman being persecuted by the dragon.
  - The timing of this is covered in greater detail in <u>The Restrainer</u>, <u>Great</u> <u>Tribulation</u>, <u>Abomination of Desolation</u>, and <u>Framework of the End</u> studies.
- The woman is given 2 wings of a great eagle to fly to her place where she is nourished for 3 1/2 years from the face of the serpent.
  - As will be covered in greater detail in the <u>Great Tribulation</u> study, <u>Jeremiah</u> <u>30:4-7</u>, <u>Daniel 12:1</u> and <u>Matthew 24:15-22</u> all speak of this unparalleled time of great tribulation for Israel in Judea with the additional caveat that they will be saved out of it and that unparalleled time of Jacob's trouble will be cut short.
  - Does that mean the great tribulation is not 42 month or 3.5 years? No, as with many aspects of Bible prophecy there is some nuance, and this becomes important as well when looking at the sequence of events and timing as covered in the <u>Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future</u> study.
  - Associations with the Exodus are interesting here given the woman symbolized in this chapter is Israel and God described her escape from Egypt as being on eagles' wings where she went into the wilderness.
  - Exodus 19:3-6 "And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and [how] I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth [is] mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These [are] the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel."
  - □ Likewise, those in Judea are told to flee to the mountains when they see the abomination of desolation take place. This requires a temple or tabernacle, and as we see in John's vision just before the two witnesses, there is a measurable temple. Of the two witnesses he later associates Jerusalem where they are killed spiritually with Egypt.
  - Revelation 11:8 "And their dead bodies [shall lie] in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified."
  - So we see a kind of second Exodus tied with the faithful woman not fleeing literal Egypt, but spiritual Egypt, a place of captivity and worship of false gods.
     From there she is taken into the wilderness just like in the Exodus.

- The serpent casts water out of his mouth as a flood after the woman, but the earth helps the woman by opening her mouth and swallowing the flood.
  - The dragon doesn't want the woman to escape and his followers will try and get those escaping, but will be prevented from doing so because she is protected from the serpent.
  - The idea of the earth swallowing the flood is a similar yet distinct idea from the Red Sea crossing, where Pharaoh's flood tried to consume the fleeing Israelites, but were swallowed up by the sea. This similarity seems valid in what God stated about Israel's escape from Egypt.
  - What is interesting is that we see in <u>Numbers 16</u> the rebellion of Korah while in the wilderness after fleeing Egypt, God used the earth swallowing up the rebellion within the priesthood to put a stop to it.
  - Numbers 16:30-33 "But if the LORD make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that [appertain] unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that [was] under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that [appertained] unto Korah, and all [their] goods. They, and all that [appertained] to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation."
  - □ In this case, the earth swallowing up the wicked was from among the nation of Israel while in the wilderness.
- The dragon is wroth with the woman and makes war with the remnant of her seed that keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Yeshua.
  - While faithful Israel in Judea are protected from the dragon, it is clear this is the continuation of the time of great tribulation, the time of the Dragon's wrath on God's faithful people.
  - We know from the statements of unparalleled tribulation that it is focused on Israel in Jerusalem and Judea. Yeshua say for those in Judea to flee to the mountains, it's the time of Jacob's trouble, the time when Michael stands for Daniel's people.
  - So it follows that if those in Judea are now protected from the Dragon in the wilderness and that the Dragon goes after the remnant of her seed and those holding the testimony of Christ, then the scope of the great tribulation has changed and it is different from what it was in Judea. Now it's going global.
- Kings and Priests
  - As touched on in the <u>Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel</u> study, Israel was to be a kingdom of priests to minister to the Lord, the God of Israel. <u>Exodus 10:3-6</u> The Lord was to be their King and defender against her enemies in the world. Moses was to be the high priest, but he pushed back on God and Aaron and his lineage became the high priests. <u>Exodus 40:12-15</u>
  - Then Israel wanted a physical king like the other nations, **<u>1 Samuel 8</u>**, one that would rule, judge, and lead the military forces of the kingdom. This doesn't appear to have been God's design, who wanted them to rely on Him for their security and remain faithful to Him as their God. But they would not, and the ways of the nations of the world and their gods drew Israel away from God leading to her continued destruction as the protection of their God and King drew away from them and allowed the curses that flow naturally from being separated from God that they agreed to at Sinai.
  - This concept of a kingdom of priests and a king of the kingdom is demonstrated throughout history and into the future in God's design. As Israel was to be a kingdom of priests with God as their King, the body of Christ is a heavenly kingdom of priests with Yeshua as their King, <u>1</u>
     <u>Peter 2:7-10</u>, a King after the order of Melchizedek, who was both a high priest of the Most High and king of Salem, which means peace, and later called Jerusalem. <u>Genesis 14:18-20</u>,

**Psalm 76:1-2**, **Hebrews 5:5-6**, **Psalm 110:1-4**, **Matthew 22:41-46** This is the ultimate fulfillment of God's design from the beginning. It was foreshadowed in natural Israel under the covenant made with animal blood and the Law to remind of sin, and it was fulfilled in spiritual Israel under the covenant made with the blood of the Son of God under the Law of selfless Love that covers sin.

- I think it is important to keep this concept of a king of a kingdom of priests in mind in the context in which it was introduced in scripture regarding Israel's relationship to God. I feel it is one of the foundational ideas to understand the symbology of the dragon with seven heads and the harlot riding the dragon. When Israel followed after God she was secure, protected, and nourished as a bride. When she went after other gods and played the harlot committing adultery and fornication with those she had not made an eternal covenant with, God separated from her and left her to the destruction she agreed to at Sinai.
- Understanding the spiritual parallel of that foreshadow should be a reminder to us now how our going after other gods, being drawn away into the things of this world, will lead to the Spirit of God not tabernacling in our temples of flesh with us as our relationship grows apart. Yeshua is coming back for His bride who adores Him and desires to be with Him even when not physically there. He is not coming back for people of the world who would rather live without Him. The Holy Spirit is the Comforter until He returns, the means of relationship with Him now before He returns. In thist He would know us and we would know Him. When Israel didn't obey God, His presence left. As followers of Christ indwelt by the Spirit of God, how much more will that intimate, personal relationship that Israel longed for be affected by our disobedience?
- This is a critical understanding to discern the difference between natural Israel in the world being the faithful woman of Revelation 12, or the unfaithful harlot going after other gods in unbelief. The faithful and unfaithful woman are both sides of the same coin that is Israel. It is possible for some of the children of Israel to be wicked and go after other gods, rejecting their Messiah just as it is possible for some of the church to go after the world, not having a relationship with God. This is not a Hebrew thing, it's the human condition. Failure to recognize ourselves in the sins of Israel's past and present is a lack of honesty and a sign of much-needed introspection. It can also lead to the kind of hatred toward a peculiar people that has no place in the heart of the bride of Christ.
  - Isaiah 29:13-16 "Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near [me] with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men: Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, [even] a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise [men] shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent [men] shall be hid. Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us? Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?"
- That the dragon, who is defined as satan, the accuser, and the Devil, is behind this vision of apostasy and rule over Israel should be of no surprise. The dragon has been working to deceive mankind since the garden. He already had the world deceived and ignorant of God so His focus was and is on Israel, the apple of God's eye. The teachings of men in the Oral Law of Judaism has superseded in some cases the original Word itself, which can leave a door open to deception. There is a time coming when he knows his time is short and he will be allowed to reveal himself in all his power to the world and deceive all that he can. Those who refuse to worship him, he will attempt to eliminate from his temporary kingdom, the Jew first and also those that hold the testimony of Christ.

#### The Dragon and the Harlot in Jerusalem

• We saw the relationship between the Dragon and the faithful woman, now in John's vision we will

see more detail about the history of the Dragon and that relationship with the other side of the coin, the unfaithful harlot. As we have seen, this is not all of Israel. God has a remnant who will not worship the false christ.

- <u>Romans 11:2-5</u> "God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to [the image of] Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace."
- This chapter provides the most comprehensive overview of the history of the relationship of the woman and the dragon, and so is the starting point in understanding the walk through that history.
- Revelation 17 read in its entirety before going over these details
- Unfaithful woman
  - The context of Bible prophecy is centered around a particular people and a particular place. This is no wonder as the Bible is a collection of 66 books written by 40 authors over thousands of years with a distinct focus on the people of Israel from which the Messiah came to save the whole world. While the Gentiles are saved by this same Messiah by faith, the focus remains primarily on the people of Israel when it comes to Bible prophecy.
  - As seen throughout the Old Testament, whoredom, adultery, fornication, etc. were all described of Israel in her relationship with God when she followed after other gods and worshipped idols forsaking her first love whom she committed to be faithful to at Sinai.
    - Exodus 34:14-17 "For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name [is] Jealous, [is] a jealous God: Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and [one] call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice; And thou take of their daughters unto thy sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make thy sons go a whoring after their gods. Thou shalt make thee no molten gods."
      - clearly states not to worship any other god and to do so would be tantamount to being a whore.
    - Leviticus 17:7 "And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations."
      - Offering sacrifices to devils after whom they've gone a whoring
    - Leviticus 20:5-6 "Then I will set my face against that man, and against his family, and will cut him off, and all that go a whoring after him, to commit whoredom with Molech, from among their people. And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people."
      - speaks in reference to human sacrifice of their children to Molech that those who commit whoredom with Molech will be cut off from the people. This may be relevant in light of another prophecy from Zechariah.
      - Zechariah 13:8-9 "And it shall come to pass, [that] in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off [and] die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It [is] my people: and they shall say, The LORD [is] my God."
    - <u>2 Chronicles 21:11</u> "Moreover he made high places in the mountains of Judah, and caused the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit fornication, and compelled Judah [thereto]."
    - <u>Psalm 106:34-40</u> "They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them: But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works.

And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils, And shed innocent blood, [even] the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood. Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions. Therefore was the wrath of the LORD kindled against his people, insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance."

- In reference to God's command not to mingle with the heathen, Israel did so and learned their ways and worshipped their idols, sacrificing their sons and daughters to devils and shedding innocent blood to the idols of Canaan. These were defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions.
- Ezekiel 16:1-3, 15-19, 23-26 "Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, cause Jerusalem to know her abominations, And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto Jerusalem; Thy birth and thy nativity [is] of the land of Canaan; thy father [was] an Amorite, and thy mother an Hittite. ... But thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy fornications on every one that passed by; his it was. And of thy garments thou didst take, and deckedst thy high places with divers colours, and playedst the harlot thereupon: [the like things] shall not come, neither shall it be [so]. Thou hast also taken thy fair jewels of my gold and of my silver, which I had given thee, and madest to thyself images of men, and didst commit whoredom with them, And tookest thy broidered garments, and coveredst them: and thou hast set mine oil and mine incense before them. My meat also which I gave thee, fine flour, and oil, and honey, [wherewith] I fed thee, thou hast even set it before them for a sweet savour: and [thus] it was, saith the Lord GOD. ... And it came to pass after all thy wickedness, (woe, woe unto thee! saith the Lord GOD;) [That] thou hast also built unto thee an eminent place, and hast made thee an high place in every street. Thou hast built thy high place at every head of the way, and hast made thy beauty to be abhorred, and hast opened thy feet to every one that passed by, and multiplied thy whoredoms. Thou hast also committed fornication with the Egyptians thy neighbours, great of flesh; and hast increased thy whoredoms, to provoke me to anger."
  - speaks to Jerusalem's abominations, taking God's blessings and committing whoredom and playing the harlot and committing fornication with the Egyptians. Note that this is explicitly speaking of Jerusalem. So did Jerusalem do all these things, or did the unfaithful inhabitants of her to them?
- Jeremiah 3:6-10 "The LORD said also unto me in the days of Josiah the king, Hast thou seen [that] which backsliding Israel hath done? she is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there hath played the harlot. And I said after she had done all these [things], Turn thou unto me. But she returned not. And her treacherous sister Judah saw [it]. And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also. And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks. And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith the LORD."
  - Speaking of the Northern and Southern kingdoms, backsliding Israel had gone on every mountain and under every tree and played the harlot and by her backsliding committed adultery and were given a bill of divorcement. Her sister Judah also played the harlot, not fearing God, committing adultery with stones and wood.
- Jeremiah 5:1-8 "Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be [any]

that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it. And though they say, The LORD liveth; surely they swear falsely. O LORD, [are] not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, [but] they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return. Therefore I said, Surely these [are] poor; they are foolish: for they know not the way of the LORD, [nor] the judgment of their God. I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD, [and] the judgment of their God: but these have altogether broken the yoke, [and] burst the bonds. Wherefore a lion out of the forest shall slay them, [and] a wolf of the evenings shall spoil them, a leopard shall watch over their cities: every one that goeth out thence shall be torn in pieces: because their transgressions are many, [and] their backslidings are increased. How shall I pardon thee for this? thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by [them that are] no gods: when I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses. They were [as] fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbour's wife."

- In Jerusalem and abroad, they may speak of the Lord with their lips but their hearts are far from Him. They have forsaken God, and sworn by them that are no gods: when God had fed them to fullness, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses. They were as fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbor's wife.
- These aren't the only scriptures and it would be beneficial to do your own word study on fornication, whore, and adultery to see all the examples present. To be unfaithful to the One True God and follow after other gods and idols of any kind is harlotry, whoredom, and adultery in the case of promising fidelity to God.
- <u>Revelation 17:1-6</u> "And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead [was] a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration."
  - In contrast to the faithful woman of the previous chapter that the dragon hates, John introduces a great spiritual whore that sits on many waters.
    - Revelation 17:15 interprets "the waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues."
  - This would seem to point to this woman having influence over many nations, not just her own.
  - But notice that it isn't just on many waters she sits, she is sitting on the red Dragon, that same Dragon identified as the Devil with 7 heads and 10 horns. So we know that h this harlot, symbolically identified with apostasy according to scripture, is not hated by the Dragon, but riding him. And not only riding him, but participating in his apostasy and drunk on the blood of the saints.
  - We see that the kings of the earth have committed spiritual fornication with her and are drunk on the wine of her spiritual fornication. In other words, the world looks at her spiritual fornication as something to join into. In doing so they are made drunk on the same wine she is drunk on.
  - Her spiritual fornication is going after a false god and for this she will be judged by

God. In her fervency worshipping a false god, the world will join in and do the same. As we will see, the world too will wonder after the beast to was, was not, and is. His supernatural powers and lying wonders will deceive the whole world as the strong delusion God sends will seal the deal for those not of God.

