

# THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE, THE 2300 DAYS AND THE GREAT TRIBULATION

What of the 12 Tribes of Israel - and the Church of God? What can the vast sea of humanity expect to see in the near future? The Bible speaks of cataclysmic events and global upheavals of unimaginable intensity, yet most people who profess Christianity have ignored all prophecy, choosing rather to preach a message of sanguinity borne of their own belief in themselves. But the Bible speaks of great tribulation that will come on the world. It speaks of wars and genocide on an unprecedented scale. This foreboding is particularly applicable to the 12 tribes of Israel. But nor will the Church of God escape. Those who sit comfortably in the Churches of God to await the return of Jesus Christ as the Messiah will be shocked senseless when they understand the truth! There is a worldwide conspiracy to ensure that you believe THE LIE.

The Bible speaks of a beast and a false prophet that will arise in the endtime. It also speaks of two witnesses or prophets that will be present in the Holy City Jerusalem. The Holy City, God's beloved Zion, which bears His Name will be the focus of all the endtime events. The Bible also speaks of the Temple that will be built, and gives infinite detail on its construction.

When will all this occur? And what will be the final result of this global upheaval? In the midst of such great tribulation can anyone be saved? Is it possible to qualify for the Kingdom of God under such circumstances? What does the Living God require of you - in order for you to be in the Kingdom of God? Don't be too sure you know the answers to all this! Bible prophecy is very clear on all these things. The Bible reveals all!

By Neville V. Stevens

*New International Version used throughout unless otherwise specified*

## CHAPTER ONE

### 1. The rider on a WHITE horse appears. A conqueror bent on conquest.

Does the Bible allow you to guess what these seals mean? Apparently, most Christian believe the answer to this is yes. Some of the most outrageous claims have been made as to the identity of all four seals, and particularly the first. God does not permit anyone to interpret His Word. And what is more, it's totally unnecessary to engage private interpretation, because the Bible reveals all.

For thousands of years, God has been compiling this Book - His Word - and providing all the links that tie the theme together. In order to understand these links, we need to exercise Godly wisdom. This is the **WISDOM** that God has imparted to His servants down through the ages. The Bible acknowledges that Solomon had this wisdom of God (**1Kings 3:8**). In fact, Solomon also had a sizable amount of the wisdom of this world as well. He pursued knowledge of many different things, and eventually, he began to rely on the wisdom of the world. In many respects his father David was wiser than he; but David was not

as knowledgeable. Solomon's knowledge base was more expansive than David's, but the great difference is that David sought Godly wisdom through the written Word of God. All of these things have great purpose. Both men left us a legacy of wisdom. Solomon wrote extensively on this subject, and indeed, he identified wisdom as a *living* entity: see **Pro 1:20, 28-29**. The same theme continues in **Pro 8:1**. Read the whole of chapter 8 and note **V15, 22-24, 27, 30**.

But in orders of magnitude, David was far wiser in matters relating to the real wisdom of God, and recorded things that are unfathomable without the **WISDOM OF GOD**.

The Apostle Paul also spoke of the **WISDOM OF GOD**. Notice what he said: **1Cor 1:20** *"Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the WISDOM OF THE WORLD? For since in the WISDOM OF GOD the world through its wisdom did not know Him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand miraculous signs, and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified; a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to*

*Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the **POWER OF GOD** and the **WISDOM OF GOD.**"*

Paul went on to further illuminate this subject: **1Cor 2:7** *"No, we speak of **GOD'S SECRET WISDOM**, a **WISDOM** that has been **HIDDEN** and that God **DESTINED FOR OUR GLORY** before time began. **NONE** of the **RULERS OF THIS AGE UNDERSTOOD IT**, for it they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory."*

The **RULERS, AUTHORITIES AND POWERS OF THIS AGE** have **NEVER UNDERSTOOD**. For this reason they made the tragic mistake of doing exactly what God *knew* they would do - **they killed His Son**. Most Christians believe that these **RULERS** - the real **RULERS** who are of the **HEAVENLY REALM**, are super-intelligent, knowledgeable, and possess great wisdom. The Apostle Paul reveals **THEY NEVER UNDERSTOOD!** He identifies these **RULERS** in **Eph 6:12** *"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the **RULERS**, against the **AUTHORITIES**, against the **SPIRITUAL FORCES OF EVIL** in the **HEAVENLY REALM.**"*

One of these **RULERS** who is central to many prophecies in the Bible is the **RULER** of Tyre. It was the King of Babylon that ruled Tyre, and it was this **RULER** who knew Daniel. God asks him the question: *"Are you wiser than Daniel? Is no secret hidden from you?" (Eze 28:3).* This ruler was not wiser than Daniel, and there are many secrets hidden from him. This ruler was in Eden, the garden of God (**V12**). This **RULER** knew he lacked **WISDOM**, and always **sought understanding from Daniel**. This **RULER** of the **HEAVENLY REALM** sought after the Godly **WISDOM** of Daniel. He actually elevated Daniel to the position of administrator of his entire realm. These **SPIRIT RULERS** always seek out God's prophets for understanding. This was also true of the Prophet Joseph in the land of Egypt, where a great and powerful **RULER OF THE HEAVENLY REALM** also reigned.

As Paul points out, one of these **RULERS** made the mistake of killing the very Son of God. This **RULER** lacked the **WISDOM OF GOD** that has always been granted to God's prophets. It is through God's prophets that these things are revealed. This is true today as in the past. For this reason, God has appointed two endtime prophets to do His **WORK** and to reveal the **WISDOM OF GOD**.

God has a purpose in mind. God hoped that the Church of God would *honour* Him (**Mal 1:6**). But instead they have honoured themselves! The **Book of Malachi** is the **message of the messenger** - the one whom God will send to prepare the way for Christ in the endtime. But even this Book has been hijacked by lying deceivers who have ascribed some of the most appalling nonsense

to it. And even in this, they have honoured themselves, and *dishonoured* God. The very tenure of all the teachings of the leaders of the Church of God disqualifies them from being used by God.

The Apostle Paul foreshadowed God's intent: **Eph 3:9** *"...and to make plain to everyone the **ADMINISTRATION OF THIS MYSTERY**, which for ages past was kept **HIDDEN** in God, who created all things. **HIS INTENT** was that **NOW**, through the Church, the manifold **WISDOM OF GOD** should be **MADE KNOWN** to the **RULERS AND AUTHORITIES IN THE HEAVENLY REALMS**, according to the **ETERNAL PURPOSE** which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord." Many years after Christ's resurrection, this had not been done. Notice the words *'HIS INTENT was that NOW...'* The fact that so many of these early Christians went to their deaths in martyrdom so willingly, indicates that they knew of God's **ETERNAL PURPOSE**. Their attitude was completely different from the cowardly attitude of those in God's Church today who seem to have a fetish about a *'place of safety.'**

But God's **ETERNAL PURPOSE**, and the **ADMINISTRATION OF THE MYSTERY OF THE HEAVENLY REALM**. These **RULERS** were preoccupied with indoctrinating seven Churches allocated to them in Satan's realm. And God revealed this to the Apostle Paul - see **Acts 20:17-36**. Even at that time, lying tricksters, who masqueraded as prophets, were active. One of these was a man called Agabus. With theatrical flare he stated this: **Acts 21:11** *"Coming over to us, he took Paul's belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, "The Holy Spirit says, 'In this way the Jews of Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles.'"* Paul knew that his end was near and had so told those in Asia Minor. He had been in Caesarea a number of days (**V10**) and had undoubtedly told the Evangelist Philip and his daughters and all the other brothers and sisters. In fact, Agabus' predictions did not come true! It wasn't hard for Agabus to figure out that it would be the Jews who would try to kill him. And so he *guessed* that they would attempt to have the murder officially sanctioned by handing him over to the Gentiles - as they did with Christ! This didn't happen! What actually happened is the Jews seized him and tried to kill him, but the Gentiles rescued him - see **Acts 21:30-33**. The Jews didn't hand him over to the Gentile Roman Soldiers; they were beating Paul, and fled when they saw the soldiers approaching.

It's amazing how often the false prophets today cite Agabus as a prophet. But then, their standards of truth are similar to that of Agabus. Being 'almost' right is good enough for them. With a long history of false predictions most of them have bullet-proof consciences. Year after year they predict all sorts of things; like the start of the Great Tribulation (one of their favourite predictions).

Year after year their prophecies fail! And each time this happens they stand in front of the congregation and state that they've had a 'new look' at the matter, and have postponed the Great Tribulation for another year. They pervert and twist everything to suit their own ends and to make a name for themselves. They certainly don't **HONOUR** God and His **WORD!**

God's **WORD** is the **FINAL** and **ONLY** authority. God's **ETERNAL PURPOSE** is **HIDDEN** from the world and from the **RULERS OF THE HEAVENLY REALM**. But it is not hidden from those whom God has granted the **WISDOM OF GOD**. It is clear and concise and reveals all the **SECRETS** that God has **HIDDEN** from the foundation of the world.

So *how* did God conceal these **HIDDEN MYSTERIES** and yet give us a *complete* handbook of knowledge? The answer is that He encoded the Bible in such a way as to require us to seek and find. And God warns us of this encoding by telling us to seek His **WORD** '*precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little and there a little.*' And God has done this by using a series of **POINTERS** and **MARKERS**. It's very obvious in the Bible that *many scriptures POINT* to other scriptures. But what are **MARKERS**? **MARKERS** are words that appear in scriptures that often **SEEM TO BE** extraneous to the meaning or theme being described. Most readers of the Bible explain these words or phrases as 'primitive' verbiage by 'primitive' writers. To them they are meaningless and purposeless. While they call the Bible the Word of God, they don't truly believe that God inspired **ALL OF IT!**

The Bible translators made an absolute pudding of it all because of this type of misconception, and used a lot of liberal interpretations, **particularly those who translated the KJV from the Gentile-translated Latin Vulgate**. Some versions are far more reliable than others. But none are perfect. And this is where the **MARKERS** are essential to a complete understanding. For this reason, those who truly want to understand God's Word and His **ETERNAL PURPOSE** will need to first have a good overall knowledge of the Bible. Then the **POINTERS** and **MARKERS** will become obvious.

How many of you will take this instruction on board is anyone's guess, but be aware that you will never understand anything unless you do!

The question of the identity of the '*four horsemen of the Apocalypse*' is one that has intrigued every aspiring 'prophet.' All have added their opinions as to the identity of these. Collectively, they have covered the broad spectrum of possibilities, but all have failed to identify them accurately. The truth is they have guessed and based this guesswork on the wisdom of this world. The **WORD OF GOD** is not sacred and precious

to them. They don't tremble in putting their own interpretations on it. **THEY JUST DON'T FEAR GOD!**

This writer would rather cut out his own heart with a blunt bricklayers trowel than to place a private interpretation on the precious **WORD OF GOD**. You'd better believe that! But why would anyone seek to interpret the Bible? The Bible not only interprets itself, but also offers infinite detail of everything it reveals. None of these articles are complete because it would be virtually impossible to fully illuminate all aspects of *any* subject, let alone *all* subjects, simply because the **WISDOM OF GOD** makes known a vast array of detail - all of which is in the pages of your Bible.

One of the great fallacies of those who interpret Bible meaning is to try to identify the first four seals based on the colour of the horses. Yet the Bible makes it plain that its the **RIDER** or **RULER** that **RIDES** the horse that should be the focus of identity. Consequently, the first horse, a white one - *they say* - represents purity - and they usually provide an array of scriptures identifying the white linen clothes worn by the saints. So, according to them, the first seal is a righteous *horse*. The first priority in determining the meaning of these seals is to identify the **RIDER** *not* the horse.

One of the great and wise prophets of the Bible was Daniel. His prophecies spanned the period from the days of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, to the return of Christ. He described four kingdoms that would arise starting with the head of gold - the king of Babylon - to the final empire represented by ten toes of the great image. Christ will smash **ALL** of these **TOGETHER**, and the **ROCK** (Christ) will fill the whole earth. All of these things are described further into this article, together with the relevant references.

Daniel lived to see the early fulfillment of the prophecies of the first two empires, but also spoke of a latter day fulfillment of them. God sent Daniel to interpret the writing on the wall and to predict the exact time when the king of Babylon (Belshazzar) would be deposed and another would take his place. In fulfillment of this, Darius murdered Belshazzar and took his kingdom.

Daniel didn't live to see the emergence of the King of the Greek Kingdom, the one who was prophesied to arise after the fourth king of Persia (**Dan 11:2**). And neither did he live to see the final kingdom, represented by the ten toes. In fact, this kingdom never arose, and is still to arise in the future. Most Bible students acknowledge this. And in the annals of history, it is clearly the case. And it is clear in Bible prophecy that this fourth kingdom that comprises the ten toes of the great image is to suffer the impact of the **ROCK** which will destroy it - and all the other kingdoms at the same time (**Dan 2:35, 44**).

