

1. Last week I taught Dan 7:5. When time ran out we were studying verse six.
2. Before continuing I want to provide an expanded translation of Dan 7:1-5:

Dan 7:1 In the first year of the Babylonian co-regency of Nabonidus and Belshazzar in approximately 550 B.C., Daniel had a dream; he was lying on his bed when he saw several visions. He recorded the visions in summary fashion in his diary.

Dan 7:2 Daniel recorded "In my vision at night while I was lying in my bed I looked up and saw the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea - the Mediterranean Sea.

Dan 7:3 Four dreadful creatures, each different from the other, arose out of the sea; the sea represented the vast confused gentile world.

Dan 7:4 "The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle;" this first creature represented Babylon; I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a man, and the heart of a man was given to it; here we have a reference to Nebuchadnezzar's bout with his zoanthropic malady, his temporary demise as ruler of Babylon and his recovery after his regeneration.

Dan 7:5 And then I saw a second awful creature, it looked like a bear. The beast represented the Medo Persian Empire. The giant grizzly had raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs protruding between its teeth. The three ribs represented Babylon, Lydia and Egypt; these were three nations recently conquered. A command from one standing near-by said, 'Get up and eat more!'

Now let's continue our study of Dan 7:6:

KJV

Dan 7:6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

NIV

Dan 7:6 "After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

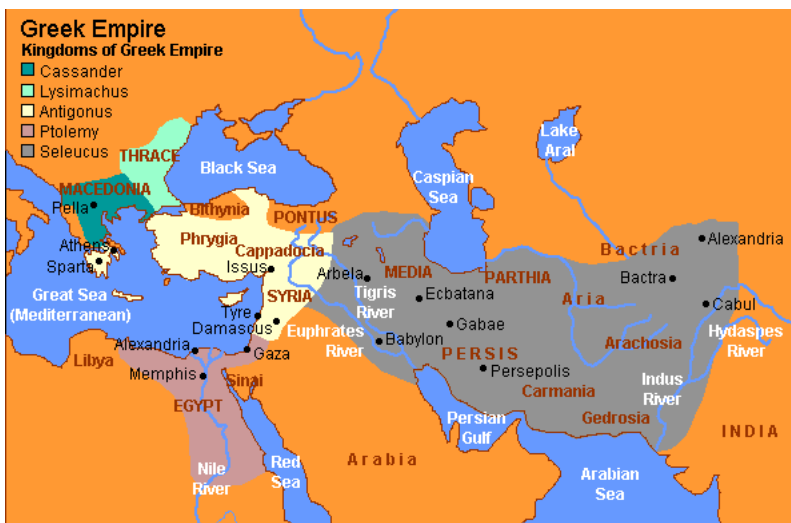
Principles:

1. The leopard is none other than the Hellenistic empire of first Philip, his son Alexander the Great and Alexander's four successors: Lysimachus, Cassander, Ptolemy and Seleucus.
2. The identification of this third beast as Grecia can be clearly seen in history; Alexander the Great destroyed the Medo Persian Empire and was thus the leopard with the wings.

2.1 Further identification can be seen when objective comparison of Dan 8:5; Dan 8:21-22 is made with Dan 2:32-35 and 39.

3. Grecia in Daniel chapter eight is also the "thighs of brass" of Dan 2:32 and the "third kingdom of brass" of Dan 2:39 as we noted last week.

4. The notable horn of Dan 8:5 is none other than Alexander the Great and as earlier noted the four horns represent the four Kings who followed Alexander.



5. The wings of the leopard represent the speed, aggression and ferocity of Alexander's conquest; in twelve-years Alexander conquered the then known world.

5.1 Other uses of the leopard in Scripture pictures his speed, cunning, ferocity and strength. Jer 5:6; Hos 13:7; Hab 1:8 and Isa 11:6.

