

MANUSCRIPT

“DANIEL” Revisited

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ABSTRACT

This work presents a fresh commentary on the book of Daniel. In the multitude of classical commentaries many expositors present contradictory interpretations due to the inability to simply correlate prophetic scripture with the historical record. These contradictions are as significant as disagreeing with major historical world empires, and as subtle as misinterpreting the literal Hebrew text.

In this effort, the span of history from the pre Babylonian/Chaldean empires to the rulers at the end of this age is examined, adhering to the angelic constraint to: “shut up the words, and seal the book, until the time of the end,” (Dan. 12:4). Following this approach, we find a startling litany of events that precisely match ancient Bible prophecy with fulfilled events of the twentieth century which culminate in the twenty-first century.

As these many prophetic chapters and verses overview the milestones of classical history and key events of modern history, -- the nations, the political leaders, the wars, and the rise and role of the one-world-government, -- we find unerring accuracy. And as applicable, the prophecies of Daniel are interwoven with corollary verses from Psalms, Ezekiel, and Revelation.

Just as Daniel had been called to prophesy to the “nations,” the bulk of this study pertains to world historical and headline events. However, because God allows Daniel to interpret the “seventy years” of Jeremiah, we are allowed an additional insight into the end-time events of the nation of Israel. This non-classical examination of prophetic writings in context with recorded history provides compelling insight into scriptures that have long remained veiled, misunderstood, and misinterpreted.

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GOD'S PURPOSE FOR DANIEL

KNOW THE AUTHOR

In the book of Daniel, we see a Jewish youth from an upper-class family who is taken by captivity to Babylon to serve in King Nebuchadnezzar's palace. Early on, King Nebuchadnezzar found Daniel and two of his compatriots capable and wise. Over the course of years and circumstances, Daniel proved to be a living testimony and witness of who GOD was and is, but not to Jewish kings and populous but rather to the world's kings.

This proof is evident in that Daniel is called to prophesy to the rulers of his day including King Nebuchadnezzar, his son Belshazzar, the last ruler of that empire -- Darius the Mede, and serving into the reign of the Medo-Persian Empire under Cyrus the Great. But greater than this, Daniel's prophecies transcend this ancient age and ascend to the 2,500 year span of world empires concluding at the end of the world's governments in our own era.

Today, Daniel still speaks to the world's kings of historical, current, and future events. It is from this fundamental perspective that we grasp GOD's design for this man and this book.

This is in contrast to the book of Revelation which is written to the Church, and the book of Ezekiel which is written to the nation of Israel. It is important to understand that GOD extends his presence into all facets of life including pronouncing himself through the heavens and creation, so that kings, nations, and individuals, should all come to know HIM.

But there are other considerations which further define the application of this book.

CLASSICAL COMMENTARY DIFFICULTIES

"The history of the exegesis of the 70 Weeks is the Dismal Swamp of O. T. criticism. The difficulties that beset any "rationalistic" treatment of the figures are great enough, but the critics on this side of the fence do not agree among themselves; but the trackless wilderness of assumptions and theories and efforts to obtain an exact chronology fitting into the the history of Salvation, after these 2,000 years of infinitely varied interpretations, would seem to preclude any use of the 70 Weeks for the determination of a definite prophetic chronology. ... "1

"This prophesy of the seventy sevens is one of the most difficult in the entire OT, and although the interpretations are almost legion, we shall confine ourselves to the discussion of three which may be regarded as of particular importance."2

Note: According to the dictionary³ a legion consists of 3,000 to 6,000 foot soldiers, and 300 to 700 cavalry.

¹ John Walvoord, "Daniel, The Key to Prophetic Revelation", Moody Press, Chicago, 1971, p. 217

² Guthrie, D., & J.A. Motyer, New Bible Commentary: Revised, Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, MI, 1970, p. 699

³ Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary - 2nd ed, p. 1035

‘EXTRA-BIBLICAL’ CONSIDERATION

Some respected authorities cite limitations on prophetic scripture to the Eur-Asian-African ‘known world’ of those ancient days. To apply any portion of those prophecies to any as yet unknown countries or continents is called ‘extra-biblical.’ This restriction applies not only to prophesied end-time nations and events, but also to the Anti-Christ’s origins.

This position has inherent contradictions. Mark 16:15 commands Christians to “*go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation.*” However, using this constrictive logic, maybe the as yet undiscovered two American continents, the Australian continent, and vast regions of Far East and southeast Asia should have never been evangelized. Furthermore, when Christ returns for the 1,000 year Millennial Reign, will one half of the world be exempt from HIS authority?

Although we should be cognizant of and weigh various premises, we need to carefully judge whether a given hypothesis adheres to the encompassing scope of GOD’s involvement in the affairs of HIS creation.

KNOW THE AUDIENCE

When comprehending GOD’s focus for the book of Daniel, one must not only understand the span of world empires, but we must also view Daniel’s prophetic observations from both his Jewish heritage and toward his gentile target audience. Specifically, where as most biblical understanding evolves around Jewish practices, traditions, and cultural influences, Daniel’s writings transcend these mores, and ascend to a more cosmopolitan expository. Although it’s absolutely necessary to know the author, we must not forget that this author knows his audience.

It’s this writer’s opinion that we must allow Daniel the liberty to prophesy to this world’s rulers and reveal prophetic truth in the fullness of our mutual backgrounds as Scripture provides. Specifically, where Daniel was called to prophesy to the nations, he was also given the grace to prophesy to the Jews in Chapter 9, under the mantle of Jeremiah.

BASELESS PRECONCEPTIONS

Classical interpreters present the book of Daniel with prejudice. A specific example concerns the 11th chapter where Daniel cites the kings of the “north” and “south.” Without scriptural authority, they insist that the nation of Israel is the point of reference. They then search for fulfillments which fall under this constraint. When they ultimately fail, after much contriving, hypothesizing, and falsifying “history”, they claim a time schism in which the balance of the prophecies are deferred to some ambiguous and unspecified latter time. Per this practice, the 11th chapter ceases any semblance of ancient history fulfillment between verses 36 and 40, depending on the commentator, leaving what appeared to be a continuous discourse suddenly skewered by some thousands of years. (Similarly, the commentators assert the Chapter 9 discourse is interrupted by a two thousand year gap between the anointed one who is “cut off”, and the seventieth week.)

However, when this preconception is cast off, “north” and “south” can be simply interpreted as pertaining to two of the world’s end time nations, merely denoted with respect to geographical latitudes. Thus we find the prospect for a fulfillment which exhibits the correct sequence, is contiguous, and precisely agrees with modern historical events.

END-TIME FULFILMENT

The opportunity for a thorough re-examination of the prophecies of Daniel may be better understood in light of the Ellicott's Commentary On The Whole Bible⁴ discourse regarding the eleventh chapter of Daniel -- specifically addressing the mighty king of verse 3.

“Those who explain what follows to refers to the Ptolemies and Seleucidae identify him with Alexander the Great, and compare with this verse chaps. vii. 6, viii. 5-8, 21, 22. Certainly [we find here what] was characteristic of Alexander, but there was nothing in the context which makes it necessary to limit the passage to him. Some autocrat may arise ‘in the latter times’ to whom it will apply with greater force than it did to Alexander.”

Of course the first consideration is the disregard for the angel's instructions (12:4 & 9) that the prophecies are “*shut up and sealed until the time of the end*”. And there is no excuse or justification, no matter how craftily conveyed, which can allow a 200BC event to be presented as “*end time*”.

And secondly, where we find that Ellicott holds the door open for a true “*end time*” fulfillment, we equally demand the same for the whole body of Daniel's prophetic writings. For as presented in this work, a false interpretation yields disconnected tangents, but the truth proves an interwoven cross-correlating tapestry of end time events, -- in full conformance with Daniel 12:4 & 9.

And finally, this commentary uses the Revised Standard Version,⁵ as this version provides the most literal and precise translation. (See Figure #1)

⁴ Ellicott's Commentary on the Whole Bible, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI, 1959, Vol. 5, p. 392

⁵ “Holy Bible,” Revised Standard Version, Thomas Nelson, NY, 1972

Figure 1

(Used without permission, source unknown)

DANIEL 1, -- FROM CAPTIVITY TO DEATH

INTRODUCTION

This 1st Chapter of Daniel would hardly seem to offer prophetic insight. Certainly we find Daniel's captivity, but more importantly, we should find his death in the definition of "until".

Daniel 1:12 "And Daniel continued until the first year of King Cyrus."

un·til

prep.

1. Up to the time of: We danced until dawn.⁶

Many classical commentators are apparently content with silently deferring to the accepted premise that Daniel did not die in the "first year of King Cyrus", because they errantly presume he was alive in the THIRD year of Cyrus as recorded in 10:1.

Daniel 10:1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a word was revealed to Daniel, who was named Belteshazzar. ...

Of these the most prominent proponent for ignoring the evidence of Daniel's death in the "first year of King Cyrus" is John Calvin:

Expositors are puzzled with this verse, because, as we shall afterwards see, the Vision occurred to Daniel in the third year of Cyrus's reign. Some explain the word חיה, haiah, by to be "broken;" but this is by no means in accordance with the history. ...⁷

So although Calvin acknowledges the literal text, he discards it in favor of a flawed perception of Scripture and history. Specifically, the commentators errantly presume Daniel 10 to be during the Medo/Persian era. But Daniel's 10th and initial verses of the 11th Chapters, (respectively) pertain to the closing days of the Babylonian era. Consider the evidence:

1. 10:1 references Cyrus as the "king of Persia", versus the 1:21 reference to Cyrus as "King Cyrus" – thereby King over Daniel.
 - Military strategists recognize that a conquering army must have a 4:1 to 10:1 advantage. Thus, at this point in history, Cyrus clearly had become more powerful than the Babylonians and had received this pre-eminent recognition in the opening verse of Chapter 10, -- in spite of not having captured the capital city of Babylon. And of course, subsequent to the 10th and 11th Chapter accounts, Cyrus conquered Babylon and became King over Daniel and the combined realm.
2. In Daniel 5, Belshaz'zar was killed by his own nobles, over Belshaz'zar's negligence in the face of threats to the empire. Belshaz'zar could have sent messengers to raise armies for the relief of the city, but instead declared a feast. Thus the nobles conspired to kill the incompetent king, and arranged to have Darius made king so as to possibly preserve their own lives and fortunes.

⁶ www.thefreedictionary.com/until

⁷ <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/calvin/calcom24.vii.xx.html?bc=right>

3. In Daniel 6, Daniel is credited with prospering “*during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian*”.
 - At first cut, if both had been Persians as the ill advised classical commentators presume, then the text would have said “... Persians”, plural. Instead, there is a distinct implied Babylonian reign, and a second delineated Persian reign.
4. Daniel 9:2 specifically states that Darius was made king “*over the realm of the Chaldeans*”.
 - Once again, the classical commentators craftily construct words and invent histories of a purported general or governor which cannot refute plain Scripture and recorded history.
5. In Daniel 11:1 Daniel asserts that he “*stood up to confirm and strengthen*” Darius the Mede. Who needs strengthening, the victor as the classical commentators assert, or the soon to be vanquished? Scripture, history, and common sense demand the latter.
 - See the Daniel 11 commentary portion for this full presentation.

DANIEL 2, -- IMAGE OF METALS

INTRODUCTION

The second chapter of Daniel presents the perspective that is maintained throughout the prophetic chapters of this book (chapters 2, 7, 8, 11, & 12, with the exception of chapter 9*). This perspective is that of GOD speaking to the span of the world’s nations -- and not the Jews as some would errantly presume. Daniel accomplishes this by outlining the sequence and nuance of world empires. In the process, he throws in some small specifics whose significance might be easily overlooked, but prove to be critical components to understanding the prophecies.

* Please note that the 9th chapter is unique because Daniel only elucidates Jeremiah’s prophecy. It is this author’s belief that God allowed Daniel special grace to deviate from events pertaining to the nations of the world so that he could prophesy to his own kinsmen.

VISION

DANIEL 2:31 “You saw, o king, and behold, a great image. This image, mighty and of exceeding brightness, stood before you, and its appearance was frightening. ³² The head of this image was of fine gold, its breast 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 As you looked, a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it smote 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, all together were broken in pieces, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”

INTERPRETATION

DANIEL 2:37 “You, O king, the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, and the might, and the glory, ³⁸ and into whose hand he has given, wherever they dwell, the sons of men, the beasts of the field, and the birds of the air, making you rule over them all -- you are the head of gold. ³⁹ After you shall arise another kingdom inferior

to you, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. ⁴⁰ And there shall be a fourth kingdom strong as iron, because iron breaks to pieces and shatters all things; and like iron which crushed, it shall break and crush all these. ⁴¹ And as you saw the feet and toes partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom; but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it, just as you saw iron mixed with miry clay. ⁴² And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. ⁴³ As you saw the iron mixed with miry clay, so they will mix with one another in marriage, ^b but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay. ⁴⁴ And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall its sovereignty be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand for ever; ⁴⁵ just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain and its interpretation sure.”

^b Aram by the seed of men

HEAD OF GOLD - Babylonian/Chaldean Empire (605 - 539 BC)

DANIEL 2:32 “The head of this image was of fine gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze...”

DANIEL 2:37 “You, O king, the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, and the might, and the glory, ³⁸ and into whose hand he has given, wherever they dwell, the sons of men, the beasts of the field, and the birds of the air, making you rule over them all -- you are the head of gold.”

REGIONAL HISTORY - (Medes & Persians)

The Babylonian/Chaldean Empire was the foundation upon which all successive world empires were based. Other kingdoms existed prior to this new generation empire, chiefly, the nomadic Medes and Persians (1100 - 800 BC),⁸ who roamed the vast territory of Persia (modern day Iran), inhabiting mud brick dwellings, and seasonally migrating between the higher pastures in the scorching summers and the lower valleys during the winters.⁹ These peoples are referred to in:

- Daniel 6:12 -- Daniel in the lions den, with Babylonian/Chaldean King Darius' signet law made unretractable according to the law of the “*Medes and the Persians*;”
- Daniel 8:3-7 -- the “*Ram*” that was cast to the ground by the “*He-Goat*” (Babylonian/Chaldean Empire)
- Daniel 8:20 -- the “*Ram*” whose horns are specifically identified as “*the kings of Media and Persia*”

⁸ Andrew Sherratt, The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Archaeology, Crown Publishers, Inc., NY, 1980, p. 206

⁹ John B. Christopher and Robert Lee Wolf, A History of Civilization, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1967, pp. 13-

BABYLONIAN KINGDOM

Nabopolassar, (Nebuchadnezzar’s father), laid the foundation for this Babylonian kingdom in an era where Assyria was weakened by the Medes, for his sons inheritance prior to his own death. When the Assyrians and Egyptians conspired to destroy this newly founded Babylonian kingdom, King Nebuchadnezzar met the Egyptian army at Carchemish, at the head waters of the Euphrates, and decisively defeated them.

This Head-of-Gold was “*the first true metropolis in western history, a business as well as an administrative center*”¹⁰ -- the prototype of governments as we see them to this day. The Babylonians controlled trade and commerce across western Asia, from the Mediterranean Sea to the Persian Gulf, building highways, legislating business, and creating the first amusement park -- the third Wonder of the World -- the Hanging Gardens.

.¹¹ The following table outlines the sequence of Babylonian rulers:

SEQUENCE OF BABYLONIAN/CHALDEAN KINGS

Young’s Concordance ¹²	Strong’s Concordance ¹³	World History ¹⁴
<u>BC</u>	<u>BC</u>	<u>BC</u>
600 - 561 Nebuchadnezzar	605 - 562 Nebuchadnezzar	626 - 605 Nabopolassar
561 - 559 Evil-Merodach	-- Evil-Merodach	605 - 561 Nebuchadnezzar
	(Marduk)	561 - 560 Evil Merdocach
559 - 550 Belshazzar	-- Belshazzar	(Awil-Marduk)
		559-556 Neriglissar
		(Nergalsharusur)
		556 - 539 Nabonidus*
		* Shared with son, Belshazzar
<u>Medo/Persian Empire</u>	-- Darius The Mede	
538 Darius The Mede		
(Cyaxares)		<u>Medo/Persian Empire</u>
536 Cyrus The Great	-- Cyrus The Great	555 - 529 Cyrus The Great

BREAST AND ARMS OF SILVER - Medo/Persian Empire (539 - 330 BC)

DANIEL 2:32 “The head of this image was of fine gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze,...”

DANIEL 2:39 “After you shall arise another kingdom inferior to you, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.”

¹⁰ John B. Christopher and Robert Lee Wolf, A History of Civilization, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1967, p. 35
¹¹ Will Durant, Story of Civilization: Part II, Simon and Schuster, NY, 1954, pp. 223-224
¹² Robert Young, Analytical Concordance to the Bible, Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, MI, 1976
¹³ James Strong, The New Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible, Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, TN, 1990
¹⁴ William Langer, An Encyclopedia of World History, Houghton Mifflin Co, Boston, MA, 1968, pp. 34-35

In the years 556 to 549 BC, Cyrus of the Persians rebelled against King Astyages of the Medes. In his victory, Cyrus consolidated the Medo/Persian kingdom, and continued his conquest of Asia Minor. In 539 BC, having already conquered most of the Near East,¹⁵ Cyrus the Great conquered the Babylonians. In 525 BC, under Cambyses, the Persians crossed the Suez and conquered the Egyptians.¹⁶ This Medo/Persian Empire was the largest and one of the best organized governments in history.¹⁷ The following table outlines the sequence of Persian rulers.

SEQUENCE OF MEDO/PERSIAN KINGS

Young's Concordance¹⁸		World History^{19 20}	
<u>BC</u>		<u>BC</u>	
536 - 529	Cyrus the Great	539 - 530	Cyrus the Great
529 - 521	Ahasuerus (Cambyses)	530 - 522	Cambyses
521 - ____	Darius Hystaspes	522 - 486	Darius I (Hystaspes)
485		486 - 465	Xerxes
423	Darius Nothus	465 - 423	Artaxerxes I
		423	Xerxes II - few weeks
418	Artaxerxes (Longimanus)	423	Sogdianus - six months
		423 - 404	Darius II
		404 - 359	Artaxerxes II
		359 - 338	Artaxerxes III (Ochus)
		338	Arses
		338 - 330	Darius III (Codomanus)

BELLY AND THIGHS OF BRONZE - Grecian Empire (336 - 146 BC)

DANIEL 2:32 “The head of this image was of fine gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze...”

DANIEL 2:39 “After you shall arise another kingdom inferior to you, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.”

PERSPECTIVE

The Grecian Empire established by Alexander the Great (356 - 323 BC) was a particularly unique empire as identified by Daniel. This empire was to be a kingdom “*which shall rule over all the earth.*” This is of specific importance in two aspects. The first is that this kingdom encompassed more territory than any kingdom up to that time. This was made possible by the second aspect: the

¹⁵ Jean-Louis Huot, Persia I - From the Origins to the Achaemenids, World Publishing Co., NY, 1967, pp. 153-154

¹⁶ Will Durant, Story of Civilization: Part II, Simon and Schuster, NY, 1954, p. 215

¹⁷ Will Durant, Story of Civilization: Part II, Simon and Schuster, NY, 1954, p. 352

¹⁸ Robert Young, Analytical Concordance to the Bible, Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, MI, 1976, pp. 22, 52, 218, 220

¹⁹ Huot, Jean-Louis, Persia I - From the Origins to the Achaemenids, World Publishing Co., NY, 1965-67, pp. 12, 153-156

²⁰ Durant, Will, Story of Civilization: Part I, Simon and Schuster, NY, 1954, pp 353-354, 381-382

style of Alexander's governance. After he conquered a given city or kingdom, he would leave that government's organizational structure in place. This caused the least disruption in the conquered peoples, and left him available to divert his attentions elsewhere. This tactic was employed by the Romans, and even during General Douglas MacArthur's governorship in post WW II Japan. It is this second aspect that projects Alexander as a true visionary: "And the most inspiring legend of all portrays Alexander the Great as the first man to conceive the ideal of One World."²¹

In this Daniel 2:39, "*which shall rule over all the earth*" concept, one should discover that in Daniel 8:20-21, the "*He-Goat*" is described as the "*king of Greece*," and in Daniel 11:2, a "*fourth*" king shall "*stir up all against the kingdom of Greece*." Accordingly, we'll examine evidence that in both of these citations, Daniel uses "*Greece*" not as a specific nation or empire, but rather as the typecast for events and circumstances which pertain to "*all the earth*."

HISTORY

During King Philip's life, (382 - 336 BC), he organized and strengthened his country, Macedonia, from 359 BC until his assassination in 336 BC. His son, Alexander (356 - 323 BC), inherited the kingdom, and over the course of 12 years expanded his kingdom over a vast region. He conquered Asia Minor, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Babylonia, Persia, Afghanistan, Russian Central Asia, and finally, India.²² When Alexander the Great died, this expansive kingdom was partitioned between his military and political heirs into five regions.

*"There were not only three major monarchies -- Macedonia, Seleucia, and Egypt; there were a hundred Greek city-states, of all degrees of independence; there was a maze of alliances and leagues; there were half-Greek states in Epirus, Judea, Pergamum, Byzantium, Bithynia, Cappadocia, Galatia, Bactria; and in the west were Greek Italy and Sicily, torn between aging Carthage and youthful Rome. ... (Alexander) had left not one but several strong men behind him, and none could be content with less than sovereignty. ... After some minor trials at arms which disposed of lesser contenders, they divided the empire into five parts -- Antipater taking Macedonia and Greece, Lysimachus Thrace, Antigonus Asia Minor, Seleucus Babylonea, and Ptolemy Egypt."*²³

To review, the two significant aspects of the Grecian (also called Hellenistic) Empire of Alexander the Great, the first was the whole world "*Greece*" typecast. The second is the division of Alexander's empire between his **five** generals versus the classical commentators' false division of **four**. And although this division of **five** eventually evolved to **four**, it took 42 years from Alexander's death in 323 BC, to arrive to the **four**:

*"The satrapies handed out by Perdiccas at the Partition of Babylon became power bases each general used to bid for power. After the assassination of Perdiccas in 321 BC, Macedonian unity collapsed, and 40 years of war between "The Successors" (Diadochi) ensued before the Hellenistic world settled into four stable power blocks..."*²⁴

Furthermore, each of the five generals had expended their lives by this 281 BC date:

- Antipater, Macedonia and Greece, 397 – 319 BC *

²¹ John B. Christopher and Robert Lee Wolf, A History of Civilization, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1967, p 86

²² John B. Christopher and Robert Lee Wolf, A History of Civilization, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1967, p 86

²³ Durant, Will, "Story of Civilization: Part I," Simon and Schuster, NY, 1954, pp. 557-558

²⁴ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_the_Great

- Lysimachus, Thrace, 360 – 281 BC *
- Antigonus, Asia Minor, 382 – 301 BC
- Seleucus, Babylonea, 358 – 281 BC *
- Ptolemy, Egypt, 367 – 283 BC *

* Note: Antigonus was slain at the battle of Ipsus and two thirds of his dominion was divided between the victors.²⁵

Thus one should perceive that Alexander’s empire was never divided into four regions. The commentators simply misrepresent Scripture in Daniel 7 and Daniel 11, and falsify world history to present a “fulfillment” for those respective prophetic passages.

LEGS OF IRON - Roman Empire (146 BC - 476 AD)

DANIEL 2:32 “The head of this image was of fine gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, ³³ its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.”

DANIEL 2:40 “And there shall be a fourth kingdom strong as iron, because iron breaks to pieces and shatters all things; and like iron which crushed, it shall break and crush all these.”

PERSPECTIVE

The foundation of this Roman Empire can be found in the structure of government -- the *Senatus Populusque Romanus*. This “Senate and the Roman People,” was comprised of the Consulate which had two consuls that served one year terms as co-chief executives; a Senate which had 300 members; and a Centuriate Assembly which provided representation for the commoners.²⁶ Although Rome had an apparent system of checks and balances, upon the death of Marc Antony, Julius Caesar Augustus stacked the legislative deck such that he was eventually named a singular Consulate dictator in perpetuity.²⁷ It is important to recognize that a residue of Iron based upon this representative form of government is carried forward into the last empire, the Feet of Clay, called the “*divided kingdom*”.

Secondly, many classical commentators attempt to explain the significance of the two legs typical of northern and southern, or eastern and western divisions of Rome. But if this division were correctly ascribed it must be attributed to the “thighs”, where this division rightfully starts. And if TWO thighs or TWO legs aren’t explicitly cited, then any such significance is an unauthorized expansion of the text, and is nothing more than someone’s ill advised conjecture. But it would appear that if Scripture implied TEN toes by way of the TEN “horns” and TEN “crowns”, then we should anticipate some significance in that number.

HISTORY

As early as 281 BC, Rome was using expansionism as a defense for its own borders with the advantage of also obtaining more territory. In 146 BC Rome placed a governor over the strategic Macedon territory. With control over key portions of the nearby Mediterranean regions, Rome

²⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Ipsus

²⁶ John B. Christopher and Robert Lee Wolf, A History of Civilization, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1967, p 100

²⁷ John B. Christopher and Robert Lee Wolf, A History of Civilization, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1967, p 112

commenced its pre-eminence. The Roman Empire endured for nearly 600 years before it succumbed to internal disintegration.

A partial (through 161 AD) sequence of Roman emperors is depicted in the following table:

SEQUENCE OF ROMAN EMPERORS

REIGN ²⁸	EMPEROR ¹⁹ *	BIRTH / DEATH ²⁹
105 - 100 BC	Caius <u>Marius</u>	155? - 86 BC
88 -79 BC	Lucius Cornelius <u>Sulla</u> (<u>Felix</u>)	138 - 78 BC
? - 46 BC	Caius <u>Julius Caesar</u>	100 - 44 BC
46 - 31 BC	both Julius Caesar Octavianus <u>Augustus</u> or <u>Octavian</u> and Marcus Antonius (<u>Marc Antony</u>)	63 BC -14 AD
27 BC - 14 AD	Julius Caesar Octavianus <u>Augustus</u> or <u>Octavian</u>	63 BC -14 AD
14 - 37 AD	<u>Tiberius</u> Claudius Nero Caesar	42 BC - 37 AD
37 - 41 AD	Caius Caesar <u>Caligula</u>	12 BC - 41 AD
41 - 54 AD	Tiberius <u>Claudius</u> Drusus Nero Germanicus	10 BC - 54 AD
54 - 68 AD	<u>Nero</u> Claudius Caesar	37 - 68 AD
69 AD	Servius Sulpicius <u>Galba</u>	3 BC- 69 AD
69 AD	Marcus Salvius <u>Otho</u>	32 - 69 AD
69 - 79 AD	Titus Flavius Sabinus <u>Vespasianus</u> (<u>Vespasian</u>)	9 - 79 AD
79 - 81 AD	<u>Titus</u> Flavius Sabinus Vespasianus (Jr.)	40? - 81 AD
81 - 96 AD	<u>Domitian</u>	51 - 96 AD
96 - 98 AD	Marcus Cocceius <u>Nerva</u>	32 - 98 AD
98 - 117 AD	Marcus Ulpius Trajanus (<u>Trajan</u>)	52? - 117 AD
117 - 138 AD	<u>Hadrian</u> or Adrian	76 - 138 AD
138 - 161 AD	<u>Antoninus</u> Pius	86 - 161 AD

* Note: Underlined names indicate preferred identification

The Roman emperors continued successions until the year 235, whereupon military governorship lasted until the year 476 when formal Roman leadership ceased.