- She is wearing purple and scarlet, gold, precious stones and pearls.
  - There is a well-known view that takes the clothing of this woman and compares it to the attire of the Catholic leadership. But as Chris White points out in his book <u>False Christ</u> chapter 4, these can also be seen in the clothing of the high priest.
  - Revelation 18:16 "And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!"
  - Exodus 39:1-3 And of the blue, and purple, and scarlet, they made cloths of service, to do service in the holy place, and made the holy garments for Aaron; as the LORD commanded Moses. And he made the ephod of gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen. And they did beat the gold into thin plates, and cut it into wires, to work it in the blue, and in the purple, and in the scarlet, and in the fine linen, with cunning work.
  - Exodus 39:10-14 And they set in it four rows of stones: [the first] row [was] a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this [was] the first row. And the second row, an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond. And the third row, a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst. And the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper: [they were] inclosed in ouches of gold in their inclosings. And the stones [were] according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, [like] the engravings of a signet, every one with his name, according to the twelve tribes.
  - Exodus 28 "And these are the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a broidered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office."
    - ephod of gold, of blue, and of purple, of scarlet, and fine twined linen, with cunning work
    - girdle of the ephod of gold, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.
    - engrave the two stones with the names of the children of Israel: thou shalt make them to be set in ouches of gold.
    - two chains of pure gold at the ends; of wreathen work shalt thou make them, and fasten the wreathen chains to the ouches.
    - the breastplate of judgment with cunning work of gold, of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine twined linen. thou shalt set in it settings of stones with the names of the children of Israel, even four rows of stones set in gold in their inclosings:
      - The first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this shall be the first row.
      - the second row shall be an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond
      - the third row a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst
      - the fourth row a beryl, and an onyx, and a jasper
    - ♦ upon the breastplate chains at the ends of wreathen work of pure gold
    - the robe of the ephod all of blue upon the hem of it thou shalt make pomegranates of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, round about the hem thereof; and bells of gold between them round about, a golden bell and a pomegranate, upon the hem of the robe round about
    - ♦ thou shalt make a plate of pure gold, and grave upon it, like the

engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD. And thou shalt put it on a blue lace, that it may be upon the forefront of the mitre. And it shall be upon Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the children of Israel shall hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall be always upon his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD.

- She has written on her forehead, "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."
  - Exodus 39:30-31 And they made the plate of the holy crown [of] pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, [like to] the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD. And they tied unto it a lace of blue, to fasten [it] on high upon the mitre; as the LORD commanded Moses.
    - We see in the end that the name of the beast is placed on the hand or forehead. Perhaps this is tied to a corruption of what the high priest was to wear in God's temple and why Jerusalem has what she has figuratively on her forehead. What was to be holiness to the Lord on the high priest's crown is replaced with the mark or the name of the beast or the number of his name.
  - □ **<u>Revelation 17:18</u>** "And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth."
  - Revelation 11:7-8 "And their dead bodies [shall lie] in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified."
  - <u>Revelation 14:8</u> "And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."
  - Revelation 16:19 "And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath."
  - The mystery of Babylon is related to this mother of harlots and abominations of the earth. A mother of harlots would indicate that harlotry is born of her, which is what we see wrapped in the idea that the world gets drunk on the wine of her fornication. They are led into through her, she births their fornication, or worship of a false god and carrying out of his will.
  - □ Jeremiah 3:1-5 "They say, If a man put away his wife, and she go from him, and become another man's, shall he return unto her again? shall not that land be greatly polluted? but thou hast played the harlot with many lovers; yet return again to me, saith the LORD. Lift up thine eyes unto the high places, and see where thou hast not been lien with. In the ways hast thou sat for them, as the Arabian in the wilderness; and thou hast polluted the land with thy whoredoms and with thy wickedness. Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed. Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, My father, thou [art] the guide of my youth? Will he reserve [his anger] for ever? will he keep [it] to the end? Behold, thou hast spoken and done evil things as thou couldest."
  - Israel is described having "a whore's forehead" and if you look in the 10 passages that use this word in the Old Testament, the forehead is where Aaron the high priest wore the signet that said holiness to the Lord, it's where Goliath was struck by David's stone, it's where Uzziah's leprosy developed suddenly as he was wroth with the priests, it's described as made of brass along with an iron neck symbolizing obstinance and the whore's forehead.
  - That both God and the dragon seal their people in their foreheads would seem

to make sense as wherever one inclines their head is where their gaze is. The mark is a sign of loyalty and faithfulness. The unfaithful woman, the whore riding the beast in Revelation 17, has written on her forehead the dragon's name just as Aaron, the first high priest of Israel wore his signifying God's.

- She has a golden cup full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication. From this cup she drinks the wine of her fornication. Wine is made of crushed grapes.
- Expanding on the wine that she and the world are drunk on, we see "the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus"
  - Revelation 14:17-20 "And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast [it] into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand [and] six hundred furlongs."
    - This analogy to grapes pressed in a winepress to make wine and the crushing of people making blood tied to judgment is a gruesome comparison, but we see it both in God's wrath on the Dragon's people at the beginning of the day of the Lord and the Dragon's wrath on God's people during the time of great tribulation.
  - Isaiah 63:1-6 "Who [is] this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this [that is] glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore [art thou] red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people [there was] none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance [is] in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. And I looked, and [there was] none to help; and I wondered that [there was] none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth."
    - regarding God's wrath, He treads the winepress in His anger because the day of His vengeance has come and blood will be sprinkled on His clothes.
  - Revelation 19:11-15 "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."
    - Yeshua returns already wearing a vesture dipped in blood from treading the winepress of the wrath of God during the trumpet and bowl judgments. This tells us that like His first coming during His ministry that lasted several years, His second coming will also be an arrival and continued presence as He carries out the wrath of God.
  - □ **<u>Revelation 18:3</u>** "For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her

fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies."

- So in this case it would appear to be the Dragon's wrath on God's people produces the blood, or wine, that the woman and the world are drunk on. And no wonder since the Dragon is said to be going after the Jews and Christians that reject him during his time of power.
- Daniel 7:25 "And he shall speak [great] words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."
- Daniel 12:7 "And I heard the man clothed in linen, which [was] upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that [it shall be] for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these [things] shall be finished."
- The unfaithful woman's wrath and treading of the winepress produces blood that causes drunkenness. The golden cup from which she drinks this blood is full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication.
  - So this woman riding the dragon, worships the false christ and the Dragon upon which she rides. The wrath of the Dragon, and their obedience to him, results in the killing of the saints to fulfill the Dragon's will.
  - Just as the wrath of God will come on the children of disobedience, so too will the wrath of the Dragon through the children of disobedience come on the elect, eternal spiritual Israel comprised of Jew and Gentile that refuse to commit adultery and remain true to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
  - The world, also drunk on the wine of her fornication, participates and assists with this persecution of the saints.
- Revelation 17:16-18 10 horns attack the woman, "make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire" And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.
  - Ezekiel 16:38-41 "And I will judge you as women who break wedlock or shed blood are judged; I will bring blood upon you in fury and jealousy. I will also give you into their hand, and they shall throw down your shrines and break down your high places. They shall also strip you of your clothes, take your beautiful jewelry, and leave you naked and bare. They shall also bring up an assembly against you, and they shall stone you with stones and thrust you through with their swords. They shall burn your houses with fire, and execute judgments on you in the sight of many women; and I will make you cease playing the harlot, and you shall no longer hire lovers."
  - As we will see, the 10 horns that hate this harlot will be held back from destroying her because God has put it in their hearts to fulfill His will in giving their power to the beast, whose center of power is in Jerusalem. And the woman they will destroy is that great city that rules over the kings of the earth.
- So we see this harlot representing a people deceived by the Dragon into following him, or rather riding him since he is in control of where they're going, in his quest to rule the earth for a short time, a kind of false messianic kingdom. Contrasted to the faithful woman in Revelation 12 that the dragon hates, the harlot is a participant in the dragon's hatred of those that reject him.
  - Revelation 18:24 "And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth."
    - Babylon in the prophetic context is identified with Jerusalem in associating it with the blood of prophets, which Yeshua said was

Jerusalem. This is also where Yeshua was crucified and where two witnesses who prophesy for 1,260 days will be killed.

- Revelation 11:3, 7-8 "And I will give [power] unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. ... And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies [shall lie] in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified."
- Throughout Israel's history, including the first century at Christ's coming, it was apostate Israel who killed the prophets and ultimately Yeshua Himself in their hypocrisy, being deceived. They used God's Word regarding blasphemy to turn the truth they didn't want to hear into lies so they could eliminate those speaking truth and remain blind to reality and remain in power.
  - <u>Matthew 23:37</u> "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you"
  - Luke 13:31-35 "it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee"
  - ٠ Matthew 21:33-46 - "Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country: And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. And they caught him, and cast [him] out of the vineyard, and slew [him]. When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out [his] vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons. Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder. And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them. But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet."
- Note that again Jerusalem is who Yeshua is speaking to in regards to the prophets being killed. Was the city truly the focus, or was it the inhabitants at the times the prophets were killed? Can a city kill prophets? The city is representative of those inhabiting it, and the city is Jerusalem in context of Israel dwelling in it. More specifically it would seem to be pointing to the priesthood and leadership in charge of the religious aspect of the city.
- Isaiah 1:21-28 "How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water: Thy princes [are] rebellious, and companions

of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them. Therefore saith the Lord, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies: And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin: And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city. Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness. And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners [shall be] together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed."

- Revelation 18 Judgement of the whore
  - This chapter sees the judgement of Mystery Babylon, Jerusalem. It is "the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird."
- As I think we will shortly confirm, mystery Babylon is that great city on Mount Zion, Jerusalem. The woman that sits on this mountain is Israel in her times of apostasy, when her religious leadership killed the prophets sent to her and ultimately killed her promised Messiah. This had to be so all mankind could be saved, and Yeshua Himself on the cross forgave them, yet judgement was decreed and 40 years later Israel ceased to be a nation. Since then Israel has been reborn and lives a mostly secular life, connected by tradition with an Orthodox group continuing to study Rabbinical tradition, the interpretations of men, and work to return the nation to the glory of their forefathers and its relationship to God. But the time will come when they will turn to God in trouble and the Dragon will step in with great deception, inserting himself and his false christ into the culture desperately awaiting the Messiah and lead them to follow another god.
  - John 5:39-43 "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. I receive not honour from men. But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you. I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive."
- This reinforces the idea that the false christ will claim to be the long-awaited Jewish Messiah. In the Dragon's great deception, a majority of blinded Israel will accept him as their Messiah, not seeing they are deceived. He will have great signs and wonders to deceive them and will conquer their enemies almost just as prophesied in the Old Testament. Jerusalem will be the center of his reign and his followers will be connected to that place. They will follow their false christ with a fervency that will cause the whole world to be drunk with her and the world will follow after this false christ as well.
- In reality, Israel will be in apostasy when the false christ reveals himself at the abomination of desolation, and from that time on most of the world will follow him, while the small faithful remnant of Israel and Christians worldwide will see through the deception and remain faithful to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob unto death. The dragon will hate those who reject him, but welcome all who accept him as pawns in his designs to destroy mankind by dragging them to hell with him. Woe to them that are deceived!
- <u>Revelation 17:7</u> "And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns."
  - This unfaithful woman is described as sitting on a red beast with 7 heads and 10 horns who carries her. This identifies this great whore following after other gods as riding the same dragon that hates the faithful woman. She is not part of the Dragon, but rides him. In reality, it is the Dragon she rides that is in control as we see throughout scripture, deceiving the whole world and directing where she goes.
- The Dragon
  - Revelation 17:3 "So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a

woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns."

- After seeing this great red dragon with 7 heads, 10 horns, and 7 crowns identified as the Devil and accuser in Revelation 12, John sees in chapter 17 a scarlet (kókkinos crimson-colored) beast having 7 heads and 10 horns, and full of names of blasphemy. We also see the beast of chapter 13 with 7 heads and 10 horns with 10 crowns with names of blasphemy. There is some interesting nuance in the difference of the crowns and the times being represented by this symbology of the Dragon.
  - Revelation 17 is an overview of the history of the dragon that goes back to the beginning of Israel's time in Jerusalem. The 7 heads and 10 horns are mentioned without crowns.
  - Revelation 12 is a specific identifying and association of the 7 heads and 10 horns of the Dragon to the Devil and the 7 heads have 7 crowns. As we will see, this ties the Dragon at those times in history to the kingship of those heads of the Dragon.
  - Revelation 13 is focused on the kingdom of the false christ, similar to Daniel's visions being focused on the time of the end and not the expanse of history. As we see in Revelation 17, the 10 horns are 10 kings that have no kingdom but receive power as kings for one hour with the beast. It is therefore fitting that they would have the crowns and not the 7 heads because the heads represent the dragon over time and are not in sight. This will be explained in a moment.
- As we will see, just as Christ was a representative of the Father, the false christ will be a representative of the Dragon and so the kingdom of the Dragon is synonymous with the kingdom the false christ will be ruling. However, the false christ is not equivalent with all the Dragon's 7 heads.
- The 7 Heads
  - In general symbolically, heads are representative of the leadership of the body. We see this in Christ being the head of the church, the husband the head of the household, and the idea of kings being the heads of kingdoms. But we're given some strange connections here that have caused many diverse views to be held. Let's take a logical walk through to see what this says about the heads of this dragon.
  - Revelation 17:9 "And here [is] the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth."
    - So the 7 heads are the 7 mountains and the harlot riding the beast is sitting on these mountains, or heads. They would seem to be two distinct things, heads and mountains, yet they are equated. We will address the harlot sitting on the mountains in a moment.
  - Revelation 17:10-11 "And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, [and] the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition."
    - □ While the 7 heads are explicitly stated to be 7 mountains, if we look at other passages about the 7 heads, it is clear that they are also related to the 7 kings.
    - Revelation 13:1, 3 "And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. ... And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast."
    - It is clear that one of the 7 heads, interpreted as a mountain explicitly in chapter 17, is also representative of this king that is killed and resurrected. So while the 7 heads are 7 mountains, there are 7 kings tied to these 7 mountains as well and therefore the 7 heads. More on the resurrection later.
  - So we have the seven heads associated with both seven mountains and seven kings.

This paints an incredible picture of the relationship of the Dragon and Israel throughout space-time.