Which kingdoms are these? Is it Rome? Or Germany? Europe? No, it's none of these! In

fact, in **BIBLE PROPHECY**, none of these are even mentioned by name. Not one! Of course, the false prophets would have you believe differently! Their fanciful fabrications have nothing to do with Bible prophecy.

The Bible is very clear on who these kingdoms are. The prophets mention them by name. The purpose of this is to discourage speculation. These four kingdoms are central to all endtime prophecy. It's difficult to comprehend how anyone could understand it differently. To believe what the false prophets claim, you would literally have to reject 90% of all Bible prophecy. All Bible prophecy centers on these four kingdoms - and these prophecies culminate with the return of Christ.

At the conclusion of the first four seals there will be death everywhere. The fifth seal describes those who have died in martyrdom. These are given clothing and told to wait until the rest of their brethren are **KILLED as they were**. **Rev 6:9** *"When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the **WORD OF GOD** and the **TESTIMONY** they had **MAINTAINED**. They called in a loud voice, "How long, **Sovereign Lord, holy and true**, until you **JUDGE** the inhabitants of the earth and **avenge our blood**?" Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the **NUMBER** of their **FELLOW-SERVANTS** and **BROTHERS** who were to be **KILLED AS THEY HAD BEEN** was completed."*

Those who don't believe God's **WORD** would have you believe that God puts clothes on a big pile of corpses. And these 'corpses' engage in a conversation with their God, the **Sovereign Lord, holy and true**. They think He is the God of the dead! God is the God of the living! These were told to **WAIT** until a certain **NUMBER** of others had been killed. The reason they are told to wait is because they must not precede these others in fulfilling all that is written. Many of you will be shocked to know the full answer to this mystery. This article is not the place for such explanations. But God's prophets will reveal all at the appropriate time.

When this happens, five seals will have been opened, and the sixth seal follows. This is God's description: **Rev 6:12** *"I watched as He opened the sixth seal. There was a great **EARTHQUAKE**. The **SUN TURNED BLACK** like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole **MOON TURNED BLOOD RED**, and the **STARS IN THE SKY FELL TO EARTH**, as late figs drop from a fig-tree when shaken of a strong wind. The **SKY** receded like a **SCROLL**, rolling up, and **EVERY MOUNTAIN AND ISLAND** (landmass) was **REMOVED FROM ITS PLACE**. Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in the caves and **among the rocks of the***

*mountains. They called on the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the **FACE (Gr: prosopon; Str: 4383; means the face or front of the head) of HIM WHO SITS ON THE THRONE** (the **FATHER - Rev 5:1; 22:3**), AND from the **WRATH** of the **LAMB**. For the **GREAT DAY OF THEIR WRATH HAS COME**."*

Virtually all the prophets spoke of these things, and all were referring to the same event. There are enough pointers and markers in these few verses to keep the serious Bible student busy for days. Central to the theme of this article is the reference to the **FACE OF GOD**. Virtually everyone on earth seeks refuge at that time among the rocks of the fallen mountains. They are hiding from the **FACE OF HIM WHO SITS ON THE THRONE**. The **FACE OF GOD** is also mentioned in **Rev 22:3** and the same Greek word is used.

All these people seek refuge in the ruins of the former mountains. They are terrified! The **ISLANDS (CONTINENTS) WILL ALL MOVE**, cities will be crushed out of existence. Tidal waves will swamp huge land masses, and people will die like flies. In the wake of this come the seven trumpet plagues. Those who survive the sixth seal will be *tormented* for five months by demons that will sting them like scorpions. They are given power to torture - *but not kill!* During those days men will seek death, but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them (**Rev 9:6**). Does this refer to the Germans as Herbert Armstrong claimed? This *worthless shepherd* (**Zech 11:17**) was an affront to God for his reckless lies!

Leaving aside the seven trumpet plagues, it's clear that the seven seals cover the whole spectrum of events preceding the **WRATH OF THE FATHER AND THE LAMB**. Notice the words **'THEIR WRATH HAS COME.'**

So unless you want to believe that the **WRATH OF GOD** begins with the **FIRST SEAL**, instead of the time of the **SIXTH SEAL** as stated by God, then all of Daniel's prophecies are complete at that point.

The description of the first seal is this: **Rev 6:1** *"I watched as the Lamb opened the **FIRST** of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its **RIDER** held a bow, and **HE** was given a crown, and **HE** rode out as **A CONQUEROR BENT ON CONQUEST**."*

So who is the **RIDER** on the white horse? Daniel tells us! This refers to the leader of the first of the four kingdoms that will arise - **BABYLON!** This is modern Iraq today! The **CITY OF BABYLON** resides on the **EUPHRATES RIVER**. This **RIDER** rode out as a **CONQUEROR BENT ON CONQUEST**. Does this describe anyone you've heard about recently. Although *bent on conquest*, the description of him stops dead at this



point. No further details are given.

**BABYLON** is the site of the ancient *Tower of Babel* from where this city gets its name. As an interesting aside, it was at this Babel or Babylon that God first confounded the language of the nations. Those working on the site were given different languages so they couldn't communicate. These spread out and populated the various lands with different languages, creating an ethnic barrier. In the latter part of the reign of these four kingdoms God is going to send a mighty angel with the seven last thunders - the seven final messages, and these will be delivered to the endtime prophets (**Rev 10; Eze 3**). God will have to write them in 160 different languages so everyone will understand. **NO, HE WON'T!! JUST ONE LANGUAGE!** When this ancient land of **BABYLON** rules over all the leaders of the earth, God will again intervene, and they will all speak the same language! Yet the lying frauds still *think* Rome is Babylon? These foolish liars have a lot to learn!

Although the seven last messages are primarily for the whole house of Israel, yet the whole world will hear it. And all those whom God calls from every nation, tribe, people and language will join with those called from the house of Israel, and will be a part of them (**Rom 11:17**).

Now read on for more information on this first seal. Much more detail is given in the rest of this article.

## **2. The RIDER on the RED horse appears. The RIDER is given POWER to take peace from the earth. This RIDER allows access to the Temple Mount. A temporary dwelling is built.**

Volumes of information are given on this **RIDER** in Bible prophecy, and the many events that occur during his reign. This is what is recorded in **Rev 6:3** *"When the Lamb opened the **SECOND SEAL**, I heard the **SECOND** living creature say, 'Come!' Then another horse came out, a fiery **RED** one. Its rider was given **POWER** to take peace from the earth and to make men slay each other. To him was given a large sword."*

This rider follows after the appearance of the first **RIDER**. But this **RIDER** is given **POWER** to take peace from the earth. Some of you will be aware that the Moslems of the earth are divided into two groups - the Sunni and the Shia. Most Moslems in the world are the Sunni but the Iranians are the Shia. Iran is the land of the Medes and Persians described in Bible history. Most of the wars involving Moslem *against* Moslem are fought between these two factions, e.g. the Afghanistan war.

The time will come when the Shia will gain the upper hand, and will be supported by the whole world. The world will recognize that action needs to be taken to quell the madness of Islam and will give consent and support to Iran. At that time, Gabriel - the mighty prince, will support this leader, and this leader will provide support to the

Jewish people to repair the damage done by his predecessor, and he will also make a quick end of the Sunni who dwell in Palestine.

Then, at the appropriate time, Gabriel, with the support of Michael, will fight the **KING OF PERSIA**, and then the **KING OF GREECE** will come.

How do we know all this? Because it's written in the Book of Truth (**Dan 11:2**)! And this concludes with the resurrection of Daniel (**Dan 12:11**).

Can we be sure?

The Bible gives infinite detail of all these things. Since these are interwoven with many other prophecies, read on for the complete explanation.

## **3. Construction of the Tabernacle completed. The daily sacrifice is commenced.**

Let's make a few things clear! Christ is the **Holy Temple** (**John 2:19-21**). Also notice **V16** *"To those who sold doves He said, 'How dare you turn **MY FATHER'S HOUSE** into a market!'"* This was the **TEMPLE** built by Herod - but it was the **FATHER'S HOUSE!** And so will the next **TEMPLE** be the **FATHER'S HOUSE!** The outrageous and blasphemous comments made by some who **CLAIM** to be **CHRISTIAN** are on record! They speak as though the building of the next **TEMPLE** was some sort of aberration of the 'silly' Jews. Some even **DENY** that it will be built. One man, who claims to be a prophet, who has also made *himself* a shepherd over God's flock, said that no temple would be built. Later he said 'one might be built but I doubt it.' Now he believes 'the Jews will probably build one but...'. Here's the test of a prophet: **Isa 8:20** *"To the law and the **TESTIMONY!** If they do not speak according to this **WORD**, they have **NO LIGHT** of dawn."* Follow this man to your doom! When these self-proclaimed prophets continually change their doctrine and contradict themselves and their former teachings, how long will you, the congregation, continue to listen? Either **CHALLENGE** them or **shake off the dust** and get out of there! **BUT DON'T FOLLOW THEM or BELIEVE THEM!**

Of special interest to these 'shepherds' who corrupt the flock, Christ had this to say: **Matt 7:21** *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the **WILL OF MY FATHER** who is in heaven."* Does the '**WILL OF MY FATHER**' mean preaching the lies and the sanctimonious, syrupy nonsense that is being preached today? Is this what is meant? Notice what else Christ said: **V22** *"Many will say to **ME** on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not **PROPHECY IN YOUR NAME**, and in your name **DRIVE OUT DEMONS** and **PERFORM MANY MIRACLES?**' Then I will tell them **PLAINLY, 'I NEVER KNEW YOU.** Away from me, you **EVILDOER.**"*

It will all count for nothing! Not that these corrupt 'shepherds' are performing such miracles today - they aren't! There sterile 'faith' is an offence to **GOD THE FATHER!** They no longer **BELIEVE GOD!** They conjure up all the trickery and lies, and say all the right things to sway you into believing that they are very righteous. Well, the **FATHER'S** standards of righteousness are completely different from theirs! Christ will do the **WILL OF THE FATHER** and say, '*Away from me, you **EVILDOER.***' You'd better believe the **FATHER** and **CHRIST!**

Perhaps some of you are aware that **THE REDEEMED WILL SING** the **SONG OF MOSES**, which is **ALSO** the **SONG OF THE LAMB (Rev 15:3)**. Here is what it says in part, speaking of the **ROCK: Deut 32:5** "*They have acted corruptly towards Him, **TO THEIR SHAME THEY ARE NO LONGER HIS CHILDREN**, but a warped and crooked generation. Is this the way you repay the **LORD**, O foolish and unwise people? Is He not **YOUR FATHER**, your Creator, who made you and **FORMED** you?" Put whatever 'spin' you like on it, but be aware that it applies to **YOU!** Notice the words: '**YOUR FATHER.**' To the false prophets who don't understand the words **SEALED IN THE SCROLL (Isa 29:11)** Isaiah had this to say: **Isa 29:14** "*Therefore once more I will **ASTOUND** these people with **WONDER UPON WONDER**; the wisdom of the wise will perish, the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish. Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the **LORD**, who do their **WORK in DARKNESS** and think, "Who sees us? Who will know?" You **TURN THINGS UPSIDE DOWN**, as if the **POTTER (God)** were thought to be the **CLAY (you)**. Shall what is formed say to Him who formed it, "He did not make me"? Can the pot say of the **POTTER**, "He knows nothing"?" The Apostle Paul also spoke of this (**Rom 9:19-21**).**

From the prophetic point of view, the construction of the Temple is one of the greatest of endtime events. It is central to many prophecies. Even Christ spoke of this endtime **TEMPLE** - yet to be built! (**Matt 24:15, Mk 13:14**). Paul spoke of it: **2Thess 2:4** "*Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day (the return of Christ - **V1**) will not come until the rebellion occurs and the **MAN OF LAWLESSNESS** is revealed, **THE MAN DOOMED TO DESTRUCTION**. He opposes and exalts himself over everything that is called God or is worshipped, and even sets himself up in God's **TEMPLE**, proclaiming himself to be God."* A clear reference to **Dan 8:9-14, 11:31, 36**.

And did Christ consider the Temple to be important? Here is what He said: **Matt 23:16** "*Woe to you blind guides! **YOU** say, 'If anyone swears by the **TEMPLE**, it means nothing; but if anyone swears by the **gold** of the Temple, he is bound by his oath.'* **YOU BLIND FOOLS!** Which is **GREATER**: the gold or the **TEMPLE**

**THAT MAKES THE GOLD SACRED?"** If you reflect back, you will notice that the *gold or income* was far more important to these worthless '*shepherds*' than anything else, including the **WORD OF GOD**.