One of the most interesting aspects of this empire is that it was never conquered. It merely dissolved into disparate kingdoms and fiefdoms, which seldom divested themselves from the representative form of government to which they were accustomed. Even in global nations today, nearly all forms of government and jurisprudence are based upon Roman precedent. As such, it's clear that GOD and history would acknowledge this residue of Iron -- both in this "divided kingdom" of Clay for which Scripture clearly demonstrates that the Feet of Clay are a separate and unique fifth empire; and in our own Pledge of Allegiance where we acknowledge our Roman "Republic" (i.e., "Iron") foundation.

²⁸ Crane Brinton, A History of Civilization, Prentice-Hall, 1967, pp 100 - 117, 133

²⁹ Websters New Twentieth Century Dictionary, 2nd ed., Simon & Schuster, NY, 1983

FEET OF IRON & CLAY - Divided Kingdom

DANIEL 2:32 ““ The head of this image was of fine gold, its breast and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, ³³ its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.””

DANIEL 2:41 ““ And as you saw the feet and toes partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom; but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it, just as you saw iron mixed with miry clay. ⁴² And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. ⁴³ As you saw the iron mixed with miry clay, so they will mix with one another in marriage, ^b but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay.””

DANIEL 2:45 just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure.”

b Aram by the seed of men

PERSPECTIVE

First of all one must discount the false commentary 1,2,3,4a,4b, “Revived Holy Roman Empire” scenario.

1) Various proponents demand that Scripture defines **four** kingdoms as follows:

- a) The Gold as an inherent kingdom
- b) The Silver: “*another kingdom inferior to you*”
- c) The Bronze: “*a third kingdom*”
- d) The Iron: “*a fourth kingdom*”

They completely ignore the FIFTH distinct empire, ascribing it as though it were a subset of the Roman. However, Scripture plainly delineates one more kingdom:

e) The Clay: “*it shall be a divided kingdom*”

- 2) These same proponents fail to grasp that where the Roman Republic crumbled into dust (having never been replaced by a new form), that the disparate kingdoms simply ceased paying taxes to Rome but had no other option except to maintain the “*Senate and the Roman People*” bicameral model. Even today the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance clearly states “... *and to the Republic for which it stands ...*”. -- Thus Scripture and history provide for a residue of Iron in the present empire of Clay.
- 3) Simple world history bears witness where global power is shared between three superpowers (U.S./U.K., Russia, and China) in compliance to the Empire of Clay “*divided kingdom*” dictate.
- 4) Scripture is no less *INTELLIGENT DESIGN* than a recipe. A well considered shopper organizes their list according to the store aisles, i.e., 1) flour, 2) sugar, 4) baking powder, 5) vanilla, 5) butter, 6) eggs. However the recipe calls for a different order, i.e., 2) sugar, 5) butter; 6) eggs, 4) vanilla; 1) flour, 3) baking powder. Thus 1,2,3,4,5,6 versus 2,5,6,4,1,3, -- both serving their *INTELLIGENT DESIGN* purposes.

And so Scripture depicts 1) Gold; 2) Silver; 3) Bronze; 4) Iron; 5) Clay (= FIVE), and verse 45 confirms this in the sequence 4) Iron; 3) Bronze; 5) Clay; 2) Silver; 1) Gold (= FIVE). In this, GOD carefully and intentionally breaks any ill considered subset premise, (i.e., 4a/4b), by simply repositioning the Bronze between the Iron and the Clay, forcing a FIVE empire delineation.

Having debunked the commentator's, 1,2,3,4a,4b Revived Holy Roman Empire doctrine, additional Scripture continues to discount that doctrine while validating history. In this, one must consider how Chapter 2 demands a FIVE world empire sequence, which CANNOT parallel the Chapter 7 FOUR beast depiction,-- as every school child knows that FIVE ≠ FOUR. Secondly, one should consider that where this FIFTH Empire of Clay consists of today's three superpowers, it will evolve into a one-world government consisting of 10 representative nations. So now we will debunk the European Union doctrine:

- 1) Revelation 13:7-8 makes it clear that a one-world government would rule over "... *every tribe and people and tongue and nation, and all who dwell on earth will worship it...*". So who would assign this to the European Union?!? They are not and never will be global community.
- 2) Some would attempt to tease out 10 nations from a participation of 28, plus 6 candidates, and 2 potential candidates:

28 Member States

Austria	Estonia	Italy	Portugal
Belgium	Finland	Latvia	Romania
Bulgaria	France	Lithuania	Slovakia
Croatia	Germany	Luxembourg	Slovenia
Cyprus	Greece	Malta	Spain
Czech Republic	Hungary	Netherlands	Sweden
Denmark	Ireland	Poland	United Kingdom

6 Candidate Countries

Albania	Serbia
Iceland	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Montenegro	Turkey

2 Potential Candidates

Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo ³⁰
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Do they delineate their selection by date of entry, by economic weight, by military weight, by centrality, by historical prestige, by future potential, by the cuteness of their national symbol, by alphabetical ranking, or by the number of letters in a given nation's name (by fewer or by more)? Whose imagination is it that parses such a winnowing to arrive to the 10?!?

- 3) Where does this EU one-world-government false doctrine come from?!? In 1951 the "Treaty of Paris" was signed which created the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). In 1957 the "Treaty of Rome" was signed which established the European Economic Community

³⁰ http://europa.eu/about-eu/countries/index_en.htm

(TEEC).³¹ Ill advised individuals gave credence to the commentator false 4a/4b Revived Holy Roman Empire teaching, which glommed into this EU one-world-government false doctrine.

HISTORY

This Empire of Clay fifth world empire is prophesied and fulfilled as follows:

- A). As presented in the “IRON -- History” section above, the Roman Empire form of government and jurisprudence represented by the residue of “iron” is maintained in the subsequent disparate kingdoms and fiefdoms as we see in today’s world governments;
- B). The chapter 2 Clay is described as a “*divided kingdom*”, which should portend more than just the ten “*toes*”, which would be redundant, for we already know that the ten toes are inherently “divided”. Thus one must conclude that the division pertains to the encompassing “*feet*”, exactly as we see in today’s three superpowers.
- C). As such, the chapter 7 three beasts plus the fourth cannot parallel the chapter 2 sequence, but must represent the three superpowers along with the one-world-government.
- D). The ten toes are an alignment of 10 select nations under the one-world-government which are not from some one’s arbitrary ranking, but rather a distinct and unique population apart from the other nations.
- E). Both the three superpowers plus seven other nations comprise the ten nations, all of which are already identified in the news.

So we find that Daniel uses chapter 7 to elucidate this fifth *divided* empire, describing the three superpowers as national identity animals, (*Lion with Eagles Wings, Bear, and Leopard*), and a fourth power without an animal depiction (*Dreadful*). And in parallel, Revelation 13:2 clarifies the Daniel 7 *dreadful* beast as an subjugation of the three superpowers, (*feet of the Bear, body of the Leopard, and head of the Lion*). But regardless of any chapter 7 pretexts, the fact that Daniel 2:45 clearly and succinctly presents five world empires, which cannot be overlooked, discounted, or ignored.

SIGNIFICANCE OF IRON & CLAY ELEMENTS

Having justified the autonomy of this fifth empire, we should consider what the iron and clay represent. It should be considered that this iron (representative republic) influence shall only endure until the one-world-government obtains control. This new entity will not employ individual voter representation, and the iron will no longer be ~married~ to the clay.

But who are the specific nations which comprise the “*feet*”?

NATIONS OF THE “DIVIDED” FEET -- U.K./U.S., U.S.S.R., China

Since the fall of the Roman Empire many lesser empires have arisen including: Byzantine (474 - 1453); Germanic (526); Carolingian (768); Frankish (1180); Mongol - including Batu’s Empire, Empire of the Great Khan, Ilkhan Empire, and Empire of Jagatai, (1240); Ottoman (1300 - 1919); Spanish (1494 - 1600’s); Portuguese (1500’s - 1600’s); British Empire (1700’s - 1900’s); and many others. There is certainly plenty of division in this litany of empires, however, Daniel provides additional insight in his seventh and eleventh chapters to discern this “*divided*” kingdom.

³¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Rome

- Daniel chapter 7, identifies three beasts which later will be fully defined as representative of the three present day superpowers: the United States, the Soviet Union,* and China. The fourth beast, which is an allegiance of the three, has two aspects -- identified as the first beast (Ref. Rev. 13:2-10), and the second beast (Ref. Rev. 13:11-18).
- Daniel 11:2 confirms the sequence of empires which arrive at this “*divided kingdom*” when he describes four kingdoms which shall follow the Babylonian Empire. With the prophecy starting under the Babylonian King Darius the Mede, the “*three more shall arise in Persia*” are: Medo/Persia, Greece, and Rome. Each of these three empires conquered or maintained direct influence over the geographical region of Persia, but the fourth (“*divided kingdom*”) did not.

This “*fourth*,” which does not arise out of “*Persia*,” doesn’t come on the scene immediately: “...and a fourth shall be far richer than all of them, and when he has become strong through his riches...”. This “*fourth*” is the “*divided kingdom*”, (*Feet of Iron & Clay*), which came to full maturation some 1,400 years after the fall of the Roman Empire.

By 1950, the legitimacy of three dominant nations, the U.S., U.S.S.R., & China, was well perceived, although it took another decade to denote a ‘superpower’ status. It’s these three governments that will be joined by seven others to comprise the **ten toes** of the Image of Metals and fulfill the Daniel chapter 7 “*dreadful*” beast. But before we stop with only the three superpower nations, it is imperative that we also consider that the United Nations was formally organized on June 26, 1945.³² This places all four of the Daniel chapter 7 beasts within the same window of time, per verse three: “*And four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.*”

- * Please note that although modern political commentators depict the union of Soviet states as no longer inherently aligned, it will be this author’s practice to refer to the former U.S.S.R. as still in ‘union’ rather than singling out Russia as any sole participant for the remaining prophetic events. This conforms in that former Soviet states are represented by the state of Russia in the United Nations, and also reflects the potential (either partial or total) reconstitution of the Soviet state(s) anticipated to participate in the “*Gog*” and “*Magog*” end-time attack against the nation of Israel.

NATIONS OF THE TEN TOES -- U.N. Security Council

Because three of the ten governments have already been identified, an examination of current and prospective alliances can provide insight into the candidacy of the seven other nations. Interestingly, the United States, U.S.S.R., & China currently maintain top-level dialogue through participation in the United Nations Permanent Security Council. The United Kingdom and France total to the fourth and fifth members.

However, in the search for the ten toe/ten nation alliance, it is little known that in November of 1993,³³ five additional countries were nominated for Permanent membership in this exclusive Security Council. They include: Germany, Japan, Brazil, Nigeria, and India.³⁴ These nations were selected to represent the two significant industrialized powers, and “each of three regions -- Africa, South and East Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.”³⁵ If this expanded membership were to

³² The New York Public Library Desk Reference, “A Stonesong Press Book,” Webster’s New World, NY, 1989, p. 788

³³ “The Road To Reform: Towards A New Clarity,” U.N. Chronicle, UMI, Vol. 30, Issue 4, December 1993, pp. 45-46

³⁴ ABC, CBS, or NBC evening network news, broadcast on Nov. 22 or 23, 1993

³⁵ “The Road To Reform: Towards A New Clarity,” p. 46

be approved by the body of the United Nations, this new 10-nation Permanent Security Council could fulfill the ten toe/ten nation prophesy.

However, because nearly all commentators propose a “Revived Roman Empire” fulfillment by the European Union, it is worth examining that potential:

Creation of the European Community

In 1967, the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), the European Economic Community (EEC), and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) merged under the European Community (EC). This created a six nation alliance comprised of: France, West Germany, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands.

In January of 1972, Great Britain, Ireland, and Denmark joined the EC, but the voters of Norway rejected their nation’s proposed membership. In 1981, Greece joined, and seven years later, so did Spain and Portugal, for a total of twelve nations. Austria, Finland, and Sweden joined in June of 1994, for a total of fifteen nations.³⁶

MEMBERS

1. West Germany	Treaty of Paris in 1951	13. Austria	June 1994
2. Belgium	Treaty of Paris in 1951	14. Finland,	June 1994
3. Italy	Treaty of Paris in 1951	15. Sweden	June 1994
4. Luxembourg	Treaty of Paris in 1951		
5. Netherlands	Treaty of Paris in 1951		
6. France	Treaty of Paris in 1951		
7. Great Britain	January 1, 1973		
8. Ireland	January 1, 1973		
9. Denmark	January 1, 1973		
10. Greece	1981		
11. Spain	1986		
12. Portugal	1986		

APPLICANTS* -- (AS OF 1996)

1. Turkey	Applied in 1987
2. Cyprus	Applied in 1990
3. Malta	Applied in 1990
4. Estonia	Applied in 1996
5. Latvia	Applied in 1996
6. Lithuania	Applied in 1996

*Note: 12 applicant countries per www.euronet.be/med/medtv/pr/euexclud.htm, no date

It seems fairly obvious that a fifteen nation alliance, not counting pending applicants, does not fulfill the **ten toes** prophecy.

DANIEL 5 & 6, -- BELSHAZZAR & DARIUS

Daniel 5:1 King Belshaz'zar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and drank wine in front of the thousand.

Belshaz’zar’s father, Nabonidus, was off with the Babylonian armies expanding the kingdom, and Belshaz’zar was left in charge. Cyrus’ generals knew that they could not defeat the walls surrounding Babylon, which were reported to be 40 feet thick at the base, 90 feet tall, and wide enough at the top for chariots to pass each other. However, they conceived diverting the great river Euphrates which

³⁶ Dr. Fred Jewell, Harding University, “History 425/525 - Modern European History, 1920 to Present”, <http://www.harding.edu/~library/hist425/europeanunion.htm>, no date

ran through Babylon, and thereby starve the city of water. Did Belshaz'zar attempt to raise a new army, or send messengers to effect a rescue? Or did he simply commanded a feast behind his 90 ft tall walls, and remain oblivious to the consequence of a city without water?

Certainly his nobles perceived their plight, and they acted:

Daniel 5:30 That very night Belshaz'zar the Chalde'an king was slain. ³¹ And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

Belshaz'zar's replacement was carefully chosen. Darius was a former Median prince (son of Ahasu-e'rus), who might be able to secure some concessions with the King of the Medes & Persians.

Commentator Views

Daniel 6:1 It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom a hundred and twenty satraps, to be throughout the whole kingdom; ² and over them three presidents, of whom Daniel was one, to whom these satraps should give account, so that the king might suffer no loss. ³ Then this Daniel became distinguished above all the other presidents and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.

Historians assert that the Medo/Persian administrative records are complete, but there is no provision for a "King Darius". The commentators errantly presume that because Darius is a Mede, that he must be a Medo/Persian, presumably General Gobryas, who was in charge of the military operation at Babylon. Unfortunately, this contradicts simple logic where any conqueror would either command the existing king to pay homage and taxes, or he might simply have his staff take over the management of the newly captured city. And where Gobryas was never a King, he was only a General and possibly Governor, it doesn't make sense that General Gobryas would plan to appoint an untested castrated Jewish slave "over the whole kingdom".

In addition, where Gobryas died within two weeks of conquering Babylon, one might pause to consider how a Medo/Persian General could develop such a close bond with this Jewish slave, that he was distressed, tried to rescue Daniel, exhorted Daniel, and spent the night fasting and went without sleep. And upon daybreak this purported General Gobryas hastened to Daniel and called to Daniel in anguish to see if he had perished. -- All this for a Jewish slave that he had only known for two weeks?

Historical View

Daniel 6:7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever makes petition to any god or man for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions.

Nebuchadnezzar conceived a brand new empire based upon the Metropolis model in a region where competing pre-Metropolis Median and Persian kingdoms existed. While Cyrus was consolidating the Median and Persian regions, one of the local kings, Ahasu-e'rus, sent his son, Darius, into exile to Babylon to preserve his life. As such, Darius retained his cultural norms where an edict, once signed, cannot be revoked.

Daniel 6:14 Then the king, when he heard these words, was much distressed, and set his mind to deliver Daniel; and he labored till the sun went down to rescue him.

Clearly Darius was the last Babylonian King, and the kingdom was in peril. And because Daniel was the only connection to GOD, Darius' very existence depended upon Daniel. But why no historical account? Simple, the city was surrounded so all records were confined to the city, and when the Medo/Persians captured the city, they would have destroyed them lest the peoples remember the good-old-days, and resist the new leadership. Thus this record of history is lost except to the Bible.

6:28 So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Exactly how is it that Daniel cites "*Cyrus the Persian*" (singular) if BOTH Darius and Cyrus are Persians (plural)? -- That is, unless Darius is under the Babylonian Empire, and Cyrus under the Medo/Persian Empire (singular/singular).

-- If this is all correct, then perhaps one more Scripture verse could validate the true historical account:

Daniel 11:1 And as for me, in the first year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to confirm and strengthen him.

When General MacArthur signed the WWII Japanese surrender document on the Battleship U.S.S. Missouri in Tokyo Bay, did he need strengthening? Certainly the Japanese did. After the war ended more than 900 Japanese were executed for war crimes, including Tojo "along with six other top Japanese leaders".³⁷

Perhaps this last Babylonian King Darius also need strengthening with the prospect of Cyrus at the gates.

³⁷ This Day In History, "Dec. 23 1948 Japanese War Criminals Hanged In Tokyo", <http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/japanese-war-criminals-hanged-in-tokyo>

DANIEL 7, -- THE FOUR GREAT BEASTS

INTRODUCTION

This seventh chapter of Daniel depicts a sequence of three descriptive beasts, and a fourth beast depicted only as “*dreadful*.” Although it has been conventional practice to interpret these beasts as directly reflective of the chapter 2 Image of Metals, it has already been pointed out that the Image of Metals is clearly defined as five unique and distinct kingdoms (Ref. verse 45). Therefore these four beasts must be representative of *the “feet of iron and clay,”* called the “*divided kingdom*.” Where the 2nd chapter presented the macro history perspective, head to toes, this 7th chapter examines the micro feet and toes segment. But to substantiate this dual perspective, we will examine corollary chapters of Revelation 13 and 17, which confirm BOTH the macro and micro interpretations.

DANIEL 7:2 “Daniel said, ‘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 out of the sea, different from one another. ⁴ The first was like a lion and had eagles’ wings. Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand upon two feet like a man; and the mind of a man was given to it. ⁵ And behold, another beast, a second one, like a bear. It was raised up on one side; it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, “Arise, devour much flesh.” ⁶ After this I looked, and lo, another, like a leopard, with four wings of a bird on its back; and the beast had four heads; and dominion was given to it. ⁷ After this I saw in the night vision, and behold a fourth beast, terrible and dreadful and exceedingly strong; and it had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. ⁸ I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great thing. ⁹ As I looked, thrones were placed and one that was ancient of days took his seat; his raiment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰ A stream of fire issued and came forth from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. ¹¹ I looked then because of the sound of the great words which the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.’”

THE LION WITH EAGLES WINGS - United Kingdom / United States

DANIEL 7:4 ““ The first was like a lion and had eagles’ wings. Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand upon two feet like a man; and the mind of a man was given to it.’”

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

In the late 1700's, six major powers existed, consisting of the United Kingdom, and the European "Pentarchy,"³⁸ -- Prussia, France, Netherlands, Spain, and Austria. But the United Kingdom had the advantage of a maritime fleet. These ships provided the unmatched strategic benefit of colonistic expansion and the inherent economic benefits of trade. This United Kingdom grew at a rate of about 100,000 square miles per year between the years of 1815 and 1865.³⁹

THE LION

When Daniel saw each of the beasts coming out of the sea, he first described the lion. This lion represents the national symbol of the United Kingdom. Of course, the eagles' wings represent the United States of America, and this in itself is accurate, as the United Kingdom took primary sponsorship for the colonization of the New World. Clearly, this lion birthed the wings from inception, until independence.

Note: Daniel 11:2 further details this nations' extended chronological evolution from the Roman Empire, 476 AD, to the English Empire of the 1900's, in the description: "...and when he becomes strong through his riches."

Wings Plucked Off

Just as the British gave birth to the New World colonists, it would appear that the eagles' wings were plucked off in the years of 1776 to 1783. The American colonists initially boycotted and subsequently revolted against the British in the successful fight for independence.⁴⁰ Although this event was a clear demarcation of unity, these "wings" were not entirely cast away, as evidenced by an international alignment that is one of the closest of any two free nations in the world today.

Note: Daniel 11:5 describes the close kinship with the post W.W.II transition of dominance from the United Kingdom "king" to the U.S. "one of his princes...stronger than he."

The Mind Of A Man

Being "*lifted up from the ground and made to stand upon two feet like a man*" may quite reasonably represent the relative distinction of an empire which once had a "god" pre-eminent position among the nations of the world, a nation upon which the sun never sets. At one time, this nations colonies spanned the regions of North America (Dominion of Canada, the seven island areas in the Caribbean regions); South America, (British Guiana, Falkland Islands, British Antarctic Territory); Africa,(Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, Nigeria, Ascension Island, St. Helen Island, Union of South Africa, Basutoland, Swaziland, Bechuanaland, Rhodesia, Nyasaland, British East Africa, British Somaliland, Egypt, Anglo Egyptian Sudan, Uganda); Asia Minor, (Arden, Kuwait, India, Burma); the Indian Ocean Islands, (Andaman Islands, British Indian Ocean Territory, Mauritius, Maldives, Nicobar Islands, Cocos Islands); Asia, (Malaya, Sarawak, Hong Kong); South Pacific, (Commonwealth of Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, New Hebrides, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Pitcairn Islands); and Gibraltar, at the mouth of the Mediterranean.

Today this vast extension of English authority is relegated to less than a dozen nearly insignificant island groups. Even the last stronghold, Hong Kong, has been turned over to China.⁴¹

³⁸ Paul Kennedy, The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers, Random House, NY, 1987, p. 138

³⁹ *IBID*, p. 155

⁴⁰ *IBID*, p. 116

⁴¹ Simon Winchester, The Sun Never Sets, Prentice Hall Press, NY, 1985, (inside cover)

THE “LION” CONTINUES A WORLD ROLE

One of the most cryptic circumstances surrounding this Lion with Eagles’ Wings, involves the relationship between these two nations, namely the United Kingdom and the United States. Just as Daniel 7:4 describes the eagles’ wings being plucked off and the lion being given the mind of a man, so too the post WWII Daniel 11:5 describes the “*king of the south*” and “*one of his princes ... stronger than he.*” With this transition, this “*king of the south*” title which pertained to the United Kingdom now denotes the United States. The “*strong prince*” has usurped the pre-eminence of the original “*king*” and assumes the fullness of ascension. This is monumental concept because of the implications as pertaining to the First Beast described in Rev. 13:1-2, as “*like a leopard, its feet were like a bear’s, and its mouth was like a lion’s mouth.*” Although we find a citation of a lion rather than eagle, it’s because of the foundation. The *king of the south* and *lion* are synonymous, and even though there is a transition to *eagles’ wings*, the source is still the *lion*. In fact, the *lion* and *strong prince-eagles’ wings* will endure into the millennial kingdom (Ref. Dan. 7:12).

But before continuing to interpret the three remaining beasts, it must be understood that this Lion, Bear, & Leopard tri-alliance will band together with seven other nations, and provide their authority to the future one-world-leader, called the Second Beast (Ref. Rev. 13:11), to fulfill the “*dreadful*” beast of Daniel 7:7. The three horns that are “*plucked up by the roots*” (Dan. 7:8) represent the three key superpowers already described as the Lion, the Bear, and the Leopard. The combination of these three powers with the 7 other nations is depicted as “*ten toes*”/“*ten horns.*” (Ref. Dan. 2:41, Dan 7:7, Dan. 7:20, Rev. 13:1, Rev. 17:3, & Rev. 17:7)

As already described in the Chapter 2 “Nations of the Ten Toes -- U.N. Security Council,” this tri-alliance consists of the current three world superpowers (U.S., U.S.S.R., & China), joined by seven additional governments to form a ten nation union. These ten nations include the United Nations Security Council current five permanent members (U.S., U.K., France, U.S.S.R., and China), and the five nominated members (Germany, Japan, Brazil, Nigeria, and India).⁴² Thus when one examines this “*dreadful*” beast, the power base will not be of his dominant nation, but rather an assimilated authority, formed by this tri-alliance in conjunction with seven other nations.

Today, as fulfilled by modern geo-political roles we see the United States and United Nations leading the world’s intrusion into the international and internal affairs of the nation of Israel. It appears that one significant goal of this world body is to establish a national homeland for the Palestinians. But according to Daniel’s prophecies the United States will participate in the decision for the United Nations to move its headquarters from New York City to the Middle East, “*between the sea and the glorious holy mountain,*” (Ref. Dan. 11:45). It’s this Second Beast of Rev. 13:11-18, whom the church assigns the title of “the Anti-Christ.”

THE BEAR WITH THREE RIBS - Soviet Union

DANIEL 7:5 “‘And behold, another beast, a second one, like a bear. It was raised up on one side; it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, ‘Arise, devour much flesh.’”

This bear is a definitive depiction of the U.S.S.R. Just as the “*lion*” and “*eagles’ wings*” symbolism, the “*bear*” is concise both in physical depiction and in historical sequence.

⁴² “The Road To Reform: Towards A New Clarity,” pp. 45-46

In post World War II Europe, a clear east/west demarcation arose between the democratic and communistic governments. Clearly the U.S.S.R. either occupied or exercised control over Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Romania, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and parts of Finland. The bulk of these countries were 'liberated' by the Red Army and allowed a Soviet 'protectorate' as part of the post World War II territorial acquiescence transacted between Churchill, Stalin, and Roosevelt. This agreement at Yalta created the great schism of the eastern bloc which eventually cloistered behind an 'iron curtain' set against the western bloc. Such is the manifestation of the "bear," but we will examine a series of post World War II events, of which only three constituted internationally illegal violations of national sovereignty, thus fulfilling the depiction of the three ribs "in its mouth between its teeth."