- Space many look for a contemporaneous group of mountains together upon which the harlot sits, pointing to the seven hills of Rome or Jerusalem, but as covered a little previously we are told what this woman is and the harlot is Jerusalem. There is only one Mount Zion where Jerusalem sits.
  - <u>Revelation 17:18</u> "And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth."
  - If you search the Bible for "great city," you will find it 17 times in 17 verses.
    - ♦ Resen
      - Genesis 10:12 "And Resen between Nineveh and Calah: the same [is] a great city."
    - ♦ Gibeon
      - Joshua 10:2 "That they feared greatly, because Gibeon [was] a great city, as one of the royal cities, and because it [was] greater than Ai, and all the men thereof [were] mighty."
    - ♦ Ninevah
      - Jonah 1:2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me."
      - Jonah 3:2-3 "Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three days' journey."
      - Jonah 4:11 "And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and [also] much cattle?"
      - It's interesting that Yeshua compared the religious leaders in Jerusalem to Nineveh, another "great city." So even in the 4 references to Nineveh, it's connected by Yeshua in the parallel He makes to His 3 days in the heart of the earth after His coming crucifixion.
      - Matthew 12:39-41 "But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas [is] here."
    - ♦ Jerusalem
      - Jeremiah 22:8-9 "And many nations shall pass by this city, and they shall say every man to his neighbour, Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto this great city? Then they shall answer, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD their God, and worshipped other gods, and served them."
      - Revelation 11:7-8 "And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and

kill them. And their dead bodies [shall lie] in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified."

- Revelation 21:10 "And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,"
- ♦ Babylon
  - Revelation 14:8 "And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."
    - Ties this to Revelation 17 where we see Babylon connected to the whore that made the nations drunk with the wine of her fornication. Recall that from scripture, fornication, whoredom, and harlotry are synonymous with going after other gods. The nations are drunk on the wine of her fornication, they're caught up in the false christ. That harlot is sitting on Mount Zion where Jerusalem is.
  - Revelation 16:19 "And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath."
  - Revelation 17:18 "And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth."
  - **<u>Revelation 18:10-20</u>** "Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men. And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all. The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What [city is] like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate. Rejoice over her, [thou] heaven, and [ye] holy apostles and prophets; for God hath

avenged you on her."

- Revelation 16:19 and Revelation 18 all detail the destruction of Babylon, that great city.
- Matthew 23:33-39 "[Ye] serpents, [ye] generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and [some] of them ye shall kill and crucify; and [some] of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute [them] from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord."
- Yeshua passed judgement on the religious leaders of His day, dwelling in the center of Jewish religious life, Jerusalem.
- Luke 13:32-35 "And he said unto them, Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third [day] I shall be perfected. Nevertheless I must walk to day, and to morrow, and the [day] following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen [doth gather] her brood under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until [the time] come when ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord."
- Revelation 18:24 "And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth."
  - We have seen in that the blood of the prophets was in Jerusalem and Yeshua stated that it is not possible for a prophet to die outside Jerusalem.
- I will leave it to you whether you agree or not, but to me it seems pretty clear that the symbolic woman riding the beast is Jerusalem, that great city, atop Mount Zion.
- How is it that this harlot could represent Israel at all, isn't Israel the one persecuted in the end?
  - If you look at the early church, Yeshua was rejected and killed as were most of His disciples in the aftermath. Blasphemy laws given to them by God, and their lack of understanding of the nature of the Messiah, led to a fervent persecution of Christians at the beginning. It wasn't until 70 AD and following that the Jews were disbursed into the world and completely lost all agency as a nation and people.
  - □ **<u>Genesis 49:8-11</u>** "Judah, thou [art he] whom thy brethren shall

praise: thy hand [shall be] in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah [is] a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him [shall] the gathering of the people [be]. Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:"

- This was a prophecy of the Messiah, recognized as such by several Rabbis.
  - Rashi The scepter shall not depart from Judah: from David and thereafter. These (who bear the scepter after the termination of the kingdom) are the exilarchs (princes) in Babylon, who ruled over the people with a scepter, [and] who were appointed by royal mandate. — [From Sanh. 5a]
  - nor the student of the law from between his feet:
     Students. These are the princes of the land of Israel.
  - Intil Shiloh comes: [This refers to] the King Messiah, to whom the kingdom belongs (שָׁלוֹ), and so did Onkelos render it: [until the Messiah comes, to whom the kingdom belongs]. According to the Midrash Aggadah, ["Shiloh" is a combination of] עַׁי לו a gift to him, as it is said: "they will bring a gift to him who is to be feared" (Ps. 76:12)
- Note here that Jacob, or Israel, prophecies of the foal and ass's colt Yeshua would ride into Jerusalem on lamb selection day on. He also prophesied the vesture dipped in blood.
- After 70 AD, Israel no longer had any land in which to rule, or kings or princes with which to rule it. It was from this understanding of the prophecy of Jacob for Judah that Rabbinical tradition and the Oral Law were established to interpret what they missed. The truth is that the Messiah did come, just not how they expected Him to and they missed Him and were blinded to understanding after and judged to destruction and dispersion into the world while the Gospel went to the Gentiles.
- Not relying on scripture, but rather mens' interpretation of it, is an opening for deception. Especially since the men who were interpreting the Tanakh were blinded. Now the blind are leading the blind and still waiting for the Messiah to come.
- When one comes in his own name and Israel receives him because he comes promoting return to the Mosaic Law, defeats Israel's enemies, and brings the world to worship at Jerusalem as they expect the Messiah to do, will they be fervent followers? In their deception how would they react to those who reject the Messiah and say he is a false god? What are the dictates of God to Israel regarding blasphemy? In their deception will they be able to properly determine that Jews and Christians that reject the false christ are truly blaspheming? Will they care if they think their Messiah has come with signs and lying wonders to deceive the elect? This is how it happens, slowly over time and then all at once.

This is why those in Judea are warned to run to the mountains when they see the abomination of desolation. This is the shifting point of the remainder of the 70th week of Daniel and the start of great tribulation when the dragon uses his little horn to go after those who reject him. It won't just be the children of Israel though, the world will be drunk on the wine of her fornication and they will also join her in hunting down those who would reject him. However, this false christ utopia won't last forever.

- So the harlot rides the beast, sitting on 7 mountains. The harlot is Jerusalem and there is only one Jerusalem, which sits on only one Mount Zion. So what's with the 7 mountains then?
- Time That's where time comes in, because these seven heads are not just mountains, but they are also implied to be 7 kings. The heads being kings would fit with the idea of the head being leadership of the body. At the time of John's vision in 95 AD, five are fallen and one is. During the first century, Rome controlled Jerusalem politically while the Scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees, and all the religious leadership ruled the spiritual side of Israel, the priesthood. That there were 5 previous to John indicates time.
- So similarly to Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 2, which we will cover in part 2, we are given a definitive identity of one of the heads and the king of the nation it represents.
- Now whether the mountain tied to a king represents a singular king at a specific point in time or just the idea of a kingdom through time headed by multiple kings through the life of that kingdom could be debated. Trying to peg one particular king, let alone priesthood, for each of these heads or mountains introduces a lot of speculation and requires that a very short period of time be referenced.
  - Rome had many rulers over the time it controlled Jerusalem. Domitian was emperor in 95 AD when John had this vision and said one head is, but by that point Jerusalem had been destroyed 25 years earlier when Vespasian was emperor. The city remained on Mount Zion, but Israel was gone from it for the most part, however Rome still technically ruled it. Tiberius was emperor 65 years earlier at the crucifixion and Augustus at Christ's birth, but in the vision at what point should the king be represented?
  - Alexander the Great is represented as a great horn on the goat in Daniel 8:5, "behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes." This is interpreted in Daniel 8:21 "And the rough goat [is] the king of Grecia: and the great horn that [is] between his eyes [is] the first king." So we see here the idea that the goat itself is the king of Greece yet the great horn is the first king. This would seem to imply that the body itself is representative of a period of kings and not one in particular, that is handled by the horn on the goat. The kings of a distinct kingdom exist. When this great horn is broken, 4 notable ones come up after it. We also see a parallel little horn come up out of one of the 4. It seems the horns more representative of their kingdom throughout the various kings that exist.
  - Medo-Persia is represented as a ram with two horns in Daniel 8:3, "a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last." This is interpreted in Daniel

8:20 "The ram which thou sawest having [two] horns [are] the kings of Media and Persia." We know from history that Media came first, then Persia grew stronger than it. In this case the lesser horn of the Medes would be hard to pin down to a particular king, but the last Median king fell against Cyrus the Great, who was notable and conquered the Babylonian Empire.

- While Daniel 8 is not a direct association with John's vision, we see the idea that the individual kings are more represented by the horns while the body or beast is the kingdom.
- We may have a hint later that it's more of a kingdom representative when looking at the horns on the head.
- Even so, it may not be that relevant who the exact kings were at the exact time because that is all history to us. What is ultimately relevant to us is that future king tied to that future period involving Jerusalem on Mount Zion when the Dragon will finally be allowed to have his kingdom and receive his worship through his false christ coming with deception and lying signs and wonders and leading to the eternal destruction of all who believe him. In this future case, a lot of these symbols are synonymous to the false christ who we won't necessarily be able to identify until he returns Israel to the Mosaic Law and is crowned as a king by Israel and changes the times and laws accordingly.
- Throughout Israel's history, when she was following God, He was with her and protected her. But when she turned away to other gods, God removed His presence from Israel's midst and judged her with the nations of the earth that were the Dragon's portion.
- And so the 7 heads not only represent a physical place, Mount Zion where the city of Jerusalem sits, but 7 periods in time in which Jerusalem sits there. Additionally those 7 periods of Jerusalem's presence on Mount Zion are connected to 7 kings at those times.
- The idea of Israel having a king and priest is where I think this comes into play, it divides political control from religious control. This is something Yeshua will take back as both our High Priest and King during His kingdom and into eternity.
  - These 7 heads would seem to represent political control equated to the Jerusalem at various times in the prophetic timeline of God dealing with Israel while she was in Jerusalem. Each head had a crown in Revelation 12 and since these heads are attached to the Dragon, it makes sense that these kings/kingdoms that control Jerusalem politically at various points in history would be non-Israeli or Gentile kingdoms. But it's important to clarify that they are actually kingdoms controlled spiritually by the mystery of iniquity who works under the Dragon's power. This means the heads don't have to be Gentile, they just have to be under the control of the Dragon since the heads are on the Dragon, who is identified as the Devil. And as we will see later and in the <u>Man of Sin: False Christ</u> study, the false christ explicitly receives his power from the Dragon, so it doesn't really matter where he comes from or what kingdom he leads, he's the head of the Dragon for that time period.
  - □ Throughout scripture Jerusalem is identified both as God's holy mountain and spiritually as Sodom, Egypt, and Babylon. When taking the idea of the faithful and unfaithful woman prophetically to account, cities that aren't inhabited are desolate and so it follows that the city upon the mountain is identified by who inhabits it. So the woman sitting on this mountain, or Jerusalem, would seem to indicate then the religious presence in the nation of Israel in Jerusalem at these times, the priesthood. The only real control they had over their nation while under the political thumb of foreign rulers was the keeping of the Law when

allowed to do so. That she is seen riding the Dragon on these mountains gives us insight to the nature of the history and end times these visions are providing. From the historical record and Biblical depictions of these times it seems clear that Israel was typically in a state of apostasy when God was not with them, and were defeated and subjugated by their enemies when without God.

- This also would define the heads and mountains as only existing at times Israel was in Jerusalem. This would explain the 2,000 year gap in time from the first century to modern times, from the 6th head to the 7th head. It also limits the time frame of the first 6 heads to being between the time Israel conquered Jerusalem to 70 AD. It is also why Bible prophecy didn't make much sense until Israel existed again.
- It is also important to differentiate the symbolic and timeless image of the 7-headed dragon with the beast. The 7-headed Dragon only has 7 heads simultaneously in the eternal sense of understanding the mystery of iniquity, the Devil's control, deception, and manipulation through history. When we zoom into particular prophecies covering specific events in time, specifically of the end, we are only looking at the dragon with one head, that which is alive at that time being depicted. Remember, in John's day 5 are fallen and one is. Therefore, if we were to look at the dragon at that point in time without the eternal perspective, it is a single-headed dragon, that of Rome politically controlling Jerusalem while the apostate leadership worked to bring about the Dragon across time.
- So as we look through history and the future later in this study, we know that the heads represent kingdoms at various points in time controlling Jerusalem politically and the harlot riding those mountains at those same points in time would seem to represent times of apostasy since she is described as a harlot. It would also seem to indicate that the harlot represented times of apostasy when the apostate leadership was killing the faithful of God's people such as the prophets God was sending. This also tells us that while the faithful woman Israel is represented in Revelation 12 attacked by the Dragon the harlot is riding, the unfaithful harlot is also representative of Israel in Jerusalem through history and at a time in the future working in league with the Dragon whether they realize it or not.

#### o 10 horns

- It is with the 10 horns that Daniel and John's visions converge in describing different periods in time of the same Dragon. But why does Daniel only see the 10 horns on a beast and not the seven heads? As we will see, Daniel's visions covers the political climate leading up to, and of, the 7/8th head. John introduces the symbology of the seven heads, looking from an eternal perspective, but also focused on the same time of the end as Daniel, which are on the 7/8th heads of the dragon/beast representing the false christ.
- The prophetic symbology of a horn as a king fits with both the idea of a horn that grows from an animal as well as a horn that is blown in that the shofar is also seen throughout scripture, created from the horn of an animal and used to blow for battle, alarm, and at appointed times. We also see the idea of the voice of the trumpet and the king of a kingdom is the voice of the kingdom over which he rules. This is first introduced in **Exodus 19:16-19** when Israel arrived at Sinai around Shavuot after the Exodus and the trumpet of God waxed louder and louder until God spoke to the people. And so when we see the symbolic idea of horns used on beasts to represent kings, it is the leadership and voice of the kingdom of which the horn leads.
  - Hebrews 12:18-19 "For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which [voice] they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any

more:"

- Revelation 1:10-11 "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send [it] unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea."
- Revelation 4:1 "After this I looked, and, behold, a door [was] opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard [was] as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter."
- Daniel 7:1-7 "In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, [and] told the sum of the matters. Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. The first [was] like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and [it had] three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. After this I beheld, and Io another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it. After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns."
  - Daniel sees 4 beasts, each diverse from each other. These 4 are not historical in nature as they all exist at the same time.
    - We know this because the 4th beast is diverse from those that were before it. The word before is not in terms of time, but rather space, like saying someone stood before the king. The other three are in the presence of the fourth all existing at the same time.
    - Daniel 7:11-12 "I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld [even] till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time."
    - The 4th beast is destroyed, but the rest of the beasts "had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time." This confirms that they coexisted at the same time that the fourth was destroyed at the same time the other 3 are allowed to live on for a season and time.
  - It is important to recognize that while they coexist, they are diverse from each other. As we will see, that is not always the case and they will soon be unified in support of the Dragon and as part of it. This is in agreement with the world worshipping the beast and the Dragon as well as being drunk on the wine of the harlot's fornication.
    - <u>Revelation 13:4</u> "And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?"
  - Daniel 7:17 "These great beasts, which are four, [are] four kings, [which] shall arise out of the earth."
    - Kings are the heads of kingdoms and we're told each of these four are

kings. The first three beasts are given symbolic descriptions that I don't feel we can rightly determine at this time, but I'm sure it will become clear in the future. What is clear that the type of animals used to describe each of these turns up again in John's vision.