Many prophecies detail the building of the Temple in Jerusalem. All the prophets spoke of it either directly or indirectly. This is what the prophet Isaiah recorded: **Isa 2:2** "***IN THE LAST DAYS** the mountain of the **LORD'S TEMPLE** will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it."* This is what the prophet Jeremiah recorded: **Jer 31:38** "*The days are coming," declares the **LORD**, "When this **CITY** will be rebuilt for Me from the **Tower of Hananel** to the **Corner Gate**. The **MEASURING LINE** will stretch from there straight to the **Hill of Gareb** and then turn to **Goah**. The whole valley where dead bodies and ashes are thrown, and all the terraces out to the **Kidron Valley** on the east as far as the corner of the **Horse Gate**, will be **HOLY** to the **LORD**. The **CITY WILL NEVER AGAIN BE UPROOTED OR DEMOLISHED.**" This perfectly describes the **TEMPLE MOUNT!** The **MEASURING LINE** is mentioned again and again in the Bible in connection with the **CITY AND THE TEMPLE (Jer 31:39, Eze 40:3-5, Zech 1:16, 2:1, Rev 11:1)**. Then finally in **Rev 21:15** another **CITY** is measured. This is the Heavenly Jerusalem that will descend to earth. Only a spirit being could measure this because it's nearly 6,000 miles around the perimeter.*

Over 20 years after the **TEMPLE** (Herod's) was demolished (in 70AD) the prophet John is told to measure the **TEMPLE AND THE ALTAR**. Of course there was no **TEMPLE** there - but John was in vision - a vision of the **LATTER DAYS (Rev 1:10)**. And in vision he performed this task **EXACTLY** as it will be done soon.

In preparation for this event, the prophet Ezekiel has given the precise dimensions. This is found in **Eze 40-48**. The description of this **TEMPLE** is described in infinite detail. Many have thought that this was the **TEMPLE** that was built by Zerubbabel or Herod. In fact, Zerubbabel didn't build a **TEMPLE** - at least, not one like Solomon or Herod, he built a **TABERNACLE**, which indeed served as a **TEMPLE**.

But neither did Herod build the **TEMPLE** described by Ezekiel. There have been plenty of artist's impressions of what the second **TEMPLE** looked like, but no one knows for sure. Even if Herod did simulate the instructions of Ezekiel, there was one important aspect missing - one that even Herod could not have added - even if he wanted to. This is the dimension that proves that Ezekiel was speaking of the **LATTER DAY TEMPLE** that will be built by the **SAINTS**. It's described in **Eze 47:1-12** "*The man brought me back to the entrance of the **TEMPLE**, and I saw water coming out from under the **THRESHOLD***

of the **TEMPLE** towards the east (for the **TEMPLE** faced east). The water was coming down from under the south side of the Temple, south of the altar. He brought me out through the north gate and led me round the outside to the outer gate facing east, and the water was flowing from the south side. As the man went eastward with a **MEASURING LINE** in his hand, he measured off a thousand cubits and led me through water that was ankle-deep. He measured off another thousand cubits and led me through water that was knee-deep. He measured off another thousand and led me through water that was up to the waist. He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river that I could not cross, because the water had risen and was deep enough to swim in - a river that no one could cross. He asked me, "Son of man, do you see this?" Then he led me back to the bank of the river. When I arrived there, I saw a great number of **TREES** on each side of the river. He said to me, "This water flows towards the eastern region and goes down to the Arabah where it enters the sea, the water there becomes fresh. Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live. Fishermen will stand along the shore; from En Gedi to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading nets. The fish will be of many kinds - like fish of the Great Sea. But the swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt. **FRUIT TREES** of all **KINDS** will grow on both banks of the river. Their **LEAVES** will not wither, nor will their **FRUIT** fail. Every **MONTH** they will bear, because the water from the **SANCTUARY** flows to them. Their **FRUIT** will serve for food and their **LEAVES FOR HEALING.**"

What Ezekiel has just described is the **RIVER OF LIFE** together with the **TREE OF LIFE**. And you will notice that these are a part of the construction of the Temple. The **RIVER OF LIFE** flows from under the **THRESHHOLD** of **this TEMPLE**. Now notice what the prophet John recorded: **Rev 22:1** "Then the angel showed me the **RIVER OF THE WATER OF LIFE**, as clear as crystal, flowing from the **THRONE OF GOD** and of the **LAMB** down the middle of the great street of the **CITY**. On each side of the **RIVER** stood the **TREE OF LIFE**, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every **MONTH**. And the **LEAVES** of the **TREE** are for the **HEALING** of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The **THRONE OF GOD (the Father)** and of the **LAMB (Christ)** will be in the **CITY**, and His servants will serve **HIM (the Father - Rev 1:6)**. They will see **HIS FACE (the Father - Rev 21:3, Eze 39:29)**, and **HIS NAME (the Father's - Rev 14:1)** will be on their foreheads."

To further identify this river, which flows under the threshold of the Temple and from the mighty mountain which once existed, of which

Mount Moriah is the remnant, Christ had this to say: **John 7:37** "On the **LAST** and **GREAT DAY** of the **FEAST**, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If a man is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, **AS THE SCRIPTURE HAS SAID**, streams of **LIVING WATER** will flow from within him." By this He meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive. Up to that time **THE SPIRIT HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN**, since Jesus had not yet been glorified." This is the scripture that offers the complete demarcation between the Old Covenant and the New. This **SPIRIT** that flows as **LIVING WATER** was given on the **DAY OF PENTECOST**. It is the **SPIRIT OF CHRIST!** And it flows from within those who are truly Christ's. And remember that Christ is the **WORD** of God. The river that flows under the threshold of the Temple from the **CORNERSTONE (Matt 21:42)** is the **SPIRIT OF CHRIST** that will be freely available to all that seek it. And when this happens, it will be the start of a whole new era. Much more will be said on these things in the future.

## **WHO BUILDS THE TEMPLE?**

Concerning the building of this Temple, God is very specific.

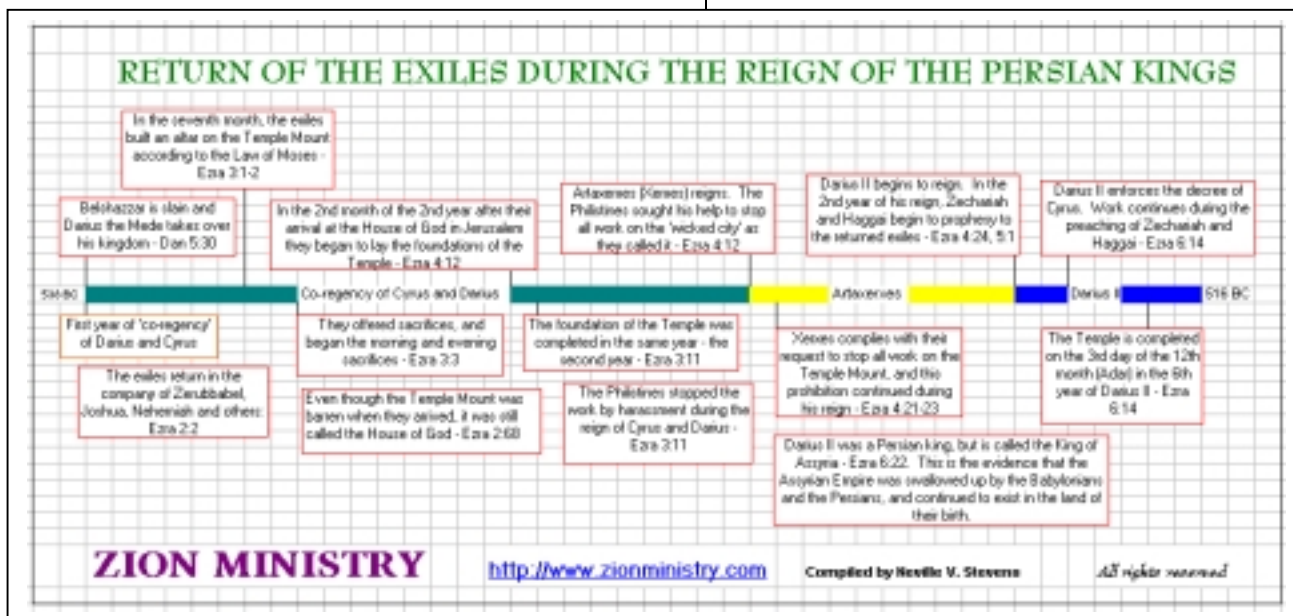
The Jewish people today have no realistic idea of what is to occur. The purely secular citizens of Israel today have no expectation of a Temple, whereas those who do seek to obey God desire with all their hearts to build a Temple - but have no idea how to achieve it. They've become bogged down with all sorts of misconceptions and indecisions of where the Temple should be. They also have a morbid fear of walking on the Temple Mount for fear of standing on the place of the Holy of Holies. Based on their current philosophy and indecisive opinions, the Temple would never be built - by them! And neither did God intend for them to build it. But this is not the end of the story as far as the Jews of Israel are concerned regarding the building of the Temple. The Jews in Jerusalem will build a wooden Tabernacle out of cedar. They will complete it in seven weeks. They will set 12 stones for the altar. They will also build it in the wrong place. They will build it *without proper consultation* with those from whom the **LIVING WATER** flows and it will be destroyed! Their whole nation will be overrun and the city and the sanctuary will be destroyed. Those from whom the **LIVING WATER** flows will return them from captivity. And the real **TEMPLE** will be built according to specification!

We should remember that King David desired with all his heart to build a House for the Almighty God. He had done all the planning and even purchased the **SITE** - the **HOLY MOUNT (2Sam 24:18-25)**. He had set aside an enormous



quantity of **GOLD, SILVER, BRONZE, and IRON (IChron 29:2-7)**. But God told David that his son would build it. David was a 'father' to Judah, Jerusalem, and the 12 tribes of Israel, and the 'son' had to build the Temple. And it was his son Solomon that built it. Nebuzaradan, the commander of Nebuchadnezzar's armies, destroyed

this temple in 586 BC.



Then Zerubbabel and Joshua came along around 537 BC, after the decree had been issued to build the Temple by **CYRUS**, king of Persia, in the first year of his reign (**Ezra 1:1**). They potted around spasmodically for about 21 years or thereabouts. They repaired some walls and cleaned the site and then went on to build their own homes (**Hag 1:4, 9**). Then on the **1st day** of the **6th month** of the **2nd year** of the reign of **DARIUS** (**Hag 1:1**), God sent the prophet Haggai.

This is what he said: **Hag 1:7** "This is what the **LORD Almighty** says: "Give careful thought to your **WAYS**. Go up into the mountains and **BRING DOWN TIMBER** and **BUILD THE HOUSE**, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honoured," says the **LORD**. "You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?" declares the **LORD Almighty**. "Because of **MY HOUSE**, which **REMAINS A RUIN**, while each of you is busy with his own house."

Just **seven weeks later**, on the **21st day** of the **7th month** (**Hag 2:1**) God spoke through the prophet Haggai once more. (Note the seven weeks are described by absolute dates). **Hag 2:2** "Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Governor of Judah, to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the **REMNANT** of the people. Ask them, 'Who of you is left who saw **THIS HOUSE** in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like **NOTHING**? But now be strong, O Zerubbabel,' declares the **LORD**. 'Be strong, O Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of **THE LAND**,' declares the **LORD Almighty**. This is what I covenanted with

*you when you came out of Egypt. And **MY SPIRIT remains AMONG YOU**. Do not fear."*

So in **seven weeks USING TIMBER FROM THE MOUNTAINS** they succeeded in building some sort of structure - which, compared with the original looked like **NOTHING!** Notice what God says: **Hag 2:6** "This is what the **LORD Almighty** says: 'In a little while I will **ONCE MORE** shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all nations and the **DESIRED of all nations** will come, and I will fill **THIS HOUSE** with glory,' says the **LORD Almighty**. The **SILVER** is mine and the **GOLD** is mine,' declares the **LORD Almighty**. The **GLORY** of this **PRESENT HOUSE** will be greater than the **GLORY** of the **FORMER HOUSE**,' says the **LORD Almighty**. 'And in this **PLACE** I will grant **PEACE**,' declares the **LORD Almighty**."

Did Zerubbabel and Joshua and all the remnant go into the mountains and get **TIMBER** and build this **HOUSE**? Did God lift the curse that He put on them for their inactivity? Now notice what is said: **Hag 2:15** "Now give careful thought to this from this day on - consider how things were before one **STONE** was laid on another **IN THE LORD'S TEMPLE**." So did they use **STONES** in the initial construction? No! They used **12 STONES** to build the **ALTAR IN THE LORD'S TEMPLE** (**Ezra 3:2**). Continuing: **V18** "From this day on, from this **24th DAY** of the **9th MONTH**, give careful thought to the **DAY** when the **FOUNDATION** of the **LORD'S TEMPLE** was laid. Give careful thought: Is there yet any seed left in the barn? Until now, the vine and the fig-tree, the pomegranate and the olive tree have



*not borne fruit. From this day on I will bless you."* For all the intervening years after they repaired and laid the foundations, and after they laid the stones for the altar, they were under a curse because they put their own personal interests before the **WORK of God**.