EAST GERMANY, 1953

Over the two year period of 1952-53, approximately 400,000 East Germans fled to West Germany in apparent dissatisfaction with the communist regime. It was on June 16, 1953, that 372,000 workers (6% of the East German work force) went on strike. The very next day General Dibrowa, the Soviet Commandant of Berlin, established a state of emergency. At his request, Soviet tanks and troops rolled into the streets, and arrested any and all strikers, quashing the dissent.⁴³

POLAND, 1956

A few years later in Poland, on October 19, 1956, the communistic Polish Central Committee feared a rebellion. They called Krushchev for military support. After the tanks had rolled into Warsaw, Krushchev demonstrated a peculiar restraint and defused the situation by backing down.

HUNGARY, 1956 -- (Rib #1)

Coincidentally, at that same time of the Polish uprising, Hungarian students were openly expressing dissatisfaction with their own government, writing a dissident manifesto called "the sixteen points" of October 19, 1956.

Four days later, on Tuesday, October 23, Prime Minister Hegedus was blamed by Moscow for this internal dilemma. By midnight, Imre Nagy had been notified he was the new Prime Minister. Nagy had been through the political machine from positions of power, to imprisonment, and now back to leadership of the country. He had been specifically requested by the students and the demonstrating masses. The Soviets only asked that he antedate a letter requesting the mobilized Soviet military intervention against these demonstrating citizens. Nagy refused to comply, but Soviet, Romanian, and Czechoslovakian troops proceeded with the pre-planned invasion.

On Thursday, November 1st, Nagy summoned the Soviet Ambassador, Uri Andropov, and demanded that the Soviets remove the troops under threat of declaring Hungarian neutrality. On Friday, November 2, Nagy appealed to the U.N. General Assembly for "recognition of Hungarian neutrality by the Great Powers." When the Security Council met in a special session, the Russian delegation flatly denied that any Soviet troops had crossed into Hungary.⁴⁴

On Sunday, November 4, the Hungarian radio broadcast this message:

⁴³ Sear, "Third Way," p. 217-18

⁴⁴ David Pryce-Jones, The Hungarian Revolution, Horizon Press, NY, 1970, p 98

“Attention! Attention! Attention! Attention! Now Imre Nagy, President of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People’s Republic, is going to address you!

This is Imre Nagy speaking, the President of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People’s Republic. Today at daybreak Soviet Forces started an attack against our capital, obviously with the intention to overthrow the legal Hungarian democratic government.

Our troops are fighting. The Government is in its place. I notify the people of our country and the entire world of this fact.”⁴⁵

A “DAILY MAIL” reporter, Noel Barber, described Budapest as a city where “every street was smashed,” “hardly a stretch of tramcar rails was left intact,” and where “streets (were) littered with burnt-out cars” and “the carcasses of at least forty Soviet tanks.” “At the corner of Stalin Avenue...two monster Russian T-54 tanks lumbered past, dragging bodies behind them, a warning to all Hungarians of what happened to the fighters,” and told of hung bodies “though not so many as I expected.”⁴⁶

Within a few days 25,000 Hungarian fighters were dead and the Soviet *fait accompli* was pending one final item of closure. Nagy was kidnapped to Romania until June of 1958, whereupon he was tried, convicted, executed, and finally, a few days later, -- sentenced.⁴⁷

This November 1956 illegal invasion of Hungary by 200,000 troops and 2,000 tanks under Soviet command, was undertaken to put down a populist movement. This violation of Hungarian national sovereignty constituted the first of three ribs in this bear’s mouth.

BERLIN, 1958

Historical Perspective

During the closing months of World War II, Churchill, Stalin, and Roosevelt met in a series of conferences to negotiate any and all pertinent partitioning, restitution, and expectations of the post World War II Europe. The January 1945 conference, called the Yalta or Crimea Conference, was one of the last of a series. One of the agreements projected the division of post WWII Germany. It was agreed the Soviets would get the eastern half (41,825 square miles), and the Allies the western half (96,011 square miles). The city of Berlin, located in the heart of East Germany, would be divided into four segments. The eastern half for the Soviets, and the western half divided between the French, the United States, and the British into respective northwest, west-central, and southwest sectors.⁴⁸ In a final detail, all the citizens of Berlin were guaranteed unrestricted circulation.

Historical Event

In a provocative move, on June 15, 1958, the Soviets closed the Helmstedt-Berlin access road for ‘repairs.’ On June 22, the Soviets stopped all electrical supplies for ‘technical’ reasons and closed all remaining access roads into Berlin. The West’s response was to create an airlift lifeline. Finally, eleven months later, in May of 1959, the Soviets, under international political embarrassment, lifted the blockade.

⁴⁵ *IBID*, p. 119

⁴⁶ Pryce-Jones, p 81

⁴⁷ *IBID*, p. 115

⁴⁸ William Touhy, “Thorny Status of Occupied Berlin Brings Unrest to New Generation,” L.A. Times, Albuquerque Journal, Jan. 26, 1986, p. B5

THE BERLIN WALL, 1961 -- (Rib #2)

Over the years between 1945 and 1961, over three million East Germans, many of them the valuable 'technical intelligentsia,' escaped through the West Berlin 'funnel.' On Sunday, August 13th, 1961, 50,000 armed soldiers were called without fore-notice into East Berlin under the pretext of preventing the West Berliners passage into East Berlin. "At the same time the death-strip filled with land mines, which winds its way through Germany, was reinforced, as well as the borders of Poland and Czechoslovakia, including the Baltic Sea. The Four-Power agreement which guaranteed free circulation within Berlin was again violated, in the severest way."⁴⁹

This construction of the Berlin wall was a clear violation of the Four-Power agreement at Yalta. This event proved to be the second illegal act by this Soviet bear, -- first Hungary and then Berlin.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 1968 -- (Rib #3)

Under circumstances which led to the Hungarian populist uprising, Czechoslovakians were exhibiting open dissension with the forced "alliance" in the Soviet sphere. In response, on August 20, 1968, twenty-four Warsaw Pact divisions, (sixteen Soviet, three Polish, two East German, two Hungarian, and one Bulgarian, -- a total of 200,000 men plus air support and airlift units), invaded Czechoslovakia. Within hours, at one-thirty a.m., Radio Prague broadcast the following proclamation under the authority of President Alexander Dubchek:

"Yesterday, August 20, 1968, at about eleven p.m., the armies of the Soviet Union, the Polish People's Republic, and the Bulgarian People's Republic crossed the state borders of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. This took place without the knowledge of the President of the Republic, the Presidium of the National Assembly, the Presidium of the Government, and the First Secretary of the Communist Party Central Committee. The Presidium of the Central Committee was then in session, preoccupied with preparations for the Extraordinary Fourteenth Party Congress. The Presidium calls upon all citizens of the Republic to keep the peace and not resist the advancing armies, because the defense of our state borders is now impossible.

For this reason, our Army, the security forces and the People's Militia were not given the order to defend the country. The Presidium considers this action (the invasion) to be contrary to the fundamental principles of relations between Socialist states and a denial of basic norms of international law...

...(signed) Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party"⁵⁰

Approximately 24 hours later, the following statement by the eleven government cabinet members was broadcast on "Free Radio," which is the radio channel used for official government broadcasts:

"1. We stand firmly behind all the legally elected constitutional and political authorities, and we firmly support today's proclamation of the Presidium addressed to all people.

⁴⁹ Rainer Hildebrandt, It Happened At The Wall, Verlag Haus Am Checkpoint Charlie, Berlin, Germany, 1981, p. 113

⁵⁰ Tad Szulc, Czechoslovakia Since WW II, Viking Press, NY, 1971, p. 380

2. We consider the occupation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, which took place without the agreement and knowledge of the Czechoslovak government, an illegal act, contrary to international law and the principles of socialist internationalism.”⁵¹

Clearly, this action constituted the ‘third rib.’ fulfilling the prophetic description precisely. Other military actions which have involved Soviet participation, (Cuba, Poland, Angola, Somalia, Mozambique, Rhodesia, Uganda, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Grenada, Afghanistan, and others), were done under the auspices of being legally invited into the involvement, however contrived, providing at least technical compliance with international norms.

THE FALL OF THE IRON CURTAIN -- 1989

The final prophesy to “*arise, devour much flesh*” is paralleled in Ezekiel 38 & 39, and also Dan. 11:40-44. Although this last event has yet to occur, it is worthy to note that before this bear devours anew, it might first free its mouth of those three ribs. This occurred by the 1989 dismantlement of the iron curtain and the freeing of the former Soviet satellite ‘member nations.’ In this event, the Soviet Union suffered the loss of its buffer satellite nations and the displacement of 565,000 troops: East Germany - 380,000; Hungary - 65,000; Poland - 40,000; and Czechoslovakia - 80,000;⁵² (not counting the 115,000⁵³ troops which returned from Afghanistan during 1987).

But this “*bear*” will survive its seemingly tumultuous internal disintegration to fulfill its role in the attack against Israel. This bear’s 1.7 million man army⁵⁴ will be joined by Iran, “Ethiopia” (most probably modern day Sudan, but not precisely certain because the Ethiopia of 500 BC stretched over both of the modern-day nations of Ethiopia and Sudan), and Libya, (Ref. Ezekiel 38:5, and Daniel 11:40-43). But this four directionally convergent military thrust will not result in a secure victory, for “*tidings from the east and the north shall alarm him*” (Ref. Dan. 11:44). First, clearly the tidings from the “*east*” is due to the standing 2.9 million man Chinese army,⁵⁵ (possibly a call-up army of 200 million men, -- Ref. Rev. 9:16), and that country’s tendency to provide a balancing lever in world affairs. The tidings from the “*north*” might turn out to be internal alarm and dissent by any number of the 17 Soviet states and/or populous, -- clearly dismaying to the military bear, but of significantly less importance compared to the marching Chinese masses. It appears that according to Rev. 13:3, this bear will suffer a “*mortal wound*,” which shall be “*healed*” by the United Nations.

THE LEOPARD WITH FOUR WINGS & FOUR HEADS - Red China

DANIEL 7:6 “‘After this I looked, and lo, another, like a leopard, with four wings of a bird on its back; and the beast had four heads; and dominion was given to it.’”

At first glance, this third beast’s description proves to be less concise than the first two. For this determination we must recognize that the world perceives the dragon as the national symbol of China,

⁵¹ Szulc, pp. 379, 396

⁵² Mike Leary, “‘Soviets Go Home,’ East Bloc Tells Warsaw Parc Army,” Knight-Ridder Newspapers, Albuquerque Journal, Oct. 7, 1989, p. E5

⁵³ Robert Togh, “Kremlin Pullout of Afghanistan Believed Serious,” L.A. Times, Albuquerque Journal, Jan. 18, 1987, p. B1

⁵⁴ The World Almanac and Book of Facts 1996, Funk & Wagnalls Corp., Mahwah, NJ, 1995, p. 164

⁵⁵ *IBID.*

but the use of this term by John the Revelator may have circumvented Daniel's initial prerogative. Thus we are driven to a thorough evaluation of Daniel's intentions.

THE "LEOPARD"

The word "*leopard(s)*" is used eight times in the Bible. In Jeremiah 13:23, the rhetorical question is asked: "*Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots?*" So the inference is given that there is a physiological knowledge of a leopard. Unfortunately, nowhere in the Bible is there found a reference to a "tiger." Thus, one might conclude that maybe tigers hadn't yet been imported to Babylon and points west, and the only intended representation for this "leopard" is as a marked cat. Secondly, the premise that the 'tiger' represents China can be viewed in several contexts.

1. In the years about 250 BC, China existed as a feudal land. But the king in the state of Ch'in was immensely successful in consolidating all the various states under his rule. His name was King Cheng, and was known as Shih Huang Ti, which means the "Tiger of Chi'in." It was he that history credits the unification of a greater China which has withstood the centuries of barbarians. This greater China exists today upon a foundation established over 2,200 years ago.⁵⁶
2. The significance of various animals appear in typical occurrences such as the calendar, martial arts, architectural "geomancy," religious icons, and regional identifications. Such of the latter is the case in the Yunnan province, and along the Yangtse river which flows from the eastern Himalayas of Tibet into the Sea of China. Here in this southern region of China, the 'Tiger' is the symbolic identity of these Chinese peoples.
3. Although this government was established in 1949, the integration of this communistic ideology wasn't incorporated into the masses of Chinese society until 1950, the year of the Tiger.
4. Unlike many jungle animals, both the leopard and tiger lead an anti-social secluded life, typical of the historical isolationistic traits of the Chinese peoples.
5. In today's modern economic lexicon, the greater South East Asian commerce region is depicted as a "tiger."
6. In WWII, American aviators flew under the American Volunteer Group (AVG), designated with the "Sharks Teeth" painted around the radiator air-intake of their Curtis-Wright P40 Tomahawk aircraft, (as replicated from the RAF P40 paint schemes in Egypt), with the moniker "Flying Tigers", as rendered by artists from Walt Disney.

These aspects may be individually coincidental, or summarily intentional. But to further confirm the interpretation we turn to the significance of the four heads and four wings.

THE FOUR HEADS - Four Branches Of Government

Historical Perspective

In 1921, a small cadre of Chinese intellectuals, (including Mao Tse-tung), founded the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to govern the masses, address poverty, and deal with foreign affairs. But a pivotal point occurred after World War II, when the Chinese leadership evaluated the balance of power between the Allies, and the Soviets. The Allies' sphere of influence extended over the greater portion of the world, and the Soviets were clearly underdogs, effecting only their territory and a few eastern bloc states. In 1949 Mao wrote "Sitting on the fence will not do, ... nor is there a third road"⁵⁷

⁵⁶ Leonard Cottrell, *The Tiger of Ch'in*, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, NY, 1962, p. 134-135

⁵⁷ George Moseley, *China Since 1911*, Harper and Row, NY, 1968, pp. 97-98

-- with the implication that China would effect a communistic form of government in order to provide a global political balance. The approach to act as world affairs “moderator” was formally outlined in 1954 when the “Five Principles of Peaceful Co-Existence” was issued as a statement of foreign policy. These included: mutual respect; non-aggression; noninterference; mutual benefit; and peaceful co-existence. As historically demonstrated, China becomes involved when it is perceived that global powers (especially the U.S.) are projecting themselves into the nations either in relatively close proximity to China, i.e.; Korea, Vietnam, Burma, Thailand, Rangoon, Japan, and Taiwan, or when imperialistic projection is not countered (U.S.S.R. in Africa and Afghanistan).⁵⁸

Fulfillment

The 1949 creation of the communistic Chinese government occurred by a two phase process. The “Political Consultative Conference of the Chinese People” was established for the “passage of a provisional constitution and the installment of the Central People’s Government,” consisting of: the Chairman; the 180 member ‘National Committee;’ and the 51 member ‘Standing Committee.’ The operational phase was the standing government.

This government, the ‘Central People’s Government,’ is comprised of the ‘Central People’s Government Committee,’ which has a chairman plus 63 members that install legislation, define political policy, and oversees four operational branches. The four branches are: State Administrative Council (civilian government); People’s Revolutionary Military Council (top army command); Supreme People’s Court (the judicial branch); and Supreme Officer of Prosecution (law enforcement).⁵⁹

THE FOUR WINGS - The “Four Modernizations”

Just as the leopard’s four heads represent the four branches of government, the four wings represent a second aspect that will prove to propel this nation from Mao’s backwards step called the “Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution,” (1966-1969),⁶⁰ into the competitive world society of today. The process by which this diametric conversion came is known as the “Four Modernizations,” as coined by Premier Chou En-lai in 1975.⁶¹ They were spoken by the Premier in a speech to the “Fourth National People’s Congress,” and were identified as: Agriculture; Industry; Science & Technology; and National Defense. Interestingly, political commentators opine that there are really only three modernizations, because “National Defense” is a sub-category of “Science & Technology.”

By 1983, the U.S. surprisingly offered to raise the technology level of the Chinese army. This was motivated by an anti-Soviet stance: ““We know there is nothing we can do to make them equal to the Soviet military, but we can make it more expensive (for the Soviet Union) to take on the Chinese army.””⁶²

Since that date, the United States has sold a munitions factory, advanced avionics for China’s fighter aircraft,⁶³ and joined joint technological investments including a commercial aircraft assembly plant

⁵⁸ Franklin Houn, A Short History of Chinese Communism, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1973, pp. 216-217

⁵⁹ Willy Draus, Economic Development and Social Change in the People’s Republic of China, Springer-Verlag, N.Y., NY, 1982, p. 28

⁶⁰ Houn, p. 77, 81

⁶¹ Richard Baum, China’s Four Modernizations: The New Technological Revolution, Westview Press, Boulder, CO, 1980, p. 18

⁶² James Gerstenzang, “U.S. Helps China’s Army March Out of Dark Ages,” L.A. Times, Albuquerque Journal, Dec. 7, 1986, p. B8

⁶³ “U.S. Would Sell to Chinese Air Force,” A.P., Washington, Albuquerque Journal, Jan., 25, 1986, p. A14

in Shanghai, China.⁶⁴ In addition, China has developed nuclear weapons and intercontinental ballistic missiles, built a substantial conventional ship and submarine navy, launched satellites, and possibly most importantly, entered the global consumer market place.

CHINA'S FUTURE ROLE

One of the most significant roles of this massive nation's latter but short in duration rise to prominence ("little while" -- Ref. Rev. 17:10) will occur in response to the Soviet attack in the Middle East. In accordance with its self established role as a global political equalizer, the military might of China ("tidings from the east" - Ref. Dan. 11:44) will march forth to subdue the armies of the Soviet alliance, and in doing so, inflict a "mortal wound" upon the Soviet Union. (Ref. Rev. 13:3).

THE DREADFUL BEAST - First Beast & Second Beast

VISION

DANIEL 7:7 "After this I saw in the night vision, and behold a fourth beast, terrible and dreadful and exceedingly strong; and it had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. ⁸ I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things. ⁹ As I looked, thrones were placed and one that was ancient of days took his seat; his raiment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰ A stream of fire issued and came forth from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. ¹¹ I looked then because of the sound of the great words which the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire."

INTERPRETATION

DANIEL 7:19 "Then I desired to know the truth concerning the fourth beast, which was different from all the rest, exceedingly terrible, with its teeth of iron and claws of bronze; and which devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet; ²⁰ and concerning the ten horns which came up and before which three of them fell, the horn which had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and which seemed greater than its fellows. ²¹ As I looked, this horn made war with the saints, and prevailed over them, ²² until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints received the kingdom.'

²³ 'This he said: "As for the fourth beast, there shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all the kingdoms, and it shall devour the whole earth, and trample it down, and break it to pieces. ²⁴ As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them; he shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings.

⁶⁴ "Made In China," A.P. photo with text, Albuquerque Journal, Dec. 14, 1986, p. A5

25 He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, two times, and half a time. 26 But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away to be consumed and destroyed to the end. 27 And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; their kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey them.”””

THE “Three Plus Seven” NATION ALLIANCE

There are four fairly involved aspects of this “*dreadful*” beast which must be considered. These include: 1). Daniel’s lack of bodily description with the supplemental depiction provided in the book of Revelation; 2). The ten (little) horns, of which three (little) horns were replaced by a new little horn; 3). The Dreadful beasts’ alliance with the Anti-Christ; and 4). The slaying of the beast by the “*ancient of days.*”

1. The Bodily Depiction

Daniel is careful to describe the first three beasts by providing a specific Lion-Eagle/Bear/Leopard. In the case of the fourth beast, Daniel only describes it as “*terrible and dreadful and exceedingly strong; and it had great iron teeth.*” However, John the Revelator provides the additional insight:

FEET, BODY, HEAD

REVELATION 13:1 “And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems upon its horns and a blasphemous name upon its heads. 2 And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear’s, and its mouth was like a lion’s mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority.”

Here we find the promised dual micro/macro views. The micro view shows that the fourth “*dreadful*” beast is comprised of the first three beasts of Daniel 7 -- the bear, the leopard, and the lion. Both Daniel 7:7 and Revelation 13:1 cite ten horns per the end-time ten nation alliance. This Revelation 13 also provides the macro “*seven heads*” depiction which Daniel 7 neglects, forcing the reader to search Daniel 2 for fulfillment. We’ll find that the “*seven heads*” of Revelation 13:1 not only conforms to the empires and kings of Daniel 2, and is also very carefully delineated in Revelation 17.

THE SEVEN HEADS

REVELATION 17:3 “And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. 4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and bedecked with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her fornication; 5 and on her forehead was written a name of mystery: ‘Babylon the great, mother of harlots and of earth’s abominations.’ 6 And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. When I saw her I marveled greatly,. 7 But the angel said to me, ‘Why marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her. 8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is to ascend from the bottomless pit and go to perdition; and the dwellers on earth whose name have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will marvel to behold the beast, because it was and is not and is to come. 9 This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven

heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; 10 they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he comes he must remain only a little while. 11 As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to perdition.”

These “seven heads” of the beast represent “seven mountains” which also represent “seven kings” – they’re synonymous. There’s also an eighth which belongs to the seven. But before examining the fulfillment of the *heads/mountains/kings/* it helps to understand a component of the Classical perspective. Rome is presented as the city of seven hills, and the *heads/mountains/kings/* is interpreted as the sequence of Roman Emperors. But in the span of world history, seven world ‘empires’ rise above the plains, foothills, and hills of the world’s peoples, tribes, and kingdoms. John calls these *seven mountains, seven kings,* and they represent the sequence of the worlds predominate empires and powers as outlined in the following chart:

SEVEN HEADS / SEVEN GOVERNMENTS

SEVEN HEADS / MOUNTAINS / KINGS Revelation 13 &17	SEVEN WORLD POWERS Daniel 2 & 7	SEQUENCE OF WORLD HISTORY
King..... #1	Head of Gold	Babylon/Chaldean Empire
King..... #2	Breast & Arms of Silver	Medo/Persian Empire
King..... #3	Belly & Thighs of Bronze	Grecian Empire
King..... #4	Legs of Iron & Clay	Roman Empire
King..... #5	Feet of Iron & Clay (Divided)	Superpower Era
King..... #5	Lion/Eagles Wings	United States
“one is”.... #6	Bear	Soviet Union
“only a little while” #7	Leopard	Red China
“eighth but it belongs” #8	Dreadful	U.N. & World Leader

THE SEVEN KINGS AND ARMAGEDDON

The description of “*five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come*” totals to seven world empires, and provides one of the most enlightening scriptures concerning the status of the church if we can understand why John speaks in this unusual future-present tense. However, it might be helpful by first establishing whether the Classical commentators can place John in a present tense setting during the Roman Empire.

The “Abbingdon Bible Commentary” offers a candid opinion regarding John’s present tense setting and the sequence of Roman Emperors:

“[The] five of whom are fallen [presumes John’s work to be written in] Vespasian’s reign. Titus is to come, but only to last for a short time. Perhaps the writer knew of the hopeless condition of Titus’ health. He is therefore either using a literary convention, and assuming an earlier date than is the fact to give his words the force of a prophecy concerning Titus, or, more likely, he is using here material written in Vespasian’s reign which partly suits his purpose and partly not; for there

are very good reasons for thinking that this book was written, not in Vespasian’s reign, but in Domitian’s.”⁶⁵

REVELATION 17 “SEVEN KINGS” - PER COMMENTATORS

New Bible ⁶⁶	REIGN ⁶⁷	EMPEROR ⁶⁸	BIRTH/DEATH ⁶⁹
	105 - 100 BC	Caius <u>Marius</u>	155? - 86 BC
	88 -79 BC	Lucius Cornelius (<u>Felix</u>) <u>Sulla</u> or Sylla	138 - 78 BC
	? - 46 BC	Caius <u>Julius Caesar</u>	100 - 44 BC
	46 - 31 BC	both Julius Caesar Octavianus <u>Augustus</u> or <u>Octavian</u> and Marcus Antonius (<u>Marc Antony</u>)	63 BC -14 AD
1	27 BC-14 AD	Julius Caesar Octavianus <u>Augustus</u> or <u>Octavian</u>	63 BC -14 AD
2	14 - 37 AD	<u>Tiberius</u> Claudius Nero Caesar	42 BC - 37 AD
3	37 - 41 AD	Caius Caesar <u>Caligula</u>	12 BC - 41 AD
4	41 - 54 AD	Tiberius Claudius Drusus Nero Germanicus (<u>Claudius</u>)	10 BC- 54 AD
5	54 - 68 AD	Nero Claudius Caesar (<u>Nero</u>)	37 - 68 AD
	69 AD	Servius Sulpicius <u>Galba</u>	3 BC- 69 AD
	69 AD	Marcus Salvius <u>Otho</u>	32 - 69 AD
6	69 - 79 AD	Titus Flavius Sabinus Vespasianus (<u>Vespasian</u>)	9 - 79 AD
7	79 - 81 AD	Titus Flavius Sabinus Vespasianus (Jr.) (<u>Titus</u>)	40? - 81 AD
	81 - 96 AD	<u>Domitian</u>	51 - 96 AD
	96 - 98 AD	Marcus Cocceius <u>Nerva</u>	32 - 98 AD
	98 - 117 AD	Marcus Ulpius Trajanus (<u>Trajan</u>)	52? - 117 AD
	117 - 138 AD	<u>Hadrian</u> or Adrian	76 - 138 AD
	138 - 161 AD	<u>Antoninus Pius</u>	86 - 161 AD

(Underlined names indicate preferred identification)

As suggested previously, although the “Classic” interpretations for to the books of Daniel and Revelation cite contradictions and errors, we’re not always so fortunate to find a commentator who

⁶⁵ Eiselen, Frederick, Edwin Lewis, & David Downey, The Abingdon Bible Commentary, Abingdon Press, NY, 1929, p. 1392

⁶⁶ Guthrie & Moyter, p. 1303

⁶⁷ Crane Brinton, pp 100 - 117, 133

⁶⁸ *IBID*, pp 100 - 117, 133

⁶⁹ Websters New Twentieth Century Dictionary, 2nd ed.

blatantly acknowledges a discrepancy when the historical evidence fails to align with prophecy. In this case, Abbingdon was more than forthright, faulting John for using a “literary convention,” which is a polite term for a lie. But rather than blame John, this author simply finds that the 17th chapter of Revelation does not apply to the lineage of Roman emperors.