- ♦ Lion
- ♦ Bear
- ♦ Leopard
- Dreadful beast with iron teeth and 10 horns
- Note that the 10 horns are all on the fourth beast. As we are looking at a beast apart from the other 7 heads, it would indicate one of the points in time of the Dragon, in other words it is after the 6th head has fallen at the time of John's vision, Rome. We know that this is speaking of the future 7/8th head of the false christ's kingdom because these heads are the only ones left in the prophecy not fallen. Given this is tied to Israel being in Jerusalem, this also eliminates the 7th head being at any time before 1948 and realistically at any point up until now since Israel is not actually in control of all Jerusalem or even able to go to where the temple was.
- The end of the false christ and false prophet is when Christ returns to establish His Messianic Kingdom on the earth.
  - Revelation 19:20 "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone."
- Daniel 7:8 "I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn [were] eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things."
  - Daniel 7:20 "And of the ten horns that [were] in his head, and [of] the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even [of] that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look [was] more stout than his fellows."
  - Daniel 7:21, 25 "I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; ... And he shall speak [great] words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."
  - Daniel 7:24 "And the ten horns out of this kingdom [are] ten kings [that] shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings."
    - Now on the 4th beast, which is itself defined as a king, we have these 10 horns that are also stated to represent 10 kings within the 4th king/kingdom beast. This clues us in that this is no normal kingdom, this would be more akin to some kind of shared regional governance. So it would seem that the four beasts may not be individual kingdoms headed by a king, but rather regional governance headed by an oligarchy of some kind.
    - Another 11th horn arises after them that is diverse from the 10 and subdues 3 of them.
    - These 11 horns remain on the 4th dreadful beast representing 1 of 4 kings coexisting at the same time in history at the end.
- Based on the depiction, my personal interpretation would be that these 4 contemporaneous kings represented by the 4 beasts and other descriptors are

representative of a future state of global governance where governing power is consolidated to the 4 corners of the earth. This wouldn't necessarily be a restructuring of the current borders of the world, but what we already know to be happening with global governance. A collection of nation states that enter into agreements with each other to govern in some way in a similar fashion. This can be for financial, defense, or anything else that might unite groups. Some kind of NATO, BRICS, Abraham Alliance, etc. My guess would be that it would be unlike any kind of alliance we have today or a change from existing alliances today.

- So within 1/4 of political power on the earth, at one point in time, there will be 10 kings. A little king will rise up among the 10 and subdue 3 of them. Clearly this little king is not little in terms of power since he is obviously more powerful than at least 3 of the 10 horns he rises in the midst of. So if the horn represents the king, then the size must represent the size of his kingdom. The 10 horns would seem to be similar as they are not described as diverse from each other and indeed are allied in control of 1/4 of the earth.
- □ The little horn, on the other hand, is diverse from the 10 and smaller than they are. This diversity could represent their size of the kingdoms, but given the centrality of Israel in Bible prophecy and the little horn representing the false christ, this 1/4 of the earth is clearly in the Middle East. If you look also at the religious diversity in the Middle East, there is a very clear diversity between Israel and all the surrounding neighbors.
- John Revelation 13 & 17
  - Revelation 13:1-2 "And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as [the feet] of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority."
    - Again we see the idea that the Dragon is behind the power of the false christ, and indeed the Dragon has been around long before his end-time kingdom, influencing and controlling Jerusalem through history. Yet we see this 7-headed Dragon represented by the false christ, the beast, as the 7/8th head.
    - What is also telling is that the same animals Daniel saw in chapter 7 as separate and diverse are seen united into one beast in John's vision of the false christ's kingdom.
      - ♦ like unto a leopard
        - <u>Habakkuk 1:8</u> "Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves: and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly as the eagle [that] hasteth to eat."
      - his feet were as the feet of a bear
      - ♦ his mouth as the mouth of a lion
      - ♦ Beast with 10 horns
    - We know the 7/8th heads are at a future time from Daniel's vision after the 6th head has fallen, and also have the 10 horns. The four beasts of Daniel 7 represent four separate and diverse kings, the 4th of which has the 10 horns that are representative of 10 kings. We see these same animals from Daniel's separate beasts combined in the 8th head, which is the Dragon and false christ's kingdom at the end.
      - ♦ As mentioned before, I believe Daniel's vision in chapter 7 provides

us a view of the political climate in the world leading up to the false christ's kingdom when governance is divided into the 4 corners of the world. This would either be from before the beginning of the 70th week to the midst of the week or coincide with the first half of the week.

- John's vision gives us a view of the political climate after the abomination of desolation in the false christ's kingdom when all the world, the other 3 beasts and the 10 horns, gives over their power to the beast and joins the woman riding the beast in drinking the wine of the wrath of her fornication.
- Revelation 13:4 "And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?"
  - It's not terribly surprising that we would see these 4 diverse beasts joined into the Dragon at the end given the Dragon, who gives the beast his power and authority, is worshipped by the world and the world gives their power to the false christ.
    - This is an example of an association that makes sense in context. There are 4 animal symbols Daniel describes as coexisting yet diverse, but John sees joined together under the 4th beast with 10 horns, the 11th given power for 42 months. This shows a political progression from diversity to unity once the Dragon gives the false christ his power and authority and the world worships them both, gives him their power, and participates in the drunkenness on the blood of the saints. After the fourth beast is destroyed, the other 3 beasts are allowed to continue. We know that the Messianic Kingdom will have the world making pilgrimages to Jerusalem during Yeshua's thousand year reign, and it would seem that the false christ was attempting to portray this as being fulfilled during his reign.
    - There are views that attempt to associate these 4 beasts with various other things such as Daniel 2 and matching up the animals to Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. However, so much personal interpretation is required to try and fit it together and so many problems arise that you have to be an expert at rabbit holes to try and make sense of it and even then there is much debate on all the personal interpretations.
    - I prefer to limit association to what is scripturally relevant and makes logical sense. These two passages are the only ones where all these animals are coexistent and the progression of prophecy into the false christ's kingdom makes sense in context.
- Revelation 17:12-18 "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him [are] called, and chosen, and faithful. And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which

reigneth over the kings of the earth."

- The angel interprets the 10 horns as 10 kings. This is just how these 10 are interpreted for Daniel on the 4th beast. Now we see the four diverse beasts combined during the reign of the Dragon through his false christ united as one and the 10 horns are part of that.
- There are still 4 corners of the earth under control, but that control has been given to the little horn that arose among the 10 horns in that corner of the earth, the Middle East.
- These 10 kings don't have a kingdom yet, but receive power as kings for a short time with the beast, the little horn that is the 8th head of the kingdom of the Dragon. And they give their power to the beast.
- These 10 make war with the Lamb, but are overcome by Him.
  - This may point to the end time deception also reinterpreting Islamic eschatology such that the Dajjal currently viewed as Israel and the West by radical Islam will be changed to view the returning Yeshua as the Dajjal who all the world will be gathered against.
  - This would explain the gathering that happens just before Christ's return at Armageddon when He defeats the gathered armies and casts the false prophet and false christ into the lake of fire.
- What is interesting is that these 10 horns also hate the whore riding the beast representative of apostate Israel, yet God puts it in their hearts to give their kingdom to the beast, the little horn, the leader of Israel, until the Words of God are fulfilled. Then, when the Words of God are fulfilled, they make her desolate and naked and burn her with fire.
- This paints a picture of the false christ of Israel rising to power in the Middle East. 3 of the 10 Islamic nations rebel and he defeats them soundly. God puts it in the hearts of the 10 kingdoms to give themselves over to the false christ, but they still have hatred in their hearts toward Israel and once God's Word is fulfilled and His judgements are complete, they attack and destroy her with fire. Jerusalem the great city is called spiritually Egypt, Sodom, and Mystery Babylon and when her destruction comes in one day the world mourns over it.
- Keep in mind that Yeshua's first answer given to the disciples as covered in the <u>Olivet</u> <u>Discourse: Vision of the Future</u> study, is to not be deceived about someone claiming to be the Christ. It doesn't have to be the literal name Yeshua, but the anointed one (Christ).
- Also note that in the Middle East, where Jerusalem sits, there are many Islamic nations and only one Jewish nation. As we look at the symbology of the 10 horns and the little horn, keep in mind the representation of both many horns to one horn and consistent size amongst the 10 vs. the one little horn. How does this compare to the Middle East. We will see that the many horns give their power to the one little horn.
- If Yeshua is associating the deception with one coming in His stead as the anointed Messiah, Him being from the lineage of David, where would we expect to see a false christ arise from?
- Given these things, if the horns represent kings/kingdoms, what kingdom would the little horn most likely represent?
- The beast, the little horn, the false christ
  - Death & Resurrection: Rise of the False Christ's Kingdom
    - Revelation 13:3-4 "And I saw one of his [Dragon's] heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?"

- It is when the deadly wound is healed that the world wonders after the beast.
   And rightly so, for all the faith in the resurrection of Yeshua that Christians have, they have been mocked for millennia for that faith and the ridiculous idea of being able to die and come back to life.
- I believe this is why it's such a great deception, because it will be hard for a man recognized by the world as dead to come back to life and not crush the foundation of just about every religion and lack thereof in the world. Resurrections don't just happen.
- Revelation 17:8 "The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit[G12 - abyssos], and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."
  - Here we have an indication of what we will see in Revelation 13, the idea of a mortal wound that is healed, when one of the heads of the beast was, is not, yet is. It is this event that makes the world wonder after the beast.
  - We also have an indication mirroring the idea of Christ at His death going to the heart of the earth for 3 days and nights when this beast ascends out of the bottomless pit. In a sphere, the only place where there is no bottom is at the center because every direction from there is up, the heart of the earth.
    - <u>Romans 10:6-7</u> "But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down [from above]:) Or, Who shall descend into the deep[G12 abyssos]? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)"
  - □ This may also indicate who is behind the death of <u>*The Two Witnesses*</u> covered in the next study.
- <u>Daniel 11:45</u> "And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."
  - In addition we will see in Daniel 11, the false christ coming to his end. This is followed immediately by the unparalleled tribulation we know to be tied to the <u>abomination of desolation</u> covered in that study.
- Transition to power
  - Revelation 13:5-8 "And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty [and] two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."
    - It is just after the mortal wound is healed that the world wonders after the beast, the next verses depicts his rule for 42 months and his power over the saints to overcome them as well as his power over the whole earth. The whole world not written in the Lamb's book of life will worship the beast, the false christ. For the world it will be a false utopia, for the saints it will be great tribulation.
  - Daniel 12:1 "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation [even] to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."
    - □ There were originally no chapter breaks and verses, and the very next verse after the false christ comes to his end without help at Jerusalem we see one of the depictions of unparalleled tribulation.

- 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 "And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: [Even him], whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness."
  - Tied to the revealing of the false christ, God sends a strong delusion that the world would believe a lie. What is that lie? It's clearly tied around claims by the false christ up to this point in time when he is killed and resurrected. He is coming after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders. But if he is dead, his story would be over without God's intervention. The lie then, would seem to be tied to his claims.
  - □ While we don't know directly what those claims might be, we will see that this false christ is doing things on behalf of Israel, defeating her enemies in plucking 3 of the 10 horns around her, as I believe is depicted in **Daniel 11:40-44**, which will be covered in greater detail in the *Man of Sin: False Christ* study. Israel is looking for the Messiah, they are currently feeling backed into a corner with the vocal minority of the world hating her, governments pressuring her, enemies attacking and killing her. The prophecies of the Messiah coming to defeat Israel's enemies and setup a kingdom where the world would come to Jerusalem and be at peace is a strong desire by the people. What will happen when that appears to be coming to pass? When lying signs and wonders accompany a strong man doing many of those very things? When that man is killed, but then comes back to life? How many would believe he is god when he is resurrected?
- At this future point, we're long past the 6th head existing from back in Roman times in the first century so we know this is talking about the 7th head, the false christ. He doesn't just suddenly arrive and the world worships him, there is a period of time when he rises to prominence. We see this in the little horn that comes up among the 10 and in the idea of the 7th head becoming the 8th.
- The 8th Head
  - So why is there an eighth head mentioned if all these symbolic representations are 7 heads and 10 horns?
  - Revelation 17:10-11 "And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, [and] the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition."
  - The 7th head comes after the 6th, which is Rome that has fallen now, and while the 7th continues for only a short time, he is tied to the death and resurrection of the beast. The beast is the representative of the Dragon at a particular point in time that can't be historical because these events have not yet happened. Furthermore, the surrounding events tied to this time of the abomination of desolation when the false christ rises to power have clearly not happened. These will be covered more in the rest of the studies.
  - The Dragon's seven heads represent seven Dragon kingdoms through history controlling Jerusalem politically. The future seventh head exists for only a short time and when that head, or king, is killed and comes back again it will represent a new king of a different kind of kingdom, yet similar, that is related to the previous seven, the eighth head.
  - In each of the 6 cases previously, Israel lived in the land while they were seemingly not in control of their own political system. They were also a religious nation practicing in

Jerusalem at some point while controlled politically by the Dragon's heads.