Let's be clear about what *foundations* were laid. The evil observers who were present in Jerusalem at that time, wrote a letter to Xerxes in order to stop the work. This is what they wrote in part: **Ezra 4:12** *"The king should know that the Jews who came up to us from you have gone to Jerusalem and are rebuilding that rebellious and wicked city. They are **RESTORING** the walls and **REPAIRING** the foundations."* This clearly speaks of the **WALLS** and the **FOUNDATIONS** of the **TEMPLE MOUNT**.

So on the **24th day** of the **9th month** of the **2nd year** of **DARIUS** (**Hag 2:10**) God lifted the curse. In years to come, this date will have very great significance.

So here we find exact dates for seven 'sevens.' In this prophecy, the seven 'sevens' are actual weeks of seven days. The Book of Ezra records the time when the *altar* was built according to the directions of *the Law of Moses, the man of God*. This was built on the foundation of the Temple mount. **ZERUBBABEL** and **JOSHUA** laid these **12 STONES** and sacrifices were made. Ezra the prophet records that this occurred after **SEVEN MONTHS**. Remember the words of the prophecy *'before one stone was laid on another.'* Here is what Ezra recorded: **Ezra 3:1** *"When the **SEVENTH MONTH** came and the Israelites had settled in their towns, the people assembled as one man in Jerusalem. Then **JESHUA** son of Jozadak and his fellow priests and **ZERUBBABEL** son of Shealtiel and his associates began to build the **ALTAR** of the God of Israel to sacrifice burnt offerings on it, in accordance with what was **WRITTEN** in the **LAW OF MOSES** the man of God. Despite their fear of the peoples around them, they built the **ALTAR** on its **FOUNDATION** and sacrificed burnt offerings on it to the **LORD**, **BOTH THE MORNING AND EVENING SACRIFICES.**" **V6** *"On the **FIRST DAY** of the **SEVENTH MONTH** they began to offer burnt offerings to the **LORD**, though the **FOUNDATION OF THE LORD'S TEMPLE HAD NOT BEEN LAID.**"**

This speaks of the **SEVENTH MONTH** of the **FIRST YEAR** of **DARIUS**.

So what happened to **CYRUS**? He was still around: **Dan 10:1** *"In the third year of **CYRUS**, king of Persia, a revelation was given to Daniel..."*. From the very day that preceded the revelation Gabriel was sent to Daniel with the explanation of the vision. In this explanation, Gabriel delivered these words: **Dan 11:1** *"In the **FIRST YEAR** of **DARIUS THE MEDE**, I took my stand to support him."*

Which **DARIUS THE MEDE** was this?

Daniel identifies him in **Dan 5:30** *"That very night Belshazzar, **KING** of the **BABYLONIANS**, was slain, and **DARIUS THE MEDE** took over **THE KINGDOM**, at the age of sixty-two."* We don't know a lot about this shadowy figure, but we do know that when he appeared on the scene he was sixty-two. The Bible makes a point of mentioning this. So who was it that conquered Babylon and took the kingdom? Was it **CYRUS**? Or was it **DARIUS**? We will shortly discover the answer to this mystery! First, let's discover the background to the *decree* that was issued. This decree is mentioned in Daniel chapter 9 following Daniel's prayer (**Dan 9:4-19**) concerning the **TEMPLE** and the **CITY** that **BEARS GOD'S NAME**.

It should be noted that first there was **DARIUS** (and also **CYRUS**), then there was Artaxerxes (**XERXES**) then there was **DARIUS** again. After him was Artaxerxes (**XERXES**) who was the husband of Queen Esther (of the Book of Esther whose uncle was Mordecai), and then **DARIUS** (aka **DAST**) again. It seems that historians choose to call this Darius **DAST** to distinguish him from the final or *fourth* **DARIUS** whom they call **DARIUS III**, who in fact is **DARIUS IV** (see also **Dan 11:1-2**). It was the princess daughter of this **DARIUS** that **ALEXANDER THE GREAT** married to consolidate his empire.

Bear these things in mind and read on. The whole explanation is given in relation to some more prophecies further into the article.

#### **4. The Greek/Macedonian Empire arises as a quasi-Moslem super-state. The Leader is the rider of the BLACK horse.**

The Book of Zechariah speaks of Christ's first appearance, and then goes on to describe His second appearance. The description of this first appearance is as follows: **Zech 9:9** *"Rejoice greatly; O Daughter of **Zion**! Shout, Daughter of **Jerusalem**! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."* There can be no doubt that this describes Christ's first appearance on earth. Christ ensured that this prophecy was fulfilled (**Matt 21:5**). What follows next is a completely different scenario. There is a distinct transformation from the kind, meek and gentle man on a donkey to that of a mighty conqueror. Here is the description: **Zech 9:10** *"I will take away the chariots from **EPHRAIM** and the war-horses from **Jerusalem**, and the battle-bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations."* (A reference to the final proclamation - **Rev 10:9-11, 14:6**) Continuing: *"His rule will extend from sea to sea, and from the **RIVER** (Euphrates in Babylon) to the ends of the earth."* Christ did none of these things at His first appearance. Continuing in **V11** *"AS FOR YOU,*

because of the **BLOOD OF MY COVENANT** with you, I will free **YOUR** prisoners from the **WATERLESS** pit." Here we find the absolute proof that this was **AFTER** Christ's death when the '**BLOOD OF MY COVENANT**' was ratified. This is a reference to those under the **NEW COVENANT**. **V12** "Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope; even now I will announce that I will **RESTORE TWICE AS MUCH** to you. I will bend **JUDAH** as I bend My bow and fill it with **EPHRAIM**. I will rouse your sons, O **ZION**, **AGAINST** your sons, O **GREECE**, and make you [**ZION**] like a warrior's **SWORD**." Here we see that in the final wrap-up of these things, **ZION** is to fight against **GREECE AND IT'S SONS**.

The false prophets find this strange that **GREECE** is mentioned here but not Germany - which they believe and teach is to head some fanciful resurrection of a Roman Empire as a 'United States of Europe.' In none of their literature do they mention **GREECE** as a player in endtime events. Yet here we find that the Bible indicates that **GREECE** is the principle player. Why **GREECE** and not **BABYLON**? Because this speaks of the time **AFTER** Babylon is attacked and enslaved by those nations confederate with **GREECE** (See **Rev 17:16**).

And when does this battle occur when **JUDAH** fights against **GREECE**? Zechariah describes it: **Zech 14:9, 14** "The **LORD** will be king over the whole earth." **V14** "**JUDAH** too will fight at **JERUSALEM**. The wealth of the **SURROUNDING** nations will be collected - great quantities of gold and silver and clothing." At this time **EPHRAIM** [U.S.] will be re-united with **JUDAH** [Israel] in the Holy Land: **Eze 37:15** "The word of the **LORD** came to me: "Son of man, take a stick of wood and write on it, 'Belonging to **JUDAH** and the **ISRAELITES ASSOCIATED WITH HIM**.' Then take another stick of wood, and write on it, '**EPHRAIM's** stick of wood, belonging to **JOSEPH** and **ALL** the **HOUSE OF ISRAEL ASSOCIATED WITH HIM**.' Join them **TOGETHER** so that they become **ONE** in your hand." **V22** "I will make them **ONE NATION** in the land, on the **MOUNTAINS OF ISRAEL**. There will be one king over **ALL OF THEM** and they will **NEVER AGAIN BE DIVIDED INTO TWO NATIONS**." So who is this '**JUDAH**' that will fight at Jerusalem? It's **ZION**! It's **JUDAH**! **AND** it's **EPHRAIM**! **JUDAH** will be the new super-power - the **BATTLE-BOW**: **Zech 10:4** "From **JUDAH** will come the **CORNERSTONE**, from him the **TENT-PEG**, from him the **BATTLE-BOW**, from him **EVERY RULER**."

If **JUDAH** is the **BATTLE-BOW**, then who represents the arrows? Here it is again: **Zech 9:13** "I will bend **JUDAH** as I bend My **BOW** and fill it with **EPHRAIM**." So mighty will God's hand be when they go out against the children of the king of **GREECE**, they will destroy with

**SLINGSTONES**: **V15** "...and the **LORD Almighty** will shield them. They will destroy and overcome with **SLINGSTONES**." Just like David against Goliath the Philistine. But the Bible also speaks of the *preceding* days of this event. This is the time when Ephraim - the mightiest nation on earth - held the battle bow: **Ps 78:9** "The men of **EPHRAIM**, though armed with **BOWS**, turned back on the **DAY OF BATTLE**; they did not keep God's **COVENANT** and **REFUSED TO LIVE BY HIS LAW**."

You Churches of God in **EPHRAIM**; perhaps you are beginning to understand what your role is and the great opportunity God is offering you. This is what Christ said: **John 18:36** "Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world [str. *aion* = age]. If it were, My **SERVANTS** would **FIGHT** to prevent My arrest by the Jews. But now My kingdom is from another [time]."

Presently, the role of a **TRUE CHRISTIANS** is **NOT** to fight for any earthly government - since our **CITIZENSHIP** is in heaven. In fact, even though most of you will reject it, their role is to go as sheep to the slaughter: **Rom 8:36** "For Your sake we face death all day long; we are considered to be as sheep to be slaughtered." (See also **Ps 44:22**). This will become increasingly evident in the next few years. And then the tide will turn! Zechariah also describes this turning point: **Zech 9:14** "Then the **LORD** will appear over them; His arrow will flash like lightning. The Sovereign **LORD** will sound the **TRUMPET**; He will march in the **STORMS of the SOUTH**..." The **STORMS of the SOUTH** describe a very special event! Howling gales will blast out to all points of the compass: **Jer 23:19** "See, the **STORM** of the **LORD** will burst out in **WRATH**, a whirlwind swirling down on the heads of the wicked. The anger of the **LORD** will not turn back until He **ACCOMPLISHES THE PURPOSES OF HIS HEART**. In **DAYS TO COME** [the latter days] you will **UNDERSTAND IT CLEARLY**." (see also **Jer 30:23**) The Bible reveals that this is caused by a very special and glorious event. More about this later. The Tribes of Israel, the nations that God has chosen of all the peoples of the earth (**Jer 33:14, Deut 7:6, 14:2, Mal 3:16-18**) are required to fight for the **LAND** that God has given them - regardless of where they have settled! (**Dan 9:7**). From these God will call His 'treasured possession'. (see also **Rev 7:4-8**).

In regard to the Beast - the king of **GREECE**, Zechariah's evidence is conclusive in itself, and is in complete accord with the many other scriptures that identify the two beasts (or the beast and the false prophet as the Book of Revelation refers to them). Daniel was the prophet that was commissioned to record, with exacting detail, the identity of the Beast power. Daniel recorded details of these endtime kingdoms that would feature prominently in the final fulfillment of the Beast power and the ten kings. The

**ASSYRIAN EMPIRE HAD ALREADY PASSED INTO HISTORY** when the **BOOK OF DANIEL WAS RECORDED**, and Daniel doesn't even mention them. Nor does John! The false prophets would have you believe that Assyria (which they believe and teach is Germany) is to be the *dominant* player in the endtime events. Utter madness! They just **REFUSE** to **BELIEVE** God!

**5. Ten kingdoms or nations form an alliance with the King of Greece. He appoints these ten kings which are also called ten horns.**

#### **THE GRECO-MACEDONIAN EMPIRE**

So if Daniel and John don't even mention the Assyrians, why do the false prophets insist that they are to be the super-power of the Beast's confederation? And what does Daniel record in this matter?

It just so happens that the Book of Daniel clearly identifies the Beast power as the **KINGDOM** of Phillip II of Macedonia and his son Alexander the Great (which is the **KINGDOM** that Alexander inherited on his father's death). Alexander went on to conquer the whole of the Middle East and all the way to India. This same empire and its territories is the one that will arise in the endtime.

But can we be sure? Only if the Bible reveals it! Those who oppose God's truth have conjured up all sorts of scenarios to support their own beliefs. Since they don't believe that the Greeks and Macedonians could ever be a super-power, they've reasoned that the nation that has started two world wars during this century is a better candidate. They don't care what the **BIBLE** says! Nor do they **BELIEVE** that God has the **POWER** to bring about **ALL** that He has said. Instead they insist that God complies with their own myopic view of world events, and their fabrications of the scriptures. For those who are new to Bible study, you should understand that there is nothing whatsoever in the Bible that identifies Germany with ancient Assyria. *Absolutely nothing!*

This topic is covered in several other articles, some of which are already posted on the Internet in Zion Ministry 'Articles' page. Most Bible students are aware that the first Beast is also identified as the '*king of the North*.' The Bible also refers to the '*king of the South*' and identifies this as being Egypt. Alexander's Empire was divided into four separate states after his death, by four of his generals. These four states encompassed all the former territories of the Empire. It is out of one of these that the Beast is to arise: **Dan 8:9** "*The goat (Grecian Empire - V21) became very great, but at the height of his power his large horn (Alexander the Great - V21) was broken off, and in its place four prominent horns grew up towards the four winds of heaven. OUT OF ONE OF THEM*

*came another horn, which started small but grew in power, to the SOUTH and to the EAST and towards the BEAUTIFUL LAND (the promised land - Jer 3:19)."* Notice that these **FOUR HORNS** grow out of the **GOAT**, which is the **GRECIAN EMPIRE (Dan 8:21)**.