Clearly, John the Revelator wrote these verses in present tense, but this author proposes that it is a *future* present tense. When God showed John the Revelator the future, John not only saw the seven kings, (and the “*eighth*”), but he spoke from a specific era for a very tangible reason. In his vision, the first four world kingdoms had fallen, the fifth (the United States) had fallen from pre-eminence, the sixth kingdom (the U.S.S.R.) “*is*” the current.

The significance of John prophesying during the sixth kingdom (Soviet Union era) appears to reflect the fact that his target audience, the church, will clearly perceive the prophetic significance of that event in history when Gog, Magog, Persia, Cush, and Put (Ref. Eze. 38) launch their attack against Israel. When this happens, the church will know that the end is not over, but that there will be a seventh, China, and an eighth, the United Nations and a World Leader.

2. The Ten Toes/Ten Horns/Ten Diadems -- U. N. Security Council

DANIEL 2:42 “And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. ⁴³ As you saw the iron mixed with miry clay, so they will mix with one another in marriage,^b but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay. ⁴⁴ And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall its sovereignty be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand for ever;”

^b Aram by the seed of men

DANIEL 7:7 “After this I saw in the night vision, and behold a fourth beast, terrible and dreadful and exceedingly strong; and it had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. ⁸ I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things.”

DANIEL 7:20 “...and concerning the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up and before which three of them fell, the horn which had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and which seemed greater than its fellows.”

REVELATION 13:1 “And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems upon its horns and a blasphemous name upon its heads.”

REVELATION 17:3 “And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns.”

Each of the tens correlate one to another. As delineated in the Daniel 2 - Feet of Iron & Clay expository, they represent the five current United Nations Permanent Security Council members (the U.S., U.S.S.R., China, the United Kingdom, and France), and the five Permanent Security Council member nominees, (Germany, Japan, Brazil, Nigeria, and India).⁷⁰

⁷⁰ “The Road To Reform: Towards A New Clarity,” pp. 45-46

In Daniel 7:8 we read how three of the horns are “*plucked up by the roots*” by a completely unique horn, one with eyes, a mouth, and speaking great things. But in verses 8 and 20 we find a critical clue for this unique horn. When Daniel calls the *horn which came up*, a “*little one*,” meaning a little horn, and then refers to this horn as appearing “*greater than its fellows*,” we then understand that ALL eleven are little horns! This fact conforms with two concepts: that there are ten end-time nations which form an alliance to make an eleventh “authority” (micro view); and that there are seven world empires, the last three which form an alliance to make an eighth “authority” (macro view). This ten/eleven *little horn* insight also provides a key for interpreting the little horn in the eighth chapter of Daniel. -- This aspect will be addressed in greater detail in the Chapter 8 discourse.

Again, as described previously, the ten horns represent the current and nominated members of the Permanent Security Council. The evidence that these nations will not be overthrown and conquered, but rather still maintain a semblance of national integrity, is found in the “*ten diadems*” of Revelation 13:1. This is in contrast to any nation that might have been fully and completely assimilated by another, either by agreement or by force, which would no longer have its diadem. In this alliance, the feet (U.S.S.R.), the body (China), and the head (United States), plus the 7 other nations, still preserve their national identity.

And finally, in the sequence of events, the “*great stone*,” the returning Christ, will smite the Dreadful/First Beast alliance structure and the Second Beast World-Leader.

3. The Dreadful Beast And The First Beast / Second Beast

DANIEL 7:7 “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, terrible and dreadful and exceedingly strong; and it had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. ⁸ I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things.”

DANIEL 7:11 “I looked then because of the sound of the great words which the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. ¹² As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.”

DANIEL 7:19 “Then I desired to know the truth concerning the fourth beast, which was different from all the rest, exceedingly terrible, with its teeth of iron and claws of bronze; and which devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet; ²⁰ and concerning the ten horns which came up and before which three of them fell, the horn which had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and which seemed greater than its fellows. ²¹ As I looked, this horn made war with the saints, and prevailed over them, ²² until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints received the kingdom.’

²⁴ “This he said: “As for the fourth beast, there shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all the kingdoms, and it shall devour the whole earth, and trample it down, and break it to pieces. ²⁴ As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them; he shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings. ²⁵ He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand

for a time, two times, and half a time. ²⁶ But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away to be consumed and destroyed to the end.””

REVELATION 13:5 “And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months; ⁶ it opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. ⁷ Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. ^f And authority was given it over every tribe and people and tongue and nation, ⁸ and all who dwell on earth will worship it, every one whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slain.”

REVELATION 17:12 “As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to perdition. ¹² And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. ¹³ These are of one mind and give over their power and authority to the beast; ¹⁴ they will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”

f Other ancient authorities omit this sentence

Clearly, the Dreadful beast is the First Beast alignment of nations which eventually provides the power base upon which the Second Beast arises. Per Daniel 7:25, the duration of the Dreadful/First Beast will be 42 months, and per Rev. 17:12, the Second Beast shall be in power for a shorter period per the “one hour.” Starting at Daniel 7:7, the Dreadful beast (First Beast) international agglomeration is described at length, but it isn’t until verse 8 that the Anti-Christ (Second Beast) takes his role in this end time alliance, usurping “three of the first horns.”

Please note that verses 7 & 8 indicate that there are two distinct phases of this 42 month end time leadership. In the first phase the First Beast coalesces and wields its authority, presumably “healing” the mortal wound inflicted upon the Gog and Magog U.S.S.R., (Ref. Rev. 13:3), and moving the U.N. Headquarters from N.Y. apparently to Jerusalem (Ref. Dan. 11:45). In the second phase, the Second Beast, known as the Anti-Christ, establishes himself as a messiah and subsequently leads the world into near self-annihilation.

4. The “Ancient Of Days”

DANIEL 2:34 “As you looked, a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it smote 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, all together were broken in pieces, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”

DANIEL 2:44 “And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall its sovereignty be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand for ever; ⁴⁵ just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold.”

DANIEL 7:11 “I looked then because of the sound of the great words which the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given over to be

burned with fire. ¹² As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.”

DANIEL 7:21 “As I looked, this horn made war with the saints, and prevailed over them, ²² until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints received the kingdom.’

DANIEL 7:25 “He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, two times, and half a time. ²⁶ But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away to be consumed and destroyed to the end.””

This Dreadful beast will come to its fate at the judgement by the “*Ancient of Days,*” but Daniel 7:11 & 12 reveals some insight into the demise of this international union. Clearly the Dreadful / First Beast and Second Beast will be “*slain, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire,*” but the three superpower nations will be “*prolonged for a season and a time.*” Thus we peer into the end of these governments, not terminated by global cataclysm, but rather obsolesced by transition.

DANIEL 8, -- RAM & HE-GOAT

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter Daniel documents both the vision he experienced, and subsequent interpretations as provided by an angel. For clarity, the recorded vision and interpretations are best understood by aligning each vision segment with the respective angelic interpretation. But before beginning, it helps to grasp the scope of this vision/interpretation.

What Daniel has done in the beginning of the 8th chapter is present the Image of Metals in a slightly different and historically expanded simile. He does this by first citing a “ram” which represents the nomadic Medes and Persians who roamed ancient Persia prior to the Babylonian/Chaldean Empire, and then describes a “he goat.” This “he goat” represents the same world empires as portrayed by the Image Of Metals from Chapter 2, starting with the “great horn” as the Babylonian/Chaldean Empire under King Nebuchadnezzar, called the Head of Gold.

Next, he accounts for “four conspicuous horns” which represent of the Breast, Belly, Legs, and Feet of the Image of Metals. Thus, having established the span of world empires, he focuses on one of these four conspicuous horns, which is understood to represent the Feet -- Divided Kingdom, and provides specific details for one “little horn,” which actually represents one of the toes of the Image of Metals. (Apparently Daniel ignores the nine other ‘little horns,’ plus the eleventh ‘little horn,’ the leaving the full account to the chapter 7 Dreadful beast depiction.)

In this study we’ll discover that this “little horn” is the arisen nation of the U.S.S.R., and the king who “understands riddles” and presides over this litany of events, will apparently prove to be Mikhail Gorbachev.

THE SEQUENCE OF WORLD KINGDOMS

VISION -- Verses 3-8

DANIEL 8:3 “I raised my eyes and saw, and behold, a ram standing on the bank of the river. It had two horns; and both horns were high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last. ⁴ I saw the ram charging westward and northward and southward; no beast could stand before him, and there was no one who could rescue from his power; and he did as he pleased and magnified himself. ⁵ As I was considering, behold, a he-goat came from the west across the face of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes. ⁶ He came to the ram with the two horns, which I had seen standing on the bank of the river, and he ran at him in his mighty wrath. ⁷ I saw him come close to the ram, and he was enraged against him and struck the ram and broke his two horns; and the ram had no power to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled upon him; and there was no one who could rescue the ram from his power. ⁸ Then the he-goat magnified himself exceedingly, but when he was strong, the great horn was broken, and instead of it there came up four conspicuous horns towards the four winds of heaven.”

INTERPRETATION -- Verses 20-22

DANIEL 8:20: "As for the ram which you saw with the two horns, these are the kings of Media and Persia. ²¹ And the he-goat is the king of Greece; and the great horn between his eyes is the first king. ²² As for the horn that was broken, in place of which four others arose, four kingdoms shall arise from his nation, but not with his power."

RAM -- Media And Persia (1100 BC & 800 BC)

As already described in the Daniel 2 - Head of Gold - Regional History, this ram with the two horns, "Media and Persia," is the predecessor to the Babylonian/Chaldean Empire. But to confirm the historical setting of this "Media and Persia," we can examine the reign of King Darius (Ref. Daniel 5:20, 6:12, 9:1, and 11:1), because his authority was limited by the traditions of the "Medes and Persians" during his rulership:

- 1.) Daniel 5:30 clearly states that this Darius the Mede received the kingdom of Belshazzar, of the "Chaldeans," which is to say the Babylonian/Chaldean Empire.
- 2.) Daniel 9:1 clearly states that King Darius "became king over the realm of the Chaldeans."
- 3.) In Daniel 6:12, Daniel is cast into the den of lions according to the ordinance to which King Darius had affixed his seal, which could not be undone even by King Darius, "according to the law of the Medes and Persians."
- 4.) In Daniel 11:1, Daniel "stood up to confirm and strengthen," this obviously distressed King Darius in the face of impending doom by the expanding strength of his close neighbor, the Medo/Persian King Cyrus the Great.
- 5.) In Daniel 6:28, after Daniel survived the lions den, and the accusers (and families) were cast in to the pit, the following chronology is presented: "So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian."

We now see three things. The first is that King Darius was indeed a Babylonian/Chaldean king. Secondly, the "Medes and Persians" are substantiated as having a regional presence prior to the Babylonian/Chaldean Empire as evidenced by Darius' powers being limited by legal traditions established by his regional predecessor. And the third is that the Medo/Persian Empire under King Cyrus the Great was subsequent to both of these. In addition to scriptural evidence, ancient world history confirms the 1100 - 800 BC existence and predominance of these "Medes and Persians."

Thus, we can clearly perceive that this "ram" represents the tribal nomadic, less structured form of governing, forever replaced by a new "he-goat"/"Greece" structured type of government.

HE-GOAT -- Greece

This "he-goat" is also called "Greece," not because it represents a specific nation, but because it stereotypes a specific type of government. As highlighted in the Daniel 2 - Breast and Arms of Silver commentary, the literal nation of "Greece" is identified as a "kingdom which shall rule over all the earth." This "he-goat"/"Greece" characterizes the figurative depictions of both the birth of this enduring centralized form of government, and also demonstrates the complete and permanent global integration of this form.

The representations are outlined as follows:

CHAPTER 8 EMPIRE ALIGNMENT

Dan. 8	Dan. 8 (& 7)	World History	Dan. 2, (& 7)	Years
Ram	2-Horns	Media & Persia		1100 - 800 BC
He-Goat	Great Horn	Babylonian/Chaldean Empire	Head of Gold	605 - 539 BC
	Horn 1 of 4	Medo/Persian Empire	Breast of Silver	539 - 330 BC
	Horn 2 of 4	Hellenistic Empire	Belly of Bronze	336 - 146 BC
	Horn 3 of 4	Roman Empire	Legs of Iron	146 B.C - 476 AD
	Horn 4 of 4	“Divided Kingdom”	Feet Iron/Clay	476 - 2,000 AD
	(Little Horn #1)	U.S.	(Lion/Eagle)	≈1850 - 2,000+ AD
	<u>Little Horn #2</u>	<u>U.S.S.R.</u>	(Bear)	≈1917 - 2,000+ AD
	(Little Horn #3)	China	(Leopard)	≈1950 - 2,000+ AD
	(Little Horns #4-10)	U.K., Germany, Japan, Brazil, India, Nigeria, France	(5 of 10 Horns)	1996 - 2,000 AD
	(Little Horn #11*)	Second Beast/Anti-Christ	(Dreadful)	≈1999 - 2,000 AD

Note: The explanation of the “eleventh” horn is provided in the “Soviet Union - Introduction” which follows

This new form of government (the he-goat) proves to be adhered to through the breadth and span of ancient and modern history, (breast, belly, legs, and feet), until the “*great stone*” smites the image. At that time, the ‘perfect’ government shall “[fill] the whole earth.”

SOVIET UNION

INTRODUCTION

DANIEL 8:14 “Out of one of them came forth a little horn, which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the glorious land.”

DANIEL 7:7 “After this I saw in the night vision, and behold a fourth beast, terrible and dreadful and exceedingly strong; and it had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.⁸ I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things.”

DANIEL 7:19 “Then I desired to know the truth concerning the fourth beast, which was different from all the rest, exceedingly terrible, with its teeth of iron and claws of bronze; and which devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the residue with its feet;²⁰ and concerning the ten horns which came up and before which three of them fell, the horn which had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and which seemed greater than its fellows.”

In this 8th chapter, it’s interesting to note that the eleven “*little horns*” are not plainly called out, but have to be derived using the 7th chapter of Daniel. In chapter 7, verse 7, the Dreadful beast is depicted as having ten horns. Of course, these ten horns represent the kingdoms of the Image-of-Metal’s ten toes, and include the U.S., U.S.S.R., China, U.K., France, Germany, Japan, Brazil,

Nigeria, and India. In verse 8, the Dreadful beast is then presented as a “*little*” horn that supplants three other horns, -- they being the U.S. - Lion/Eagle; U.S.S.R. - Bear; and China - Leopard, (as confirmed by Rev. 13:2). But it isn’t until verse 20 that Daniel calls each of these eleven horns “*fellows*,” allowing us to understand that there are indeed a total of eleven “*little horns*,” but in a twist of descriptions, actually a total of ten “*little horns*.” And to understand this riddle, we turn to Rev. 17, where John approaches the sequence of kingdoms from a slightly different angle.

REVELATION 17:9 “This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven hills on which the woman is seated; ¹⁰ they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he comes he must remain only a little while. ¹¹ As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to perdition.”

Rather than look at the ten end time government “*little horns*,” John the Revelator looks at the Image-of-Metals world empires, “*seven mountains*”/“*seven kings*.” Babylonian/Chaldean; Medo/Persian; Hellenistic; Roman; U.S.; U.S.S.R.; and China. Then in verse 11, John says that the Anti-Christ is an eighth “*that was*” (i.e., eleven “*little horns*”) and “*is not*” (i.e., ten “*little horns*”). That is to say, that the Anti-Christ arises on the shoulders of three (the U.S., U.S.S.R., and China) rather than from his own kingdom. These eleven “*little horns*” and eighth king changing perceptions are slightly confusing, but proves to compliment and confirm the interpretation.

Having now considered the fullness of the “*little horn*” depictions, we can now delve into Daniel’s eighth chapter “*little horn*.”

VISION

DANIEL 8:14 “Out of one of them came forth a little horn, which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the glorious land. ¹⁰ It grew great, even to the host of heaven; and some of the host of the stars it cast down to the ground and trampled upon them. ¹¹ It magnified itself even up to the Prince of the host; and the continual burnt offering was taken away from him, and the place of this sanctuary was overthrown. ¹² And the host was given over to it together with the continual burnt offering through transgression; and truth was cast down to the ground, and the horn acted and prospered. ¹³ Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to the one that spoke, “For how long is the vision concerning the continual burnt offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of the sanctuary and host to be trampled under foot?” ¹⁴ And he said to him,^P “For two thousand and three hundred evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state.”

^o Heb obscure

^P Theodotion Gk Syr Vg: Heb *me*

INTERPRETATION

DANIEL 8:23 “And at the latter end of their rule when the transgressors have reached their full measure, a king of bold countenance, one who understands riddles, shall arise. ²⁴ His power shall be great,^S and he shall cause fearful destruction, and shall succeed in what he does, and destroy mighty men and the people of the saints. ²⁵ By his cunning he shall make deceit prosper under his hand, and in his own mind he shall magnify himself. Without warning he shall destroy many; and he shall even rise up against the Prince of princes; but, by no human hand, he shall

be broken. 26 The vision of the evenings and the mornings which has been told is true; but seal up the vision, for it pertains to many days hence.”

“*Out of one of them*” refers to one of the four “*conspicuous horns*” (Medo/Persian, Hellenistic, Roman, & “divided”). Although it is not specifically stated, there is an inference provided to identify which one of the four “*conspicuous horns*” the “*little horn*” shall arise from. In Dan. 8:26 the angel instructs Daniel to “*seal up the vision, for it pertains to many days hence.*” Thus, one can readily discern that this “*one of them*” probably is the last one, which represents the “*feet of iron and clay*”/“*divided*” kingdom. Because this fourth “*conspicuous horn*” is comprised of the U.S., U.S.S.R., China, and the subsequent Anti-Christ alliance, (also called the Lion/Eagle, Bear, Leopard, and Dreadful) we must consider which one of these four end time entities is the one “*little horn*” specifically presented.

In this eighth chapter of Daniel, we find four specific criterion of this one “*little horn.*” The first is the geographical expansion during its maturation; the second is the mention of a “*king who understands riddles,*” the third is the duration that lasts for “*2,300 days*” (6 years, 4 months); and the fourth is the identification of the event - “*the transgression that makes desolate.*”

1. GEOGRAPHY

DANIEL 8:14 “Out of one of them came forth a little horn, which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the glorious land.”

Of the three historical nations pertaining to the “*feet of iron and clay,*” (U.S., U.S.S.R., China, and Anti-Christ alliance), only the U.S.S.R. conforms to the geographical expansion described.

Between the years 882 and 1200 AD, Russia existed as an approximate 80,000 square mile country just east of modern Poland. This region struggled against the Vikings to the north and the Batya’s Mongols to the east. Peaceful Khazars lived to the south, just north of the Black Sea. The navigable north-south river waterway trade routes provided a region rich in commerce, with natural defensive lines.

In 972 the Russians handily defeated the Khazars to the south, gaining territory to the Black Sea, only to have the fierce Polovsty’s occupy the same land by 1093. By 1147, Moscow established itself as the commercial center of Russia. The 1200’s saw the Russians and Polovsty’s unite (“*toward the south*”) in daunting attempts to withstand the Mongol hordes. By the 1500’s the Mongol threat had evaporated, the Russians expanded “*toward the east*” across the former land of the Mongols, and subsequently colonized Alaska* in 1815.⁷¹

SOVIET GEOGRAPHICAL EXPANSION

YEAR	<i>“Exceedingly Great”</i> SQUARE MILES	<i>“Toward the South”</i> DEG. LATITUDE	<i>“Toward the East”</i> DEG. EAST LONGITUDE*	DEG. WEST LONGITUDE
1000 AD	80,000	47	44	22
1996 AD	<u>8,518,000</u>	<u>35</u>	(180 + 10) = <u>190</u>	<u>20</u>

⁷¹ Geoffrey Barraclough, The Times Atlas of World History, Revised Edition, Hammond Inc., NJ, 1984, pp. 114, 128, 230

NET CHANGE:	+8,438,000	+ 12	+ 146	+ 2
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* Alaska's inclusion would result in an east longitude of 140 deg. with the net change in of +176, [(180 + 40) - 44], -- within four degrees of half way around the world.

This "exceedingly great" designation is particularly enlightening when considering that the U.S. has 3,615,000 square miles, China has 3,760,000, and Canada has 3,852,000. The U.S.S.R. exceeds its nearest rival by an astonishing 219%.

The last portion of this prophecy, "and toward the glorious land," has yet to be fulfilled, and is described in Ezekiel 38 & 39, and in Daniel 11:40-44.

2. A KING OF BOLD COUNTENANCE

VISION

DANIEL 8:10 "It grew great, even to the host of heaven; and some of the host of the stars it cast down to the ground and trampled upon them. ¹¹ It magnified itself even up to the Prince of the host; and the continual burnt offering was taken away from him, and the place of this sanctuary was overthrown. ¹² And the host was given over to it together with the continual burnt offering through transgression; and truth was cast down to the ground, and the horn acted and prospered. ¹³ Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to the one that spoke, "For how long is the vision concerning the continual burnt offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of the sanctuary and host to be trampled under foot?" ^o ¹⁴ And he said to him,^p "For two thousand and three hundred evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state."

^o Heb obscure

^p Theodotion Gk Syr Vg: Heb me

INTERPRETATION

DANIEL 8:23 "And at the latter end of their rule when the transgressors have reached their full measure, a king of bold countenance, one who understands riddles, shall arise. ²⁴ His power shall be great, and he shall cause fearful destruction, and shall succeed in what he does, and destroy mighty men and the people of the saints. ²⁵ By his cunning he shall make deceit prosper under his hand, and in his own mind he shall magnify himself. Without warning he shall destroy many; and he shall even rise up against the Prince of princes; but, by no human hand, he shall be broken. ²⁶ The vision of the evenings and the mornings which has been told is true; but seal up the vision, for it pertains to many days hence."

There have been many Soviet rulers, a good portion of which have wielded a reign of terror.

YEARS OF REIGN	RULER
1462 - 1533	Ivan III (Ivan the Great)
1533 - 1584	Ivan IV (Ivan the Terrible)
1584 - 1605	Fyodor I
1605 - 1613	(Dynasty Struggle)

1613 - 1645	Tsar Michael Romanov
1682 - 1725	Peter I (Peter the Great)
1725 - 1727	Catherine I
1762 - 1796	Catherine II (Catherine the Great)
1796 - 1801	Peter I
1801 - 1825	Alexander I
1825 - 1855	Nicholas I
1855 - 1881	Alexander II (Tsar-Liberator / Great Reformer)
1881 - 1894	Alexander III
1894 - 1917	Nicholas II
1917 - 1924	Vladimir Ilich Lenin
1927 - 1953	Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin
1958 - 1964	Nikita Sergeyeovich Khrushchev
10/14/64 – 11/10/82	Leonid Ilich Brezhnev
11/12/82 – 2/9/84	Yuri Andropov
2/13/84 – 3/10/85	Konstantin Chernenko
3/11/85 - 8/19/91	Mikhail Gorbachev (2,352 days)
6/12/91 - 12/31/99	Boris Yeltsin (President of Russia)
12/31/99 - 5/7/08	Vladimir Putin (President of Russia)
5/8/08 - current	Vladimir Putin (Prime Minister of Russia)
5/8/08 - current	Dmitry Medvedev (President of Russia)

Mikhail Gorbachev

As shown, Mikhail Gorbachev succeeded Konstantin Chernenko as the Politburo General Secretary. His first opportunity to establish authority was in the April 11, 1985, Plenum, having secured several promotions and appointments in the topmost leadership tier. At this same meeting he also presented his “renewal programme” goals. In the July 1 Plenum Gorbachev removed a powerful opponent, G.V. Romanov; replaced Andrei Gromyko with E.A. Shevardnadze as Minister for Foreign Affairs; and appointed L.N. Zaykov and B.N. Yeltsin to important posts. Power brokering continued through June of 1987 to provide a decisive shift of power to Gorbachev.

In the above chronicle it’s easy to perceive Gorbachev’s ambitiousness, and consolidation of power. According to historical fulfillment, on August 19, 1991, Gorbachev was the victim of a coup which lasted 10 days. His former prodigy and later political nemesis, Boris Yeltsin, strode to his ‘rescue’ with politically advantageous timing. On August 24th, Mikhail Gorbachev resigned from the office of Communist Party General Secretary.

3. 2,300 DAYS

DANIEL 8:13 “Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to the one that spoke, “For how long is the vision concerning the continual burnt offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of the sanctuary and host to be trampled under foot?”
14 And he said to him, “For two thousand and three hundred evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state.”

The question remains regarding the 2,300 days. Two scenarios present themselves in this interpretation. The first and most obvious pertains to the following Neve Shalom attack (Ref. the

following: #4. The Transgression That Makes Desolate - Neve Shalom”). In the examination of this event, neither the duration of the closure of the Neve Shalom (eight months) nor the length of time from the synagogue Soviet ‘Gog/Magog’ attack against the Middle East (2,300 days from September 7, 1986 translates to late December of 1993) fulfilled this span.

However in examining a second scenario, one considers the span of Gorbachev’s term of office. As already presented, Mikhail first exercised his Politburo General Secretary on March 11, 1985. He fell victim to the coup on August 19, 1991, (2,352 days), and resigned from office on August 24. If this August 19th date is reverse extrapolated by the 2,300 days, (by simply counting backwards from the August date) then the “start date” is May 2, 1985. This date is between the April and July Plenums where he wrested topmost leadership positions from his political opponents.

In any activity, industrial engineers describe a ‘learning curve.’ This learning curve is longest at the first attempt and gets shorter with each repetition. Using this parallel, it’s reasonable to allow some period of time for the Gorbachev administration to make appointments, establish organization, and achieve governing effectiveness. Thus, it’s reasonable to see how the angel might have allowed a seven week span (52 days) to pass before starting the 2,300 days of effective leadership of the Soviet Union. Again, this 6.3 years spanned from the first week of May 1985 to the third week of August 1991.

4. THE TRANSGRESSION THAT MAKES DESOLATE - Neve Shalom

DANIEL 8:10 “It grew great, even to the host of heaven; and some of the host of the stars it cast down to the ground and trampled upon them. ¹¹ It magnified itself even up to the Prince of the host; and the continual burnt offering was taken away from him, and the place of this sanctuary was overthrown. ¹² And the host was given over to it together with the continual burnt offering through transgression; and truth was cast down to the ground, and the horn acted and prospered. ¹³ Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to the one that spoke, “For how long is the vision concerning the continual burnt offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of the sanctuary and host to be trampled under foot?” ¹⁴ And he said to him, P “For two thousand and three hundred evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state.”