- While Israel is back in the land, they are a secular nation. As was covered in greater detail in the <u>Daniel's 70 Weeks</u> study, it seems clear that with the confirming or strengthening of an existing covenant, the clock on Israel and Jerusalem's 70 weeks prophecy will be started again. This would make sense if this symbology of the woman requires the religious aspect to be present. We saw that the starting of the first 69 weeks was tied to Ezra teaching the statutes for accurate temple ministry to a temple that was already built for years before, but it wasn't being managed according to the statutes God had given Israel. When Israel as a nation turns back to the God of their fathers according to the Law given at Sinai, as they are blinded to the reality of Yeshua being their Messiah, all the pieces will be in place.
- If this is the case, for a short 3.5 year period, Israel will return to the Mosaic law and rebuild the tabernacle or temple in some form. While they may not be under Gentile control politically at that time, the false christ will represent the Dragon directly as his political head over Israel while the religious system sits in Jerusalem so the kingdom in political control doesn't need to be Gentile, it is the Dragon's false christ. This is the great deception that leads to apostasy before the revealing of the man of sin, the false christ.
- At the abomination of desolation in the midst of that week, the false christ will receive a mortal wound that is healed and in his resurrection declare himself god in the temple, stopping the daily sacrifice and becoming the 8th head, directly empowered by the Dragon, cast out of heaven and with a short time. He will essentially be making the statement that temple ministry is no longer required because he is god. Did they not see him rise from the dead? What is the purpose of the temple but relationship with God, now god is among them.
- This makes sense in terms of the first kingdom beginning in a deception to return to the Mosaic Law and rebuild the temple to build the bonafides of a false messiah in the eyes of the people. The point after he dies and is resurrected, he takes the mantle of god in that same vein and while his kingdom is still the same in terms of the people, it is now existent under different terms. So in this way the 7th and 8th heads are the same kingdom and same king, but transitioned from whispers of messiah to full-blown acceptance of a false messiah and acceptance by the world and not just Israel. From this point forward, failure to accept him as such is a death sentence.
- Sound familiar? It should because that is what a false christ does, takes a little bit of truth with a ton of lies so the whole is accepted and deception is planted. Everything the Dragon's puppets do are couched in true events that did or will happen and point to Yeshua, but are stolen to take advantage of the blindness of Israel to deceive them into accepting him as the messiah. The Devil didn't have to have God's ability to foretell events in prophecy, he just has to deceive a blinded people to think he's the fulfillment of those prophecies.
- The deception will be strong indeed. There will be a resurrection from a mortal wound, fire called from heaven, undefeatable army of fervent followers who believe they are ushering in the Messianic Kingdom on earth. The whole world will wonder after the beast, the Jews first and then the Gentiles. The Gentiles, seeing the supernatural power and fervency of the followers of the false christ, will become drunk on the wine of her fornication. The world will be deceived into thinking the messianic kingdom has arrived, those not found in the book of life.
- This is why I take the study of Bible prophecy seriously. Not only are we told to watch and given the tools to do so, but the enemy of mankind is actively plotting for our destruction and if we aren't watching and aware, we risk falling into the deception. Even those who call themselves Christians and don't know how Yeshua said He would return might fall for this because he will seem to come falling on the side of justice and bringing peace. The false christ is not coming with horns, we'll see no great red dragon, let's not forget that

symbology in prophecy is just that.

- Right now the world seems upside down. Good is evil and evil is good, crime is rampant and in many places nothing is done about it so it grows, laws that were enforced are ignored for some while strongly enforced for others and the list could go on. Chaos is instability and instability breeds anxiety and the more that grows, the more desperate people will be for a solution. Don't forget the mystery of iniquity is already at work and he knows how to manipulate mankind, he's been doing it since the garden of Eden. He's playing both sides of the chess board and most people don't even know they're the pawns. One side has grown into a particular frame of mind and can't understand the other side and visa versa. The side are pitted against each other sowing chaos and the Dragon playing both sides against each other knows all the moves to make to get to his endgame. The Dragon has created the enemies he needs to defeat in order to setup his deception and it will bring about a time of war, but to the end of peace with the chaos agents removed from the board.
- What I take comfort in is the fact that God is also playing a game of chess from outside space and time. The Dragon's whole board is but a pawn on God's board and we know his end is coming. With that end will come the true fulfillment of the prophecies being used to deceive the world, the Messianic Kingdom. Through much refining and fire, the part of mankind that chooses to align with God's ways of love will enter into eternity with Him forever and this will all be a distant memory and reminder of why God is just and good.
- Review of Identities
  - Faithful Woman
    - **The woman is Israel** The symbology of the woman can be tied back to a vision of Joseph pointing that symbology to their family and their father Jacob, Israel.
    - Messiah born of the woman The woman gives birth to a "man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron" and the dragon waiting to devour the Messiah at His birth fails. In a flash the prophecy covers Yeshua's whole first coming as he is caught up to the throne of God after His resurrection. This keeps the focus on the faithful woman in this prophecy while recognizing Israel as the figurative mother of the Messiah.
    - Dragon wants our destruction The fact that the Dragon is after the woman's child and not the woman at that time may hint at the motivation of the Dragon, stopping God's plan of redemption. Once that failed and it was too late, it is about destroying God's people either outright or through deception to lead them into destruction with him.
    - Dragon hates the woman There is a war in heaven and the Dragon and his angels are cast to the earth with very little time before the end. The first thing they do is go after faithful Israel and attempt to wipe her out. But God saves a remnant into the wilderness where she is protected from the Dragon. As we will see in the <u>Great</u> <u>Tribulation</u> and <u>Framework of the End</u> studies, this point is critical to understanding the nuances of what many generalize when talking of the great tribulation.
    - Dragon has a history of hatred of the woman In the context of Revelation 12, we see this relationship of spiritual hatred of faithful Israel by the Dragon throughout history, and as we will see, the symbolic heads and horns with crowns play very much into the historical narrative of this relationship between the Dragon and Israel both in history and our future.
    - Dragon hates those holding the testimony of Christ In the <u>Natural Israel & Spiritual</u> <u>Israel</u> study, we looked at Romans 11, where this is represented by the natural and wild olive trees. There we see the idea of a special natural olive tree as opposed to the wild kingdoms of this world in the natural. We're told that the root of that special olive tree is Chirst. But this is also a vision of the eternal kingdom of heaven. In the world in past times, God led His portion, Israel, though they constantly walked away from Him. In the image we see this represented by the natural branches broken off in unbelief. For the nations that were not God's portion, the Gentiles, we see the

promise in Yeshua's death and resurrection that the wild branches would be grafted on in belief.

- Revelation 12 woman is faithful Israel This woman as referred to throughout Revelation 12 is therefore representative of faithful Israel, remaining true to God and therefore hated by the Dragon.
- The 4 beasts
  - 4 beasts focused on end times, not history Daniel sees a vision of four beasts with characteristics of a lion, bear, leopard, and iron-toothed 10 horned beast. Note that there are not 7 heads because Daniel is seeing a particular point in time.
  - **4 beasts are contemporaneous** Each beast is distinct from each other and the first 3 beasts stand before, in the presence of, the 4th terrible beast.
  - 4 beasts are part of Dragon in the end These 4 are seen unified into the beast of John's vision such that each of these animals coexist on the same Dragon. This vision is of the false christ kingdom in the spirit of the Dragon, operating in his power and authority.
  - 4 beasts give their power to the false christ Since Daniel sees these 4 as distinct from each other and John sees them unified with the false christ kingdom, they gave their power to the beast, Daniel's vision is providing clues of the political climate of the 4 beasts representing the 4 corners of the world leading up to the kingdom of the false christ during the 2nd half of the 70th week. It is then when they give over their power to him and become part of the Dragon's kingdom in various ways.
  - 4 beasts are political control of 4 corners of the earth John's vision sees the whole world worshipping the beast and the Dragon that gave the beast his power and they give their power to the beast. Since we see what were 4 distinct beasts become unified into one Dragon, it would make sense that these are meant to represent the whole world and therefore symbolize global governance by 4 distinct political alliances, or kingdoms, between nations covering the 4 corners of the earth.
  - 4th beast is the region of the Middle East 1/4 of that kingdom, with the 10 horns, is in the Middle East where Israel and the surrounding Islamic Arab nations lie.
- Dragon
  - **7 heads and 10 horns** The Dragon is identified throughout prophecy as having 7 heads and 10 horns.
  - Red Dragon The Dragon is identified as both red like fire and crimson.
  - The 7 heads are 7 kings with crowns signifying royalty
    - □ **7 heads through time** As of John's writing during Rome's rule, 5 heads were fallen, 1 is, 1 is to come for a short time. This requires the 7 heads of the dragon representing the passage of time, a kind of eternal lens through which to view the Dragon.
    - 7 heads do not coexist in temporal form This also requires understanding that all 7 heads do not coexist at any one time on this dragon. It is a spiritual vision presenting an historical truth. At each point in time, there would only be one head representing the Dragon as the previous 6 have fallen as of today, leaving only the 7/8th to come. Viewed from outside of time, where John presumably was, the Dragon has 8 heads.
    - Mystery of iniquity is across space and time This shows how the mystery of iniquity is not tied to any one nation or person in the world, it is fluid and influences across time and space where it can to bring about the Dragon's plans. It is working to build anticipation and use deception and the teachings of men to the end that the man of sin will be revealed and deceive the nations. It was already at work when Paul wrote his letters to the Thessalonians.
    - Only heads remaining are 7/8th heads controlled by the dragon As of the time of John's vision, the 6th head was present and since Rome fell, so did that head. There is a future 7th head coming in the spirit of the Dragon. Historically

the heads have been Gentile kingdoms, but that is not a rule. The rule is that the leadership, or heads, of these kingdoms are influenced by the Dragon as they are attached to him. Regardless of what nation it is, the false christ will arrive in the spirit of the Dragon with his power and authority.

- The 7 heads are also 7 mountains
  - 7 heads in space Because the 7 mountains and 7 heads are tied together, each mountain also exists across time, meaning there are not 7 contemporaneous mountains, but rather one mountain viewed at 7 points in history and the future. So it exists in one space across time, and the woman sitting upon it is the harlot, Jerusalem. There is only one mountain where Jerusalem has sat across time, Mount Zion.
- The 10 horns
  - 10 horns only on 7/8th head John's vision was not of the 5 fallen and 1 present head, it was of the future beyond that point. This means only the 7/8th head is in view when looking at the beast. Therefore, the 10 horns are only on the 7/8th head.
  - □ **10 horns are similar to each other** There is no distinction made between the 10 horns, and they are on the same head of the Dragon.
  - 10 horns are kings of kingdoms within a kingdom The horns represent kings and kings lead kingdoms. Since the head is also considered a king, these 10 must be in some kind of alliance as kings of a regional kingdom.
  - 10 kings represent 1/4 of the earth In Daniel's vision, the 10 horns are just 1/4 of the beasts and if these beasts represent the 4 corners of the earth, then the terrible beast with iron teeth and 10 horns would represent rule of 1/4 of the earth.
  - 1 little horn distinct in size from the 10 An 11th little horn rises up among the 10. It is distinct from them in its size and the fact that it comes up after the 10 are present.
  - □ Little horn plucks 3 of the 10 The little horn plucks up 3 of the 10 horns by the roots and they fall before him. Daniel 11:40-12:1 speaks to the false christ at the time of the end defeating 3 enemies, explicitly naming Egypt and suggesting someone to the North and someone to the East.
    - Isaiah 17 would seem to be prophesying the destruction of Damascus, Syria, the longest continuously inhabited city in the world, because of the children of Israel. This is North of Israel.
    - We are also seeing Syria, Lebanon, and Gaza all allied with Iran to the East in the current war to destroy Israel.
  - □ Little kingdom, not little power The little horn is clearly not little in power, but since the horn represents a king and a king represents a kingdom, the size of the horn must be comparatively little to the other 10 horns he rises up amongst.
  - □ Little horn confirms covenant, stops daily sacrifice, declares himself god in the Jewish temple - We know that the little horn centers himself in Israel as he would seem to be behind the confirming of the covenant, rebuilding of the temple, and later declaring himself to be god in that temple. That the Jews are awaiting the Messiah to change the times and laws to bring Israel back to the Mosaic Covenant and rebuild the temple, defeating her enemies and bringing peace to the world should be an indication that the little horn is very Israelcentric. That the Jews are awaiting the Messiah that already came and the first thing Yeshua warned of are false christs, the pieces would seem to fit. Furthermore, Israel is a small nation among the surrounding Islamic Arabic nations. We don't yet see an alliance of 10, but I would expect to see that come together in that little corner of the world before the end comes.
  - □ Little king among 10 kings on head which is king The head represents a king as

well, but it has 10 kings sitting atop the king head. The little king rises among the 10 and is clearly representative of the false christ, who is the one whom the world worships. So the head being a king might more accurately represent a kingdom, or people, once ruled by alliances until the rise of the little horn who takes kingship of the head and allows the 10 kings to have power as kings for one hour with him. In this way in this earthly kingdom comprised of 11 kings, the little horn would be a king of kings, perhaps symbolic in his role as false christ attempting to deceive the world into accepting him as the messiah.

- 10 horns hate the harlot The 10 horns hate the harlot riding on the Dragon, but God puts it in their heart to fulfill His will until His will is fulfilled. At that point they turn on the harlot and destroy her with fire.
- Beast/dragon relationship
  - Dragon's body called beast has all features of diverse 4 beasts The Dragon's body is like a leopard with feet like a bear, mouth like a lion, and 10 horns at the future state of the kingdom of the false christ, the beast and so it represents the power of the Devil controlling the world.
  - □ Little horn represents Dragon at singular point in time after 6 heads are fallen -The little horn, a king, is in control of the head, a king, representing the Dragon is therefore a direct representative of the dragon as he is the only living head of the dragon in the end times.
  - 7th head is tied to beginning of 70th week The 7th head is tied to the confirmation of the covenant and the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel. It is also the breaking of the 1st seal when the rider of the white horse is given a crown, symbolizing royalty and kingship over a kingdom. He goes forth conquering and to conquer, which is the rise of the little horn on the 7th head to begin to take power and defeat the 3 horns. When he is done with that he comes back to Jerusalem where he comes to his end. The beast and 7th head are described in prophecy as was, is not, yet is and receiving a mortal headwound.
  - 8th head is tied to second half of 70th week The 8th head is tied to the moments after the same false christ who confirmed the covenant, built the temple, was given a crown, and conquered is killed and resurrected. He enters into the temple and declares himself to be god. This is the beginning of the kingdom of the false christ. It is a period of seeming peace and utopia in the world because they all give their power to him, but for those who resist, it is a time of great tribulation and death as the whole anti-terrorism infrastructure of the state around the world is turned on those who refuse to worship the beast.
  - The beast is the 8th head The Beast, unlike the 7-headed Dragon looking at his influence throughout time in relation to Israel, is referring to the periods of the 8th head.

Dragon is spirit behind the beast/man of sin/little horn/8th head -Prophetically this Dragon is referred to as a beast when focused on a particular point in the timeline at the end. Therefore the Dragon and beast are interchangeable at these times as the Dragon is the kind of spirit behind the beast that is the symbol of the false christ, the king of a small kingdom at first, but later a united world kingdom with the backing of the Dragon. We also see this when Daniel describes four contemporaneous and diverse beasts of particular species that are seen in John's vision mixed together as parts of the beast, which is spiritually the Dragon.

- Unfaithful Woman
  - The harlot is riding the dragon This implies that she is allied with the Dragon in that she has given up her will to go where the Dragon takes her.
  - The woman is sitting on the 7 mountains, which are also 7 heads The 7 heads exist

at 7 points in time and therefore so do the mountains. This means there is only one mountain at each point in time and the woman is sitting on all 7. She is therefore represented across time just as the heads are.

