

## Five Beasts in Daniel

Prophecies, dreams, and visions all speak of the future, but the way they speak of the future is different. For example, prophecies usually speak of some concrete event. For example, Isaiah 9:5 foretells of the birth of Yeshua. We know this was a prophecy, because the fulfillment looked like that which was described in the prophecy (i.e., a divine Child was born).

### ***Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 9:5***

***5 For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty El, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.***

In contrast, dreams and visions are usually much more symbolic. For example, in Daniel 2, Nebuchadnezzar dreamt of a statue that was set up on the earth, while a stone that was cut out of the mountain without hands, and struck the image on the feet. The image then fell into a heap of ruins, while the stone would expand to fill the whole earth.

### ***Daniel 2:31-35***

***31 "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome.***

***32 This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze,***

***33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.***

***34 You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces.***

***35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth."***

Daniel interpreted the dream for King Nebuchadnezzar, telling him that his Babylonian empire would head a succession of a succession of "Babylonian" empires. All of these empires would be distinct from each other in the material realm, but they would all be spiritually "Babylonian," because they all followed the same spiritual pattern of subjugating the things of Elohim to the things of the material world.

First in the succession was Babylon, symbolized by the head of fine gold. Next was Media-Persia, symbolized by the chest and arms of silver. Third was Alexander the Great's Macedonian (Greek) empire, symbolized by the belly and thighs of bronze. Fourth was Rome, which was symbolized by the legs of iron. Finally there was Christianity and Islam, which was symbolized by the feet of both iron and clay. We will look at all of these empires in more detail in a moment, but one day all of these empires will fall, and be subsumed by Elohim's kingdom.

### ***Daniel 2:37-45***

***37 "You, O king, are a king of kings. For the Elohim of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;***

**38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all — you are this head of gold.**

**39 But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.**

**40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.**

**41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.**

**42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.**

**43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.**

**44 And in the days of these kings the Elohim of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.**

**45 Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold — the great Elohim has made known to the king what will**

**come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."**

Once again, the five empires are:

Body part:	Earthly empire:
1. Head of gold	Babylonian (Iraq)
2. Chest and arms of silver	Media-Persia (Iran)
3. Belly and thighs of bronze	Alexander (Greece)
4. Legs of iron	Roman Empire
5. Feet of iron and clay	Christianity and Islam

There are some important things to note here. In verse 39, most English translations tell us that Alexander the Great's empire would rule over "all the earth."

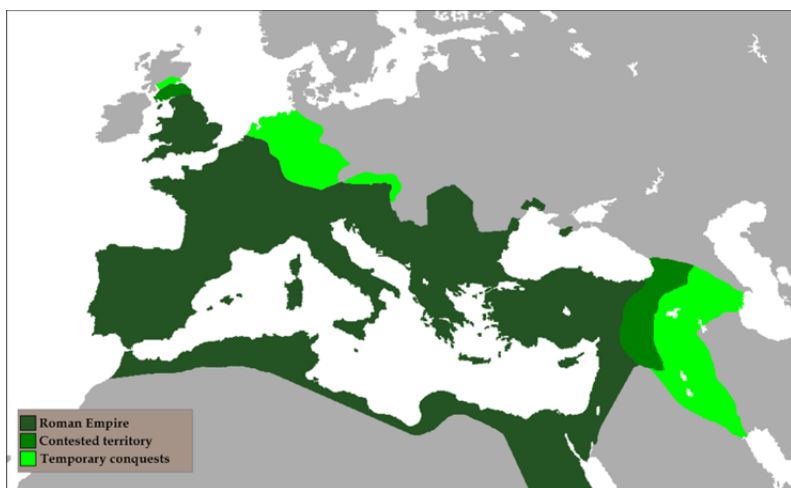
39 "But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth."	(39) וּבְתֵרֶךְ תִּקּוּם מַלְכוֹ אֲחֵרֵי אֶרֶץ [אַרְעֵי קְרִי] מִנְדָּה וּמַלְכוֹ תְּלִיתִיָּה [תְּלִיתֵהָ קְרִי] אֲחֵרֵי דֵי נְחָשָׁא דֵי תְּשֻׁלַּט בְּכָל אֶרֶץ
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However, we know that this does not mean "the whole globe," because Alexander's empire did not span the whole globe. Rather, it meant that Alexander's empire would encompass the Middle East, which was basically the "known world" from the perspective of the average person in the ancient Middle East. This makes sense when we realize that the word "earth" is the Aramaic "ara-a" (אַרְעָא), which corresponds to the Hebrew word "aretz" (אֶרֶץ). This word אֶרֶץ usually refers to the land of Israel, but it can also refer to "the known world" from the perspective of an ancient Middle Eastern person.