The “giving over of the sanctuary and host to be trampled under foot” was fulfilled in Istanbul, Turkey, at 9:20 a.m. on September 7, 1986. During the Saturday Sabbath services, two Arab terrorists with machine guns and hand grenades stormed Istanbul’s main synagogue, the Neve Shalom, (“Oasis of Peace”). They secured the main door, positioned themselves 30 feet apart, and began firing. After killing 21 men, wounding 4, and leaving 1 teenage boy unscathed, they poured gasoline over the carnage and the bodies, and set it all on fire. In a final act of destruction, they pulled the pins on their respective hand grenades which blew one terrorist to pieces and left the second one with only the upper torso intact. The women, who sat upstairs according to tradition, escaped harm.

^{72, 73, 74}

⁷² “Synagogue Slaughter Claims 24,” Associated Press, Istanbul, Turkey, Albuquerque Journal, Sept.7, 1986, p. A1

⁷³ “Gunmen’s Identities Stump Investigators,” A.P., Istanbul, Turkey, Albuquerque Journal, Sept.9, 1986, p. A8

⁷⁴ “Turkish Leader Links Synagogue Attack to Beirut,” L.A. Times/Washington Post Service, Istanbul, Turkey, Albuquerque Journal, Sept.8, 1986, p. A8

Eight months later, in May 1987, the Neve Shalom was reopened behind bullet-proof glass doors and security cameras.⁷⁵

Although it was initially suspected that the Palestinian terrorist, Abu Nidal, (whose real name is Sabry al-Banna⁷⁶), was responsible for the attack on the synagogue as well as previous attributed attacks on synagogues in Brussels, Vienna, and Rome,⁷⁷ it wasn't until the November 30, 1987 issue of U.S. News & World Report, that the attack was fully attributed to Abu Nidal.⁷⁸ In intelligence circles it is well known that the Libyans sponsor Abu Nidal,⁷⁹ and although direct Soviet collusion has not yet been brought to light, it is well known that the Soviets are sponsors of Libya.

And a final hint of evidence concerns a local news broadcast in Nogales, Arizona the evening of October 13, 1986. The news broadcaster quoted Mikhail Gorbachev as saying, "I'd hate to be a Jew living in Soviet Russia today." It appears this perspective may have been based upon 'insider information.'

Note: This same attack is cited in the eleventh chapter of Daniel, verse 29.

⁷⁵ Precker, Michael, "Jews Return to 'Secure' Synagogue," Dallas Morning News, Albuquerque Journal, July 7, 1987, p. B11

⁷⁶ "Peres Dares West To Help Punish Terror," A.P., Jerusalem, Albuquerque Journal, Jan. 2, 1986, p. A7

⁷⁷ "Turkish Leader Links Synagogue Attack to Beirut," p. A8

⁷⁸ "Washington Whispers," U.S. News & World Report, Nov. 30, 1987, p. 15

⁷⁹ "Libya Used To Expose Terrorists," A.P., Rome, Albuquerque Journal, Jan. 30, 1986, p. A13

DANIEL 9, -- THE SEVENTY YEARS OF JEREMIAH

INTRODUCTION

In the 9th chapter of the Book of Daniel, we find an interesting paradox. Daniel was called by God to prophesy to the nations of the world. His visions encompassed the span of world history, revealing facets that have been both headline breaking news and state secrets - some which escaped into the light of truth, while yet others remain shrouded in mystery. But this 9th chapter is unique in this 27th book of the Bible.

Because Daniel had not been called to prophesy to Israel, God apparently provided special grace by allowing Daniel to interpret Jeremiah's seventy years. This interpretation is an astoundingly new presentation, with subtle keys to understanding God's vision for this current Jewish generation. This generation will witness events from the re-establishment of Israel to the ushering in of the 'everlasting righteousness.'

DANIEL 9 "SEVENTY YEARS/WEEKS"

DANIEL 9:1 "In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, by birth a Mede, who became king over the realm of the Chaldeans -- ² in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, perceived in the books the number of years which, according to the word of the Lord to Jeremiah the prophet, must pass before the end of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years."

9:24 "Seventy weeks of years are decreed concerning your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place^v. ²⁵ Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. ²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off, and shall have nothing; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its ^w end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war; desolations are decreed. ²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week; and for half of the week he shall cause sacrifice and offering to cease; and upon the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator."

^v Or thing or one

^w Or his

THE PSALMS CONFIRMATION

DANIEL 9:1 "In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, by birth a Mede, who became king over the realm of the Chaldeans -- ² in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, perceived in the books the number of years which, according to the word of the Lord to Jeremiah the prophet, must pass before the end of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years."

There are two ‘keys’ in the 9th chapter which God uses to reveal his hidden truth. The first key in found in verse 2:

“...perceived in the books the number of years...” (RSV⁸⁰)

“...understood by books the number of the years...” (KJV⁸¹)

“...understood by the books the number of the years...” (NKJV⁸²)

If Daniel simply read in “*the books*”, much like picking up a newspaper and reading the weather forecast, he would have used the “*shama*” simple understanding. However, Daniel used the word “*biyn*” which is a much more complex understanding. Consider 1 Kings 3:

⁹ Give thy servant therefore an understanding [*shama, H8085*] mind to govern thy people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to govern this thy great people?”

¹¹ And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding [*biyn H995*] to discern what is right, ¹² behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning [*biyn H995*] mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.

As evidenced, Solomon asked for a simply “*shama*” understanding, and although GOD said HE would give him what he asked for, GOD did not give him what he asked for. Instead HE gave Solomon a much more complex understanding, which would not be matched by any other man. As such, we must consider that Daniel did not read the “*books*” as from Jeremiah 29:10:

¹⁰ “For thus says the LORD: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfil to you my promise and bring you back to this place.

Instead Daniel read something much more complex “*in the books*” of the Old Testament. As such, I would propose that there is a direct reference in at least one book of the Old Testament which reveals the number of years according to the seventy weeks. In his book, “Hidden Prophecies in the Psalms,” J.R. Church documents the similarities of the chapters of Psalms and the historical events which have occurred to the Jews during the 1900’s. The premise is fairly simple, but before we begin, lets consider what the book of Psalms is not! First of all, the chapters of Psalms appear to be distractingly ‘out of order.’ There doesn’t appear to be any rhyme or reason in its sequence. It’s not organized chronologically, there’s no hierarchy by relative importance, not by Messianic passages, or political/economic/social categorization. However, there are two aspects that can be discerned. Psalms is the 19th book of the bible; and many of the chapters appear to directly correlate as a prophesy to the Jews for the 1900’s. Interestingly, Psalms is the only book in the Bible with the prerequisite 70 minimum chapters⁸³ which can provide a fulfillment correlation for the “*seventy years.*”

But before delving into the significance of this prospect, let’s first consider other aspects of the “*seventy years.*”

⁸⁰ Revised Standard Version

⁸¹ “Holy Bible,” King James’ Version, A.J. Holman Co., Philadelphia, PA, Feb. 1973

⁸² “Holy Bible,” New King James’ Version, Thomas Nelson, Inc., 1985

⁸³ Rev. Eugene Linzey, Private Communication, May 25, 1996

SEVENTY “YEARS / WEEKS” DISCOURSE

First of all, it must be pointed out that Daniel cites two different chronologies. In verse 2 he uses “years” and in verses 24 - 27 he uses “weeks.” This contradiction is overlooked by nearly every commentator, and is errantly interpreted as seventy sevens, presented as 490 years. But Daniel says “years” and “weeks.”

This contradiction is clarified by the following:

THE “WEEKS”

In the book, “Daniel, The Key to Prophetic Revelation,” John Walvoord writes regarding the interpretation of the seventy “weeks:”

“... Montgomery, for all of his scholarship and knowledge of the history of interpretation, ends up with no reasonable interpretation at all.”⁸⁴

“... as Young points out, the word ‘sevens’ is in the masculine plural instead of the usual feminine plural. No clear explanation is given except that Young feels ‘it was for the deliberate purpose of calling attention to the fact that the word “sevens” is employed in an unusual sense.’”⁸⁵

“... Young finally concludes after some discussion that Keil and Kliefoth are correct when they hold that the word ‘sevens’ does not necessarily mean year-weeks, but an intentionally indefinite designation of a period of time measured by the number seven, which chronological duration must be determined on other grounds.”⁸⁶

This discussion revolves around the Hebrew text for weeks, which according to one source is presented per the following:

24 “Seventy weeks [weeks -- שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה שָׁבָעִים שָׁנָה šā-bu-‘îm] of years are decreed concerning your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.²⁵ Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks [and weeks -- שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה šā-bu-‘îm]. Then for sixty-two weeks [and weeks -- שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה šā-bu-‘îm] it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time.²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks, [the weeks -- הַשְּׁבַעִים הַשָּׁנָה haš-šā-bu-‘îm] an anointed one shall be cut off, and shall have nothing; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its^[d] end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war; desolations are decreed.²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week; [for week -- שָׁבַעִים שָׁנָה šā-bū-a-‘] and for half of the week [of the week -- הַשְּׁבַעִים הַשָּׁנָה haš-šā-bū-a-‘] he shall cause sacrifice and offering to cease; and upon the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

⁸⁴ John Walvoord, Daniel, The Key to Prophetic Revelation, Moody Press, Chicago, 1971, p. 217

⁸⁵ *IBID*, p. 217

⁸⁶ *IBID*, p. 218

And for added clarity, Daniel 10:3 appears to use the same word weeks -- שָׁבֻעִים šā-bu-‘îm, which apparently per Young, Keil, and Kliefoth is in the feminine gender text, possibly given by the dots and titles.

Note -- All Hebrew text sources are: Biblehub.com/text/Daniel/9-25.htm, 9-26.htm, 9-27.htm, & 10-3.htm respectively

Interpretive Analogy

If we were to use an analogy to understand what’s being conveyed, we might first of all consider that 9:2 says “years”. So we’ll call “years” – “cars”. And where the commentators incorrectly presume that the “weeks” are spans of “seven”, we’ll call them “trucks”. But because Daniel doesn’t use the concise term “week”/“truck”, but instead uses an inconcise term, we must instead call them “vehicles” – which include both “cars” and “trucks”.

So now we can continue evaluating whether this inconcise Masculine Gender text results in a combination of “years” and “weeks” rather than what is presumed to be ONE fixed duration for all seventy spans. And we might anticipate that potentially there are 69 years and one week of years for a total of 70 durations.

Scripturally and Historically False Doctrine

However, in light of clues deliberately employed by Daniel, classic commentators, including John Walvoord, interpret all seventy as four hundred and ninety years, clearly defying both the historical record per Montgomery, and biblical clues per Young, Keil, and Kliefoth.

And to further challenge the commonly accepted interpretation, in the book “*The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls In English*,”⁸⁷ the author augments Montgomery’s lack of literal fulfillment by providing chronology prefixed upon the Damascus Document which yields a faulty conclusion of 490 years (a 20 year “grope;” an additional 40 years after the Messiah’s death; and 40 year instead of 30 year Messianic ministry; = error).

“...the Book of Daniel, where a period of seventy weeks of years, i.e. 490 years, is given as separating the epoch of Nebuchadnezzar from that of the Messiah. As it happens, if to this figure of 390 years [Damascus Document] is added, firstly twenty (during which the ancestors of the Community ‘groped’ for their way until the entry on the scene of the Teacher of Righteousness), then another forty (the time span between the death of the Teacher and the dawn of the messianic epoch), the total stretch of years arrived at is 450. And if to this total is added the duration of the Teacher’s ministry of, say, forty years - a customary round figure - the final result is the classic seventy times seven years.”

But if we adhere to the “*perceived in the books*”, a potential span of sixty-nine years, a potential seventieth week of years, and with parallel Scriptural concurrence along with world history, the interpretation begins to be revealed.

⁸⁷ Geza Vermes, The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls In English, Penguin Putnam Inc., NY, 1997, p. 58

YEARS / WEEKS INTERPRETATION

But to confirm the interpretation we look back to our first source which has already been set-up. We will examine the Old Testament book of Psalms, as directed by Daniel's "*perceived (biyn H995) in the books the number of years.*"

According to this Scriptural guidance, we can perceive the book of Psalms as substantiating the beginning of the seventy weeks. Specifically, the 24th chapter of Psalms, (for 1924), calls for the gathering of GOD's chosen people and the rebuilding of their nation. But before we delve into the year 1924, it is important to set the historical stage pertaining to the gathering of this 'nation.'

THE "GOING FORTH OF THE WORD" IS NOT FROM A PERSIAN KING

The commentators disregard many Scriptural clues in their attempt to assign ancient fulfillments for this 9th Chapter. Walvoord cites Young in his evaluation of "*from the going forth of the word to restore and build Jerusalem*", per the following:

"[Per Young] This phrase has reference to the issuance of the word, not from a Persian ruler but from God. Young goes on to point out that the expression *the commandment*, which he insists is better translated "a word" (Heb. Dābār; cf. 2Ch 30:5) is also found in Daniel 9:23 for a word from God."⁸⁸

As such, per the above "Psalms" premise, GOD does provide HIS "*commandment*", exactly as Young observed, but was unable to associate with the Book of Psalms.

THE CALL TO A NATION -- (to 1924)

As early as the 1880's European and Arabian Jews realized the vision of emigrating to Palestine. By the year 1924 there had been three 'aliya's', or immigration waves. These first three waves provided a population base of 120,000 settlers. The fourth wave, from 1924 to 1929, increased this populous by over 57% to 186,000. This net population total is even more impressive when considering that approximately 33% of the arriving Jews re-emigrated. By 1948 the Jewish population measured at 650,000.⁸⁹

PSALMS 24

"The earth is the LORD'S and the fulness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein;

2 for he has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the rivers.

3 Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?

4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false, and does not swear deceitfully.

5 He will receive blessing from the LORD, and vindication from the God of his salvation.

6 Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.^z Selah

7 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

⁸⁸ John Walvoord, *Daniel, The Key to Prophetic Revelation*, Moody Press, Chicago, 1971, p. 224

⁸⁹ Amos Elon, *Israelis Founders and Sons*, Rinehart and Winston, NY, 1971, p. 135

⁸ *Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!*

⁹ *Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up,^a O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.*

¹⁰ *Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! Selah”*

^z Gk Syr: Heb *thy face, O Jacob*

^a Gk Syr Jerome Tg Compare verse 7: Heb *lift up*

Of significance in this 1924 date, two rigorous facts face us, the first being most significant. When GOD’s word employs a double statement, it is to draw attention to an important fact. In this 24th chapter, GOD establishes who HE is, then calls for a holy people, and then calls for the re-establishment of the Jewish nation (note that the call is to the existing “*gates*” and “*ancient doors*”). If this passage has been historical, the “doors” would not have been “ancient” -- they would have been modern.

Secondly, as a demonstration of GOD’s love and provision for HIS chosen people, HE opened a way of escape from the impending terror of Hitler’s brutality. Approximately 60,000 eastern European Jews immigrated between 1931 and 1939.⁹⁰ Approximately 6,000,000 should have.

(Interestingly, this 24th Psalms is preceded by the 23rd Psalms, one on the most foundationally promising chapters in the entire Bible.)

“THE ANOINTED ONE”

DANIEL 9:24 “Seventy weeks of years are decreed concerning your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place^v. ²⁵ Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks.”

^v Or *thing* or *one*

^w Or *his*

First of all, one must consider the Contemporary English Version, (CEV), footnote for verse 25 which provides that any priest or king is called an anointed one (*mâshiyach*).

9.25 *the Chosen Leader*: Or “a chosen leader.” In Hebrew the word “chosen” means “to pour oil (on someone’s head).” In Old Testament times it was the custom to pour oil on a person’s head when that person was chosen to be a priest or a king.⁹¹

There are 39 such citations, for which the translators capitalize 2 without any authorization, and for example Leviticus provides what happens if a *mâshiyach* sins:

⁹⁰ Howard Schar, *A History of Israel: from the rise of Zionism to our time*, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., NY, 1996, p. 189

⁹¹ <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Daniel+9&version=CEV>

4:3 If the priest that is anointed [H4899](#) do sin according to the sin of the people; then let him bring for his sin, which he hath sinned, a young bullock without blemish unto the LORD for a sin offering.⁹²

“THE COMING OF AN ANOINTED ONE” -- (1924 - 1931)

Per the prophetic Psalms premise the *shibiym* ‘indefinite’ periods of time, as measured in common era ‘years,’ started in 1924. They continue the seven more years to 1931, when David Ben Gurion fulfilled the “*coming of an anointed one.*”

David Ben Gurion

“David Ben Gurion, born David Grein in 1886, adopted the ancient Hebrew name, interpreted, ‘young lion,’ ...because it sounded like a name out of the Bible. ...As a child Ben-Gurion once boasted: ‘One day I will be the leader of Israel.’”⁹³

As early as 1909, Yitzchak Ben Zvi and David Ben Gurion started organizing a secret defense organization in the expectation that Judea would rise again.⁹⁴ By 1917, the British had defeated the Turkish Ottoman’s hold on Palestine, occupying significant regions of the Middle East. But borders acceptable to Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, and Egypt had to be negotiated. They were finally established on December 4, 1918 by the British and French.

These boundaries left the Zionists disappointed, but a “Balfour Declaration” issued on November 18, 1918 did provide some assurance. This British document laid the foundation for a Zionist state by the key phrase, “a national home for the Jewish people,” as interpreted by the French, German, and Hebrew with the “connotation of a cozy corner,” but the Arabic translation used the term, “Watan Qaumi,” which meant “national fatherland,” a much more substantive term.⁹⁵

One of the earliest economic/political/military Zionist organizations was the Histadrut in 1920. David Ben Gurion was made the first Secretary General, and he established a ‘State within a State,’ in Palestine. Ten years later, the Mapai, the Israeli Workers Party, was founded with Ben Gurion as its leader. By 1935, he was elected both chairman of the Zionist Executive and the head of the Jewish Agency.⁹⁶

Truly, David Ben Gurion’s presence was manifest in the prophesied year of 1931 (“*from the going forth of the word... to the coming of an anointed one ... there shall be seven weeks*”). He continued as a political stalwart, holding the reins of leadership as Prime Minister from 1948 to 1953, and again from 1955 to 1963.

BUILT WITH SQUARES AND MOAT -- (1931-1993)

DANIEL 9:25 “...Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. ²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off, and shall have nothing; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its ^w end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war; desolations are decreed. ²⁷

⁹² <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=H4899&t=KJV>

⁹³ “David Ben Gurion,” *Colliers Encyclopedia*, MacMillan Educational Co., NY, 1992, p. 54

⁹⁴ *Elon*, p. 118

⁹⁵ *IBID*, pp. 174-175

⁹⁶ “David Ben Gurion,” *New Encyclopedia Britannica*, Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc., Chicago, IL, 15th Ed., Vol. 2, p. 88

And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week; and for half of the week he shall cause sacrifice and offering to cease; and upon the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

^w Or *his*

So far, the start of the seventy weeks was 1924, with David Ben Gurion absorbing his leadership role in 1931. The early Jewish settlers survived Arab attacks as early as 1929, with 133 killed, 399 injured, and six remote settlements destroyed, requiring British troops to restore order.⁹⁷ With national independence in 1948, the fight for national survival spanned through the 1956 war against Egypt, the 1967 “six day war,” and continued years of struggling to defend against Arab nation military offensives, border incursions, and terrorist attacks.

Although history does not provide any evidence of moats, various theories abound justifying the literal text. However, none propose the most obvious solution, which recognizes the extensive network of irrigation canals which the Palestinians built and then abandoned along with their homes when Israel declared itself a State in 1948.

In addition, because this interpretation discounts 1948 in favor of 1924 for the “*going forth of the word to restore and build Jerusalem*”, it is prudent to examine Psalms 48 (1948) where we don’t find the potential for a State, but rather the recognition and infrastructure of a State:

PSALMS 48

“Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! His holy mountain, ² beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.

³ Within her citadels God has shown himself a sure defense.

⁴ For lo, the kings assembled, they came on together.

⁵ As soon as they saw it, they were astounded, they were in panic, they took to flight;

⁶ trembling took hold of them there, anguish as of woman in travail.

⁷ By the east wind thou didst shatter the ships of Tarshish.

⁸ As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God, which God establishes for ever. Selah

⁹ We have thought on thy steadfast love, O God, in the midst of thy temple.

¹⁰ As thy name, O God, so thy praise reaches to the ends of the earth. Thy right hand is filled with victory;

¹¹ let Mount Zion be glad! Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of thy judgments!

¹² Walk about Zion, go round about her, number her towers,

¹³ consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels; that you may tell the next generation

¹⁴ that this is God, our God for ever and ever! He will be our guide for ever.”

⁹⁷ Schar, p. 174

When examining this chapter, we see the depiction of a nation that is physically established, with land, population, citadels, towers, and ramparts (constructed over the course of the prior 24 years). The assembled kings with the “*ships of Tarshish*” are shattered and take to flight by a wind from the east. It is this author’s premise that Tarshish represents the United Kingdom, and the “*east wind*” demonstrates their ‘recent’ (mid 1940’s) eviction from India, which continued to blow their presence from Palestine itself.

Surely, this 48th chapter acknowledges the world changing events and circumstances manifest in 1948 Israel.

THE END OF THE SIXTY-TWO “*SHIBIYM*”

Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin -- (November 1995)

*DANIEL 9:26 “And **after** the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off, and shall have nothing; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its ^w end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war; desolations are decreed. ²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week; and for half of the week he shall cause sacrifice and offering to cease; and upon the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”*

^w Or his

Regarding the cutting off on an anointed one, one must first appreciate that Daniel 9:26 simply says “*after*”. It doesn’t say “*at*”, or “*upon*”, or provide any inference that such an occurrence would coincide at the termination of the sixty-two weeks or the beginning of the seventieth week, -- 1993. It simply says “*after*” the sixty two weeks.

As such, history accounts that this event was fulfilled on November 4, 1995, with the political assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. His death left Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres as the Premier, and in a difficult position. Where Peres had opposed the accord which traded occupied land for ‘peace,’ he immediately found himself obligated to continue Rabin’s policies -- contrary to his and many other Israeli’s preferences. Interestingly enough, the gunman, Yigal Mair, had intended to kill both Rabin and Peres in the November 4th Peace Rally, but Peres left a few minutes early, causing the assassin to focus on his main target. Had Mair succeeded in his dual attempt, Israel would have been left rudderless, “without a successor of sufficient stature to lead the complex peace process.”⁹⁸

Psalms 93 Confirmation

*DANIEL 9:26 “And **after** the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off, and shall have nothing; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its ^w end shall come with a **flood**, and to the end there shall be war; desolations are decreed. ²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week; and for half of the week he shall cause sacrifice and offering to cease; and upon the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”*

^w Or his

⁹⁸ Dan Perry, “Police: Peres Was Also On Hit List,” Associated Press, Amarillo Globe, Nov. 24, 1995, p. 14A

PSALMS 93

“The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength. Yea, the world is established; it shall never be moved; ² thy throne is established; from old; thou art from everlasting.

*³ The **floods** have lifted up, O LORD, the **floods** have lifted up their voice, the **floods** lift up their roaring. ⁴ Mightier than the thunders of **many waters**, mightier than the **waves^f of the sea**, the LORD on high is mighty!*

⁵ Thy decrees are very sure; holiness befits thy house, O LORD, for evermore.”

^f Cn: Heb mighty the waves

The Psalms 93 “floods” speaks of the same “floods” found in Daniel 9:26. These floods represent the international pressures on Israel to yield its control of the ‘occupied lands,’ i.e., the Golan Heights; the West Bank; and the Gaza Strip; -- lands which were seized as a promise, a border security, and the victor’s prize earned after the successful defense from an unprovoked concerted attack by its enemies. Where water represents the sea of humanity, likewise, this overwhelming tide of world insistence is depicted as the waves, thunders, and floods.

THE SEVENTIETH “SHABUWA” -- (1993 - 2000)

DANIEL 9:26 “And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off, and shall have nothing; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its ^w end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war; desolations are decreed. ²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week; and for half of the week he shall cause sacrifice and offering to cease; and upon the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

After the sixty nine years (seven “shibiyim” plus sixty-two “shibiyim” spans from 1924 to 1993) the seventieth “shabuwa” (the final “year”/“week,” 1993 - 2000) commences. As described earlier, each of the first sixty nine “shibiyim” are fulfilled in common-era years, but this seventieth “shabuwa” is fulfilled as a period which lasts for seven years, or one true “week.” This explains Daniel’s subtle use of the less concise masculine gender Hebrew word “shibiyim” versus the more concise masculine and feminine gender “shabuwa”.

The “Strong Covenant” -- (1993 - 2000)

In September of 1993, Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, and Yasir Arafat, Chairman of the PLO, agreed to formally recognize each other. On the evening of the 9th, Arafat agreed to recognize “the right of the State of Israel to exist in peace and security,” and on the morning of the 10th, Rabin agreed to recognize the P.L.O. “as the representative of the Palestinian people.” Interestingly, on the Sept. 13 signing, Arafat signed his name with “sincerely” but Rabin merely signed his name -- apparent evidence of a politically pressured circumstance.⁹⁹

After eight months of continued negotiations, Rabin and Arafat signed an accord intended to transition the Gaza Strip and Jericho region of the West Bank to the Palesitinians over a five year period. This accord not only effectively ended Israel’s 27 year long control, (since the occupation

⁹⁹ The New York Times - Page One, The New York Times Company, Galahad Books, NY ,1995, p. 349

from the 1967 war), of both these regions, but it was attended to by powerful participants including U.S. President Clinton and Secretary of State Warren Christopher; U.S.S.R. Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev; and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Foreign Minister Amr Moussa, with the implicit support of other nations and the World Bank as: “committed to helping the Palestinian(s).”¹⁰⁰

It has taken many years of coaxing, starting with President Carter’s Camp David Accord, to reach the point where Israel has acquiesced its own internal security in deference to external world political pressure. (The March 26, 1979 Camp David Accord negotiated the end to the 30 year ‘state of war’ which existed since 1948 between Egypt and Israel. It was signed by President Anwar Sadat and Prime Minister Menachem Begin.¹⁰¹)

This September 1993, event is the “*strong covenant*,” (Ref. Dan. 9:27), which established the beginning of and lasted the duration of the seventieth week, -- exactly seven years. Interestingly, in October of 2000, the Palestinians declared a second *Intifada* which lasted for five years, in which 1,137 Israeli’s were killed.

The Second Half Of The Week

DANIEL 9:27 And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week; and for half of the week he shall cause sacrifice and offering to cease; and upon the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”

Accordingly, under this “treaty” the subsequent Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu was required to continue supporting the peace accord, which prevented him from exercising his full leadership role to preserve and protect the nation of Israel.