- The harlot is Jerusalem The woman is defined as that great city that rules the earth. This is also primarily associated with the Babylon of the end times, Nineveh, and Jerusalem. Jerusalem is the seat of the false christ and the world comes to worship him there, a kind of false messianic kingdom. Jerusalem is referred to as that great city as well as spiritually Sodom and Egypt where Yeshua was crucified. These all point to Jerusalem representing the woman riding the beast across time.
- Jerusalem inhabited by Israel is required for Bible prophecy A city is desolate unless inhabited, we see this when prophecy pauses when Israel is no longer functioning as God intended in Jerusalem. The clock for the final week of 7 years is tied to the confirming of the covenant, which would necessitate changing the times and laws of the modern state of Israel in order to keep the statutes they agreed to at Sinai.
- The harlot represents the priesthood leading the people It would follow then that the woman is actually representative of the priesthood of Israel, as opposed to the political heads, when they are in apostasy and alignment with the Dragon. They are not following God's statutes for them, they are going after other gods and playing the harlot wherever the Dragon leads them.
- The little horn, 70th week are connected to the first seal In the visions of Daniel and John of the end, the 7/8th heads have the 10 horns and the little horn comes up among them. This little horn is the king of a kingdom and we see when Yeshua breaks the first seal, a crown is given to the rider. This indicates that he does not take royal control of a kingdom, but is given it willingly. He then goes forth conquering and we see 3 of the 10 horns are plucked and fall before this little horn.
- The little horn is made king when given a crown The little king is not little in power so his kingdom must be little in comparison to the 10 kingdoms of the kings he rises up amidst. That the rider of the white horse is given a crown signifying royalty, it would seem that those who gave him the crown are his kingdom.
- False christ brings Israel back to Mosaic Covenant It would seem clear then that from the symbolic context of Bible prophecy that the false christ presents himself as the man to bring Israel back to the Mosaic Covenant, strengthening an existing covenant, and rebuild the temple so Israel can return to God. Jews are expecting the Messiah to rebuild the temple.
  - □ There is also an aspect discussed in greater detail in the <u>Man of Sin: False Christ</u> study that looks at the false prophet and the expectation of Jews of Elijah coming before Messiah.
- War will be triggered by confirming the covenant and all that goes with that As we saw with October 7, 2023, not everyone will rejoice over this and at least 3 of the surrounding 10 kings will respond in such a way that this new king must go defeat them. Jews are expecting the Messiah to defeat their enemies.
- Unfaithful harlot is the kingdom of the little horn This all seems to point to the unfaithful harlot riding the Dragon being the kingdom of the little horn. This man doesn't really care about Israel, he's just trying to deceive them into accepting him as the messiah. Against all odds, after defeating 3 of the 10 kings, the 10 kingdoms will fall in line and give their power over to the little horn because God puts it in their hearts to do His will until His wrath is complete. At that point the 10 horns will destroy the woman, which is Jerusalem, and Mystery Babylon. The world will be distraught, but Yeshua will soon return and defeat the gathered armies to earth.
- Conclusion
  - A lot of complicated theories about the interpretation of the symbology of Daniel and Revelation have been developed over the years. Associations with the number of beasts,

animals to historical kingdoms, and other things have led to many competing ideas that all seem to run into their own issues.

- Attempting to take each vision and address it within its own silo while dropping previous assumptions has led to a cohesive understanding. Furthermore, Attempting to only make associations that are very clear between the various visions to build an interconnected picture of the time these visions are depicting has made the whole study less complicated while not losing fidelity or granularity. I feel that this basic and simplistic approach has actually revealed valid interconnections that expand understanding without adding complications that often rely on personal interpretations. Through logical examination of what is related clearly, certain conclusions can be made that make sense and don't seem to conflict with other visions or timelines.
- As always, there may be something I missed so I am open to correction from scripture.
- What is even more amazing is how future studies of the <u>Seals, Trumpets, Bowls, The</u> <u>Restrainer, Man of Sin: False Christ, Abomination of Desolation, Great Tribulation</u>, and <u>Framework of the End</u> all addressed in similar fashion seem to echo the same narrative and sequence of prophetic events.
- In part 2: The History and Our Future, a more expansive view of each vision will be addressed, with less focus on the identities of the beast, Dragon, harlot, and faithful woman. Some will be review by necessity, but there will also be completely historically fulfilled prophecies examined while showing how these are actually foreshadows and mirrors of other prophecies about the future.

May God continue to bless you as you remain in Him.

## Associated studies

- Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel
- The Moedim: Appointed Times
- Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future
- Daniel's 70 Weeks
- The Two Witnesses
- <u>Seals, Trumpets, Bowls</u>
- Man of Sin: False Christ
- <u>Abomination of Desolation</u>
- Great Tribulation
- Framework of the End

## References

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# **Associated Dates**

# Tags

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# **Overview Part 2: The History and Our Future**

- Overview Chart walkthrough
  - Revelation 17 The Harlot and the Dragon in Jerusalem
  - Daniel 2 Babylon to the Messianic Kingdom
  - $\circ~$  Daniel 8 Abomination of Desolation Foreshadowed and Mirrored
  - Daniel 9 70 Weeks for Israel and Jerusalem
  - Daniel 11-12 Antiochus to False Christ
  - Daniel 7 Rise of the False Christ Kingdom
  - Revelation 13 The False Christ Kingdom
  - Revelation 18 The Unfaithful Harlot in Jerusalem and Her Judgement
  - Revelation 12 Faithful Israel
- Conclusion: Bringing it all together

# Details Part 2: The History and Our Future

- Overview Chart Go over the results of the chart developed in this study
  - Create less detailed chart of beasts between Daniel and John that can have detail verbally filled in. Will offer a visual shorthand to aid in understanding. Go into more detail on the history of the seven heads, etc.
- Having identified the main three players symbolized by the faithful woman, the unfaithful harlot, and the Dragon, It's time to broaden the scope of Daniel's and John's visions and how they fit in the timeline of history and our future. And now that the symbols are interpreted from the various chapters regarding these identities, the viewer can translate the symbology in a more quick walk through the history and future.
  - We will begin with the premise from Bible prophecy that the Dragon's 8 heads represent kings of kingdoms identified with the Dragon, who is the Devil, through history controlling Jerusalem on Mount Zion politically. Prophetically this Dragon is referred to as a beast when focused on a particular point in the timeline at the end. Therefore the Dragon and beast are interchangeable at these times as the Dragon is the kind of spirit behind the beast that is the false christ. We also see this when Daniel describes four beasts of particular species that are seen in John's vision mixed together as parts of the beast, which is spiritually the Dragon.
  - The harlot represents apostate Israel around these same periods when the religious nation was whoring after other gods, leading to the judgement of the scepter of self-rule being taken from them. In the context of Romans 11, these are the natural branches broken off in unbelief. These periods must begin after taking Jerusalem as the woman is present on Mount Zion throughout.
  - Through history it should be clear that the Dragon has been after Israel and hated her. The faithful woman is representative of those of Israel faithful to God and who reject the false christ and his Dragon master. More stated in prophecy, she was the mother of the Messiah who saved mankind and will in the future be attacked by the Dragon, his false christ, and his followers until her escape into the wilderness. We will also see the faithful woman more in Daniel 8 in response to some foreshadows of what is to come as she fights to remain faithful to God.
- We will examine the vision from scripture, the interpretation from scripture, and the possible historical fulfillment in the historical record where relevant.
- Revelation 17 The Harlot and the Dragon in Jerusalem

#### $\star \circ$ Need to do more work laying out the religious apostasy at the time

- As mentioned previously, the precision and detail of the history is not as relevant as the general idea of what the heads, mountains and harlot represent. This is fully my interpretation based on my limited knowledge of these times from the Old Testament and may not be accurate, they are just as close as I could come to seeing the historical fulfillment.
- **<u>Revelation 17:3, 9-10</u>** the Dragon's 7 heads are 7 mountains on which the woman sits and are 7 kings. 5 are fallen, 1 is, 1 is yet to come for a short time, the 1 that was and is not and is again is the 8th.
- <u>Vision</u>: I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet beast full of names of blasphemy, having 7 heads and 10 horns.
- Interpretation: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits and there are 7 kings, 5 are fallen, 1 is

- This can't be prior to the Exodus since Israel did not control Jerusalem and they weren't even in the land. I'm not sure this really fits either, it's the closest I could find with my lack of knowledge.
- <u>Political</u>: 985 BC Pharaoh Sheshonk I came against Jerusalem and took treasures of the temple and the king's house. 1 Kings 14:21-27 | 2 Chronicles 12:1-8
- <u>Religious</u>: I'm not sure the details of this, more research if this is even on point.
- Assyria Fallen
  - <u>Political North</u>: 734-715 BC Northern kingdom taken into captivity. 1 Chronicles
     5:25-26 | 2 Kings 15:27-29 | 2 Kings 17:1-6 | 2 Kings 18:11-12
  - <u>Political South</u>: 701 BC Assyrian ruler Sennacherib lays siege to Jerusalem, but it was not taken.
  - <u>Religious North</u>: Having separated from Judah and Benjamin in the South, they fall into apostasy and are judged.
  - <u>Religious South</u>: Judah also falls into apostasy and sees the result of her sister to the North, yet doesn't turn back to God.
- Babylon Fallen
  - <u>Political</u>: 586 BC Nebuchadnezzar II's Babylonian forces take Israel captive and destroy Jerusalem. Jeremiah 25:1-11
  - <u>Religious</u>: Having fallen into apostasy and not fulfilled their end of the Covenant they agreed to at Sinai, Jeremiah prophesies of the 70 years they will spend in captivity at Babylon.
- Medo-Persia Fallen
  - <u>Political</u>: 539 BC Persian Cyrus the Great conquers Babylonian Empire & Jerusalem (484-466 BC Ezra 4 and king in book of Esther)
  - <u>Religious</u>: Already in exile in Babylon when it is conquered, it isn't until 457/458 that Ezra returns and teaches the statutes so they can follow them in ministry at the rebuilt temple. This starts the clock for the 70 weeks of Daniel, but Medo-Persia is still the political head of the land.
- Greece Fallen
  - Diltical: 332 BC Alexander the Great conquers Judea and Jerusalem
  - <u>Religious</u>: During Antiochus IV Epiphanes time, there was apostasy in Israel trying to appease.
- Rome Is during John's vision
  - Delitical: 63 BC Roman General Pompey captures Jerusalem
  - <u>Religious</u>: Yeshua rails against the Scribes, Pharisees and Sadducees as hypocrites. The vocal minority convince Pilate to crucify Him in Jerusalem. Their lips speak, but hearts are far from God.
- <u>Interpretation</u>: the other is not yet come, and when he comes, he must continue a short space.

- Final Kingdom (The first half of the 70th week, 3.5 years)
  - Future 4 partitions of global governance of which 1 is described as having 10 kings. At some point in the transition from this 7th head to the 8th head, 3 of those 10 kings will be plucked up/fall before a little horn that comes up out of the 10. He will take control of all kingdoms.
  - <u>Political</u>: While not yet revealed, the little horn leading the woman is quite literally a head of the Dragon
  - <u>Religious</u>: While I believe some in Israel will sincerely be turning back to God as the Mosaic Covenant comes back into effect and the temple is rebuilt, the religious leadership will probably already be in the pocket of the false christ, or very easily convinced to be, believing he is the Messiah.
- Interpretation: The beast that was and is not, he is the 8th and is of the seven and goes into perdition. The 10 horns are 10 kings that received no kingdom yet, but receive power as kings for 1 hour with the beast. These 10 have one mind and give their power and strength to the beast. They will make war with the Lamb who will overcome them. The 10 horns will hate the whore and make her desolate and naked and will eat her flesh and burn her with fire. God has put it in their hearts to fulfill His will and give their kingdom to the beast until the words of God are fulfilled. The woman is that great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth.
  - False Christ Kingdom (False Messianic Kingdom) When the mortal wound is healed it begins (abomination of desolation)
    - <u>Political</u>: This future king and kingdom, the 7th head, has an interesting divergence that would seem to harmonize with Daniel 7's account of the fourth kingdom. In Daniel's account, there are 4 contemporaneous kingdoms in the end and the 4th kingdom is tied to the 10 horns. It is among these 10 horns that the little horn, representing the false christ, comes up from and plucks the 3 horns that fall before him. So indeed the false christ's kingdom would be the 8th head, but of the 7th before it.
    - <u>Religious</u>: Mystery Babylon: Woman Rides the Dragon and the world wonders after her leader, the little horn. The woman riding the beast would then represent Jerusalem, mystery Babylon and mother of harlots. Fornication in the Old Testament is related to Israel going after other gods over the One true God they married at Sinai. The idea of the nations of the world committing fornication with her implies their capitulation in worshipping the antichrist during his reign
- <u>Revelation 17:3, 7, 9, 16, 18</u> "So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. ... And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. ... And here [is] the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. ... And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. ... And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth."
  - The woman is interpreted as Jerusalem, sitting on seven mountains, which are the 7 heads
    - As covered in greater detail in the <u>Visions of Daniel and John</u> study, the seven heads represent historical heads of kingdoms through time, meaning the seven mountains are not only spacial, but also temporal. All seven are the same mountain, Mount Zion, at each of the seven historical periods and the great city Jerusalem sits on Mount Zion.
  - The woman is separate but connected to the head with 10 horns that represents the political alliance involving Israel and 10 other kingdoms in the end times, but she is

also hated by the ten horns and once God has fulfilled His will, they will destroy her.

- Daniel 7:19-26 Interestingly the false christ is associated with a little horn that comes up after the 10 and subdues three of the 10. This horn likewise seems separate from the 10 horns on the head of the beast, yet intricately linked to the false christ kingdom. It is also not long after his arrival that the seventh head becomes the eighth, indicating this new final kingdom the dragon represents taking control.
- Note also that the woman, Jerusalem, is being carried by the Dragon. While depicted as having 7 heads, that is an eternal perspective connecting the same Dragon to each time in history. However when looking at a single point in history at the end, there is one Dragon body with one head, the 7th that becomes the 8th.
  - The head has 10 horn and an 11th little horn to which all have given their power.
  - They give their power to fulfill God's will, but clearly still hate the woman as they destroy her in the end when God's will is fulfilled.
  - ♦ The horns are kings, and kings lead kingdoms.
  - The little horn is the leader of a kingdom smaller in size than the 10 surrounding it.
  - As the prominent horn on the head of the Dragon, who has given this horn his power and great authority, it is this false christ that leads where the woman is being carried to on the Dragon.
- Having set up Jerusalem as the seat of the false christ's kingdom, we can see how this symbology is interpreted to see the little kingdom of Israel surrounded by the Middle East nations controlling the direction of the region, the 10 horns, and the world in the uniting of the lion, bear, and leopard that make up the body of the Dragon. Israel is following after her false christ in apostasy as the whore riding the Dragon away from God to destruction while a remnant running from this Dragon is persecuted by it.
- The people of Israel are not the bad guys, they are the deceived by a very strong deception that may even pull in some Christians who don't know that Yeshua will come from the clouds and not the earth. It may even be that the false christ and false prophet are willingly ignorant, and arrogant, being deceived into believing they really are the Messiah and Elijah.