We should also note that Alexander's empire basically went east, and much of the lands of his empire are now occupied by Muslims (who are part of the fifth beast).



Next was the Roman Empire, symbolized by the legs of iron. The Roman Empire encircled the Mediterranean (including the land of Israel), and also extended far north, into Western Europe. Since Roman Catholicism was the official religion of the Roman Empire, many of these lands are today Catholic or Christian in some form (except where Islam has taken over).



The governments of the old Roman Empire (and their colonies) all pay at least some form of respect towards Rome, and their governments are cordial with the pope. Later we will see that the papacy still exerts a massive influence on these nations even today.

The five empires of Daniel 2 show up again in Daniel 7, where they are called four "beasts." As we will see, a *beast* is any of the empires of Nebuchadnezzar's dream (Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece, and/or Rome), and/or any spiritual extension of them. The reason the five empires of Daniel 2 can be represented by only four beasts is that, as we will see, Christianity and Islam are both spiritual continuations of the old Roman Empire. While the legs of iron represent Rome, the feet of iron and clay represent both Rome and Islam.

Once we understand this, then we can understand how verse 7 says the fourth beast (Rome) would "trample the residue" of the third empire (Greece). While the lands of the third empire are presently occupied by Muslims, we will see evidence that Islam was created by the papacy, and is still spiritually controlled by it.

#### ***Daniel 7:2-8***

***2 Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea.***

***3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.***

***4 The first (Babylonian Empire) was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it.***

***5 "And suddenly another beast (Medo-Persian Empire), a second, like a bear. It was raised up***

***on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'***

***6 "After this I looked, and there was another (Alexander the Great's Empire), like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads (the four generals who succeeded Alexander), and dominion was given to it.***

***7 "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast (the Roman Empire, including Christianity and Islam as a spiritual empire), dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.***

***8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.***

Verse 8 mentions a "little horn." This is the same as the little horn in verse 25 (below). In *Nazarene Israel* we show how this is the pope (or rather, the papacy). We also show how the papacy is perhaps the foremost fulfillment of the prophecies over the anti-Messiah.

Verse 23 (below) tells us that Rome's empire would be different than all those that had gone before it, such that it would "devour the whole earth." The reason for this is that Rome would exercise not just military power, but also spiritual power. It would proselytize the people of the lands that it conquered and turn their allegiance

to Rome. This was so successful that even those in the breakaway Protestant nations would still give some form of homage and respect to the papacy, even long after Rome's military power had faded.

***Daniel 7:15-28***

***15 "I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.***

***16 I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things:***

***17 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth.***

***18 But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'***

***19 "Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast (Rome), which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet;***

***20 and the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.***

***21 "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them,***

***22 until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.***

**23 "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all other kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, trample it and break it in pieces.**

**24 The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom, and another shall rise after them. He shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings.**

**25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change the appointed times (Sabbath and festivals) and the Torah. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time."**

In ancient times, the Catholic Church wielded immense power. Prior to the Protestant Reformation, a king had to have the pope's approval if he wanted his people's support. If the pope excommunicated a king, his people would soon turn him out. To stay in the pope's favor, a king had to acknowledge the pope as the spiritual leader of the Christian world, and kings could gain further favor by strengthening the church in any lands they conquered. After the Protestant Reformation this changed a little, but not to the degree many people think. For example, in 2012 CE the Queen of England (who is at least nominally a Protestant) consulted with the Pope, and decided to appoint an Italian Catholic as the next Archbishop of Canterbury (which is the most senior bishopric in the Church of England.)

Scholars debate who the "ten kings" mentioned in verses 20 and 24 are, but it should be clear that there are at least ten kings in Europe who derive power from the papacy in one form or another, and who operate with his blessings, or who collaborate with him.

Because so many Christians do not understand that the papacy is the major fulfillment of the anti-Messiah, there is a movement within Christendom to re-unite all Christian sects back under the Pope. This is called the "Ecumenical" movement, and it is taken very seriously in many Christian circles. As we will see later, it is also endorsed not just by the papacy, but also by the UN, rabbinical Judaism, and mainstream Islam.

For its part, the papacy has repeatedly called for a one world government under the UN (United Nations). In turn, the UN wants to establish a one world religion, by which it hopes to unite all of the people of the world. The UN plan is called the "United Religions Initiative" (URI), and it is widely believed that it will at least initially be headed by the pope, although others believe it may ultimately be headed by a Muslim. At least from one perspective there is no difference, since we shall see secret collusion between Rome and Islam (and Rome ultimately controls Islam). This would also be very pleasing to the Catholic Church, as Catholicism which was created as a "universal" faith to unify the disparate elements of the Roman Empire. It began as a religion loosely based on Scripture, but which had no qualms about "sanctifying" pagan idols and false feast days. It also has dominating hierarchical leadership (rather than true Spirit-submitted servanthship).