So now we know plainly that this **OTHER HORN** is to arise from **ONE OF THEM**, that is, one of the **FOUR** divisions of Alexander's kingdom. The question is - **WHICH ONE?** Since there are only **FOUR** possibilities we must make the determination based on what the Bible says! These are the four divisions of his empire:

- a. The Greek-Macedonian region.
- b. The kingdom of the **SOUTH** which the Bible identifies as Egypt and her allies (**Dan 11:40, 43**).
- c. The region of **THRACE** (modern Bulgaria) to the **EAST** bordering on the Black Sea.
- d. The kingdom that was **TOWARDS the BEAUTIFUL LAND**. This is the region that is south-east of the kingdom of the **GOAT (which is Greece - Dan 8:21-22)**. And which is the division of Alexander's kingdom that is **TOWARDS the BEAUTIFUL LAND** or south-east of **GREECE?** This is the region of Syria, Iraq (ancient Babylon), Iran (Medes and Persians).

Only the Greece/Macedonian division of Alexander's former Empire has another division to the east and another to the south, and also one 'towards the beautiful land.'

Can we be sure that this is speaking of the endtime beast? Perhaps it refers to Antiochus Epiphanes as many of the dreamers have claimed. What does the Bible say? We don't need to guess! The Bible makes it very plain! Here it is: **Dan 8:9** "*OUT OF ONE OF THEM came another horn, which started small but grew in power, to the SOUTH and to the EAST and towards the BEAUTIFUL LAND. It grew until it reached THE HOST OF THE HEAVENS AND IT THREW SOME OF THE STARRY HOST TO THE GROUND AND TRAMPLED THEM.*" Did Antiochus Epiphanes do this? If he did, then the Apostle John was terribly confused! John also spoke of this event - and he was writing under the inspiration of Almighty God! John said the one who did this was Satan the devil! **Rev 12:4** "*Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to earth.*" The Bible also says this: **Rev 12:9** "*The great dragon was hurled down - that ancient serpent called the devil and Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, AND HIS ANGELS WITH HIM.*" (see also **V10, 12, 13**). This is when the beast arises (**Rev 13:1**). This is the same beast spoken of by Daniel the prophet - the one who desecrates the Temple, and the one that Christ spoke of (**Matt 24:15**) - the one whom all the world will worship (**Rev 13:4**). And this person will be given the power, throne and



authority of the dragon - which is Satan the devil! (Rev 13:2).

Christ was quite specific in His comments about this beast. This is what He says: **Matt 24:15** "So when you see standing in the Holy Place **THE ABOMINATION THAT CAUSES DESOLATION**, spoken of through the Prophet Daniel - let the READER UNDERSTAND - then let those who are in JUDEA flee to the mountains." Most Bible margins identify these three scriptures in reference to Christ's remarks: **Dan 9:27, 11:31, 12:11**. Was Christ referring to a past event? Or a future event? Very clearly He was prophesying of a FUTURE EVENT! The very event SPOKEN OF THROUGH THE PROPHET DANIEL! So was Daniel prophesying about Antiochus Epiphanes when he spoke of the 2,300 DAYS which refers to the ABOMINATION THAT CAUSES DESOLATION? Obviously not! The three references to Christ's words in **Matt 24:15** are these:

**Dan 9:27** "He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven', but in the middle of that 'seven' he will put an **END TO SACRIFICE AND OFFERING**. And ONE WHO CAUSES DESOLATION WILL PLACE ABOMINATIONS on a wing of the TEMPLE until the **END THAT IS DECREED** (Rev 19:20) is poured out on HIM."

**Dan 11:31** "His armed forces will rise up to **DESECRATE** the TEMPLE fortress and will **ABOLISH THE DAILY SACRIFICE**. Then they will set up the **ABOMINATION THAT CAUSES DESOLATION**. With flattery he will corrupt those who have **VIOLATED THE COVENANT**, but **THE PEOPLE THAT KNOW THEIR GOD WILL FIRMLY RESIST HIM**."

Notice that Christ agreed with what Daniel had said - and **CONFIRMED THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE - IN THE TIME OF THE END!** Daniel was also told that it was for the TIME of the END and that he would arise in the resurrection at the **END OF THE DAYS**:

**Dan 12:11** "From the time that the **DAILY SACRIFICE IS ABOLISHED** and the **ABOMINATION THAT CAUSES DESOLATION IS SET UP**, there will be **1290 DAYS**. Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the **1335 DAYS**. As for you, go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the **END OF THE DAYS** you will **RISE** [the resurrection] **TO RECEIVE YOUR ALLOTTED INHERITANCE**." Notice the two periods of time here! The **1290 DAYS** spans the time from when the **DAILY SACRIFICE IS ABOLISHED**, to the time when the **ABOMINATION IS SET UP**. The second period of **1335 DAYS** is the start of the **GREAT TRIBULATION** that Christ spoke of (**Matt 24:15, 21**).

Following the **VISION** of the **GOAT** and the **RAM** (**Dan 8:5-12**), Daniel is told the meaning

of the **VISION**. This is what the Bible says: **V13** "Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to him, "How long will it take for the **VISION** to be fulfilled - the **VISION CONCERNING THE DAILY SACRIFICE**, the rebellion that **CAUSES DESOLATION**, and the surrender of the sanctuary **AND OF THE HOST THAT WILL BE TRAMPLED UNDERFOOT?**" He said to me, "It will take **2,300 evenings and mornings; THEN the sanctuary will be re-consecrated**." While I, Daniel, was **watching the VISION** and trying to understand it, there before me stood one who looked like a man. And I heard a man's voice from the Ulai calling, "Gabriel, tell this man the **MEANING of the VISION**." As he came near the place where I was standing, I was terrified and fell prostrate. "Son of man," he said to me, "**UNDERSTAND THAT THE VISION CONCERNS THE TIME OF THE END**." While he was speaking to me, I was in a deep sleep, with my face to the ground. Then he touched me and raised me to my feet."

That sounds plain enough! But can we be sure? Should we check with other Bible 'scholars' and 'intellectuals'? Perhaps Rasputin had something to say on this matter; he's about the only 'intellectual' that the lying frauds have not yet quoted in support of their delusions. Why do these people believe that they have to resort to obscure Bible 'scholars' and 'intellectuals' to support what they teach. The answer is: **they REFUSE to BELIEVE God and His WORD!**

Continuing in the very next verse: **V19** "He said, "I am going to tell you what will happen later in the **TIME OF WRATH** (Rev 6:16-17), because **THE VISION CONCERNS THE APPOINTED TIME OF THE END**. The two-horned **RAM** that you saw represents the kings of **MEDIA** and **PERSIA**. The shaggy **GOAT** is the King of **GREECE**, and the **LARGE HORN** between his eyes **IS THE FIRST KING**. The four horns that replaced the one that was broken off represent four kingdoms that will emerge from **HIS NATION [Empire]** but will not have the same power. In the latter part of their reign, when rebels have become completely wicked, a **STERN-FACED KING, A MASTER OF INTRIGUE, WILL ARISE**. He will become very strong, **but not by his own POWER** (pointer: **Rev 13:2**). He will cause **astounding devastation** and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy the **MIGHTY MEN** and the **HOLY PEOPLE** (pointer: **Rev 13:7, Dan 7:21, 25**). He will cause **DECEIT** to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. When they feel secure, he will destroy many and **TAKE HIS STAND AGAINST THE PRINCE OF PRINCES** (Michael is the Prince of princes - **Rev 12:7, Dan 10:13, 21**). Yet he will be destroyed but not by human power (pointer: **Rev 19:20, Matt 13:41**). The **VISION OF THE EVENINGS AND MORNINGS** that has been

*given you is true, **but SEAL UP THE VISION, FOR IT CONCERNS THE DISTANT FUTURE.***"

An 'evening and morning' represent a single day (**Gen 1:5,8,13,19,23,31**). So this prophecy is about **2,300 DAYS**. This period covers the time from when the daily sacrifice is taken away until the sanctuary is reconsecrated (**Dan 8:14, 12:11**). For part of this period **THE GENTILES WILL TREAD DOWN THE HOLY CITY (Rev 11:2)**. During this 42 month period (which is also **1260 days**), two prophets will be prophesying in Jerusalem (**V3**). For 3½ years these two prophets - *by the Power of God* - will be *invincible*. But their enemies will not! So all you aspiring 'prophets' who live in your own world of fantasy and delusion, buy yourselves a hair shirt and present yourself in Jerusalem and see how long you last! You deceitful frauds who have spent your lives deluding God's flock with your appalling lies; let's see you lob in God's Holy City and claim to be one of the two endtime prophets. God will answer you! You are surely heaping coals on your own heads. Every word you now teach against the truth of the Bible is being marked against you. You will be cut down and thrown into the fire. This is what the second **ELIJAH**, John the Baptist, said: **Matt 3:7** *"But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "YOU BROOD OF VIPERS! Who warned you to flee from the COMING WRATH? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children to Abraham. The AXE IS ALREADY AT THE ROOT OF THE TREES, and EVERY TREE THAT DOES NOT PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT WILL BE CUT DOWN AND THROWN INTO THE FIRE."*

This same circumstance, which prompted this response from John the Baptist is now present today. You are now being judged. John the Baptist spoke here of the **COMING WRATH**. The Prophet John also wrote of it: **Rev 6:16** *"They called to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of HIM THAT SITS ON THE THRONE, and from the WRATH OF THE LAMB. For the GREAT DAY of THEIR WRATH HAS COME."* Notice that at the **TIME OF THE SIXTH SEAL** the **WRATH** of **HIM THAT SITS ON THE THRONE [the Father - Rev 5:7]** AND the **LAMB** has **COME!**

Daniel also spoke of this same period - this time of **WRATH**: **Dan 8:19** *"He said, "I am going to tell you what will happen in the TIME OF WRATH because the VISION concerns the appointed TIME OF THE END."*

The angel that spoke to Daniel gave more information concerning the **END**. In reference to this **END** he spoke of the time when the daily sacrifice would be taken away, and the abomination set up. These are the words that he used in

connection with the 2,300 evenings and mornings in **Dan 8:13-14**. Now read what he had to say in reference to this: **Dan 12:8-13** *"I heard but I did not understand. So I asked, "My lord, what will the outcome of all this be?" He replied, "Go your way, Daniel, because the words are **CLOSED UP AND SEALED until the time of THE END**. Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. **NONE** of the **WICKED** will **UNDERSTAND**, but those **WHO ARE WISE WILL UNDERSTAND**. From the time that the **DAILY SACRIFICE IS ABOLISHED** and the **ABOMINATION THAT CAUSES DESOLATION IS SET UP**, there will be 1,290 days. **BLESSED IS THE ONE** who **WAITS FOR** and **REACHES** the **END** of the 1,335 days. As for you, go your way till **THE END**. You will **REST**, and then at the **END OF THE DAYS** you **WILL RISE TO RECEIVE YOUR ALLOTTED INHERITANCE.**"*

These six verses contain pointers and markers to literally hundreds of other scriptures throughout the Bible. At this point we'll consider just a few of them. Notice that *'the words are closed up and SEALED to the time of THE END.'* So whatever is **SEALED** must be **UN-sealed** in order to be understood. And who is going to **UN-seal** these words of Daniel? These verses say that **NONE OF THE WICKED WILL UNDERSTAND!** It also says the **WISE WILL UNDERSTAND!** And who are these people? Here it is: **Mal 3:16** *"Then those who **FEARED** the **LORD** talked with each other, and the **LORD** listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in His presence concerning those who **FEARED** the **LORD** and **HONOURED HIS NAME**. "They will be mine," says the **LORD** Almighty, "in the day when I make up My **TREASURED POSSESSION**. I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares **HIS SON WHO SERVES HIM**. And you will again see the **DISTINCTION** between the **RIGHTEOUS** and the **WICKED**, between those who **SERVE GOD** and those **WHO DO NOT.**"*

So who is going to **UN-seal** the prophecies of Daniel? The Apostle John wrote of this in the Book of Revelation, and explained that no man or angel was found worthy to **UN-seal** these prophecies - but only the **LAMB OF GOD (Rev 5:3-5, 7)**. In all the Bible, only the contents of the **SEVEN SEALS** are **CLOSED UP** and **SEALED**. The rest of the Book of Revelation is not (**Rev 22:7-11**). It's the **SEVEN SEALS** that clarify Daniel's prophecies and cover the period of the **VISION** of the **2,300 DAYS**. And this **VISION** is sealed to the time of the end. The **SCROLL** that was bound by the **SEVEN SEALS** relates to all information **CONCERNING** the **SEVEN SEALS**. This scroll was handed to the **LAMB** by the **FATHER - WHO SAT ON THE THRONE**. As each **SEAL WAS REMOVED** it identified the meaning in John's **VISION**. So all those who

have written their preposterous articles on the 'FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE' and linked Christ's name to the first - **WATCH OUT!** Your sin has been recorded! Your lies are bad enough - do you have to add blasphemy to them?