You might recall the "Solomon's Stables" excavation and construction by the Palestinian Waaf in autumn of 1996. In this effort, neither Israeli archaeologists, the Antiquities Authority, nor UN World Heritage representatives were allowed to access and oversee the effort, and permissions were not sought. The Solomon stables were expanded to 5,400 sq. ft., designed to accommodate 10,000 people, and completed in late summer of 1999.

“In 1997, another ancient underground Second Temple period structure, known as the Western Hulda Gate passageway, was converted into another new mosque.”¹⁰²

”In November 1999, the Islamic clerics opened what they called an "emergency exit" to the new mosque. Over three days and nights, the "exit" expanded into a gaping hole, 18,000 square feet in size, and up to 36 feet deep. Thousands of tons of ancient fill from the site, subsequently found by Israeli archeologists to contain artifacts dating as early as the First Temple period, were dumped into the Kidron Valley.”¹⁰³

¹⁰⁰ *IBID*, p. 352

¹⁰¹ *IBID*, p. 285

¹⁰² Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, “The Destruction Of The Temple Mount Antiquities”, Mark Ami-EI, No. 483, August 1, 2002, <http://www.jcpa.org/jl/vp483.htm>

¹⁰³ *IBID*

“...THE PRINCE WHO IS TO COME” -- The U.N. And The Anti-Christ

The yet future event, “*and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary*” is expected to be fulfilled by the Anti-Christ’s establishment of his throne “*between the sea and the glorious holy mountain*” (Dan. 11:43).

This work presents the premise that the First Beast of Rev. 13:1-10, is the United Nations, and the Second Beast of Rev. 13:11-18, is that person whom the Church knows as the Anti-Christ. It is also presented in this work that the ten nation alignment, consists of the three superpowers plus seven other nations, (U.S., U.S.S.R., and China; and U.K., France, Germany, Japan, Brazil, Nigeria, and India, respectively). However one should consider the motivation for the United Nations/Anti-Christ to move from its current headquarters in New York.

In Revelation 17:18, the harlot is interpreted as “*the great city which has dominion over the kings of the earth.*” In chapter 18, this “*Babylon*” is destroyed in “*in a single day ... (i)n one hour.*” This causes one to speculate whether this “*Babylon*” is the city of New York, and its destruction forces the relocation of the United Nations. And where better to relocate, than to the already internationally disputed Temple Mount where the one-world-leader could offer to Jews and Palestinians access for both, but possession by neither.

SCRIPTURAL “COINCIDENCE”

Interestingly, Psalms 90:10 cites a generation as “seventy years”, “eighty years by strength”. And where one might consider that $1948 + 70 = 2018$, given the J.R. Church premise that the Psalms is Prophetic, one might consider Psalms 2018 as a potentially significant year. But when one also considers that Psalms 118 is bracketed by Psalms 117 -- the Shortest Chapter in all Scripture, and MIDDLE Chapter in all Scripture --, and Psalms 119 – the Longest Chapter in all Scripture --, one might give pause to this “coincidence

The odds of having the Shortest & MIDDLE Chapter / One-Generation Chapter / Longest Chapter in the proper sequence and “pinned” is 26 billion to one. And if one were to surmise a significance, given the U.S. recognition of the Capital of Jerusalem in May of 2018, one could postulate the start of the 42 month (Ref. Rev. 13:5) Tribulation.

“HEAVENLY” PERSPECTIVE

It’s interesting that the Spring of 1997, mid seventieth-week was evidenced by a complete breakdown of the land-for-peace exchange as committed to by the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat, and as sponsored by the United States. And not only was this span of history prophesied about and fulfilled by international events, but it was also milestone by the Hale/Bopp comet.

Even though Hale-Bopp is farther from the Earth than the Earth is from the sun, it has set an all time visibility record—remaining discernible to the naked eye longer than any other comet in recorded history. First glimpsed in Australia in May 1996, Hale-Bopp should remain visible until the end of 1997. This 18-month spectacle will last twice as long as the previous record holder, Comet Flaugergues, which was visible to the naked eye for nine months in 1811.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/spacewatch/comets.html>

This comet careened through our solar system nearly intercepting our own earth’s orbital path -- approximate to our January orbital position while the earth was in its May orbital position.

DANIEL 11, -- EVENTS OF THE END TIMES

INTRODUCTION

This eleventh chapter of Daniel is the most chronologically complete presentation of events concerning the 'nations' presented in the entire Bible. This presentation of events is simple yet complete; is presented in a correct chronological sequence; and is accurate in fulfillment. Daniel briefly accounts for the 2,500 year span of world empires, (from 550 BC to the 1900's), and then delves into the detailed events of this twentieth century -- the 'end times.'

THE FIRST EMPIRE -- Babylonian/Chaldean

Daniel 5:30 "That very night Belshaz'zar the Chalde'an king was slain. ³¹ And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old."

Daniel 9:1 "In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasu-e'rus, by birth a Mede who became king over the realm of the Chaldeans..."

Daniel 11:1 "And as for me, in the first year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to confirm and strengthen him."

Daniel 6:28 "So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian."

In this first verse of the eleventh chapter, we find this Darius of whom history sheds virtually no light on. Of course, it has already been pointed out that Darius is cited as a Babylonian/Chaldean king in Dan. 5:31 and 9:1. In Dan. 11:1 Daniel ministers to his king of whom events will soon overwhelm. And then in Dan. 6:28 we see Daniel's political role extended across two empires, serving from King Nebuchadnezzar to King Darius, and then transitioning into the new Medo/Persian governance under King Cyrus the Great.

It is during this pre-transition period that Daniel writes concerning future world events. He writes both to the end time governments and to "*confirm and strengthen*" this King Darius, to demonstrate that GOD indeed has a plan for the future in spite of impending assimilation by the expanding Medo/Persian empire.

THREE WORLD EMPIRES -- Medo/Persian, Grecian, & Roman

Daniel 11:2 "And now I will show you the truth. Behold, three more kings shall arise in Persia; and a fourth shall be far richer than all of them; and when he has become strong through his riches, he shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece."

The "*three more*" added to the Babylonian/Chaldean Empire of Darius the Mede (head of Gold), includes the Medo/Persian (breast & arms of Silver: +1), Grecian (belly & thighs of Bronze: +2), and Roman (legs of Iron: +3) Empires. These three did not arise out of the nation of "*Persia*," (with the exception of the Medo/Persian Empire), but they did either conquer, occupy, or exert significant geo-political influence in this Near East corner of the world. The "*fourth*" (feet of Iron & Clay: +4) is different in two aspects. The first is that there is a period of time allotted for maturation, "*and when*

he has become strong,” and secondly, this “fourth” does not have the prerequisite of arising out of “Persia.”

SPAN OF “GROWING STRONG” -- (640 - 1900)

Daniel 11:2 “And now I will show you the truth. Behold, three more kings shall arise in Persia; and a fourth shall be far richer than all of them; and when he has become strong through his riches, he shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece.”

After the fall of the Roman Empire, many empires have arose, including the Byzantine (474 - 1453); Germanic (526); Carolingian (768); Frankish (1180); Mongol - including Batu’s Empire, Empire of the Great Khan, Ilkhan Empire, and Empire of Jagatai, (1240); Ottoman (1300 - 1919); Spanish (1494 - 1600’s); Portuguese (1500’s - 1600’s); the British Empire (1700’s onward); the United States (1776 onward); and many others. In this second verse, Daniel provides only a cursory insight (“*and when he has become strong through his riches*”) to the maturation of today’s world powers.

It took an extended period of time (“*and when he has become strong*”) leading toward the early to mid 1900’s for the establishment of some of these governments (i.e., U.S.S.R., Japan, India, Red China, Brazil, etc.) to be manifested. But still future circumstances would clarify the specific rank and international roles for each one of these powers.

EVENTS OF THE 1900’s

WORLD WAR I -- (1914 - 1919)

Daniel 11:2 “And now I will show you the truth. Behold, three more kings shall arise in Persia; and a fourth shall be far richer than all of them; and when he has become strong through his riches, he shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece.”

“...[H]e shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece” is a most interesting passage. When Daniel provided this prophecy, he cited two empires, Persia and Greece, which at first glance appears to represent the Medo/Persian Empire under Cyrus the Great, and the Grecian Empire under Alexander the Great. But as delineated above, the “*Persia*” citation applies to the succession of world empires in that geographical region of the world. Now secondly, the “*Greece*” depiction is resolved by examining the typecast established in Daniel 2:39.

Daniel 2:39 describes the Grecian Empire as a kingdom “*which shall rule over all the earth.*” This is most important, because the inference of verse 2 as amplified, would read: “*and when he has become strong through his riches, he shall stir up all against all the earth.*” This fulfillment occurred approximately 1,450 years after the dissolution of the Roman Empire, and was manifested in the 1914 event known as ‘The Great War,’ or ‘World War I.’

In 1914, the world was politically and militarily divided between the ‘Central Powers’ as led by the Austro-Germans, and the ‘Big Five’ as led by the Franco-Russians. The participation and alignment of the world’s nations and year they joined the conflict is depicted as follows:

WWI ALLIANCE OF NATIONS¹⁰⁴

¹⁰⁴ Kennedy, p. 257

CENTRAL POWERS		BIG FIVE	
1914	Germany	1914	France
1914	Austria-Hungary	1914	Russia
1914	Turkey	1914	Belgium
1915	Bulgaria	1914	United Kingdom
		1914	Japan
		1915	Italy
		1917	United States

When World War I ended in June of 1919, the European nations were left in debt and in need of conversion from a war economy. The United States was left in a preeminent position, but contrary to expectations retreated into diplomatic isolationism, and declined participation in the League of Nations. This abrupt abdication left a Euro-centered world as led by the United Kingdom and France.¹⁰⁵

WORLD WAR II -- (1939 to 1945)

DANIEL 11:3 “Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion and do according to his will. 4 And when he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken and divided toward the four winds of heaven, but not to his posterity, nor according to the dominion with which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be plucked up and go to others besides these.”

In 1928, Adolf Hitler’s National Socialist party captured a paltry 6% of the popular vote, but increased his popular support to approximately 22% by 1930.¹⁰⁶ In 1932, after several Centralists attempts failed to form a coalition government with which the populous could rally around (including the Left Wing-Communists; Central - German Nationals; and Right Wing - National Socialists), the senior German politicians agreed that Hitler should be allowed to try to form a coalition government. Thus on January 28, 1932, Hitler became a marginally effective Chancellor, with Hermann Goring as his Prussian Minister of the Interior. He had obtained a popular support of 33%, but was under a short leash by the political centralists.¹⁰⁷

Within one month, Communist extremists set fire to the governmental “Reichstag” building in an apparent protest against the political shift to the right.* In response, Hitler established a limited Marshal Law “restricting personal liberty, the freedom of the press, and the rights of assembly.”¹⁰⁸ Within eleven short months, Hitler was able to secure operational control of the government to begin his twelve year, four month dictatorship of Germany, (December 1932 to April 1945).¹⁰⁹

* Note: Some historians have speculated that this event was actually contrived by the Nazi’s in order to blame the communists and thus have the excuse to subdue their opposition.

¹⁰⁵ *IBID*, p. 277

¹⁰⁶ Basil Collier, The Second World War: a Military History, William Morrow & Co., NY, 1967, pp. 16-18

¹⁰⁷ *IBID*, pp. 21-23

¹⁰⁸ *IBID*, p. 24

¹⁰⁹ *IBID*, pp. 24-25

But these early stirrings were not only found in Germany. Between the years of 1935 and 1937, Italy's Benito Mussolini conquered Abyssinia,¹¹⁰ and in 1939, Austrian agents of Hitler's National Socialist party murdered the Austrian Chancellor. Interestingly, the potential for gain from this latter intrigue was thwarted by Hitler's future ally, Mussolini.¹¹¹

From September 1938 to March 1939, Hitler achieved the bloodless conquest of Czechoslovakia, Bohemia, and Moravia. Five months later, on August 23, on what would be the eve of World War II, Hitler signed a non-aggression pact with the Soviets. One week later, on September 1, 1939,¹¹² Hitler's army invaded Poland.

By the end of World War II, (V.E. - May 9, 1945), Germany had conquered north, west, east, and south, and had also lost the same "*four winds of heaven,*" and more. Germany itself was torn asunder: "*for his kingdom shall be plucked up and go to others besides these.*" According to the terms of the Yalta Accord, the Soviets assumed control of Germany's eastern half (41,825 square miles), and the Allies controlled the western half (96,011 square miles). Additionally, the city of Berlin, located in the heart of East Germany, was divided into four segments. The Soviets controlled the full eastern half; and the French, United States, and British each controlled their respective northwest, west-central, and southwest sectors.¹¹³

KING OF THE SOUTH & KING OF THE NORTH -- A Discourse

DANIEL 11:5 "Then the king of the south shall be strong, but one of his princes shall be stronger than he and his dominion."

This is the first of many citations referring to the "*king of the south,*" as opposed to Daniel's later citations of a "*king of the north.*" In interpreting the significance of these two kings, I again present the weight of comprehending Daniel's target audience. Some might argue that "*south*" and "*north*" is with respect to Israel, but there is nothing which makes it necessary to restrict the interpretation to that scenario. In fact the context of Daniel's prophecies to the nations virtually demands a secular "nation" interpretation. Thus it is clearly arguable that one is simply further south, and the other is simply further north with respect to each other.

Given this context, these two nations prove to be the same two premier powerhouses that just came out of World War II -- the U.K./United States and the Soviet Union. We will find that these two nations also provide the central focus for the bulk of Daniel's eleventh chapter, where the sequence of events arrive at the great apocalyptic climax.

KING OF THE SOUTH -- The Fulfillment

DANIEL 11:5 "Then the king of the south shall be strong, but one of his princes shall be stronger than he and his dominion. "

In the historical setting for this verse, the great powers out of the second World War were the United States, the Soviet Union, and to a lesser extent, the United Kingdom and France. The United States was both a military and economic giant; the Soviet Union was a military giant, but an economic middle-weight; the United Kingdom was a military heavy-weight and economic middle-weight, and had to resort to 'down-sizing' its foreign interests due to the expense of the war; and France, a

¹¹⁰ Kennedy, p. 292

¹¹¹ Collier, p. 33

¹¹² *IBID*, pp. 50-54

¹¹³ Touhy, p. B5

military and economic light-weight, had the daunting prospect of rebuilding its economic infrastructure, but was politically encouraged by being given both the northwest Berlin sector and Permanent Membership seat in the U.N. Security Council.¹¹⁴

In the fulfillment of this verse, clearly the prince which became stronger and had a greater dominion than the “king,” is the United States of America, (Ref. Dan. 7:4). It can be speculated that the others (the U.S. was only “one of his princes”) would certainly include Australia and Canada, and possibly some additional colonies at this post World War II period of time (i.e., India, South Africa, Hong Kong, etc.), but there is no doubt that the premier mantle of majesty now rested upon the arisen United States of America.

UNITED NATIONS or NATO ALLIANCE (1945 / 1949)

DANIEL 11:6 “After some years they shall make an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the south shall come to the king of the north to make peace; but she shall not retain the strength of her arm, and he and his offspring shall not endure, but she shall be given up, and her attendants, her child, and he who got possession of her.”

y Or supported

Daniel correctly depicted the United Kingdom and United States king/prince relationship and the post World War II power hierarchy in verse 5, and now describes an “alliance.” At first glance this alliance spoken of could be one of two organizations. The first being the United Nations, established in 1945, and the second would be the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) formed in 1949. But because this alliance appears to be part of the interactions between the subsequently identified “king of the south” and ~strong prince, it would appear that the interpretation applies to NATO. However, to provide an historical panorama, both evolutions are presented for the benefit of the reader:

United Nations Perspective -- (1945)

Historically, there is a clear parallel between the political climates of the post WWI and post WWII eras. In WWI, the Versailles Treaty was signed on Jan. 10, 1920, and part of its provisions was the creation of the League Of Nations. This organization first met on Jan. 16, and was to provide for the caretakership of several territorial regions as well as provide a forum with which the international community could come together to resolve world issues.

Likewise, the United Nations Organization was provided for by the January 1945, Yalta Accord. With V.J. (Victory Japan) on August 14, 1945, the U.N. charter was put into effect on Oct. 24, 1945. Its purpose was similar to the League Of Nations, however the United Nations Organization had “teeth.” Although, the first contention dealt with the Soviets in Iran, interestingly, the second dealt with Palestine.

On Nov. 29, 1947¹¹⁵ the General Assembly, on a vote of 33 to 13 (with 10 abstentions), approved the Palestine partition plan which created the Jewish State of Israel.¹¹⁶ With positive signals from U.S. President Truman, on May 14, 1948, (midnight Tel Aviv time, six p.m. Washington time), the Jewish

¹¹⁴ Kennedy, pp. 362-366

¹¹⁵ Waldo Chamberlin, Thomas Hovet Jr., & Erica Hovet, “A Chronology and Fact Book of The United Nations 1941 - 1969,” Oceana Publications, Dobbs Ferry, NY, 1970, p. 17

¹¹⁶ Stanley Meisler, “United Nations: the first fifty years,” Atlantic Monthly Press, NY, 1995, p. 42

Provisional State Council declared the establishment of a Jewish state. Within six minutes, the U.S. recognized this new nation, and the U.S.S.R.'s recognition followed shortly.¹¹⁷

This new U.N. will prove to mature into an organization which will provide the multi-national platform from which the Anti-Christ will attempt to control the world. This is the "*first beast*" (Ref. Rev. 13:2-10) which the world shall worship.

NATO Alliance Fulfillment -- (1949)

In October of 1947, the U.S.S.R. formed an economic and military alliance of the seven Eastern Bloc nations, called Cominform. In response, on May of 1949, twelve Western Bloc nations formed an alliance which was called the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The original membership included the Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Iceland, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, and the United States of America. This most powerful military alliance was predicated upon the vested interests of the United Kingdom (the king of the south) and the U.S. (the strong prince).

As postulated, these Cominform and NATO alliances appear to better fit the political disharmony after the attempts to make peace and the subsequent enveloping cold war of the 1950's to mid-1980's.

COLD WAR -- (1947 - 1989)

DANIEL 11:6 "After some years they shall make an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the south shall come to the king of the north to make peace; but she shall not retain the strength of her arm, and he and his offspring shall not endure, but she shall be given up, and her attendants, her child, and he who got possession of^y her."

y Or supported

Three historical East/West circumstances presented themselves at the end of World War II. The first was the combined military push against Germany. On March 28, 1945, Eisenhower issued a "baffling" message which directed the Western allied forces to refocus their efforts away from Berlin and toward southern Germany. He also ordered the immediate ("either voluntarily or on request"¹¹⁸) concession of conquered German territory in accordance to the prearranged borders per the Yalta agreement. The implication of these decisions was to reign in the projection of allied forces in deference to the Soviet army,¹¹⁹ -- "*shall come to the king of the north to make peace*".

Secondly, as already mentioned, the Yalta Accord dictated an international forum which could address world problems, called the United Nations.

The third set of circumstance came in the form of post WWII alliances, pacts, and maneuverings which whirled through the departments of State of the world's nations. One in particular, the Marshall Plan of 1945, designed "to place Europe on its feet economically, was deliberately presented as an offering to *all* European nations, whether Communist or not."¹²⁰ The effect of this offer of assistance was perceived both as a helping hand, and as a suspicious expansionist move into the

¹¹⁷ *IBID*, p. 47

¹¹⁸ Kennedy, p. 471

¹¹⁹ *IBID*, pp. 467-472

¹²⁰ *IBID*, p. 376

internal affairs of any participating nation. The result was that the Soviets walked out on the Paris talks. The Soviets then coerced Poland and Czechoslovakia into not applying for assistance.

It's this last set of circumstances which Daniel is depicting in this description of the "*daughter of the king of the south*" and the subsequent dissolution of the attempts to make peace. This is the political climate known as the Cold War.

Initially this Cold War included suspicions from both sides resulting in Cominform and NATO, but hit full stride by 1950 when the Soviets contrived a massive North Korean attack on South Korea. Events during the Cold War nearly brought the two powers to nuclear war, and was finally acknowledged as over in 1989, with the fall of the Berlin Wall.

KOREAN CONFLICT -- (1950 - 1953)

DANIEL 11:7 "In those times a branch^z from her roots shall arise in his place; he shall come against the army and enter the fortress of the king of the north, and he shall deal with them and shall prevail."

This prophecy pertains to the events of the Korean Conflict. Interestingly, in the prior verse, the post World War II political climate is depicted as attempts at cooperation and reconciliation between the victorious democratic and communistic co-combatants. This "*daughter of the king of the south*" was fulfilled in the acquiescence of territory in accordance with the prearranged division of Germany according to the Yalta Accord, and also the allowed subjugation of eastern Europe including: Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Romania, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and parts of Finland.

In light of this 'recent' history, it was a reasonable conclusion that if the great United States of America would allow an unrestrained Soviet Union to hegemonize these European countries, there should be no call for alarm if the Soviets chose to also absorb South Korea.

In a January 12, 1950 speech to the National Press Club, given the prevalent Cold War hostilities and potential attack by North Korea, Dean Acheson assigned specific responsibility for the security of South Korea to the United Nations. Please be aware that any one of the five Permanent Members of the Security Council can veto a U.N. Resolution, and this is exactly what Russia had schemed.

It was only because of the intense hostilities at the conference table, that the Soviets in their anger, got up and walked out, leaving not so much as a janitor to sustain their carefully crafted plan. Thus without the Russians present, the remaining four Permanent Members passed the critical resolution, and Daniel's prophecy correctly accounts for that event we recognize as the Korean Conflict.

In June 1950, at the urgings of Moscow, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea - D.P.R.K. (North Korea) launched an unprovoked attack across the 38th parallel into South Korea. The South Korean defenders were quickly pushed back to the extreme southern city of Pusan. The U.N. resolution was passed, and U.S. support was provided after a quick revision of U.S. foreign policy to address a 'domino theory.'

When the combined U.S./United Nations forces cut the North Koreans off at Inchon, the Peoples Republic of China began mobilizing its troops in Manchuria.¹²¹ As the North Korean army was pushed north of the Yalu river border into China, the Chinese 'volunteers' joined the fray. U.N. forces were 'spanked' by the Chinese regular army (Oct./Nov. 1950¹²²), being pushed back to the

¹²¹ Mosely, p 110

¹²² Kennedy, p. 383

original 38th parallel border. This overly aggressive ‘Western’ projection got too close to their border proximity.

Although a peace agreement still has never been signed, overt hostilities subsided in June 1953, after a frustrated President Truman quietly threatened China with direct nuclear confrontation.

Interpretative Perspective

Careful reading yields Daniel’s inerrant accuracy, and also yields one more facet for interpretative understanding. In the kings of the “*south*”/“*north*” presentations, thus far we understood that the king of the “*south*” initially represented the U.K. and the strong “*prince*” represented the U.S., with the U.S. subsequently inheriting the mantle of the “*king of the south*” in the post WWII setting (Ref. verse 5). Similarly, the “*king of the north*” represents the U.S.S.R., however, Daniel’s depictions are not always entirely succinct.

In this 7th verse, the U.S. led U.N. coalition is described as entering “*the fortress of the king of the north.*” Therefore it becomes transparent that Daniel applies the term “*north*” equally to the U.S.S.R. and also this Soviet sponsored state, because historically, this U.S. led coalition entered communist North Korea. Conversely, we will discover later in the 11:29 interpretation, that in a reference to the king of the north, “*he,*” Soviet backed Libyan terrorists, comes “*into the south,*” U.S. allied democratic Western Europe, specifically targeting U.S. servicemen in a West Berlin nightclub. So clearly, Daniel demonstrates continuity and consistency in his specific and generic references to both the “*north*” and “*south*” applications of association.

THE UNITED NATIONS

DANIEL 11:8 “He shall also carry off to Egypt their gods with their molten images and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and for some years he shall refrain from attacking the king of the north.”

The citation of Egypt could suppose a literal interpretation, however, it defies the “king of the south” convention. Specifically, there are ten instances of “south” (and eight instances of “north”), but why would Daniel insert “Egypt” in this single instance? Clearly he is treating it as a third party, for good reason. -- It is a third party.

Additionally, The citation of gods, molten images, silver, and gold could suppose a literal interpretation, however, Daniel had used an initial Persia and pseudo Greece analogy, and had just used the analogy of “*daughter*” and “*branch from her toots*” in successive verses. Thus, this author would argue that precedent and scriptural context demonstrates a continued figurative interpretation. As such, the gods, and gold and silver vessels represent concepts that have world shaking significance

Egypt, Greece, Silver, & Gold

This figurative “*Egypt*” appears to be in contrast to the previously cited “*Greece,*” found in Daniel 11:2, which as argued represents the cross-section of the earth’s kingdoms, (Ref. Dan. 2:39). Thus it is proposed that “*Egypt*” represents a citation with somewhat less significance.

To continue the comparison, when the world was drawn into World War I, (“*against the kingdom of Greece*”), there was little flexibility in the decisions to war. However, inside the confines of the United Nations Security Council, it takes only one of the five permanent member nations to veto a proposed resolution. It is argued that this figurative “*Egypt*” is that less constrictive connotation while still operating in a world arena.

If simple Egyptian world history from 500 BC onwards were the example, we would find a nation that would always be a significant nation but never pre-eminent. As such, it is presented that Daniel applies uses “*Egypt*” as a stereotype for nations which are significant, but not pre-eminent.

Now in this 1950’s history, we’re presented with a ‘new world order’ scenario in which the U.N. security council in conjunction with the world’s significant nations, make decisions by consensus for the furtherance of mutual global aspirations rather than by parent nation, regional, or alliance prioritizations. These participating nations adhere to the unanimous agreements and dictates of this quasi-governing body. The fulfillment of this acceptance (“*carry off to Egypt their gods*”) and adherence to the conceptual dictates (“*precious vessels of silver and of gold*”) of this U.N. geo-political tool, came at the advent of the Korean Conflict, and is represented by the following participation:



UNITED NATIONS COMMAND

KOREAN CONFLICT TROOP STRENGTHS¹²³

Peak strength for the UNC was **932,964** on July 27, 1953 -- the day the Armistice Agreement was signed:

Republic of Korea	590,911
United States	302,483
United Kingdom	14,198
Canada	6,146
Turkey	5,453
Australia	2,282
Philippines	1,486
New Zealand	1,385
Ethiopia	1,271
Greece	1,263
Thailand	1,204
France	1,119
Columbia	1,068
Belgium	900
South Africa	826
The Netherlands	819
<u>Luxembourg</u>	<u>44</u>
	932,964

¹²³ <http://www.korea.army.mil/unc/unc.htm>

U.N. Policy Of Containment

In fulfillment, this new era in political diplomacy cut its first teeth at the onset of the Korean Conflict. Amazingly, the United Nations involvement was only made possible by the incomprehensible actions of the Soviet Union. In a bizarre demonstration of defiance, the entire Soviet Union United Nations delegation walked out of a Security Council meeting leaving no one behind to veto the impending proposal to defend South Korea from the North Korean aggressors.

