

Daniel 7: Rise of the Papacy

Dan 7: 1,2 Four winds were striving on the sea.

Rev 17:15 Sea denotes thickly settled nations.

Jer 49:35-37 Winds denote War.

Dan 7:3 Four beasts arose as result of wars.

Dan 7:4 Lion with wings is Babylon. 606-538 B.C.

Jer 49:19,22,30 Lion (Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon) flies as Eagle. Wings denote swiftness of his conquest of the world. First world empire. "Nebuchadnezzar. .. the most powerful monarch of Babylon ... was succeeded by a line of weak kings." --The New Practical Reference Library, Vol 1: art, "Babylonia." Plucking of wings and man's heart indicate the decline of Babylon after Nebuchadnezzar's death.

Dan 7:5 Bear is Medo-Persia, 538-331 B.C.

Dan 5:25-31 Medes and Persians conquered Babylon. "Under the command of Cyrus, the Medo-Persians conquered Babylon in 538 B.c., and made Persia the great imperial power." Swinton's Hist of the World, pg 36. Three ribs probably refer to the first great provinces conquered-- Babylon, Libya, and Egypt. These whetted their conquering appetite and they took the world.

Dan 7:6 Four-headed leopard is Greecia. 331-168 B.C. "In 331 B.c., Alexander the Great conquered Persia and established the Greecian Empire." Swinton's History of the World pg 105.

"The vast empire created by Alexander was broken into many fragments. Four important monarchies rose out of the ruins." Meyer's History of Greece, p.457. In this way, the empire had four heads. Four wings denote great speed.

Dan 7:7,8,23,24 Fourth beast is Rome, 168B.C.- 476A.D. "The kingdom of Greece was followed by the universal authority of Rome." History of Rome, Book 3, Chapter 10, by Mommsen. The ten horns represent the ten European nations into which Rome was divided by barbarian tribes between 351-476 A.D. These were: 1. Alemani-Germany 2. Franks-France 3. Anglo-Saxons, England 4. Burgundians,Switzerland 5. Visigoths-Spain 6. Suevi-Portugal 7. Lombards-Italy 8. Heruli 9. Vandals 10.Ostrogoths. (The last three wen~ uprooted).

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Dan 7:8,24 The little horn arose AFTER the Ten, and AMONG them, and plucked up three kingdoms.

"Long before the fall of Rome there had begun to grow up within the empire an ecclesiastical state, and various circumstances contributed to establishing the almost universal authority of the Church of Rome." - Myers, General History, p.348.

"As the barbarian races settled and became christian, the pope began to claim an overlordship of their kings. In a few centuries the Pope had become in theory and to a certain extent in practice, the high priest, censor, judge, and divine monarch of Christendom." - Outline of History, by HG Wells, p.526.

E.B. Elliott, in his work *Horae Apocalypticæ* , Vol. 3, p.152 says: "I might cite three that were eradicated from before the Pope, namely the Heruli, the Vandals, and the Ostrogoths."

The little horn, the Papacy, uprooted three horns as follows: before the invasion by the barbarians the christianity which had been adopted as the state religion of the Roman Empire was divided into two factions - *Roman Catholics* and *Arian Catholics* or *Catholics* and *Arians*. In most instances the barbarian invaders accepted the religion of the people they conquered. Eventually most of them were Catholics in harmony with the Pope, but the Heruli in Italy, the Ostrogoths northeast of Italy and the Vandals in Africa remained Arians.

Friction arose with the Catholics in the territory over which the Arians ruled and the Catholics determined to uproot and destroy their Arian masters.

Odacer, the leader of the Heruli took the throne of Italy in 476 A.D. In *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, vol. 3, pp. 515,516, Gibbon says that Odacer was an Arian. Friction soon developed and the historian Vallari says that eventually "The Catholic Church excited the populace against Odacer and the Catholic clergy organized a general conspiracy against him." - *The Barbarian Invasion of Italy*, vol 2, pp. 153-156.

Ten days later Odacer was murdered. The historian Hodgkin says "The Roman clergy were privy to a terrible secret plot of murdering the followers of Odacer all over Italy." - *Italy and Her Invaders*, pp. 225,226 .

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Thus the Heruli disappeared from history. But the Ostrogoths, who ruled Italy after the destruction of the Heruli were also Arians, and as the historian Mosheim says, "The Gothic princes set bounds to the power of the bishop of Rome in Italy." - An Ecclesiastical History, Ancient and Modern, vol 1, pp. 113,114. On pages 142,143 he says, "In Africa, where the Vandals ruled, and in Italy, where the Ostrogoths held sway, the Catholics felt the weight of the Arian power. The triumphs of Arianism were however transitory; and its prosperous days were entirely eclipsed when the Vandals were driven out of Africa, and the Goths out of Italy by the armies of Theodosius, the emperor of the east, who ruled at Constantinople." This was done at the request of and with the cooperation of the Catholics. Thus the three were plucked up to make room for the Papacy.

Dan 7:25 The little horn (Catholicism) would speak great words *against the Most High*.

2 Thes 2:1-7 An apostasy would develop wherein a man would *exalt himself in the place of God*

Pope Leo XIII said, "We hold upon this earth the *place of God Almighty*." Encyclical Letter, June 20, 1894.

Ferraris' Ecclesiastical Diet., a Catholic work, says; "The Pope is as it were God on earth." F. Lucci Ferraris, in Prompta Bibliotheca Canonica Juridica Morralis Theologica, approved by the Catholic Encyclopedia, (vol. 6, p.48) , says: "The Pope is crowned with a triple crown, as king of heaven and of earth and of the lower regions ... so that if it were possible that the angels might err in the faith, or might think contrary to the faith, they could be judged and excommunicated by the Pope."

These are great words against the Most High. As a result of this assumption of power on the part of the Pope, pagan customs and doctrines were blessed and made holy (?) and became Papal ceremonies, making Catholicism a christianized form of paganism or the modern phase of Satan's counterfeit system of religion.

Buckle's History of Civilization, vol. 1, p. 188, says: "The superstitions of pagan Europe, instead of being diminished, were only turned into a fresh channel. *Pagan ceremonies and doctrines were established in Christian churches.* "

Dan 7:9-12 This power continues until the judgment, and after the judgment will be destroyed by fire.

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Dan 7:13,14 Christ's everlasting kingdom is established after the fire which destroys the nations.

Dan 7:18,27 The saints then possess the kingdom and serve and obey the most High forever.