Let's summarize:

The **VISION OF THE 2300 DAYS** relates to:

- a. The emergence of a despicable person called a beast.
- b. The morning and evening sacrifices.
- c. Setting up of the abomination that causes desolation.
- d. Cleansing of the sanctuary at the end of these days, and the resurrection of Daniel.
- e. The **VISION** is **SEALED** to the time of the end.
- f. The **SEALED VISION** is **UN-sealed** by Christ.

They conclude *at the time* Daniel is **resurrected to receive his allotted inheritance**. And all that pertains to the vision of these days occurs at the time of **THE END**.

Herbert W. Armstrong and the Worldwide Church of God never understood prophecy! And just as assuredly, neither did his son Garner Ted Armstrong or the Church of God International! Nor did **ANY** the sycophants that clung to every word these men said! And neither do **ANY** of the **OFFSHOOTS** of the Worldwide Church of God or followers of Herbert W. Armstrong understand prophecy! Yet they all claim to be the Church in Philadelphia - the one mentioned in Revelation chapter three. God did not intend that they would understand prophecy. The starting point for all endtime prophecy was **SEALED!** And only Jesus Christ Himself, was able to **UN-seal** those prophecies.

So how did God intend to **REVEAL** these things?

God does nothing except He first reveals it to His servants the prophets. God has already revealed most things to the prophets of old who also recorded them. Many of the things applicable to the endtime will be revealed **ONLY** to His servants the prophets; and particularly the things that are **SEALED**. This is what the **PROPHET AMOS** wrote: **Amos 3:7** "Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without **REVEALING HIS PLAN to HIS SERVANTS THE PROPHETS.**"

This is what the **PROPHET JOHN** wrote: **Rev 10:7** "But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the **MYSTERY OF GOD** will be **ACCOMPLISHED**, just as He **ANNOUNCED** to **HIS SERVANTS THE PROPHETS.**" **V11** "Then I was told, "You must **PROPHECY** again about many **PEOPLES, NATIONS, LANGUAGES and KINGS.**" This is what the **PROPHET DANIEL** wrote: **Dan 9:6** "We have not listened to **YOUR SERVANTS THE PROPHETS**, who spoke in your name to our

**KINGS, our PRINCES and our fathers, and to ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE LAND."**

The Book of Zechariah was written for the endtime. The prophet Zechariah wrote this: **Zech 1:2** "The LORD was very angry with your forefathers. Therefore tell the people: This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Return to Me,' declares the LORD Almighty, 'And I will return to you,' says the LORD Almighty. Do not be like your forefathers, to whom the **EARLIER PROPHETS** proclaimed: This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Turn from your **EVIL WAYS** and your **EVIL PRACTICES**. But they would not listen or pay attention to Me,' declares the LORD. Where are **YOUR** forefathers now? And the prophets, do they live for ever? But did not My words and My decrees, which I commanded **MY SERVANTS THE PROPHETS**, overtake your forefathers? Then they **REPENTED** and said, 'The LORD Almighty has done to us what our **WAYS AND PRACTICES DESERVE**, just as He **DETERMINED TO DO.**"

Zechariah speaks of those who died in the wilderness during the 40 years - as an **EXAMPLE** to those to whom he is now speaking. These are the ones to whom the **EARLIER PROPHETS** spoke. Many of the 'forefathers' of this **PRESENT ERA** are now dead. And all will die! These are the ones who manufactured the lies and deceptions and led God's people astray. The truth that God speaks today through **HIS SERVANTS THE PROPHETS** has overtaken the 'forefathers' of this present era. All of those who continue to follow these men *will REPENT* - of their **WAYS AND PRACTICES** - **when God does what He has DETERMINED TO DO!** Then they will be purified. Daniel explains: **Dan 12:1** "At that time Michael, the **GREAT PRINCE** who protects your people, will arise. There will be a **TIME OF DISTRESS** such as has not happened from the **BEGINNING OF NATIONS until THEN**. But **AT THAT TIME** your people - everyone whose name is found **WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE** - will be **DELIVERED**. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to **EVERLASTING LIFE, others to SHAME AND EVERLASTING CONTEMPT.**"

To those who have set themselves over the flock of God, who teach lies and deceit - that are not in accord with the teachings of the Bible - beware! Don't think that you will arise to everlasting life! You will arise to **EVERLASTING CONTEMPT!** But you will arise **AT THAT TIME** - in accordance with what Daniel said - because your name was once **WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE**. But you will **NOT** 'meet the Lord Jesus in the air'. Physical death - which you will surely face in the next few years, will be the end for you, even though you **WILL** be resurrected **AT THAT TIME** to face the second death. You will not even be given the saving grace of dying as a martyr - unless you



**REPENT** of your **EVIL WAYS AND EVIL PRACTICES!** The candy-floss nonsense that these people speak will take their followers straight to their deaths in the lake of fire! Today is your *only* chance of salvation. When you fully understand what the Bible is all about, you will understand why! There is much more to be said about these things!

## **6. An eleventh horn arises and subdues three of these kings or horns. His whole focus is on controlling Jerusalem.**

The king of Greece and the former territories of Phillip II of Macedonia (which Alexander the Great inherited) will arise. He will appoint ten kings and grant them territory. **AFTER THESE another horn will arise.** He will be transported to **BABYLON** in modern-day **IRAQ** where he will be set in his place **AFTER THE CITY OF BABYLON IS BUILT.** This is what Zechariah recorded in this regard: *Zech 5:5 "Then the angel who was speaking to me came forward and said to me, "Look up and see what this is that is appearing." I asked, "What is it?" He replied, "It is a measuring basket." And he added, "This [the basket] is the INIQUITY of the people throughout the land." Then the cover of lead was raised, and there in the basket sat a woman! He said, "This is wickedness," and pushed the lead cover down over its mouth. Then I looked up - and there before me were two women, with the wind in their wings! They had wings like those of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between heaven and earth. "Where are they taking the basket?" I asked the angel who was speaking to me. He replied, "To the country of **BABYLONIA** to **BUILD a HOUSE** for it. When it [the **HOUSE**] is ready, the basket will be **SET THERE IN ITS PLACE.**"* The Hebrew word used here for **BABYLONIA** is **SHINAR.** This **BABYLONIA** is identified in **Gen 10:10** as the land of **SHINAR.** It's strange how the false teachers claim that Rome is Babylon. These verses speak of the '**COUNTRY OF BABYLONIA**' and also of a **HOUSE** that will be **BUILT FOR IT.** When this **HOUSE** is completed, the **MEASURING BASKET** will be **SET THERE IN ITS PLACE.** **Rome and the Vatican have been built for a long time and no one has set the measuring basket there!**

Because this refers to the seven seals and the third in particular where a **RIDER** is in control of the measuring of commodities, all references to it are cryptic because they are closed up and sealed. Most, if not all, cryptic messages in the Bible **relate to the seven seals.** But they are not sealed forever; only to the time of the end. And God intends to reveal these things to the Churches of God, the tribes of Israel, and then the world. And from ancient times, God has spoken of the two men who would be given this task. Believe God!

This **SECOND BEAST** (referred to as the

*false prophet* in the Book of Revelation) will 'subdue' three of these kings and their territories. The word 'subdue' indicates that it will be a coup to remove the three kings, and incorporate their territories to his command. This will cause a deep, brooding animosity towards **BABYLON** among the remaining seven kings. This second beast will be an eighth king (**Rev 17:11**) who arises **AFTER THE TEN KINGS (Dan 7:8, 20, 24).** He will rule from **BABYLON** in **IRAQ** where he will be **SET IN HIS PLACE.** For several years Saddam Hussein has been terrorizing the Middle East. There is some expectation among those who don't understand Bible prophecy that this man is the false prophet. But let's make it really plain! **SADDAM HUSSEIN IS NOT THE PROPHESED BEAST!! AND NOR IS HE THE FALSE PROPHET!!** He will disappear from the scene and **ANOTHER** will take his place as **RULER of BABYLON in IRAQ.**

Now that all the false prophets have had a go at guessing the identity of the beast and the false prophet, let's see what the Bible says!

Two kingdoms or empires arose during Daniel's lifetime. The first was the Babylonian Empire, the second the Medes and Persians Empire. But Daniel also spoke of a third. This was the Greek/Macedonian Empire that arose after three more kings, then a *fourth* - which was Darius III (**Dan 11:2**). In Nebuchednezzar's dream he saw a great image. Daniel described these as four **SUCCESSIVE** kingdoms or empires. Nebuchednezzar was the head of **GOLD.** After his kingdom, there arose the kingdom represented by the **SILVER,** which was the Medes and Persian Empire. Then a third kingdom or Empire arose - the kingdom of **BRONZE.** This was the Greek/Macedonian Empire. And finally another kingdom or Empire is described. This is the kingdom or Empire of **IRON** and **CLAY** and is represented by the feet of ten toes. This Empire didn't arise in pre-Christian times.

Most people recognize that the three kingdoms arose **SUCCESSIVELY** - which is true! But then they overlook these verses: **Dan 2:35** *"Then the **IRON,** the **CLAY,** the **BRONZE,** the **SILVER** and the **GOLD** were broken to pieces **AT THE SAME TIME** and became like chaff on a threshing-floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the **ROCK** that struck the statue became a huge **MOUNTAIN** and filled the **WHOLE EARTH.**"* Now notice **V44** *"**IN THE TIME OF THOSE KINGS,** the **GOD OF HEAVEN** will **SET UP A KINGDOM** that will **NEVER BE DESTROYED,** nor will it be left to another people. It will **crush ALL THOSE KINGDOMS** and bring **THEM** to an end, but it will itself endure for ever. This is the meaning of the vision of the **ROCK** cut out of a **MOUNTAIN,** but not by human hands - a **ROCK** that broke the **IRON,** the **BRONZE,** the **CLAY,** the **SILVER** and the*

**GOLD to pieces."** This is the **ROCK** that struck the great image or statue, and this is what is being described. And when this **ROCK** strikes this image, a Kingdom will be set up that will never be destroyed - **GOD'S KINGDOM!**

So let's understand clearly!

In the days of Daniel the first kingdom to arise was Babylon. Then Cyrus killed Belshazzar and took his kingdom (just as God predicted nearly two hundred years before (**Isa 44:28, 45:1, 13**). (Read these verses and you will understand that Cyrus is the anointed one whom God chose (nearly two hundred years before) to issue the decree to build the Temple. It was he who arranged the finance for this project.) After some time, Alexander the Great conquered them and **TOOK ALL THEIR TERRITORY**. Alexander died and his kingdom was divided into four parts. Alexander was the **HORN** of the shaggy **GOAT** (**Dan 8:21**) who furiously knocked down the **RAM** - which is the Mede/Persian Empire (**Dan 8:20**). This **SEQUENCE** of events is the foretype of what will happen in the **LATTER DAYS!** (**Dan 8:19**). In fulfillment of these prophecies, a **MEDOPERSIAN** will assassinate the **RULER OF IRAQ** and **IRAN WILL TAKE HIS KINGDOM**.

Daniel clarified this: **Dan 7:2** "*Daniel said: "In my **VISION** at night I looked, and there before me were four winds of heaven churning up the great **SEA**. Four great beasts, each different from the others, came out of the **SEA**. The first was like a **LION**, and it had the **wings of an eagle**. 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."*

Nebuchadnezzar partially fulfilled this vision - but this **PROPHETIC VISION** was recorded **AFTER** this happened to Nebuchadnezzar. But the Bible records this for our understanding: **Dan 4:32** "*You will be driven away from people, and will live with the **WILD ANIMALS**; you will eat grass like cattle. **SEVEN TIMES** will pass by for you until you acknowledge the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone He wishes. Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like cattle. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like **FEATHERS OF AN EAGLE** and his nails like the **CLAWS OF A BIRD**."*

Bear in mind that *this* happened before Daniel's vision! Daniel continues: **V34** "*At the end of **THAT TIME**, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes towards heaven, and my **SANITY WAS RESTORED**. Then I praised the Most High; I honoured and glorified Him who lives forever."* The 'heart' or mind of a beast was taken away and his **SANITY WAS RESTORED**.

At this point, we need to understand another very important Bible principle of prophecy.

This is the principle of symbolic descriptions of individuals. Most of you are aware of this description of Christ: **Rev 5:6** "*Then I saw a **Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the centre of the throne, encircled by the **FOUR LIVING CREATURES** and the elders. He had **SEVEN HORNS** and **SEVEN EYES**, which are the **SEVEN SPIRITS** of God sent out into all the earth."*** Now we all know that this is not an accurate description of Christ! Christ does not look like a deformed lamb carcass with seven eyes and horns. And neither do we need to be sentimental or emotional over this! Christ looks like a mighty conqueror; He is the express image of the Almighty God and Father. But for the purpose of the prophecy of the seven seals, this *image* of a lamb has been generated for our understanding.