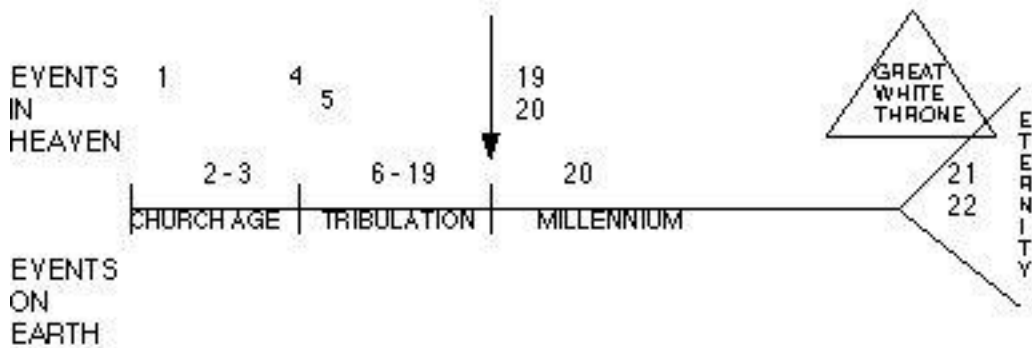
6. If only Alexander could have conquered himself.

6.1 At age 32 in about B.C. 323 Alexander died of "profligacy"; a man who commanded 35,000 troops into Turkey, Israel Egypt, Media, Persia and India where he defeated more than 300,000 of the world's finest soldiery; and yet he could not command his own appetite for self-indulgence.

7. We have now disposed of three world empires predicted by Daniel, but the fourth will be the scariest of all; Rome historically and then more than 2500 years later Rome prophetically.

8. The Apostle John is given a vision of four empires which came and have now been whisked off the scene of history to make way for the coming of the Revived Roman Empire but not until the completion of Christ's bride in the Church Age.

## AN OVERVIEW OF REVELATION



Rev 13:1 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.

Rev 13:2 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.

Rev 13:3 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.

9. Now let me give you an expanded translation of Dan 7:6:

Dan 7:6 "And then I saw another beast rise out of the sea, one that looked like a leopard. On its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule; the nature of the leopard and its winged back spoke of Alexander the Great's speed of conquest when he would conquer the world in 12 short years. The four heads given authority represented his four generals who would rule the Hellenistic Empires; the four generals being Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy and Seleucid.

Now let's take a look at that fourth Empire - Rome. Dan 7:7-8

KJV

Dan 7:7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

Dan 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.

NIV

Dan 7:7 "After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast--terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns.

Dan 7:8 "While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

Principles:

1. The fourth beast is none other than Rome.
2. A beast which is said to be more powerful and fierce than all the others.
3. Rulership passed from Nineveh (Assyria) to Babylon in 612 B.C.; from Babylon to Persia in 539 B.C., and from Darius III to Alexander in about 331 B.C.
4. And after Alexander from the banks of the Tiber river will rise a Kingdom unlike any before or since - the fierce iron boot of Rome will soon make its imprint known to all.
5. Roman legions will march west and conquer Hispania, Gaul, Brittany, North Africa, Asia Minor, Egypt, Persia, Pakistan and even into the savage lands of Southern Russia; everyone will feel the fury of the iron fist of Roman dominance.

CHART ROMAN EMPIRE (2)

5.1 Those falling under Rome's devastating hegemony will be forced to bow in allegiance to not only her political rulership but all the world will be required to pay homage to the panoply of Roman gods; and even after Rome "accepts Christ" under Constantine it will be Rome's way or else.

5.2 Rome will never be defeated, she will fall from within and though the date of her demise is problematic, most would agree she fell in about A.D. 476.

6. So just as we saw in chapter 2, the fourth stage or empire is Rome. We know this from historical observation.

6.1 Wycliffe writes: "Since this kingdom must prevail until the destruction of the Antichrist (the little horn) and the establishment of the eternal, final, visible kingdom of Christ, it must be regarded as prevailing today, at least in pieces - the national pieces are

extant in Europe as I speak."

6.2 The ten-fold form of the final stage, known to us as the Revived Roman Empire, suggested by the ten toes of Daniel chapter two is clearly taught here in our two verses and confirmed by Rev 17:3-15.

End Lesson Taught 2-17-2002