

The Little Horn

*Compiled by Rachel Cory-Kuehl, July 2016
Scripture is from New King James Version unless otherwise noted.*

Daniel 7:7 “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 I was considering the horns, and there was **another horn, a little one**, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.”

Daniel 7:23-25 “Thus he said: The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces.

24 The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And **another** shall rise after them [the Little Horn]; **He shall be different from the first ones**, And shall subdue three kings. 25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.

Daniel 8:8-11 “Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it [in its place] came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven. 9 And out of one of them came forth **a little horn**, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. 10 And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the Prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.”

Daniel 8:23 “And in the latter time of their kingdom [the kingdom of the four horns], When the transgressors have reached their fullness, **A king shall arise**, Having fierce features, Who understands sinister schemes. 24 **His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power**; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people. 25 Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of Princes; But he shall be broken without human means.” (NKJ)

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE "LITTLE HORN".

The "little horn" persecutes the people of God for three and a half years (42 months) (time, times, and a part). He takes away "the daily sacrifices". He will place "the abomination causing desolation" in "the holy place". He blasphemes the God of Heaven. He will even rise up against "the Prince of the host" (the anointed son of David). He will demand to be worshiped.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 "Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

The LORD wanted His people - living in the last days - to recognize this sinister king. They must see him clearly for he will be *the* Antichrist channel of Satan at the end of this age. So the LORD gave us the history - in advance - of his rise to power.

FOUR BEASTS - FOUR HORNS

In Daniel Chapter 7, there are four beasts.
A "little horn" grows out of the fourth "terrible" beast.

In Daniel Chapter 8, there are four horns.
A "little horn" grows from one of the four horns.

It is not a giant leap to conclude that the four horns of Chapter 8, are the same powers represented as four beasts in Chapter 7.

Growing up, I was taught that the four beasts (of Chapter 7) were Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and finally Rome. The "little horn" was the Papacy. The four horns (of Chapter 8) were the four divisions of Alexander the Great's empire. One of those divisions became the Roman Empire, and from that empire came the Papacy. Today - I no longer accept this interpretation.

First: The Empire of Alexander the Great was divided up by his generals into five divisions (not four) . . . which quickly consolidated into three main kingdoms. (1) Egypt, ruled by the heirs of Ptolemy the First (2) Macedonia, under the descendants of the general Antiochus, dominated northern Greece; and (3) the larger domains of the Seleucid Kings, who ruled over Syria, Media, Persia, and Mesopotamia. Rome was *not* one of those divisions. Rome did *not* spring from the Empire of Alexander.

Second: If the first three beasts represent the ancient successive empires of Babylon, Medo-Persia and Greece, then **why are all three beasts still around, viable *after* the Terrible Beast (the 4th one) is slain and burned?** The four Beasts of Daniel Chapter 7 represent concurrent kingdoms - not successive. (*Daniel 7:11-12*)

Daniel 7:11-12 "I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the (little)horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time."

Third: This is very important! The angel told Daniel that the Little Horn would persecute the saints right up until the time comes for the saints to possess the kingdom (*Dan.7:22*). That places the fulfillment of this prophecy right down at "the end" - the time leading up to the return of Christ in glory. The Little Horn is *the* primary force for evil in the final days of this age.

Fourth: While I agree that Antiochus IV Epiphanes fulfilled the prophecy of the Little Horn in many ways, he did *not* persecute for exactly 1260 days, and the saints did not forever take possession of the kingdom in 164BC, when the Maccabees successfully revolted against the Selucid Kingdom.

Later the Roman General Titus destroyed the Temple (thus taking away "the daily") but again, Titus did not persecute for a mere 1260 days (or years for that matter) and the saints did not forever take possession of the kingdom at the end this time period.

No. I believe we must look to the *final* days of this age, to find the Little Horn.

THE VISION IS FOR THE END

Daniel 8:17 "So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, 'Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end.'"

Daniel 8:19 "He said, 'Listen, and I will tell you what will take place later in the period of wrath; for it refers to the appointed time of the end.'" (NRS)

If the vision of Daniel Chapter Eight concerns the "time of the end", then so does the vision recorded in Daniel Chapter Seven.

It is very characteristic of Hebrew writings to tell the reader what things will happen, and *then* tell what signs or events will lead up to those things. It's sort of like a flashback in a movie. The vision of the ram and the goat, explains the rise of the terrible 4th Beast. The 4th Beast gives rise to the Little Horn. The 4th Beast rises *because* the "notable horn" on the goat (of chapter 8) is "broken".

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A WORLD EMPIRE

The 4th “terrible” Beast will rule over the entire earth - every nation, kindred, tongue and people. It will break it in pieces - dividing it (into 10 pieces?).