Because Rome ultimately controls both the Judeo-Christian west and the Islamic east, Revelation 17:18 calls Rome "that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

***Hitgalut (Revelation) 17:18***

***18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."***

Before we go further, we need to talk about Islam. In Nebuchadnezzar's dream, the legs of iron represent Rome; and if iron represents Rome then the feet of iron and clay can only represent Rome and something else. That "something else" is Islam. This might seem an unlikely combination, as Muslims are generally at odds with Christians (much like Protestants are supposed to be at odds with Catholics). However, this is a perfect fulfillment, as Daniel 2:42-43 tells us the toes of the feet were to be partly of iron and partly of clay, so that the kingdom would be both strong and fragile. This can be understood at many different levels, but if we look at the fourth beast as a combination of both Christian and Islamic societies, we can see that Christendom and Islamic societies are both strong within themselves, but that they do not mingle, just as iron does not mingle with clay.

**Daniel 2:42-43**

**42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.**

**43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.**

Earlier we saw how the fourth beast would trample the residue of the other three empires (Babylon, Media-Persia and Greece) with its feet.

**Daniel 7:7**

**7 "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and**

***trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.***

We also saw that Alexander the Great's old empire is now inhabited mainly by Muslims. So how can Rome have such control over Alexander's old empire that it "tramples the residue with its feet"?



In 325 CE, the Roman Emperor Constantine held his infamous Council of Nicea, outlawing both Judaism and Nazarene Israel (see *Nazarene Israel* for more details). Five years later, in 330 CE, Emperor Constantine moved the capital of his empire to Constantinople, which is today called Istanbul. Istanbul is located in a beautiful and highly strategic location in Turkey. Sitting astride a narrow canal, one third of Constantinople (Istanbul) lies in Asia, while two thirds lies in Europe.

This may be seen by some as being symbolic of the balance of power within the Roman-Islamic beast as a whole.

While the pope is portrayed as a peaceful spiritual leader, the papacy has had standing armies in the past. They have also conducted “black ops” against their enemies. When Martin Luther nailed his famous 95 Theses to the door of the church in Wittenberg in 1519, the Catholics tried the normal measures to quell the revolt. By 1534 the Catholics realized the Protestant Reformation was not going to go away easily, and so they created the Jesuit Order as a secret “black ops” arm of the Catholic Church, whose mission it was to carry out clandestine warfare against Protestants, and against anyone else who did not submit to Catholicism. Part of the Jesuit oath of induction is here:

*I furthermore promise and declare that I will, when opportunity present, make and wage relentless war, secretly or openly, against all heretics, Protestants and Liberals, as I am directed to do, to extirpate and exterminate them from the face of the whole earth; and that I will spare neither age, sex or condition; and that I will hang, waste, boil, flay, strangle and bury alive these infamous heretics, rip up the stomachs and wombs of their women and crush their infants' heads against the walls, in order to annihilate forever their execrable race. That when the same cannot be done openly, I will secretly use the poisoned cup, the strangulating cord, the steel of the poniard or the leaden bullet, regardless of the honor, rank, dignity, or authority of the person or persons, whatever may be their condition in life, either public or private, as I at any time may be directed so to do by any agent of the Pope or Superior of the Brotherhood of the Holy Faith, of the Society of Jesus.*

This kind of thing did not begin with the Jesuits, and former Jesuit priest Alberto Rivera reported he was told in a secret briefing that the Catholic Church had been instrumental in founding Islam. The Catholic purpose was to destabilize and control areas outside of Roman borders, much like how the CIA might try to destabilize nations outside the United States.

Mohammed's first wife was named Khadija. She was reportedly a faithful and devout Catholic, and according to some reports the Catholic Church told her to marry Mohammed. Not only would Khadija be able to feed information to the Catholic Church, but it would also give the Catholic Church a means of influencing Mohammed.

According to these sources, Khadija also had a Catholic cousin named Waraquah. Waraquah helped Mohammed to write and interpret his visions, which formed the Quran (Koran). Waraquah also encouraged Mohammed to found his new faith among the children of Ishmael.

Whether these legends are completely accurate or not, later we will see clear evidence that the Catholic Church and Islam are secretly in collusion, just as Daniel 7:7 indicates. In the meantime, let us continue to meet the cast of characters, so we can understand the timeline in Revelation.