With the ‘unanimous’ United Nations mandate and international military commitments, the allied forces pushed the North Koreans northward into China. Then, to General MacArthur’s surprising dismay, Chinese ‘volunteers’ battled the U.S. Marines into retreat back to the 38th parallel. Confident that the authorized U.N. mandate limited the scope of the intervention to the Korean peninsula, China’s jet fighters and bomber aircraft attacked the allied U.N. troops from Chinese airbases with impunity. Even under these provocative circumstances, President Truman adhered to the U.N. decision not to attack any Chinese territory, but the Supreme Allied Commander, General MacArthur, voiced his adamant policy disagreement both to President Truman and to the world press. As a result, he was dismissed both as Supreme Allied Commander in Asia, and as the Commanding General in the United States armed forces.

This new practice of peacekeeping by restricting the conflict from escalating under a ‘policy of containment,’ became the accepted practice of world powers in such conflicts as Korea, Hungary, Vietnam, Czechoslovakia, Angola, Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Iraq, Bosnia, and undoubtedly, many other crises.

And finally, the United States did refrain from attacking the “*king of the north*” (quite actually the “*sons*” of the king of the north) from June 1953, until the August 1964 U.S. congressional authorization for U.S. military forces to engage the invading North Vietnamese Army in South Vietnam.

CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS -- (1962)

DANIEL 11:9 “Then the latter shall come into the realm of the king of the south but shall return into his own land.”

In 1957, Jupiter nuclear missiles, having a range of 1,500 miles, were stationed in Turkey under the control of the U.S. Air Force.¹²⁴ Early on in Kennedy’s term of office, (taking office in January 1961), Kennedy questioned the military value of the missiles, and the Atomic Energy Commission’s (AEC) Joint Congressional Committee observed that the weapons were “unreliable, inaccurate, obsolete, and too easily sabotaged.”¹²⁵ But no orders were given regarding the disposition of the stationed missiles.

As early as spring of 1962, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, John A. McCone, speculated that the Soviet Union might deploy nuclear missiles in Cuba. He reasoned that a Eastern Europe satellite nation deployment could result in a potentially disastrous Moscow retargeting. However, in Cuba, the 1,000 mile range pre-empted this prospect.¹²⁶

Accordingly, from July 28th through August 24th, 1962, while approximately 22 Soviet ships commenced unloading surface-to-air missiles, equipment, and personnel, McCone once again

¹²⁴ Brugioni, *Eyeball to Eyeball*, Random House, NY, 1991, p. 467

¹²⁵ Elie Abel, *The Missile Crisis*, J.B. Lippincott Co., NY, 1966, p. 190

¹²⁶ *IBID*, p. 18

speculated that the net goal of introducing surface-to-air missiles was to protect a prime target.¹²⁷ Four weeks later, on September 21st, the first reports of nuclear missiles trickled in. On October 15th, U-2 over-flights revealed “missile erectors, launchers and transporters” -- compelling evidence in light of similar equipment and layout found only in Soviet nuclear missile sites.¹²⁸

On Tuesday, October 16th, the President was briefed, and called his senior staff. The wheels were set in motion for a naval blockade, full military alert, and tense negotiations. Ten days later, a Soviet Embassy ‘counselor,’ who was suspected as the KGB chief of intelligence operations for the U.S., outlined an initial proposed resolution to the confrontation:

1. The missile sites would be dismantled and shipped back to the Soviet Union under United Nations supervision.
2. Fidel Castro would pledge himself to accept no offensive weapons in the future.
3. The United States would pledge itself not to invade Cuba.¹²⁹

Follow-on communications with Krushchev revealed the motivation for this encroachment solely as a response to the April 17, 1961, Bay of Pigs landing, -- but the next day he upped the ante to include the removal of the Turkish missiles.¹³⁰

It wasn't until Sunday, October 28th, that the Soviet Union accepted a U.S. counter offer, resulting in the defusement of the situation. By the first week of December, the Soviets removed the forty-two medium and intermediate-range missiles and some aging Ilyushin bombers (much to the gall of both Castro and the Chinese),¹³¹ and the United States subsequently removed the missiles based in Turkey.

Interestingly enough, President Kennedy had issued formal orders for the removal of the Jupiter missiles in August of 1962, two months before the events which brought the two leaders to the brink of nuclear conflict.

In another interesting note, Kennedy learned a potentially valuable lesson about the optimistic projections provided by the CIA in the Bay of Pigs affair, dampening any enthusiasm about the CIA's plans for Vietnam. In fact, on October 2, 1963, seven weeks before his November 22, assassination, President Kennedy's Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Maxwell Taylor, issued a memo for the withdrawal of 1,000 troops to commence within two months, and the balance of the troops to be withdrawn within the following 12 months.¹³² However, President Kennedy's assassination left the prospects for policy reversal open, as evidenced by President Johnson's subsequent massive involvement in South Vietnam.

VIETNAM WAR -- (1965 - 1975)

DANIEL 11:10 “His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall come on and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his fortress.” 11

¹²⁷ *IBID*, p. 17-18

¹²⁸ *IBID*, p. 29

¹²⁹ *IBID*, p. 176

¹³⁰ *IBID*, p. 180, 186

¹³¹ *IBID*, p. 211-213

¹³² Ian Brodie, “Kennedy Ordered Troops Out Of Vietnam,” The Times Newspapers Limited, - online, Dec. 23, 1997

Then the king of the south, moved with anger, shall come out and fight with the king of the north; and he shall raise a great multitude, but it shall be given into his hand. ¹² And when the multitude is taken, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands, but he shall not prevail. ¹³ For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude greater than the former; and after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies.”

History & Background -- (1900 - 1964)

The first five words of verse 10 describe the first stage of the Vietnam war. Historically, Vietnam had been under French colonialism since the early 1900's, and encountered guerrilla warfare in the late 1940's from the socialist leader, Ho Chi Minh. The decisive May 1954, battle for the far northwest Vietnamese city of Dien-Bien Phu resulted in the military defeat of the French, (11,000 troops surrendered). Unwilling to concede the entire nation to the Ho Chi Minh led communists, the United Nations negotiated the division of Vietnam along the 17th parallel. Ho Chi Minh became president of North Vietnam, and continued to cultivate relations with both the U.S.S.R. and Red China. The capitalists maintained control over the south, with a succession of presidents.

However, with Soviet and Chinese training and weapons, Ho Chi Minh continued the guerrilla warfare south of the 17th parallel with the goal of re-uniting Vietnam. With the French having withdrawn, the United States stepped in to prop up the unstable government, and expanded its role in an effort to counteract the expanding communist guerrilla warfare. Between the years of 1954 to 1964, the U.S. increased its technical and military advisors to a total of 15,000.

It's these expanding guerilla warfare actions (“*assemble a multitude of great forces*”) that Daniel presents as the beginning of the U.S. involvement in Vietnam. However, the most puzzling cause of direct U.S. entry into the war, was the “Phantom Battle”¹³³ of the Tonkin Gulf.

Battle of Tonkin Gulf -- (1964)

In the Thursday night darkness of July 30, 1964, four (American sponsored) mercenary manned South Vietnamese patrol boats attacked North Vietnamese Tonkin Gulf military installations while the U.S. destroyer *Maddox* patrolled nearby. On Saturday night, with the North Vietnamese presuming the U.S. Navy responsible for the attack, hundreds of N.V. junks massed to intercept the *Maddox's* course. The *Maddox* avoided the confrontation. On Sunday afternoon, three PT boats, each carrying two torpedoes and 12.7mm machine guns, commenced an attack on the *Maddox*. Four F-8E fighters from the *U.S. Ticonderoga* joined the fray, and after 37 minutes, one PT boat was dead in the water and the remaining two fled the battle. The *Maddox* had one bullet hole in its armor. President Johnson exhibited unusual restraint, and discounted calls for reprisals.

On Tuesday, August 4, at 7:30 p.m., as the destroyers *Maddox* and *Turner Joy* patrolled in column, the radar man picked up three high speed surface contacts, presumed to be PT boats. Turning tail, both ships fled the area at full speed, while the crews were called to general quarters, and air support requested. At 9:40 p.m., the *Turner Joy* started firing her 5” guns on the target 7,000 yards to the starboard. A torpedo wake was reported by three crewmen, but under evasive maneuvers (for launched torpedoes), continued torpedo attacks were reported. F-8E and A-4 pilots patrolling overhead “were bewildered by the frenzied voices heard on their radios ... [seeing] nether torpedo boats nor their wakes.”¹³⁴ After two hours of gun fire, depth charges, evasive actions, and attempting

¹³³ “The ‘Phantom Battle’ That Led To War, Can It Happen Again,” U.S. News & World Report, July 23, 1984, pp. 56 - 67

¹³⁴ “The ‘Phantom Battle’ That Led To War, Can It Happen Again,” p. 62

to ram their ghost attackers, the action ceased. The *Maddox* sonarman reported a physically impossible 26 torpedoes, -- while the *Turner Joy* sonarman reported none.

Captain John J. Herrick, commander of the Seventh Fleet's Destroyer Division 192, was in command of the *Maddox*. After the 'engagement' Herrick conducted rudder maneuvers and concluded: "'(m)ost of the *Maddox*'s, if not all of the *Maddox*'s reports were probably false.'"¹³⁵

Entry Into War -- (1964)

Upon receipt of initial reports, the previously restrained President Johnson was outraged. He immediately exercised his tremendous legislative experience to generate an unprecedented commitment of congressional powers to the President, "*to take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack ... to take all necessary steps, including the use of armed force, to assist any member or protocol state of the Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty requesting assistance in defense of its freedom.*"¹³⁶ The vote taken on August 7, 1964, was 416 to 0 in the House, and 88 to 2 in the Senate.

In 1995, when Robert McNamara visited North Vietnam, he asked his hosts their perspective of whether there ever was a Tonkin Gulf attack by N.V. forces, to which they replied to the negative. This was only one of many prophetic events which should have never occurred, but resulted in changing the course of world events.

The Victory At Hand -- (1964 - 1968)

DANIEL 11:10 "His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall come on and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his fortress. 11 Then the king of the south, moved with anger, shall come out and fight with the king of the north; and he shall raise a great multitude, but it shall be given into his hand. 12 And when the multitude is taken, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands, but he shall not prevail. 13 For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude greater than the former; and after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies."

In the 1961 Dominican Republic Pleiku incident, then Vice President Johnson revealed a disposition to oversimplify the nature of the Communist challenge and to rely on a disproportionate amount of force. This again fell true in the Vietnam initial intervention phase. On June 29, 1965, when President Johnson authorized American troops to fight in battles, the successes of major battles increased dramatically and generals and politicians alike proclaimed that victory was at hand.

From March of 1965 to March of 1968, American planes expended more bombs on South as well as North Vietnam, than had fallen on all W.W.II European and Pacific targets. The U.S. military's ability to extend muscle and troops demonstrated impressive power with high kill ratios.

But as already mentioned, President Kennedy, having been misled by the CIA in the Bay of Pigs, would not have believed the CIA's optimistic gains forecast through a massive armed intervention. Of course, President Kennedy had been assassinated on November 22, 1961. Lyndon B. Johnson was now President. Clearly, the "*he (that) shall raise a great multitude*" is North Vietnam, and the initial victories "*shall be given into (the) hand*" of the United States/South Vietnam.

¹³⁵ *IBID* p. 63

¹³⁶ *IBID* p. 66

Operation Phoenix, My Lai

DANIEL 11:10 “His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall come on and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his fortress. ¹¹ Then the king of the south, moved with anger, shall come out and fight with the king of the north; and he shall raise a great multitude, but it shall be given into his hand. ¹² And when the multitude is taken, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands, but he shall not prevail. ¹³ For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude greater than the former; and after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies.”

In South Vietnam, the conflict was not only limited to battle fields and jungle paths, but in villages and the rice paddies. At the height of the war, hundreds if not thousands of innocent civilians were killed per month by U.S. bombers. But if this wasn't enough, in the pursuit to purge South Vietnam of communist infiltration, the CIA initiated “Operation Phoenix.”

This program was comprised of Army Green Beret, Navy SEALs, and South Vietnamese Rangers working in conjunction with informants. According to former CIA Director, William Colby's numbers, they covertly, without trial, ‘neutralized’ a total of 20,000 civilians who were suspected of being members of the Communist underground -- some by arrest, many by death.¹³⁷ Some critics and historians have estimated that the Phoenix Program killed upwards of 20,000 and imprisoned some 70,00 people. An analyst wrote in the January 1975 issue of *Foreign Affairs*: “Although the Phoenix program did undoubtedly kill or incarcerate many innocent civilians, it did also eliminate many members of the Communist infrastructure.”¹³⁸

Similarly, on March 16, 1968, in the village My Lai 4, in the Quang Kgai province, a company of American soldiers rounded up the inhabitants, the majority of which were elderly, women, children, and infants. A total of 347 civilians were herded into a bulldozed ditch where they were shot to death.¹³⁹

Tet Offensive -- (1968)

DANIEL 11:10 “His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall come on and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his fortress. ¹¹ Then the king of the south, moved with anger, shall come out and fight with the king of the north; and he shall raise a great multitude, but it shall be given into his hand. ¹² And when the multitude is taken, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands, but he shall not prevail. ¹³ For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude greater than the former; and after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies.”

Verse 13 describes the massive January 31, 1968 Tet offensive which was the most substantially manned, supplied, and supported North Vietnamese offensive in the history of the war. This was a coordinate attack on more than 100 villages and cities, including Saigon, with the battle for Hue lasting for more than three weeks. Interestingly, Daniel doesn't note the ‘winner’ possibly because the battle victory in terms of body count went to the U.S. with 1,113 Americans and at least 3,470 South Vietnamese killed, versus about 30,000 North Vietnamese killed; but the political victory went to the North Vietnamese. Before the battle even began, the North Vietnamese “knew the attack was

¹³⁷ William Colby, *Lost Victory*, Contemporary Books, NY, 1989, p. 333

¹³⁸ Maynard Parker, “Vietnam: The War That Won't End,” *Foreign Affairs*, NY, January 1975, p. 352

¹³⁹ Douglas Welsh, *The History of the Vietnam War*, Galahad Books, NY, 1981, p. 127

going to have a psychological effect on the Americans. [They] were told that America was growing tired of the war.”¹⁴⁰

Vietnam War Protesters -- (1964 - 1972)

DANIEL 11:14 “In those times many shall rise against the king of the south; and the men of violence among your own people shall lift themselves up in order to fulfill the vision; but they shall fail.”

As early as May 1964 the slogan ‘We Won’t Go’ was widely publicized. By mid-1965, 380 prosecutions were begun against men refusing to be inducted; by mid-1968 that figure was up to 3,035. By the end of 1969, there were 33,960 delinquents nationwide.¹⁴¹ These Vietnam war protesters opposed this nation’s military policies and exhibited open rebellion against the rule of society, (i.e., calling police officers pigs, avid participation in the illegal drug culture, and the outward demonstration of rebellion - long hair, anti-establishment clothing, etc.). Although they successfully focused world attention on this unpopular war, they were unsuccessful in fermenting the hoped for popular uprising against ‘the establishment.’

One interesting note to this era in American history are the two ‘peace’ symbols. The first, having the circular periphery, represents the earth and the inside lines represent the cross with the arms broken down. The second is the two finger "V" sign which is a hand count binary expression, which is the number "6", -- understood to be the number of "man".

The Fall Of South Vietnam -- (1975)

DANIEL 11:15 “Then the king of the north shall come and throw up siege works, and take a well-fortified city. And the forces of the south shall not stand, or even his picked troops for there shall be no strength to stand. ¹⁶ But he who comes against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him; and he shall stand in the glorious land, and all of it shall be in his power.”

During the Vietnam war, three countries were under communist-led insurgence: Laos, Cambodia, and South Vietnam. In April of 1974, North Vietnam stepped up their offensives. The South Vietnamese Ranger bases of Ton Le Chan and Duc Hue; three government outposts in the Central Highlands; and Base 711, south of Pleiku city, all fell under siege and were overrun.¹⁴² In the mid-March 1975 Cambodian communist offensive, “rebel troops -- armed and trained by North Vietnam -- surrounded Pnompenh and other major cities, (and) blockaded the Mekong River, the capital’s major supply line.”¹⁴³

In late-March, a thirteen month siege on the city Tong Le Chan, which was a strong point Ranger base 55 miles northwest of Saigon, ended. Thousands of Communist soldiers, supported by tanks, overran the 259 defenders after a four hour mortar and artillery barrage.

The taking of a “well fortified city” would appear to refer to the city of Da Nang. This was that nation’s second-largest city and the sole remaining government stronghold in northern South

¹⁴⁰ Ian Steward, “Tet Offensive Still Fresh In Memories,” A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Jan. 30, 1998, p. A12

¹⁴¹ Howard Zinn, A Peoples History Of The United States, Harper Row Publishers, NY, 1980, p 476

¹⁴² Facts On File - World News Digest,” Vol. 44, No. 2267, NY, April 27, 1984, p. 297-298

¹⁴³ “Cambodia: Time Running Out,” U.S. News & World Report, March 24, 1975, p. 13

Vietnam.¹⁴⁴ President Nguyen Van Thieu's promise to stand and hold this city proved empty. The city, swamped with panicky refugees and undisciplined soldiers, fell without a fight.¹⁴⁵

“At the port of Vungtau, near Saigon, soldiers who had escaped from the north wandered aimlessly along the waterfront. Army officers made little or no effort to regroup the stragglers into organized units. Officials seemed to feel that some of the stragglers might be Communist infiltrators. More disturbing is evidence that many units are leaderless mobs. Members of the First Division were seen throwing rifles and boots away on the beach at Hue, like troops never intending to fight again. Some elements of Marines ran amok, killing and robbing defenseless civilians.”¹⁴⁶

The passage speaking of standing in the “*glorious land*” or “*goodly land*” certainly can be applied to South Vietnam. The fertile rice land around Saigon, the \$780 million of U.S. supplied weapons and materials, and the \$4 billion spent on airfields, naval facilities, and depots,¹⁴⁷ all provide a treasure-trove worthy of the term “goodly” or “glorious.”

The North Vietnamese Purge -- (1975)

DANIEL 11:17 “He shall set his face to come with the strength of his whole kingdom, and he shall bring terms of peace and perform them. He shall give him the daughter of women to destroy the kingdom; but it shall not stand or be to his advantage.”

After the North Vietnamese gained power, all conventional market place and ‘normal’ living practices were reconstructed in the name of ‘communist re-education.’ This included capital punishment, harsh forced labor, and minimal subsistence conditions as dictated under the communist run ‘communal farms.’

As used in 11:6, the “*daughter of the king of the south*” was a politically generated and driven machination. This “*daughter of women*” appears to be of the same genre.

In late July of 1975, (3 months after the fall of South Vietnam), resistance was reported as follows:

“Washington is hearing that anti-Communist guerrilla operations are being stepped up in Vietnam. Latest reports tell of hit-and-run attacks on Red Forces in two coastal areas -- one in Phuoc Tuy Province, the other near Vunt Tau, a resort city. Former South Vietnamese paratroopers are credited with the raids.”¹⁴⁸

When Ho Chi Minh used guerrilla tactics, his tactics and perseverance were both effective and ultimately successful. It should come as no surprise that the CIA should attempt to use these same tactics to harass and possibly overthrow this newly organizing communistic government. Unfortunately, the CIA methods were contrived, using mercenaries rather than popular uprisings with nationalistic idealisms and aspirations. Daniel called this attempt “*to destroy the kingdom*” the strategy of using “*the daughter of women.*”

¹⁴⁴ “Fortress Saigon -- Bracing For A Last-Ditch Stand,” U.S. News & World Report, April 7, 1975, p. 18

¹⁴⁵ “In The End, Not Even Saigon Will Hold --,” U.S. News & World Report, April 14, 1975, p. 30

¹⁴⁶ *IBID* p. 30

¹⁴⁷ Facts On File - World News Digest, Volume 35, No. 1797, NY, April 19, 1975, p. 247

¹⁴⁸ “Washington Whispers,” U.S. News & World Report, August 4, 1975, p. 8

The End Of The North Vietnamese Aggression -- (1975)

DANIEL 11:18 “Afterward he shall turn his face to the coastlands, and shall take many of them; but a commander shall put an end to his insolence; indeed he shall turn his insolence back upon him. ¹⁹ Then he shall turn his face back toward the fortresses of his own land; but he shall stumble and fall, and shall not be found.”

Both landlocked Laos and coastal Cambodia fell to Communist North Vietnam, with Thailand, under the influx of refugees, reduced to defending its own border. South Vietnam had 600 miles of coastline, and Cambodia had 150 miles. This gave North Vietnam ocean frontage from the South China Sea to the Gulf of Siam.

The Freighter, Mayaguez -- (1975)

DANIEL 11:18 “Afterward he shall turn his face to the coastlands, and shall take many of them; but a commander shall put an end to his insolence; indeed he shall turn his insolence back upon him. ¹⁹ Then he shall turn his face back toward the fortresses of his own land; but he shall stumble and fall, and shall not be found.”

The description of a commander who puts an end to the “insolence,” bespeaks of an act of open sea piracy which occurred on May 12, 1975. In international waters, 60 miles from the Cambodian coast and eight miles from the rocky upcroppings called the Wai Islands, a Cambodian gunboat fired on and boarded the U.S. flagged Sea-Land freighter *Mayaguez*. When initial U.S. diplomatic efforts were unfruitful, President Ford alerted and dispatched the western Pacific Air Force, Naval, and Marine forces.

On May 14th, in a display of assertiveness, U.S. carrier based aircraft sank three Cambodian gunboats and bombed the Cambodian Ream airbase - cratering the runway, and destroying 17 planes and one hanger. Also, 200 marines were landed on Tang Island, while a second contingency of Marines boarded the *Mayaguez* searching vainly for the 39 crewmen. It was on Tang Island that Cambodian small arms resistance accounted for the downing of five of the eleven U.S. helicopters deployed. One third of the 200 marines were either killed or wounded. In addition to the battle field losses, 23 Americans died enroute to the hostilities.

A total of 41 Americans died in the attempted rescue of the 39 *Mayaguez* crewmen. Ironically, 14 hours before the U.S. attack began, successful Chinese diplomatic negotiations yielded a soon expected release of the crewmen. The crew’s release occurred while operations were yet ongoing.¹⁴⁹

The orders to proceed, and even continue, were to prove “the test of American determination in Southeast Asia that, they asserted, the U.S. had been seeking since the collapse of allied governments in South Vietnam and Cambodia.”¹⁵⁰

After this military confrontation, the Vietnamese and Cambodian governments ceased overt aggression, limited to border skirmishes and ‘mop-up’ ventures.

PRESIDENT NIXON’S RESIGNATION, PRESIDENT FORD’S APPOINTMENT

DANIEL 11:20 “Then shall arise in his place one who shall send an exactor of tribute through the glory of the kingdom; but within a few days he shall be broken, neither in anger nor in battle.

¹⁴⁹ Facts On File - World News Digest, Volume 35, No. 1801, NY, May 17, 1975, p. 329

¹⁵⁰ Howard Zinn, pp. 539-540

21 In his place shall arise a contemptible person to whom royal majesty has not been given; he shall come in without warning and obtain the kingdom by flatteries."

These two verses refer to the Executive Branch of the United States government. The term "*exactor of tribute*" is indicative of the President's submission of the National Budget to Congress (outlining proposed spending programs and tax outlays). In fulfillment, President Richard Milhouse Nixon entered his second term of office on January 1973, by a phenomenal 60% popular vote, carrying every state except Massachusetts; but he was destined to be "*broken neither in anger,*" (impeachment or assassination), "*nor in battle,*" (battlefield loss or military coup). This living expulsion proved to be unique in American history.

- On June 17, five months before the November, 1972, Presidential election, five men were arrested for breaking into the Democratic National Committee offices in the Washington D.C., Watergate Hotel. In the days surrounding Nixon's second inauguration, of the now seven defendants, two had pled guilty (Jan. 11 & 15) and two had been found guilty (Jan. 30).

Within three months, on April 30, Attorney General Richard Kleindienst and top aids John W. Dean, John D. Ehrlichman, and H.R. Halderman resigned amid charges of obstruction of justice. Within a little more than one year, on May 9, 1974, the House Judiciary Committee commenced impeachment hearings.¹⁵¹

- On October 10, 1973, less than nine months into his second Vice Presidential term, Spiro T. Agnew resigned from office, pleading no-contest to tax evasion charges. (Note: This was not a 'first,' as John C. Calhoun resigned from the office of the Vice Presidency on December 28, 1832, during the Andrew Jackson administration.)
- In October, 1973, President Nixon nominated Congressional House Minority Leader, Gerald Ford, to the vacated Vice Presidency. On December 6, 1973, in accordance with the 25th Amendment, Ford was confirmed to that Vice Presidential office by "*flatteries*" in a majority vote of both houses of Congress. This was the 1st of 4 executive branch 'firsts.' -- (The 25th amendment wasn't ratified until 1967, thus there was no successor to John C. Calhoun's Vice Presidential office.)
- After 600 days into his second term, on August 8, 1974, Richard M. Nixon resigned from the office of the Presidency. In a subsequent televised interview with Richard Nixon's daughter, Julie Eisenhower, she conveyed that her mother, Pat Nixon, felt that this extraordinary turn of events was brought about by either the CIA, an internal conspiracy, or by demonic forces. Indeed, this was a spiritually controlled event, but one that was controlled by God. This United States historical first (2nd of 4) was accompanied by yet two additional Executive Branch firsts.
- As the new unelected Vice President, Gerald Ford was positioned to precisely fulfill this prophecy ("*and obtain the kingdom*") by assuming the vacated Presidency on August 9, 1974 having never been elected to any executive branch office. This was the 3rd of 4 'firsts.'
- And finally, this unelected President Gerald Ford nominated former New York Governor, Nelson Rockefeller, to the newly vacant Vice Presidency. Again, in accordance with the 25th Amendment, Nelson Rockefeller was confirmed by both houses of Congress and on December 19, 1974, was appointed to the Vice Presidency. This became the 4th of 4 'firsts.'