Now notice that, standing with Him, are **FOUR LIVING CREATURES**. Most translations of the Bible adopted the protocol of describing them as such. The KJV however, did not! This version refers to them as **FOUR BEASTS**. This is one of the few occasions when the KJV gets it right! God doesn't surround Himself with freakish looking animal-like creatures. But for the purpose of this **VISION**, these beings are described - like the Lamb - as strange animals. **BEASTS** in fact! And the Bible describes their appearance. One after another, these **BEASTS** step forward and show John each of the **FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE**. Starting with the **FIRST HORSEMAN**, the **FIRST BEAST** describes the scene. Then the **SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH**. *Each in turn!* Each corresponds to the first **FOUR SEALS**.

This is the description of the **FOUR BEASTS**: **Rev 4:6** "*...In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were **COVERED WITH EYES**, in **FRONT** and **BEHIND**. The **FIRST** living creature was like a **LION**, the **SECOND** like an **OX**, the **THIRD** had the **FACE OF A MAN**, the **FOURTH** like a **FLYING EAGLE**. Each of the four living creatures had **SIX WINGS** and was covered with **EYES** all around, even under his wings."*

There are other references in the Bible to certain individuals who affect prophecy, and descriptions are given of them. Each and every one of them is a *craftsman* of God, whose *craft* is to counter their opposite number among the enemies of God. All of them relate to the **SEVEN SEALS**. Bear these things in mind! Their purpose will become clearer shortly.

Phase one of this amazing prophecy of the **FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE** has now begun. The Medes and Persians (Iran and the Moslem bloc to the east) will engulf Babylon (Iraq). After a while, the **KINGDOM OF GREECE** (the former territories of Phillip II) will arise as the **KING OF THE NORTH**. He will subjugate these Middle East nations and appoint

rulers over the territory (just as Alexander did!). The **KING OF THE SOUTH** will hold out in defiance and will be allied with Libya and the Nubian nations (African states). These nations will be subdued and will fall to the **KING OF THE NORTH**. Ten rulers will be appointed over all these territories of the Middle East.

Then another '*little horn*' will arise **AFTER** these ten rulers. He will be planted in **BABYLON**. He is the **SECOND BEAST** or **FALSE PROPHET**. The real power behind the throne of this second **BEAST** will arise from the **ABYSS** (**Rev 9:11, 17:8**). This same beast that arises from the **ABYSS** will finally kill the two prophets of God when they have finished their testimony (**Rev 11:7**). The **ABYSS** is where the most wicked of all demons are imprisoned (**2Pet 2:4, Jude 1:6, Rev 9:1**). For a further explanation of this place of restraint, see **Luke 8:31**, and note that Christ had the power to send these demons to the **ABYSS**.

The ten kings who give their power to the **BEAST** are the same ten kings spoken of by both Daniel and John. Zechariah speaks of this Beast as being the king of **GREECE** (**Zech 9:13**) and says **ZION** will fight against him. Now notice what John says in this regard: **Rev 17:12-14** "*The ten HORNS you saw are ten KINGS who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for ONE HOUR will receive authority as kings along with the BEAST. They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the BEAST. They will make WAR WITH THE LAMB, but the Lamb will OVERCOME them because HE IS LORD OF LORDS AND KING OF KINGS - AND WITH HIM WILL BE HIS CALLED, CHOSEN AND FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS.*" When Christ fights against this king of **GREECE**, His **CALLED, CHOSEN** and **FAITHFUL** followers, whom Zechariah refers to as **ZION**, will fight with Him (see also **Zech 14:14**).

**Rev 17:14** says the Lamb will **OVERCOME** them. Does this mean that Christ will go out and crush them? No, it doesn't! This speaks of the time **BEFORE** the **GREAT PROSTITUTE OF BABYLON** is crushed by the **BEAST** and the **TEN KINGS** who will hate this **CITY (V18)** that resides on the banks of the **EUPHRATES RIVER**. It's plain that the **LAMB** is going to overcome them, and this **LAMB** is described as the **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS**. This is Christ - no doubt about it! But this speaks of a time, long *before* the seventh trumpet - when Christ returns!

So will the Lamb be present? Yes, He will be present in Spirit, and in body, and in name, but *not* in fact. Instead Christ will use a proxy! All who are truly Christ's are the proxies! Christ's **CALLED, CHOSEN** and **FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS**, who are the Body of Christ (who is the **LAMB**) will be used as **LAMBS**, and they will go to the **SLAUGHTER** and **OVERCOME**

this **BEAST!**

**THIS IS WHY YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED!!**

If you are *not* **WITH** Christ, then you are **AGAINST** Him! Christ's **CALLED, CHOSEN** and **FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS** are always **WITH** Him - and He **WITH** them - even to the end of the age! These people are the **BODY OF CHRIST**, they have the **SPIRIT OF CHRIST**, and they **BEAR HIS NAME - CHRISTIAN!** And your bodies are a **LIVING SACRIFICE**. All sacrifices must be killed when offered. No one would offer a sacrifice to God that had died of itself. You are the sacrifice and you must go as **LAMBS TO THE SLAUGHTER!** If you don't then you are **UNWORTHY OF CHRIST!** You must **OVERCOME** your fear and **OBEY!**

God has spoken to you through His apostles and prophets and told you these things (**Ps 44:22, Rom 8:36**). You will also know, if you have been studying your Bible, that the beast who will arise will **CONQUER THE SAINTS**. This is what the Great God says: **Rev 13:5** "*The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and BLASPHEMIES (see also Dan 11:36) and to exercise his authority for forty-two months. He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to SLANDER HIS NAME and HIS DWELLING PLACE and those who live in heaven. He was GIVEN POWER TO MAKE WAR AGAINST THE SAINTS and to CONQUER THEM.*"

Of course, the liars have convinced you that this refers to the 'Laodiceans' and all those 'other' Christians; in fact, everyone **EXCEPT** you and your little group. Now hear what the Book of Daniel says: **Dan 7:25** "*He will SPEAK AGAINST THE MOST HIGH and OPPRESS THE SAINTS and try to change set times and laws. The SAINTS WILL BE HANDED OVER TO HIM FOR A TIME, TIMES AND HALF A TIME (3½ years). But the COURT WILL SIT, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the KINGDOMS UNDER THE WHOLE HEAVEN will be handed over to the SAINTS, THE PEOPLE OF THE MOST HIGH. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and ALL RULERS WILL WORSHIP AND OBEY HIM.*"

Which 'SAINTS' was that? Is it the 'Laodiceans'? No! It's speaking of the **SAINTS OF THE MOST HIGH** - the faithful and true people of God (see also **V18**). God is going to **HAND THEM OVER** to this beast for a **SPECIAL AND HOLY PURPOSE** - just like He handed over His only begotten **SON** to the evil snakes and vipers. And who is to inherit all the **KINGDOMS UNDER THE WHOLE HEAVEN?**

The **very same** **SAINTS** that are **HANDED OVER** to the beast!

And just to make doubly sure, notice **V21**



*"As I watched, this HORN was waging war AGAINST THE SAINTS AND DEFEATING THEM, until the Ancient of Days (the Father) came and pronounced JUDGMENT in FAVOUR of the SAINTS OF THE MOST HIGH, and the time came when THEY POSSESSED THE KINGDOM."*

Should we become paranoid about saving our own lives? Under the present administration of your group, there is an established concept that only the wicked will be martyred or taken into captivity. And why wouldn't they say this? This doctrine comes straight from their father - the devil! Do you believe that? If you have any spiritual enlightenment at all you will believe Christ! And this is what He said: **Matt 16:21** *"From that time on Jesus began to explain to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the ELDERS, CHIEF PRIESTS and TEACHERS of the Law, and that He must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Out of My sight, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."* Poor Peter! He loved his Lord so much that he didn't realize what he was saying. In an unguarded moment, he allowed human emotion to befuddle his mind. And Satan seized the moment! But notice Christ's response! It wasn't conciliatory - it was the sharpest of rebukes, and a positive identification of the source of such outrageous lies - Satan the devil! And indeed, those who promise you 'peace and safety' are the children of the devil! Believe Christ!

Peter had not yet tuned to God's wavelength. He was only seeing the physical. Like most human beings, they want to preserve their lives at all cost. The alternative, they believe, is to sit around in heaven playing harps for ever. This is what they think God considers fun - because this is the prevailing view of religious people. But the Bible makes it clear that the SAINTS are to inherit all the KINGDOMS UNDER HEAVEN. Not just the kingdoms on earth - but under heaven. The SAINTS will rule as kings and teachers. Cities will be built, canals, waterways, lush vegetation, children will play in the streets. No one will ever go hungry, in fact, the old stores will be thrown out to make way for the new. Animals will be tame. Babies will be born. And nothing will hurt nor destroy in all the Holy Mountain (which is the whole earth in the Millennium - **Dan 2:35**).

All the things you crave and desire in this life; the things that hold such appeal that you are

You will notice that Daniel says he saw four great beasts coming **out of the SEA (Dan 7:3)**. But in the interpretation given to Daniel, the angelic being told him they **will rise from the EARTH (Dan 7:17)**. Note this well!

reluctant to leave them, will be returned a hundredfold. Why would any sane person seek to preserve his life - as long as they believe God? And this is the problem! They don't BELIEVE GOD! This is what Isaiah recorded: **Isa 57:1** *"The righteous perish, and no-one ponders it in his heart; DEVOUT men are taken away, and no-one understands that the RIGHTEOUS are taken away to be spared from evil. Those who WALK UPRIGHTLY enter into PEACE; they find REST as THEY LIE IN DEATH."*

But death is an enemy of Christians. To die prematurely could deny us entry into God's Kingdom, but dying in true martyrdom assures us of our place in the Kingdom, and particularly if you lay down your life for another. Christ says of this, there is no GREATER LOVE!

We just quoted **Rev 17:12** back a few paragraphs. This verse mentions the time period of ONE HOUR. One hour would scarcely be enough time to sign the formal documents of sovereignty. So what does this mean? These kings continue for at least seven years - during the period of judgment (**Dan 7:9**). This HOUR is also referred to in **Rev 14:7** *"Fear God and give Him glory, because the HOUR OF HIS JUDGMENT has come."* It is during this HOUR that these ten kings receive authority. And this HOUR OF JUDGMENT lasts seven years, at the end of which the saints receive THE KINGDOM: **Dan 7:16** *"...So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things: 'The four great beasts are four kingdoms THAT WILL RISE from the EARTH. But the saints of the Most High will receive THE KINGDOM and will possess it for ever - yes, for ever and ever.'" So these FOUR GREAT BEASTS or KINGDOMS WILL RISE from the EARTH - and the saints will possess this unified kingdom when all the kingdoms of the earth become the kingdom of our God. The 'HOUR' spoken of here is a period of time. This is the Strong's's Concordance rendering: 5610 hora {ho'-rah}*

apparently a primary word; TDNT - 9:675,1355; n f

AV - hour 89, time 11, season 3, misc 5; 108

1) a certain definite time or season fixed by natural law and returning with the revolving year

1a) of the seasons of the year, spring, summer, autumn, winter

2) the daytime (bounded by the rising and setting of the sun), a day

3) a twelfth part of the day-time, an hour, (the twelve hours of the day are reckoned from the rising to the setting of the sun)

4) any definite time, point of time, moment

It's important to understand that Christ receives His kingdom around the time that Satan is cast down from heaven (**Rev 12:10**). This special ceremony is described by Daniel. For clarity all the verses are quoted: **Dan 7:9-10, 13-14**

"As I looked, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days [the Father] took His seat. His clothing was white as snow; the hair of His head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before Him. **THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS** attended Him; **TEN THOUSAND TIMES TEN THOUSAND** stood before Him. The **COURT** was seated, and the **BOOKS WERE OPENED.**" **V13** "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like the a Son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days [the Father] and was **LED INTO HIS PRESENCE.** He was given **AUTHORITY, GLORY and SOVEREIGN POWER;** all peoples, nations and men of every language worshipped Him. His **DOMINION** is an everlasting **DOMINION** that will not pass away, and **HIS KINGDOM** is one that will never be destroyed."

The same event is described in **Rev 5:11** "Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering **THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS,** and **TEN THOUSAND TIMES TEN THOUSAND.** They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive **POWER and WEALTH and WISDOM and STRENGTH and HONOUR and GLORY and PRAISE.**" Note that this occurs at the time of the opening of the seals. At the time of the opening of the seals, Christ was, symbolically, the Lamb who looked like He had just been slain (**Rev 5:6**). He then receives **POWER, HONOUR and GLORY** in the presence of the **ANCIENT OF DAYS** [the Father].