## • Daniel 2 - Babylon to the Messianic Kingdom

- Read whole chapter
- I feel it's important to point out that not all prophecy is future from our perspective, yet it
  was future from the perspective of the prophet giving the prophecy. We have a tendency to
  look at all prophecy in the lens of our time and I feel each prophecy should be initially
  examined within the context of the prophecy itself. Once it is understood better standing
  alone, we can then look for commonalities with other prophecies if relevant.
- In the case of Daniel 2, Nebuchadnezzar has a dream that he can't remember, yet it troubles him. With the help of God, Daniel interprets it.

# • Daniel 2:32-45

- Babylon -
  - □ <u>Vision</u>: Head of fine gold
  - □ <u>Interpretation</u>: Nebuchadnezzar is the head of gold, to whom God has given a kingdom, power, strength and glory.
  - □ <u>Historical</u>: Nebuchadnezzar is regarded as the Babylonian Empire's greatest king.
  - Medo-Persia -
    - □ <u>Vision</u>: Breast and arms of silver
    - □ <u>Interpretation</u>: Another inferior kingdom to Nebuchadnezzar's.
    - <u>Historical</u>: Babylon fell to the Achaemenid Empire under Cyrus the Great in 539 BC.

- Greece -
  - □ <u>Vision</u>: Belly and thighs of brass
  - □ <u>Interpretation</u>: Third kingdom of brass that will rule over all the earth.
  - <u>Historical</u>: Alexander the Great conquered the Middle East and died in Babylon.
     His kingdom was split into 4 amid much division and slowly weakened.
- Rome -
  - □ <u>Vision</u>: legs of iron, feet and toes part iron/part clay
  - Interpretation: Fourth kingdom will be strong as iron such that it breaks in pieces and subdues all things and bruise. This kingdom will be divided, but it will have the strength of iron, yet it will be partly strong and partly weak. The seed of men will mingle, yet not cleave to one another.
  - Historical: Under various emperors, Rome was very strong and conquered much of Europe and the Middle East. Rome eventually split into the Western and Eastern legs of the empire. In the end of the Roman Empire, there were attempts to save it through royal marriage, but ultimately it died. The Gospel was accepted in Rome and the Gospel was spread through the world from that point to today.
- Messiah to Messianic Kingdom (Gospel Age) Stone cut without hands will break feet in pieces, destroy the whole image and will become a great mountain that fills the whole earth..
  - □ <u>Vision</u>: In the days of these kings, God will setup a kingdom that will never be destroyed, but it will break all these kingdoms and stand forever.
  - Historical: Yeshua is the stone cut without hands and the kingdom of God was established by the obedience of Christ and sacrifice for the redemption of those who believe in Him. It is not a kingdom of this world, it is a spiritual kingdom. It doesn't desire to take over the kingdoms of this world, but one day it will in the fulfillment at Christ's return in glory to establish His Messianic Kingdom. The Kingdom of God has only grown quietly in the unification of the Holy Spirit with the followers of Christ who seem to grow stronger in faith amidst persecution and whose inheritance is not of this world. In this way, a kingdom that was begun after Yeshua's first coming has only grown into a mountain filling the whole earth, the Gospel spreading to all the world and subverting the hold of this world's kingdoms on its subjects because their kingdom is not of this world and nothing anyone does in this world can take away that eternal inheritance. All earthly kingdoms were effectively nullified in their control over the spiritual redemption of the individuals that are a part of them.
- Iron related to that of end times? (Credit Chris White <u>The Islamic Antichrist Theory</u> <u>Debunked Daniel 2, part 1 Bible Prophecy Daily</u> 7/3/24)
  - □ Iron is symbolic of strength And used elsewhere as such. IE: Yeshua rules with rod of iron. While it may seem comparable, it's not explicit and there is another stated fact that counters this idea.
  - The stone breaks the statue to dust when it arrives. The kingdom of God came with Yeshua and the statue was broken shortly after when Rome as a power mingled to stay alive and then fell apart. Rock has been growing as the Gospel has spread to fill the whole earth until the fullness of the gentiles, then Christ returns to gather them and protect Israel in the wilderness.
  - □ <u>Matthew 12:28</u> "But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then **the kingdom** of God is come unto you."
  - Luke 17:20-21 "And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you."
  - □ Mark 1:14-15 "Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee,

preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, **The time is fulfilled**, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel."

- <u>Mark 9:1-4</u> "And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power. And after six days Jesus taketh [with him] Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them. And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus."
  - Right after Yeshua tells them some will see the kingdom of God come with power, He takes some to a mountain where He is transfigured into His glorified body in power and talks with Moses and Elijah. This was a glimpse of the kingdom of God in us manifested in what we will be changed into for eternity. We don't become like angels when we believe, we live out our belief in our fallen state until the time the kingdom of God comes in power at Christ's return in glory to bring redemption of His people and judgement for the Dragon's people.
- Matthew 13:31-35 "Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof. Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened. All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world."
- Iron and Clay: Mingling in marriage <u>Daniel (A Commentary)</u> by Chris White
  - "The emperor of the east, Leo, gave his daughter, Leontia, to Anthemius' son, Marcian, to legitimize the reign of his new appointee to the west, essentially saying, 'Ok, east and west, we are all one big happy family now. So let's go fight the Vandals or we are all in big trouble.' In addition, Anthemius also gave his only daughter, Alypia, to Ricimer, which also made Anthemius, who was a Greek-speaking foreigner to the west, acceptable to the Latin-speaking Romans, of which Ricimer had become kind of a ring leader."
  - "Leo married off his niece to Nepos. The surname Nepos actually means nephew. Because he took the surname nephew as his title, referring to his nownephew status to Leo in the east, it should show us the importance of that marriage in the attempt to unify the east and the west. But it was too late for Rome. There were too many problems. And just like this verse in Daniel says, these two divisions of the final kingdom do not adhere to one another and the fall of the western Roman Empire is put somewhere around this time at 476-480."
- It's often thought that the toes are related to the 10 horns. While the vast majority of people have 10 toes, the number isn't explicitly pointed out. Even more relevant is the fact that the feet and toes are part of the statue and "in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, [but] it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."
  - So when did the kingdom of God come? With the Gospel brought by Yeshua, preaching repentance and salvation through the blood shed by the Messiah for the remission of sins. The kingdom was not a physical one, but one that ruled in each of

the hearts of those who joined it by repentance and acceptance of the sacrifice and became members of the body of Christ.

- This began with Christ and continued to grow in the days of these kings intermarrying to save the Roman Empire, which wasted away and disappeared, never to return. It has continued to grow and spread through the earth since then and will never stop growing, even when the wicked in this world kill them for it.
- Therefore, to associate any part of this statute to a period at the end when Christ returns again is to ignore a big point of the dream.
- <u>Daniel 2:34-35</u> "Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet [that were] of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."
- We've looked at John's vision of the Dragon with 7 heads, which represent kings of kingdoms. Nebuchadnezzar's dream begins with the king of Babylon and ends with the kings of Rome as parts of the statue over time. Unlike the previous parts of the statute, this last kingdom changes over time from legs of iron to feet and toes of iron mixed with clay. I would argue that unlike the previous kingdoms that began to collapse after the death of their kings, Rome had many kings over time.
  - Babylon 605-550 BC (562 was Nebuchadnezzar's death 12 years before the fall of Babylon)
  - Medo-Persia 550-330 BC
  - Greece 359-323 BC then split after Alexander the Great's death and declined in the Greek-Roman Wars from 280-30 BC
  - Rome 27 BC 476 AD (Western) and 1453 AD (Eastern)
  - Kingdom of God 30 AD present and growing (A spiritual kingdom not marked by earthly kings ruling over people, but our eternal King ruling over our hearts and guiding us by His Spirit wherever we physically live.)
- John's vision recognizes the king that is at his time being the Roman Empire, therefore we can connect the final kingdom of Rome to both the 6th head of John and the final kingdom at the start of the church age, but this period doesn't include the first 2 heads of John's vision.
- So Nebuchadnezzar's dream tells of the future from Babylon to the Messianic Kingdom. It seems appropriate that Nebuchadnezzar's dream that turns to prophecy for us is so focused on the kingdoms of this world, starting with him, leading to the kingdom of God. I believe this explains why his dream did not cover all the nations and kingdoms that came after Rome, because the eternal kingdom of God was established with Christ and the kingdoms of the world no longer matter prophetically
- That is until we get to the kingdom of the Dragon and his false christ, where great deception will threaten the citizens of the kingdom of God to pull them away from truth into falsehood and destruction. It is a time of testing for the world on who you serve and we have been given ample warning in scripture, which is what these studies are all about.

## • Daniel 8 - Abomination of Desolation Foreshadowed and Mirrored

- This chapter has some pretty amazing prophetic fulfillment in history, so much so that many believe it to be written after the fact. Unlike the Dead Sea Scrolls, we don't have any original copies solidly dated to before these events, but for some even that wouldn't matter. For those who trust God's Word, it's an amazing look at fulfilled prophecy.
- Furthermore, it presents a pretty amazing mirror and foreshadow in the events of the end, presenting a type of the false christ in some respects
- I can't take credit for or claim to know the history presented here well. I got it from a mix of Wikipedia and other sources that will be referenced. I understand concerns with a socially manipulated source such as Wikipedia in some areas, but I've found it helpful when looking

at history and if it can be seen to line of with prophecy, I know that is not their goal.

Daniel 8:3-9, 20-25

- Medo-Persia -
  - <u>Vision</u>: Ram with 2 tall horns, the latter higher than the first. Pushed west, north, and south and no beasts could stand before him or deliver out of his hand.
  - □ <u>Interpretation</u>: The ram with two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.
  - Herodotus writes of the formation of the Medes as Deioces, Phraortes, Cyaxeres, and Astyagas ruled and grew. In Astyagas's rule, the Persians revolted agains the Medes and Cyrus the Great defeated them and took the throne of the Medes and Persians. The Medes were at one point the superior ruling class, but Cyrus took control and grew stronger than the Medes were.
- **Greece** Alexander the Great
  - <u>Vision</u>: He goat came from the west on the whole face of the earth without touching the ground and had a notable horn between its eyes. He ran into the ram in the fury of his power and smote him and there was no power left in the ram, he was cast to the ground and stamped on and none could deliver him. The goat waxed very great and when he was strong, was broken.
  - □ <u>Interpretation</u>: The rough goat is the king of Greece and the great horn between his eyes is the first king.
- Greece Four Generals
  - <u>Vision</u>: When the great horn was broken, 4 notable horns came up to the 4 winds of heaven.
  - □ <u>Interpretation</u>: That first king being broken, four kingdoms will stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.
    - <u>Historical</u>: The Kingdom of Macedonia's succession was led by Perdiccas who was, for a short time, made regent of the empire. Philip III Arrhidaeus was named co-ruler with Alexander IV, child of Alexander III and his wife Roxana. Philip III had diminished mental capacity and so Olympias, Alexander's mother, went through a series of regents. Cassander later had Alexander IV murdered and took over power.
    - <u>Historical</u>: Ptolemaic Kingdom Founded by Alexander's general Ptolemy I Soter. Ruled by the Ptolemaic dynasty until the death of Cleopatra VII in 30 BC.
    - <u>Historical</u>: Kingdom of Lysimachus was ruled by Lysimachus, a general of Alexander, but diedin 281 BC. It lasted around 150 years before being absorbed into the Roman Empire around 133-129 BC.
    - <u>Historical</u>: Seleucid Empire founded in 312 BC by general Seleucus I Nicator and was eventually overthrown in 63 BC by the Roman general Pompey.
      - Vision: Out of one of the 4 horns came a little one that became exceedingly great toward the south and east and toward the pleasant land. It waxed great even to the host of heaven and cast down some of the host of the stars and stamped on them. A host was given against the daily by reason of transgression and cast the truth to the ground and accomplished and prospered. How long concerning the vision of the daily and transgression of desolation? 2,300 days, then the sanctuary cleansed.
      - Interpretation: In the latter time of their kingdom, when transgressors are come full, a king of fierce countenance understanding dark sentances will stand. His power will be mighty, but not by his own power, and he shall destroy and prosper and destroy the mighty and the holy people. Through his policy he will

be politically crafty and magnify himself in his heart and by peace destroy many. He will stand up against the prince of princes and be broken without hand.

- Historical: Antiochus Epiphanes IV ruled the Seleucid Empire from 175-164 BC when he died. He was not supposed to take the throne, but Seleucus's son Demetrius I was captive in Rome and he declared himself king and rallied enough of the Greek ruling class to support him. In 167 BC, he forbade Jewish practices and persecuted devout Jews. Diodorus wrote that he "sacrificed a great swine at the image of Moses, and at the altar of God that stood in the outward court, and sprinkled them with the blood of the sacrifice...that the books by which they were taught to hate all other nations be sprinkled with the broth made of the swine's flesh...and he put out the lamp that burns continually in the temple and forced the high priest and other Jews to eat swine's flesh." | Diodorus 34:1(4)
- <u>2 Maccabees 9:5-9</u> describes his death from an incurable illness attributed to God's justice.
- ♦ 2,300 evenings and mornings Add details
  - Exodus 29:38-42 The first thing to point out in relation to the 2,300 days spoken of in the vision is related to the daily, that is the continual or perpetual sacrifice. Coming out of Egypt, God told Israel to have a continual, perpetual sacrifice at the door of the tabernacle. Once Israel was in the Promised Land and the temple of Solomon and the second temple were built, it was outside the temple that each morning and evening a lamb under a year old would be sacrificed and offered as a burnt offering.
  - In the Masoretic text, what is written as "two thousand and three hundred days" is actually "two thousand and three hundred evening (ereb) morning (boqer)," speaking to the evening and morning sacrifices. So when it says 2,300 days, it is saying 2,300 evening and morning sacrifices. Dividing this in two to get the actual number of days, it is 1,150 actual days. Thanks to the Maccabees, we have precise dates for the abomination of desolation and the cleansing of the sanctuary.
  - IMaccabees 1:54 "On the 15th day of the 9th month of the 145th year [of the kingdom of the Greeks] king Antiochus set up the abominable idol of desolation upon the altar of God."
  - I Maccabees 4:52-53 "And they arose before the morning of the 25th day of the 9th month of the 148th year, and they offered sacrifices according to the law upon the new altar..."
  - If we calculate 365 days per year times 3 and add 10 days, that is only 1,105 days, 45 days short. Taking into account this was in 167 BC and the Julian calendar was not in use until 45 BC, and a separate communication from Herodotus from 445 BC, we see the ancient calendar was a 360-day calendar per year.
  - "Take seventy years as the span of a man's life. Those seventy years contain 25,200 days without counting intercalary months. Add a month every other year to make the seasons come round with proper regularity, and you will have 35 additional months which will make 1050 days. Thus the total days of your seventy years is 26,250 and not a single one of

them is like the next in what it brings." | Herodotus, In a passage where he discusses Solon who is speaking to Croesus, a Greek king in Asia Minor, about the relativity of happiness in life, Solon cites the usual length of a man's life.