Daniel 7:23 “Thus he said: The fourth beast shall be A fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, trample it and break it in pieces.

24 The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them [the Little Horn]; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings.”

The Little Horn will subdue three kings as it rises to power. I believe those three will be the lion, the bear, and the leopard - the three most powerful nations on the earth, who will most probably object to one entity (like the Little Horn) *ruling* the planet. These three beasts will emerge to life again, *after* the fourth Terrible Beast is destroyed. **They are only subdued, not annihilated.**

IT'S THE SAME BEAST

If you check out the Beast of Revelation Chapter 13, you will find *that* Beast is described as “like a leopard” with feet of a bear, and a mouth like a lion. Those are the first three beasts of Daniel’s vision. They are *merged* into the Terrible 10 Horned Beast. Why? Because it “will devour the whole earth”.

The Beast of Revelation Chapter 13, has 7 heads and 10 horns. So does the Terrible 4th Beast of Daniel’s vision.

The Beast of Revelation Cpt. 13, persecutes for 42 months (one thousand two hundred and sixty days) (13:5; 12:6; 11:3). The Terrible fourth Beast of Daniel Chapter 7 makes war with the saints for “a time, times and half a time”. **It’s the same time period!**

The Beast is a universal, worldwide entity, ruling over every nation, kindred, tongue and people. **I think it’s safe to say that the Beast shown to John the Revelator, is the same one world order that Daniel saw represented as the Terrible 4th Beast.**

THE BEAST PERSECUTES - THROUGH HIS IMAGE

In Revelation Chapter 13, the Beast makes war with the saints for 42 months. How? How does the Beast of Revelation persecute the saints? **Answer: through his Image.**

The Beast demands worship. How? **An Image (of the Beast) is given life** by a lamb-like beast (*Rev. 13:15*), and this Image then commands everyone to worship himself. The Image even decrees death to anyone who refuses to worship him.

The Image (of the Beast) causes all to receive a mark with the name of the Beast or the number of his name. Ultimately, the Image is carrying out the designs of “the dragon”.

THE ABOMINATION CAUSING DESOLATION

To worship the Image of the Beast *is* to worship the Beast. And anyone who worships the Beast or receives his mark, will drink the “wine of the wrath of God” which is poured out as seven last awful plagues (*Rev. 14:9-10*). These plagues will desolate the earth. **Hence my conclusion that *worship of the Beast and his Image, is “the abomination causing desolation”*.**

Worship of any “foreign god” - any God other than Yahweh - results in destruction! We see this principle repeated over and over through the Old Testament. The God of the Bible has not changed. What He decreed concerning Israel and Judah is still the Law of God today!

We Westerners read the word “image” and think of something inanimate. But the text of Revelation clearly says **the Image of the Beast will come to life**, will demand worship, and will decree the mark. The Image himself will do these things. It will *live*!

THE LITTLE HORN *is* THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST

In Daniel’s vision, the Little Horn persecutes and makes war with the saints. In John’s vision, the Image (of the Beast) demands worship and decrees death for those who will not submit. It’s not a stretch to connect the two. **They are the *same* entity. Daniel’s “Little Horn” is John’s “Image of the Beast”**.

NOTE: Let me just make a quick note here, about the beast from “the earth” who breathes life into the Image of the Beast. The words translated as “the earth” can legitimately be translated as “the land” - meaning the land promised to Israel. A beast in prophecy, most often represents a nation. I believe it is possible that this beast “from the land” represents the present nation of Israel, which rose up out of that “land”. The “beast” from “the earth” may also be a Jew - one who was born in “the land”.

*This beast from the land will be “the false prophet”. He will “deceive those who dwell on the earth” by signs and wonders, bringing them to worship the terrible Beast, by setting up an Image to that Beast (*Rev. 13:11-15*).*

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THE RAM AND THE GOAT

Our focus here is on the Little Horn, but to get there we must start with the battle between the ram and the goat of Daniel Chapter 8. Remember. The fulfillment of this prophecy will take place very near the end of this age.

In vision, Daniel was standing at “the widening of the Ulai” river. A river widens as it merges with a larger river. The Ulai river merges with the Euphrates right near the present city of Bazra in Southern Iraq. The setting for the vision is very important! Daniel was not living at this place. He was taken to this place - in vision. That makes the place very important. The place is part of the message.

As he looks, Daniel sees a ram with two horns, one of which was “higher”, and “the higher horn came up last”. This ram was pushing North and South and West, but not East (towards China). “No beast could withstand him, nor was there any that could deliver from his hand, but he did according to his will and became great” (*Dan. 8:4*).

The ram does something which *really* angers the West, because Daniel next sees a goat coming from the West “across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground” (*Dan. 8:5*). **The goat from the West is angry - really angry - with the ram.** My Bible says the goat came at the ram “with furious power”. What did the ram do - that so angered the goat?