At the time when Satan is cast down, the mighty Christ is empowered to act: **Rev 12:10** "Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the **SALVATION and the POWER and the KINGDOM** of our God, and the **AUTHORITY** of His Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, **HAS BEEN HURLED DOWN.** They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their **TESTIMONY;** they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the **EARTH** and the **SEA,** because the devil has gone down to you! He is

filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short. When the dragon saw that he had been **HURLED TO THE EARTH,** he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child [**Christ - V5**]."

Well now, you say, that can't be right! Everyone knows that Christ will return at the last trumpet (**Rev 11:15, 1Cor 15:52, Isa 27:13, 1Thes 4:16**). This is true! Christ does return at the last trumpet as King of kings, and Lord of lords and begins to reign - from planet earth! But from the time that the **ANCIENT OF DAYS** takes His seat at the beginning of **JUDGMENT,** Christ, after receiving His coronation is empowered to act - and He is in control! His power will also flow through two prophets whom He will plant in Jerusalem.

To the false prophets and the liars who always pervert God's truth - try explaining this verse to your congregation: **Rev 6:16** "They called to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the **FACE OF HIM WHO SITS ON THE THRONE (the FATHER - Rev 5:7, Dan 7:9, 13) and from the WRATH OF THE LAMB! For the day of THEIR WRATH HAS COME, and who can stand?" This occurs at the time of the SIXTH SEAL - before the trumpets start!** Did you notice what they are to hide from? It's the **FACE OF GOD.** How can this be? This is not what you have been taught! But it's confirmed in **Rev 22:4.** Things are to be completely different to all that you have been taught - and all that you have imagined! Only a few of you will understand the whole truth before God acts to get your attention! Then we will see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not! (**Mal 3:18**). In the meantime, you had better start believing God's Word!

## **THE FOUR EMPIRES**

It's important to understand that Daniel described a vision of a huge image and explained its meaning to Nebuchadnezzar. The head of gold was Nebuchadnezzar and his **Babylonian Empire.** The chest and arms of silver were the **Medo-Persian Empire.** Both of which Daniel described. He then spoke of a third kingdom - one of bronze that would arise. This was fulfilled by Alexander the Great and his **Greek-**

**Macedonian Empire** (the one who arose **after** the fourth king of Persia): **Dan 11:2** *"Now then, I tell you the truth: Three more kings will appear in Persia, and then a fourth, who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the **KINGDOM OF GREECE.**"*

And Alexander answered the call. Alexander succeeded in conquering the whole of the Middle East - all the way to India, but stopped at the border after his commanders rebelled. He returned to Babylon and sent his own soldiers home. Then he died. At the height of his power - after he had conquered this huge bloc of nations and had the power to conquer the entire world, his power was taken away - he died. This great behemoth of an empire was carved up by his four generals and *never* became the final stage of the image represented by the feet and toes. Although the Empire of the ten toes was set in place - the ten kings were never appointed. Instead the Empire reverted to its former status of four divisions. Yet speaking of these very nations, Daniel said a Rock would destroy all these kingdoms **AT THE SAME TIME (Dan 2:35)**. So all the nations and kingdoms that Alexander originally swallowed up will exist at the endtime - **AND IT IS THESE THAT CHRIST WILL CRUSH!!**

It is from this massive, former Empire of Alexander the Great that the **TEN KINGS** will be appointed by the **KING OF GREECE**. **Dan 7:23** *"He gave me this explanation: **"The FOURTH BEAST is a FOURTH KINGDOM that will appear on earth. It will be DIFFERENT from all the other kingdoms and will DEVOUR THE WHOLE EARTH** [it is different in that the **OTHERS DIDN'T DEVOUR THE WHOLE EARTH** - but this one will!], *trampling it down and crushing it. The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom.*"*

This speaks of the **FOURTH BEAST** which is the **FOURTH KINGDOM**. Now notice **Dan 2:39** *"After you (Nebuchadnezzar), another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours. Next, a **THIRD KINGDOM, one of BRONZE, will RULE OVER THE WHOLE EARTH.**"* Now we know that Alexander the Great did not rule over all the world. He didn't conquer India, Europe or the Far East. He had the youth, ambition and the vast resources of all his conquered territories and may well have

gone on to conquer the whole world. But this could not be! The end must come **AT THE APPOINTED TIME**, and that was not the *time of the end* that was spoken of by Daniel. Alexander was only the **HORN** on the head of the shaggy **GOAT**: **Dan 8:21** *"The shaggy **GOAT is the KING (Kingdom) OF GREECE, and the LARGE HORN between his eyes is the FIRST KING** (Alexander)." So the **WHOLE GOAT** is the **KING OF GREECE** - Alexander was only the **HORN** between his eyes! So the **GOAT** is much more *imposing* than the **HORN** which was Alexander.*

The shaggy **GOAT** was also the **GREEK-MACEDONIAN** kingdom, and this empire extended as far as the Danube river and bordered on the Black Sea. It is this **KINGDOM or EMPIRE** that will conquer the **WHOLE WORLD**, and the nucleus of this incredible **IRON** kingdom that will arise from the very nations that the **FIRST KING** (Alexander) conquered.

While this great Empire will comprise **TEN KINGS** which will be appointed by the **KING OF GREECE**, it is this **KING OF GREECE** that will dominate and rule with an iron fist. **HE IS THE BEAST!**

After this **BEAST** arises and appoints the **TEN KINGS** (who will give their power to the **BEAST**), another **BEAST WILL ARISE!** This **BEAST** is the one that the Apostle John refers to as the **FALSE PROPHET**.

The fourth kingdom to arise after the Babylonian kingdom, the Medes and Persian kingdom, and the Greek-Macedonian kingdom, is a divided kingdom of **TEN KINGS**. This is the **IRON KINGDOM** - but is also *partly clay*. Three of these kings will be soft and malleable. They will divide the **IRON KINGS** and cause obstruction to their overall objectives. Then the **SECOND BEAST or FALSE PROPHET** will be planted in the re-built city of **BABYLON** (which is nearing completion) in Iraq. He will subdue these three kings (who will remain a part of the **IRON KINGDOM** - **Dan 2:35, 44**). Notice the clay is also smashed with the iron, silver and gold **AT THE SAME TIME**. When this restraining influence is taken out of the way, all hell will break loose!

All **TEN KINGS** will be **ISLAMIC** and will have the **SAME** religious objectives - to destroy all opposing beliefs by the crucible of **WAR and insurrection (Rev 17:15-18)**. They



will worship the **GOD OF FORTRESSES** (battle, conflict and war). Daniel wrote this: **Dan 11:36** *"The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the **TIME OF WRATH** (God's wrath) is completed, for **WHAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED MUST TAKE PLACE**. He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers, or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will **EXALT HIMSELF ABOVE THEM ALL. INSTEAD OF THEM**, he will honour a god of **FORTRESSES**, a god **UNKNOWN TO HIS FATHERS** he will honour with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts."*

This god who is unknown to his fathers will arise from the **ABYSS**, where he has been imprisoned since the **DAYS OF NOAH**. His name is **ABADDON** (Hebrew) and **APOLLYON** (Greek) (**Rev 9:11**). His name means **DESTRUCTION** and **DEATH**. He is released some time prior to the completion of the **FIRST SEAL** in order that **'WHAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED MUST TAKE PLACE.'** You will notice that at the time of the fifth trumpet **HE IS ALREADY KING** (**Rev 9:11**). He is a god of fortresses who is *honoured* by the **FIRST BEAST** who has **ALL THE POWER OF SATAN** (**Rev 13:2**) - **THE GOD OF FORTRESSES!**

As in the days of Noah, so will it be at the endtime. Notice what Peter recorded:

**1Pet 3:18** *"...He [Christ] was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit, through whom also He went and preached to the **SPIRITS IN PRISON** who disobeyed **LONG AGO** when God waited patiently in the **DAYS OF NOAH** while the ark was being built."*

**2Pet 2:4** *"For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell (tartarus - the **ABYSS**), putting them into gloomy dungeons to be **HELD FOR JUDGEMENT**; if He did not spare the ancient world when He brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected **NOAH**, a preacher of righteousness..."*

Christ Himself spoke of the **DAYS OF NOAH** in relation to the endtime: **Matt 24:37** *"As it was in the **DAYS OF NOAH**, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man."*

It should not go unnoticed that this great behemoth of an empire encircles Jerusalem. The nations that comprise this huge, arising military and trading bloc are **MOSLEMS**. **They will conquer the earth**. These venomous snakes and vipers have already infiltrated almost every nation on earth. Like brute beasts they seek to destroy everyone who opposes them and even kill their own people! They are the enemies of God and everything they do to the 12 tribes of Israel will be paid back double - **BY GOD!** Yet they will conquer the earth - but only for a **TIME!** And the **SAINTS** will be handed over to them for **3½ TIMES** (**Dan 7:25**).

All you 'leaders' of the Churches of God who have slumbered and slept for all these years and taught Satan's **SO-CALLED DEEP SECRETS** (**Rev 2:24**) and all you who have sat in the congregation and learnt them - be aware that your world is about to come crashing down around your ears - unless you repent now! If you have focused on the mythical 'United States of Europe' as the ten kings, and the Papacy as the false prophet, then you are headed straight for hell! You will be overwhelmed by the true reality that is now building up. **ISLAM** will take peace from the earth and will crush everything in its path. They will worship their **NEW LEADER - AS THEY ALWAYS DO!** And they will enforce the worship of this **BEAST** on the world! They will worship **THE** god of fortresses [WAR, munitions, Heb: **Mauzzim** = God's protector, that is Satan, who was formerly appointed as a protector of God.] (**Dan 11:38**). See also **Rev 13:4** to see whom it is that they are really worshipping - it's the **DRAGON!** He gives his power to the **BEAST!**

It's utterly laughable that the tribes of Israel, and Ephraim in particular, sign treaties and agreements with these degenerates who are incapable of keeping any agreement! Saddam Hussein is a prime example! Daniel describes their conduct: **Dan 11:27** *"The two kings (north and south - represented by the two feet), with their hearts bent on **EVIL**, will sit at the same table and **LIE** to each other, but to no avail, **BECAUSE** an end will still come at the **APPOINTED TIME**."*

Daniel describes the great image to Nebuchednezzar and informs him that the kingdom of **BRONZE** which was the third kingdom to arise (Alexander the Great) was represented by the belly and

the **THIGHS**: **Dan 2:32** *"The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and **THIGHS** of **BRONZE**."* The feet and lower legs were attached to these **THIGHS**. Later, Nebuchednezzar had a dream of a great tree. Again, Daniel explained: **Dan 4:23** *"You, O king, saw a messenger, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, 'Cut down the tree and destroy it, but leave the stump, bound with **IRON** and **BRONZE**, in the grass of the field, while the **ROOTS** remain in the ground."*

'So what!' you say. 'This messenger explains its meaning in verse 26'.

This is true! And this is what it says: **V26** *"The command to leave the **STUMP** of the tree with its **ROOTS** means that **YOUR KINGDOM** will be restored to you when you **ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HEAVEN RULES**."* And indeed, Nebuchednezzar did acknowledge that God rules **AFTER** he had **SATAN** cast out of him and his insanity was restored (**Dan 4:34-36**). But Satan did not! Nebuchednezzar wore one of the seven crowns of Satan. The **STUMP** remains in the ground **BOUND BY BRONZE AND IRON**. Satan will acknowledge that God rules - but only after he has been thoroughly beaten in **WAR** (**Rev 12:7**) - the only language he understands! Only then will he acknowledge that God rules - and will take revenge on all those whom God loves. Only then will he realize that he has but a short time left! At that time the **STUMP** will grow **BRANCHES** and flourish! (**Job 14:7-9**). War will continue to the end (**Dan 9:26**).

The Bible speaks of *another* **STUMP** that will arise **AT THAT TIME**. **Isa 6:13** *"And though a tenth remain in the land, it will again be laid waste. But as the terebinth and oak leave **STUMPS** when they are cut down, so the **HOLY SEED** will be a **STUMP** in the ground."* This **STUMP** will shoot and **TWO BRANCHES WILL EMERGE**.

So there will be **TWO STUMPS** that will emerge at that time - the **STUMP (evil generation)** of Satan, and the **STUMP (holy seed)** of God. And indeed, the final battle will be fought between these two - the battle of the forces of **GOOD** and the forces of **EVIL**. There is much that must happen before the final battle! It will be many years before this occurs. In the meantime you will have plenty to keep your mind occupied. You have two options! You

can either believe God and listen to His servants the prophets - the **TWO BRANCHES** - and the truth will make you free, or you can reject it and continue living in your own world of fantasy and delusion, and all this will descend on you like a flood and you will not escape. Many of you who sit in the congregation believe that when the time comes you will be able to claim the 'Nuremburg defence' - 'I was only following orders!' God doesn't permit Christians to follow orders of men **CONCERNING HIS WORD!** **You are to follow CHRIST - AND BELIEVE GOD!**

**END OF CHAPTER ONE**

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