- 25,200 / 70 = 360 days (without counting intercalary months)
- 1,050 / 35 = 30 days (value of an intercalary month)
- "Using the Greek calendar according to Herodotus and assuming that the years 146 and 148 were intercalary years, we come up with the following calculation: 9-15-145 to 9-25-148, the dates given in Maccabees from the desecration to the cleansing, is three years and ten days. Thus, the math sentence following the Greek calendar which was in use at the time the prophecy was fulfilled would be: (3 X 360) + (2 X 30) + 10 = 1,150." | The 2300 Day Prophecy of Daniel 8
- I actually learned of this from The 2300 Day Prophecy of Daniel 8 web page, which is no longer up and is only available via the <u>Internet Archive Wayback Machine</u>. I recommend checking it out as it presents a more detailed explanation and examination of history and scripture to show the fulfillment of this prophecy ending with what is celebrated today as Chanukkah.
- This pretty convincingly describes Antiochus IV as a type of Antichrist and a vision of what the abomination of desolation involves. The interference of the eternal covenant with Israel to keep the daily sacrifice in purified temple. Stopping the daily, putting out the eternal flame, putting up an idol who is not God and demanding worship of it is an abomination that causes desolation and interferes with God's eternal covenant with Israel. Some have said Daniel was written after this happened due to its description of history from the past. The Dead Sea Scrolls are dated from 300 BC to 70 AD and Scroll 4Q112 Daniel, 4Q113 Daniel, and 6Q7 PapDaniel all repeat the same story with the pieces there.

#### • Daniel 9 - 70 Weeks for Israel and Jerusalem

- As this is covered in greater detail in the <u>Daniel's 70 Weeks</u> study, I will just reference an overview.
- o Daniel 9:1-27
  - Babylon
    - Daniel gets the vision while in captivity in Babylon, recognizing the prophesied 70 years of captivity are almost up. He wants to know the future of his people and Jerusalem.
    - □ <u>Historical</u>: Medo-Persia conquers Babylon. Cyrus is called by name and the Cyrus scroll speaks to the declaration of Jerusalem being built again and the temple.
  - Medo-Persia-Rome
    - <u>Vision</u>: from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. After 483 years Messiah is cut off, but not for himself. The people of the prince that shall come will destroy the city and sanctuary and until the end of the war desolations are determined.
    - <u>Historical</u>: The temple and city are rebuilt, but it isn't until Ezra comes to Jerusalem in 457/458 BC to teach the statutes that the temple ministry is followed properly. This reconnecting Israel and God through the temple started

the clock of the first 483 years leading to 26 AD and the beginning of Christ's ministry. 3.5 years later, in 30 AD, Yeshua died on the cross and after three days was resurrected and appeared to many. He then ascended to heaven to the Father.

- The second temple period lasts through this time in history. The time around 167 BC covers the time of the Seleucid king Antiochus IV Epiphanes, who performs the first abomination of desolation prior to the Roman rule over Jerusalem that lead to Messiah in 30 AD and the destruction of the second temple in 70 AD. This was more than 483 years after the restoration of Jerusalem after the Babylonian captivity, fulfilling prophecy.
- Final Kingdom
  - □ <u>Vision</u>: He will confirm a covenant for one week
  - <u>Future</u>: As will be covered in greater detail in the <u>Seals, Trumpets, Bowls</u> study, the first seal is described as the rider on the white horse with a bow conquering. The bow was also used as a token of a covenant in Genesis not to destroy the earth by a flood again. Could this represent the man of sin confirming the Mosaic covenant in the rebuilding of the temple and reinstitution of the daily sacrifice?
- False Christ Kingdom
  - <u>Vision</u>: In the midst of the week he will cause sacrifice and oblation to cease and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make desolate even until the consummation and that determined shall be poured out on the desolate.
  - <u>Future</u>: After defeating the enemies of Israel in the wars of the antichrist (Daniel 11:40-45), the man of sin plants his tents in Jerusalem and declares himself god in the rebuilt temple, stopping the daily sacrifice and placing himself as an idol to be worshipped in the temple of God. This is the beginning of the great tribulation.
- This prophecy is central to understanding both the first and second comings of Christ as related to the people of Israel and Jerusalem. The first 69 weeks lead to Christ's first coming as the suffering servant and it is in the last 70th week that He will return in glory to catch away His bride, woo His people Israel back to Him, and punish the unjust in the world in preparation for the fulfillment of His Messianic Kingdom, whose beginning was depicted in Nebuchadnezzar's dream conquering all kingdoms as an everlasting kingdom.
- Daniel 11-12 Antiochus to False Christ
  - $\circ$  d

## • Daniel 7 - Rise of the False Christ Kingdom

- 4 diverse beasts representing kingdoms over 4 corners of the earth
  - In the <u>Seals, Trumpets, Bowls</u> study, we see in the fourth horseman released in the fourth seal that he is given power over 1/4 of the earth. Given the centrality of the Middle East to Bible prophecy, I would guess that death's killing with the sword, hunger, and beasts of the earth is more localized there at this time. The power we see here in 4 diverse beasts are still separate and it isn't until Revelation 13 after the abomination of desolation that establishes the kingdom of the false christ that we see the unification of the whole world into the Dragon.
  - Revelation 6:7-8 "And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth."
- Revelation 13 The False Christ Kingdom
  - o d
- Revelation 18 The Unfaithful Harlot in Jerusalem and Her Judgement
  - Revelation 18:10, 24 "Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that

great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. ... And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth."

- woman is defined as a mystery, Babylon and the great city, Jerusalem.
  - Revelation 14:8 "And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication"
  - Revelation 16:17-19 "And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, [and] so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath."
    - At the seventh bowl we see the great city divided in three parts and Babylon comes to remembrance before God. These are the same "great city."
  - Luke 13:32-35 "And he said unto them, Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third [day] I shall be perfected. Nevertheless I must walk to day, and to morrow, and the [day] following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen [doth gather] her brood under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until [the time] come when ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord."
    - Yeshua made a point of going to Jerusalem for His death because that's where all the prophets were killed.
  - Revelation 11:7-8 "And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies [shall lie] in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified."
    - This great city is associated with Sodom and Egypt where the Lord was crucified. This pretty clearly centers spiritual Babylon as Jerusalem, the seat of the false christ's kingdom
- Revelation 12 Faithful Israel
  - o d

Previous thoughts put down, incorporate into above

- Daniel 7 shows 4th beast with 1 head and 10 horns on it. In Revelation 13 that head seems to become the seventh head.
  - Because the 4th beast represents 1/4 of the earth and has the 10 heads and horns as well as the little horn, we must accept that this is the Middle East region, comprised primarily of Islamic states and Israel. Therefore, the 10 horns would represent some sort of Islamic alliance and in the case of the Jewish antichrist, the little horn would represent the antichrist coming up among the 10 representing Israel, the unfaithful portion of her riding the beast.
    - Chris White points out in <u>False Christ</u> that "the Mahdi is expected to restore spiritual greatness to Islam and fight wars with his enemies and have power for anywhere

between 7, 9, or 19 years and is expected to come on the scene first."

- Could the 10 horns represent that powerful alliance over 1/4 of the world in the Middle East, to include Jerusalem? They would be united under their own perceived messianic figure. (I would expect that the dragon is playing both sides of the game to pit one of his minions against his other to ensure his victory and enhance the deception.)
- □ <u>Abraham Accords: The Beginning of Peace for Israel?</u> | <u>FULL EPISODE</u> | <u>Abraham</u> <u>Accords on TBN</u>
  - Been dwelling on the idea of a uniting of the Abrahamic tree, the lineage of Isaac and Ishmael that make up the population of much of the Middle East. Then saw this show and the ideas I have had of the false christ offering a "proper" interpretation of the eschatology of all the Abrahamic faiths, in addition to God putting it in the hearts of the 10 kings to fulfill His will, seems plausible. Yes, the radical elements of Islam would rebel, but we see that in prophecy too, where 3 of the 10 fall before the little horn. All 10 give their power to the false christ though.
- Al-Masih ad-Dajjal "The Dajjal is the bad guy in Islamic eschatology. He is a man who claims to be the Jewish Messiah and will gain many converts to this idea. In fact, that's what "Al-Masih ad-Dajjal" means: "imposter Messiah." Various hadiths have described him as a grotesque figure, often making mention of him as blind in one eye, though some say this is symbolic language used to refer to his singular focus on ruling the world. He will gain considerable control over the world, and will only be able to be stopped by the next character on our list, Isa." *False Christ*
- Isa "This is the Muslim version of Jesus, who is believed to be a prophet but not God. Muslims believe, as do Christians, that he is coming back again, but they see him as coming back to be a subordinate to the Mahdi. The main thing Isa will do in Islamic eschatology is kill the Dajjal. It is said that he will return on a mountaintop outside Israel as the Mahdi's armies are preparing to go to war against the Dajjal. Isa is said to kill the Dajjal during this battle. Also, Isa is supposed to be a great help in converting many Christians to Islam. He is said to rule the world after the war until he dies at a good old age." False Christ
- The little horn comes up in the midst of the ten. This makes it the 11th, distinct from the ten.
  - The unfaithful woman riding the beast sits on 7 mountains (Zion) which are also seven heads (kingdoms) controlling the woman (Jerusalem). The little horn then could represent the leader of Jerusalem (Babylon) in the end, which represents deceived Israel who thinks they follow their messiah, but in reality are going after another false god. This is why the 10 still hate her and at the end destroy Jerusalem when Gods will is fulfilled.
- The dragon of revelation 13 is the same dragon of revelation 12. This is Lucifer, Satan. Ultimately, he is the one behind the antichrist kingdom. Even though the antichrist is viewed as the human head, it is the dragon behind it all. He is what the woman is riding on, and he is the one that's been there throughout history controlling Jerusalem when Israel went after other gods
- What-if Scenario
  - The red heifer sacrifice is carried out on the mount of olives overlooking the temple mount. With all the other temple instruments created by the temple Institute and the priests trained, this last piece required to consecrate. The temple is now in place.
  - Seeing the growing push for Israel to rebuild the temple, the surrounding Islamic nations allied together in a 10 nation alliance, or perhaps the alliance already exists at that point.
  - Led by this powerful new leader, Israel takes back control of the temple mount, at least part of it, for the purpose of rebuilding the temple.
  - This new leader also has a religious leader that is spreading word among the orthodox Jews, that this man fulfills aspects of the Old Testament prophecies for the Messiah.
  - This new leader in Israel, reaffirms the mosaic covenant with the people of Israel, vow to bring the nation back to her roots.

- As will be covered in the <u>Man of Sin: False Christ</u> study, this is spurred on by an archaeological discovery of the ark of the covenant that brings Israeli from around the world back to the promised land and turn secular Jews into religious Jews.
- There's not much this 10 nation alliance can do, but several of them attempt to stop this from happening.
- Strengthened and resolve from the history of the holocaust and October 7, 2023, Israel, resolutely and fervently responds to the threat from some of the surrounding nations. Led by their new leader, who is promised a return to the old ways, the armies of Israel attack and take over Egypt, destroy Damascus and Syria as well as I ran and purge the non-Israeli population from Judea and Samaria
- In the midst of this war, the temple has slowly been rebuilt and is finally consecrated, and the daily sacrifice returns along with the ministering at the temple the majority of the Jews truly want to return to a relationship with God. Being blinded, though, they are easily going to be deceived.
- Having just defeated all of their enemies handle, this man returns home to Jerusalem and stop the daily sacrifice and declares himself God in the temple.
- At least one priest in the temple takes this blasphemy to heart and carries out the sentence killing this man. However, he is raised from the dead, perhaps, as a result of the religious leader in the spirit of Elijah resurrecting him, and turns on all of those who refused to accept him as the Messiah and worship him.
- The majority of the Jews in Judea, except him as the Messiah, and when he tells them to go and kill anyone who refuses to worship him, they take this as a messy order to be fulfilled without question and turn on their own brothers and sisters. Only those who run to the mountains Will escape the fervent persecution of this army of believers.
- 3 Horns
  - If Daniel 11:40-45 speaks to the 3 horns plucked up/fallen before the little horn, the false christ, Could this be the apparent fulfillment of Gog/Magog?
    - If the "false prophet" of Revelation 13 comes as Elijah, what is he known for? Calling fire from heaven, raising the dead.
    - If the false christ is the the little horn representing the beast of Revelation 13, he will suffer a mortal wound that will be healed, the seventh head becoming the eighth.
    - The nations coming against Israel in Ezekiel 38-39 are Iran and surrounding nations.
    - Daniel 11:40-45 labels three groups defeated by the antichrist. Egypt, the North and the East he will utterly destroy and take away many.
    - Isaiah 17 speaks of the destruction of Damascus to the North, the oldest continuously inhabited city, because of the children of Israel. We already know Iran to the East has it out for Israel.
    - Could Egypt, Syria, and Iran be the three horns out of ten who react to Israel bringing back the Mosaic Covenant and are defeated and fall before him?
    - Would Israel, looking for a conquering king in their messiah, be deceived into accepting this man who comes in his own name over the Messiah who came in His Father's name? John 5:43
    - How could the Islamic nations surrounding Israel be deceived after being defeated into giving their power to the false christ? We know there is supernatural influence on them to do so, is that all it would take or will there be some additional aspect to the deception that brings them to a point of following the false christ?
      - Revelation 17:17 "For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled."
      - □ Just about everyone in the Middle East is believed to be descended from Abraham, whether through Isaac or Ishmael.
      - □ Islamic doctrine seems to have basis in both the Old and New Testaments, twisted around to place the promise with Ishmael.

Islamic eschatology holds Jesus as coming back in the end times

May God continue to bless you as you remain in Him.

**Associated studies** 

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References

- Chart: The Visons of Daniel and John
- The 2300 Day Prophecy of Daniel 8
- New Light on the Book of Daniel from the Dead Sea Scrolls by Gerhard Hasel PhD

**Associated Dates** 

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