NOTE: To me - it seems the goat is flying. That's air power - not horse power (or elephant power). Alexander the Great began his conquest of Asia Minor in 334, and finally defeated the Medo-Persians a year later in 333BC. The decisive battle took place 700 miles North of the spot where Daniel stood in his vision. Alexander the Great is not a good fit, for the “notable horn”.

MY INTERPRETATION

I'm going to give you **my interpretation** of this vision. Please understand this is Rachel's opinion. I have not been visited by an angel - at least not one I could literally see, and I have not heard a voice from heaven giving me this interpretation. It is my *present* interpretation, based upon my years of study, with much prayer.

Daniel was told the two horns on the Ram “are the kings of Media and Persia” (*Dan. 8:20*). **I believe the ram represents Islamic Jihad.** Islam is divided into two branches - Shia and Sunni. Those are the two horns. Both *hate* Western culture, Israel, and Christianity. It is just possible that Iran (Shia) or ISIS (Sunni) will destroy the Old City of Jerusalem, with a powerful bomb. Possible. This would make the Western powers *furious*. (This would also necessitate the rebuilding of Jerusalem, which command would begin the last 70 weeks.)

I believe the goat from the West represents a coalition of Western nations (possibly NATO). The goat will come at the ram with air power - the full might of the United States and her allies. Yes - I believe the business end of that goat is the United States - the notable (great) horn.

The goat throws the ram to the ground and stomps on him. Both of his horns are broken. The goat from the West becomes very strong, but just at the height of its power, the notable horn is broken. It is “broken without hand” - meaning not in a battle (*Dan. 8:8*). If that “notable horn” is the United States, how could she be “broken without hand”? Easy. An economic collapse.

A power vacuum is created by the most powerful horn’s downfall. “Four notable ones” come up in its place, to vie for world domination. And from one of those four horns comes the Little Horn. Now - if the four horns of Daniel Cpt 8, are the same as the four beasts of Daniel Chapter 7, we have a few clues concerning the identity of those beasts/horns.

The lion with eagles wings - I believe - represents today’s nation of Israel. The lion was the ancient tribal symbol of Judah. The eagle’s wings would represent the help and support given to Israel by the United States. John saw the eagle’s wings “plucked off”. That happens because the United States can no longer *afford* to give her support.

The bear - well that’s obvious. Russia!

The bear was “raised up on one side, and had three ribs between it’s teeth”. Seems apparent that Russia will “devour” three (former Soviet republics) all of which reside “on one side”- meaning along one border.

The leopard - that’s a little trickier. The leopard has “four heads”. This may be a Far Eastern economic alliance - China, Australia, Japan, and South Korea (all non-Islamic). It’s Possible.

And then there’s the Terrible 4th Beast which takes over the whole earth, subduing three other beasts as its Little Horn rises. This Beast has 10 horns. Revelation calls them “ten kings” who “receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast”. “God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled” (*Rev. 17:12-17*).

We have not yet seen this terrible Beast, unless it is some variant of the United Nations Security Council. Time will reveal. At least one US president has attempted to put US national authority *under* United Nations authority. Finally - the Little Horn will come up among the ten horns, subduing the three other great world powers in the process.

Just who this Little Horn will be remains a mystery. We know what he will do, and for how long, and we know how he will be defeated. We know that he will be Satan’s channel for evil in the final days of this age. We know that his dominion will be taken away by the Heavenly Court. Christ will return to execute the judgment of that Court.

THE HEAVENLY COURT

Daniel 7:9-14 "I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; . . . A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. **The court was seated**, And the books were opened.

11 [On earth] "I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the [little] horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame.

12 As for the rest of the beasts [lion, bear, leopard], they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

13 I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.

14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.

The Heavenly Court will give dominion to Jesus Christ.

Daniel 7:24 "As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them [the Little Horn]. This one shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings. 25 He shall speak words against the Most High, shall wear out the holy ones of the Most High, and shall attempt to change the sacred seasons and the law; and they shall be given into his power for a time, two times, and half a time. 26 **Then the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and totally destroyed.**" (NRS)

The world rule of the Little Horn will be taken away, and will be given to Jesus Christ. The dragon (Satan) who gave power to the False Prophet, to the Beast and to the Little Horn, will be imprisoned in "the bottomless pit" (*the without form and void*) for 1000 years.

I will do my best to complete another study with a focus on the Terrible Beast. Who are the seven heads? Who is "the eighth" - who is "of the seven" (*Rev. 11*). I think you can guess who I believe that eighth head will be. Yes. The Little Horn - the reincarnation of the Beast.

*We pray this study will prove a blessing.
Please remember us in your prayers.
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