¹⁵¹ The World Almanac and Book of Facts 1996, Funk & Wagnalls Corp., Mahwah, NJ, 1995, p. 506

Gerald Ford's persona filled the editorial cartoons, Chevy Chase "Saturday Night Live" skits, and Johnny Carson monologues, as a clumsy, bumbling, "*contemptible person*." His golf outings were most entertaining, as he successfully parlayed the game of golf into a 'contact-sport' through errant golf ball flights into the galleries.

As history matches scripture, it is also worthy to note the second of two Kennedy assassinations which pre-empted Robert F. Kennedy's democratic presidential bid. In 1968, approaching the end of President Johnson's term of office and getting a late start, the meteoric Robert Kennedy was destined for the Oval Office when he secured the majority of votes in the June 1968, California democratic primary. His assassination left the election to a trounced Eugene McCarthy, and victorious Richard Nixon. Had this second of two Kennedy assassinations been thwarted, Richard Nixon probably would never have been elected, and the prophesied Presidential resignation most likely could never have occurred.

SALT I AND SALT II

DANIEL 11:22 "Armies shall be utterly swept away before him and broken, and the prince of the covenant also."

In 1969, during President Nixon's first term of office, the United States and Soviet Union worked toward the limitation of strategic nuclear weapons in a effort called the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT, eventually known as SALT I). This document was signed and ratified in 1971 and enacted in 1972. This was the culmination of progressively diminished U.S. nuclear superiority ratios from 8:1 in 1962; to 4:1 in 1967; and 1:1 in 1972. This SALT I agreement gave the U.S. a strategic 'throw weight' disadvantage of between 1:4 to 1:6.¹⁵²

The SALT II negotiations began in the fall of 1972, at the end of Nixon's first term. They continued through the November 1974 Ford-Brezhnev Agreement at Vladivostok, and concluded during Jimmy Carter's Presidency in late 1978. This SALT II agreement fell short of the original criteria in many ways:

1. The goal of unlimited duration was rejected.
2. Parity was 576 MIRV'd (Multiple Independently Targeted Re-entry Vehicle) ICBM's (Intercontinental Ballistic Missile), but the U.S. could only field 550, without being production capable prior to the expiration of the treaty.
3. The Soviets were allowed up to ten warheads on select missiles, while the U.S. was allowed only three.
4. The agreement left no provision for verification of nuclear weapon production, storage, or deployments.
5. The U.S. agreed that the "Backfire" bomber would not be counted against the SNLV's (Strategic Nuclear Launch Vehicle) unless equipped for a range greater than 600 kilometers (with no provision for verification).¹⁵³

This negotiated treaty was particularly offensive to the Western Europeans, as they were already at a 1:3, 1:5, and 1:10 conventional force disadvantage (as measured in various tactical weapon categories). SALT II was ready for congressional consideration in January of 1979, and although

¹⁵² "Meaning Of Arms-Control Pact," U.S. News & World Report, June 5, 1972, p. 21

¹⁵³ Jozef Goldblat, Agreements for Arms Control: A Critical Survey, Taylor & Francis Ltd, 1982, p. 283

never ratified, that current and all successive administrations since, have adhered to the terms of this fatally flawed document.

This was political climate which Daniel referred, in the sweeping away and breaking of armies.

Secondly, the breaking of the “*prince of the covenant*” was also to have occurred during this period of time. This event appears to be indicative of a turning from God by the Executive Branch of then President Gerald Ford. History offers no specific event as such, however during his term of office, President Ford’s wife, Betty Ford, espoused her shockingly liberal views on abortion, premarital sex, and use of marijuana as socially acceptable in light of today’s new morality. This proved a marked departure from historical adherence to Judeo/Christian values.

HELSINKI ACCORD & RUSSIA IN AFRICA, (1975-79)

DANIEL 11:23 “And from the time that an alliance is made with him he shall act deceitfully; and he shall become strong with a small people. ²⁴ Without warning he shall come into the richest parts of the province; and he shall do what neither his fathers nor his fathers’ fathers have done, scattering among them plunder, spoil, and goods. He shall devise plans against strongholds, but only for a time.

^e Or *Among the richest men*

The “*alliance*” spoken of is the Helsinki Final Act which was started in July 1973, and completed in August ,1975. Its main purpose was to formulate international agreement on “subjects relating to security in Europe; cooperation in the fields of economics, science, technology and environment; (and) cooperation in humanitarian and other fields.”¹⁵⁴ In compliance with the accord, the Europeans vacated their colonies throughout the world, but most noticeably in Africa. As a signatory member, the Soviet leadership immediately ignored and continued to violate the human rights and fundamental freedom provisions with regard to their own citizens. But beyond their own internal defiance of this agreement, they saw an unparalleled and unprecedented opportunity in the new political vacuum of Africa (“*what neither his fathers nor his fathers’ fathers have done*”).

The “*small peoples*” depict these third world nations as itemized with the respective troop deployments:

AFRICAN OPPORTUNISM

NATION	TROOPS ¹⁵⁵	NATURAL RESOURCES ¹⁵⁶
Angola	35,000 ¹⁵⁷	Diamonds, Coffee, Petroleum
Congo Brazzaville	Staging Area	Petroleum
Tanzania	500	--
Equatorial Guinea	500	Bauxite
Guinea	60	Bauxite
Libya	--	Natural Gas, Petroleum

¹⁵⁴ Henry Degenhardt, Treaties and Alliances of the World, Gale, Detroit, MI, 1981, pp. 221-233

¹⁵⁵ “Cuban Troops: Cat’s-Paws For Soviet Intrigues,” U.S. News & World Report, Dec. 8, 1975, p. 27

¹⁵⁶ “Kissinger in Africa: A Bid to Stave Off Race War,” U.S. News & World Report, May 3, 1976, pp. 28-29

¹⁵⁷ “Angolan Rebels Get Some African Support,” Knight-Ridder, Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 1, 1986, p. A10

Somalia	3,000 ¹⁵⁸	Strategic location
Guinea-Bissau	20	Bauxite
Sierra Leone	20	Coffee
Zambia	--	Cobalt, Copper

The Soviets used Cuban mercenaries, political assassinations, and all manners of intrigues and subterfuge to effect gain, both in the ‘occupied’ countries, and also against their neighboring countries. In Angola, the Soviets supported that Marxist government (1974 to 1986) with billions of dollars in military hardware including MIG fighters, attack helicopters, and military vehicles, in addition to 1,500 Soviet military advisors and 35,000 Cuban troops. The primary resisting “stronghold” was the resource rich nation of South Africa, (diamonds, chromium, gold, platinum, uranium, and copper). Tactics against this resistor included inflaming tribal sentiments, cross-border attacks from Mozambique and Namibia, and military machinations which forced South Africa to periodically deploy troops in cross border pre-emptive strikes and even the temporary stationing of forces within Namibia.

When Henry Kissinger pled the case for pro-Western rebel aid necessary to fend off the Cuban mercenaries, it fell on deaf ears. The American Congress had been traumatized by the experience in Vietnam, and was in no mood for more of the same. Interestingly, China provided significant support in African resistance against this Soviet hegemony.

U.S.S.R. IN NICARAGUA, (1978-90)

DANIEL 11:25 “And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall wage war with an exceedingly great and mighty army; but he shall not stand, for plots shall be devised against him. ²⁶ Even those who eat his rich food shall be his undoing; his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.”

As dictator of Nicaragua, Anastasio Somoza had the most powerful army in Central America with which to fend off any aggressor, plus the backing and support of the U.S. government, (although this alliance was predicated upon global strategic interests). Likewise, the Soviets perceived an opportunity to exploit class dissatisfactions in Nicaragua to its own strategic interests.

In 1978 a commander in Somoza’s own military ranks, Eden Pastora, (also known as Commander Zero), led 24 rebels in a successful storming of Nicaragua’s National Palace in Managua and took the Congressional members hostage. By 1979 Somoza was deposed, but within four years Eden Pastora had grown disenchanted with the Soviet sponsored revolution. In a surprise about-face he joined the U.S. sponsored guerilla resistance against this Sandinista Regime.¹⁵⁹

This was a ‘behind-the-scenes’ war, fought by both superpowers. The Soviets supplied approximately seventy MI-8, MI-24,¹⁶⁰ and MI-17 troop and assault helicopters,¹⁶¹ and approximately

¹⁵⁸ “That Russian Base In Somalia: What Our Man Found At The Scene,” U.S. News & World Report, July 21, 1975, p. 31-32

¹⁵⁹ “Ex-Nicaraguan Guerrilla Leader Goes Fishin’,” Associated Press, Albuquerque Journal, April 15, 1987, p. B10

¹⁶⁰ “Soviets Pour Arms Into Nicaragua,” Los Angeles Times, Albuquerque Journal, Oct. 28, 1986, p. A3

¹⁶¹ “Managua Reportedly Will Get Helicopters,” Los Angeles Times, Albuquerque Journal, April 14, 1987, p. A12

\$500 million per year from 1980 to 1989.¹⁶² The United States provided sophisticated SA-7 Red Eye surface-to-air missiles and \$100's of millions of C.I.A. supplied equipment and funds,¹⁶³ \$10's of millions of Congressional approved non-lethal aid, and a nearly \$30 million windfall in Irangate funds as managed by National Security Council staff member, Lt. Col. Oliver North.

This contention continued until the corrupt and nepotistic government of President Daniel Ortega Saavadra was replaced on February 25, 1990 by a government marginally acceptable to the U.S. -- a democratically elected Sra Violeta Chamorro.¹⁶⁴ (Ref. Dan 11:28)

GRENADA INVASION AND..., (1979-1984)

DANIEL 11:27 "And as for the two kings, their minds shall be bent on mischief; they shall speak lies at the same table, but to no avail; for the end is yet to be at the time appointed."

During this period of history, several events transpired which could be interpreted as applicable to this verse, including:

U.S. 444 Day Iranian Hostage Crisis

When the Iranians stormed the U.S. Embassy on November 4, 1979, they not only took 52 American diplomats hostage, but the few attacks against the Soviet Embassy ceased. The hostages were released within minutes of the January 20, 1981 inauguration of the more assertive, newly elected Ronald Wilson Reagan.¹⁶⁵

KAL 007 Downing

On September 2, 1983, Korean Airlines flight KAL 007 was intentionally shot down by the Soviet Air Force after it intruded into Soviet airspace. President Reagan bombasted Soviet ill intent and irresponsibility, while Yuri Andropov's government offered conflicting excuses for the deaths of the 269 passengers.¹⁶⁶

Grenada

The term "*mischief*" is most obvious in the events surrounding the tiny Caribbean island of Grenada.

In the fall of 1983, U.S. military analysts informed President Reagan that Cuba and the Soviet Union had supplied civilian and military personnel for the construction of an airstrip of sufficient size to handle military transport aircraft. On October 19, 1983, a hard-line Marxist junta seized power of the small island.¹⁶⁷ Six days later, on Oct. 25, President Reagan ordered an invasion under the justification of protecting the more than 500 American students attending the island based medical school. With a landing force of 1,300 U.S. troops, 12 Cubans were killed and the remaining 24 Cubans and 30 Soviets were captured. The American students were evacuated, and the island's dictator deposed.¹⁶⁸

¹⁶² Don Oberdorfer, "Sources Say Soviets To Halt Nicaraguan Arms Aid," Washington Post, Albuquerque Journal, May 16, 1989, p. A1

¹⁶³ "Managua Reportedly Will Get Helicopters," p. A12

¹⁶⁴ Jack Anderson, and Dale Van Atta, "Greed of Sandinista Gand of Three Rivals That of Somoza," Syndicated Columinsts, Washington, Albuquerque Jorunal, Sept. 20, 1985, p. A5

¹⁶⁵ The New York Times - Page One, p. 292

¹⁶⁶ *IBID*, p. 304

¹⁶⁷ "White House Pushes Funds For Contras," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 23, 1986, p. A5

¹⁶⁸ The New York Times - Page One, p. 306

1984 Olympics

And finally, in 1984, the Soviets declined to participate in the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. This appears to have been done in direct retribution for the U.S. boycott of the 1980 Olympics in Moscow, which was precipitated by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

STRATEGIC ARMS REDUCTION TALKS (START) -- (1985 - 1987)

DANIEL 11:27 “And as for the two kings, their minds shall be bent on mischief; they shall speak lies at the same table, but to no avail; for the end is yet to be at the time appointed.”

The “*lies at the same table*” calls attention to the 1985-86 Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START); bantering on nuclear testing moratoriums; troop reduction talks; the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI - also known as “Star Wars”); various arms control summits (Geneva - Nov. 1985, Reykjavik - Oct. 1986¹⁶⁹, Geneva - April 1987, and Washington - Dec. 1987¹⁷⁰); President Reagan’s “Zero-Option” proposal; U.S. accusations of Soviet SALT non-compliance; U.S. threats to disregard SALT II compliance; and nuclear weapon numerical increases despite a signed intermediate-range nuclear-forces (INF) treaty. This was a period of time where President Ronald Reagan and President Mikhail Gorbachev each attempted to craftily exploit the military chess board to maximize political advantage.

U.S.S.R. AFRICAN WITHDRAWAL -- (1986)

DANIEL 11:28 “And he shall return to his land with great substance, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will, and return to his own land.”

This 28th verse tells of a “*return*” that appears to be in reference to the Soviet Union’s withdrawal from the African continent. However, history demonstrates at least three potential fulfillments:

- 1.) In Africa, (Ref. Daniel 11:23-24), Soviet and Cuban troops were deployed in ten different countries with political involvement in several others. Billions of dollars of military equipment was employed to effect economic and political gain in the continent of Africa over the tumultuous years of 1974 to 1986.
- 2.) In Nicaragua, (Ref. Daniel 11:25-26), May of 1988, the Soviet/U.S. arms and war materials were winding down. In the end, the two superpowers ceased their interference, and that nation melded into relative obscurity without significant riches or rewards for either side. The net result was that the region was left without the radical Marxist ideology, and Soviet hegemony was rebuffed.
- 3.) In Afghanistan, the Soviets spent more than seven years (1979 to 1987) deploying up to 115,000 troops in a futile attempt to prop up a puppet Marxist government. Like the African venturism, the Soviet forces were countered by not only the mujahedeen rebels with support from the C.I.A., but also by the support of the unexpected bedfellow Red China. The U.S.S.R. suffered 10,000 killed and 20,000 wounded in this Soviet “Vietnam.”¹⁷¹

Of these two events, the African interpretation would fulfill the caveat of returning with “great substance” as dictated by natural resources, some of which are found in abundance only in Africa:

¹⁶⁹ Barry Schweid, “Time Begins To Grow Short for Reagan To Leave Mark in Foreign Policy Area,” A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Jan. 1, 1987, p. D5

¹⁷⁰ “Shultz, Soviet See Progress In Arms Talks,” A.P., Moscow, Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 22, 1988, p. A1

¹⁷¹ “End to Afghan War?,” Editorial, Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 11, 1988, p. A4

AFRICAN NATURAL RESOURCES¹⁷²

Resource	% of the World's Reserves / Production	Resource	% of the World's Reserves / Production
Diamonds	Nearly all	Uranium	33%
Chromium	Nearly all	Bauxite	25%
Cobalt	90%	Coffee	25%
Cocoa	65%	Copper	20%
Gold	50%	Natural Gas	12%
Platinum	40%	Petroleum	8%

DANIEL 11:28 “And he shall return to his land with great substance, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will, and return to his own land.”

The reference of the Soviets being “*set against the holy covenant*” is less certain, as Warsaw Pact nations have historically based their Marxist philosophy in atheism. But in this verse, Daniel sets the gears turning toward a certain anti-Semitic ‘bent.’ In accordance with this initial inkling, several events eventually transpired which could have been inferred:

- In December of 1985, the U.S. Secretary of State, George Schultz, broke new ground by linking the Romanian government’s human rights abuses, “especially affecting [the] practice of religion”¹⁷³ with the U.S. Most Favored Nation trade status.
- On Sept. 6, 1986, two terrorists under the leadership of Palestinian terrorist Abu Nidal, (who was directly sponsored by Libya), conducted an attack on the main synagogue in Istanbul Turkey. Of the 26 worshipers, they killed 21, wounded 4, and left 1 teenage boy unscathed.* (Ref. Dan. 8:13 & 11:29)
- In early October of 1986 the Israelis conducted a raid on the Tunis, Libya PLO headquarters in which 60 people were killed. In response, PLO Chairman, Yassir Arafat, orchestrated the infiltration of an Italian cruise ship, the *Achille Lauro*, with the intent of shooting up an Israeli harbor during a scheduled port call. However, after the ship’s crew discovered the cache of weapons, the terrorists panicked and took the ship captive prematurely. As a demonstration of their intent, one of the passengers, an elderly wheelchair dependent American, was shot in cold blood and his lifeless body and wheelchair were thrown over the ship’s rail.¹⁷⁴
- It was on October 13, 1986 that Mikhail Gorbachev was quoted as saying “I’d hate to be a Jew living in Soviet Russia today.”*

* As accounted in the Dan. 8 “Transgression That Makes Desolate- Neve Shalom” presentation.

But it is important to understand that although these events were proximate to this era in history, Daniel might have been careful to say that “*his heart shall be set against*” rather than assign any

¹⁷² “Kissinger In Africa - A Bid To Stave Off Race War,” p. 28

¹⁷³ “Shultz Links Romanian Religious Rights to Trade Policy,” Reuter, Albuquerque Journal, Dec. 16, 1985, p. A9

¹⁷⁴ The New York Times - Page One, p. 315

actual fulfillment. This is important, because although Dan. 11:28 may have set the foundation for this 'bent,' verse 31 may describe the actual event.

THE U.S. IN CENTRAL AMERICA, (1978-1990)

DANIEL 11:28 “And he shall return to his land with great substance, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will, and return to his own land.”

Nicaragua

As interpreted in the Daniel 11:25-26 Nicaraguan sequence of events, the Soviet/Cuban sponsored rebels overthrew the Somoza Dictatorship and established a Marxist Sandinista government. The U.S. reacted quickly to this potential communistic entrenchment in Central America with a reciprocal guerrilla war.

This nation's twelve long years of internal struggle and international complicity ceased on February 25, 1990, when the corrupt and nepotistic Marxist government of President Daniel Ortega Saavadra¹⁷⁵ was replaced by a government acceptable to the U.S., -- a democratically elected Sra Violeta Chamorro.¹⁷⁶ (Ref. Dan 11:28)

However, this was not the only “*work his will, and return to his own land*” during this period of Central American regional involvement.

Panama

On April 19, 1978, under the presidency of Jimmy Carter, the U.S. agreed to turn over the Panama Canal to the nation of Panama, effective on Dec. 31, 1999. But ten years later, on Dec. 20, 1989, the U.S. found cause to militarily invade Panama with the intent of arresting Panamanian military strong man Manuel Antonio Noriega on drug trafficking charges. After hiding out for ten days, Noriega surrendered to U.S. Federal law enforcement officers, and flown to Miami, Florida for prosecution.¹⁷⁷

Although this action was taken with the approval of Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle, the response by his army was somewhat less enthusiastic: ““We have been conversing with (Delvalle) constantly, and he knows that our position has been that there is too much American interference in this Panamanian affair. We are not here denying or refusing this post because it's not our place, because we have a commander -- commander Noriega.””¹⁷⁸

LIBYAN INCIDENT -- (1986)

DANIEL 11:29 “At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south; but it shall not be this time as it was before.”³⁰ For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and give heed to those who forsake the holy covenant.”

Historical Perspective

In establishing key players and key events, one must appreciate sponsorship roles. In the case of Libyan dictator Col. Muammar Khaddafi, the Soviets played a free-wheeling and successful military role in Libya which started in the late 1960's, and is presented in this April 1986 snap-shot-in-time:

¹⁷⁵ Anderson, and Van Atta, “Greed of Sandinista Gand of Three Rivals That of Somoza,” p. A5

¹⁷⁶ Ben Box, Mexico & Central American Handbook, Passport Books, Chicago, IL., Sept. 1994, p. 673

¹⁷⁷ “The New York Times - Page One,” p. 336

¹⁷⁸ “Panama President Fires Noriega,” A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 26, 1988, p. A1

LIBYAN/SOVIET SHARED RESOURCES AND MATERIALS

1. 35,000 - 75,000 Soviet and East European civilian workers
2. 4,000 - 6,000 military advisors
3. \$4 - 6 billion in arms sales advances, by the Soviets
4. \$1 billion in yearly arms sales, (one of Moscow's biggest customers)
5. (3) SAM-5 sites
6. 150,000 - 200,000 barrels of oil sent daily to the U.S.S.R. for debt servicing
7. (6) Foxtrot-class submarines
8. Several radar-homing missile equipped Nanuchka-class corvette fast attack surface ships
9. (50) MIG-25's
10. (175) MIG-23's
11. A squadron of Tu-22 "Blinder" bombers
12. SS-1 Soviet Scud B missiles with "non-persistent lethal nerve agent"¹⁷⁹

-- Items #1-6¹⁸⁰; items 7-11¹⁸¹

In September of 1969, military officer Col. Muammar Khadafy led a bloodless coup and formed a Revolution Command Council, with himself as Chairman. After subduing his fellow countrymen, he interjected himself into the problems of both African and European nations, spending hundreds of millions of dollars in support of international terrorism between the 1970's and the mid 1980's.¹⁸²

1. In 1977 Muammar Khadafy airlifted 2,500 troops to Uganda in an unsuccessful effort to prop up the government of Idi Amin against rebel factions.¹⁸³ Amin was ultimately deposed in 1979.
2. During 1981, Khadafy's asserted that Libyan territorial waters extended from the greater mouth of the Gulf of Sidra, -- approximately 360 miles east to west, and up to 160 miles from its shores. (International norm is 12 miles from the nearest coast.) In response to the proclaimed "line-of-death", President Reagan deployed the U.S. Navy to assert international rights of passage. On August 19, two Libyan jets were sent aloft, and upon encountering two U.S. carrier based "Tomcat" fighter aircraft, the Libyan aircraft hastily launched air-to-air missiles. The U.S. fighters quickly downed both aircraft.¹⁸⁴
3. During the years of 1981 to 1985, Khadafy sent "huge shipments of arms" to a new Ugandan rebel leader in the successful overthrow of the pro-Western Gen. Tito Okello.¹⁸⁵
4. In 1983 he sent troops into Chad in support of the anti-government rebels. To protect their former colony, the French responded by sending in 3,000 troops. After a year of fighting, an agreement for mutual pull-out was made, but only the French withdrew. Within a year, continued

¹⁷⁹ "London Paper Reports Libya Has Nerve Gas," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Nov. 24, 1986, p. A2

¹⁸⁰ Marc Duvoisin, "Russians Quietly Establish Presence in Libya," Knight-Ridder, Albuquerque Journal, April 13, 1986, p. B7

¹⁸¹ "U.S. Fleet Faces 3 Libyan Threats," Knight-Ridder, Albuquerque Journal, March 25, 1986, p. A1

¹⁸² Anderson and Van Atta, "Libya's Role in Terrorism Documented," Syndicated Columnists, Albuquerque Journal, April 9, 1986, p. A4

¹⁸³ "Libya Helped Arm Rebels In Uganda, Khadafy Says," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Jan. 30, 1986, p. A13

¹⁸⁴ "In Past, Khadafy Has Backed Off," Knight-Rider, Albuquerque Journal, Mar. 25, 1986, p. A8

¹⁸⁵ "Libya Helped Arm Rebels In Uganda, Khadafy Says," p. A13

Libyan-backed rebel attacks prompted the French to re-deploy 1,500 troops and tactical fighter aircraft.¹⁸⁶

5. During the early 1980's Libyan intelligence agents would tip-off European authorities of terrorist intentions against European targets. However by 1984/85, the Libyan anti-terrorist assistance ceased. Although mounting evidence of Libyan complicity would seemingly coalesce international anti-Libyan sentiments, the \$12 billion of European trade, along with tens of thousands of European workers in Libya, would hamper a truly unified response.¹⁸⁷
6. In July of 1982, a Libyan plot to assassinate Saudi Arabia's King Fahd was uncovered.¹⁸⁸
7. In December of 1982, a Libyan plot to support Italy's Sardinia separatists was uncovered. This conspiracy included plans for sabotage and kidnapping.¹⁸⁹
8. In March of 1984, a Libyan plot to destroy the Jordanian Embassy in Libya was uncovered.¹⁹⁰
9. In June of 1984, a Libyan airline employee shot and wounded a Libyan-born Athens, Greece publisher of an anti-Khadafy newspaper. Within one month, three other Libyans residing in Greece were killed.¹⁹¹
10. In July of 1984, an ambitious Libyan plot was uncovered with goals of assassinating then Sudanese President Gaafar Nimeiry, blowing-up the American embassy and striking other targets.¹⁹²
11. On Friday, December 27, 1985, terrorists reportedly under the command of extremist Palestinian leader, Sabry al-Banna (also known as Abu Nidal), attacked the Schwechat Airport in Vienna, Austria, and the Leonardo da Vinci airport in Rome, Italy. They threw grenades and fired assault rifles at the U.S. Pan American and TWA, and Israeli El Al airline ticket counter customers. Between the two airport attacks, 18 people were killed, and 121 people wounded.¹⁹³
12. During the year 1985, Libya provided PLO terrorist Abu Nidal a home base of operations which resulted in 33 attacks which killed 90 people, and wounded 350.¹⁹⁴
13. In early February 1986, in an interview with an Italian newspaper reporter, Khadafy suggested that if U.S./Libyan tensions remained high, that Soviet supplied "ultra-modern, long-range nuclear missiles" could be installed in Libya.¹⁹⁵
14. In mid March 1986, President Reagan ordered the U.S. Navy across Khadafy's "line-of-death" in response to an uncovered Libyan plot to "target" U.S. diplomats.¹⁹⁶ The deployed fleet was a massive armada including three aircraft carriers, the *America*, the *Coral Sea*, and the *Saratoga*; supported by 24 escort vessels.¹⁹⁷ On March 24, when representative U.S. Navy ships crossed Khadafy's self

¹⁸⁶ "French May Send Troops Into Chad," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 15, 1986, p. A19

¹⁸⁷ "Libya Used To Expose Terrorists," p. A13

¹⁸⁸ Anderson and Van Atta, "Libya's Role in Terrorism Documented," p. A4

¹⁸⁹ *IBID*

¹⁹⁰ *IBID*

¹⁹¹ *IBID*

¹⁹² *IBID*

¹⁹³ "PLO Linked to Raids At European Airports," compiled from Journal wires, Albuquerque Journal, Dec. 29, 1985, p. A8

¹⁹⁴ "Peres Dares West To Help Punish Terror," p. A7

¹⁹⁵ "Khadafy May Ask Soviets for Missiles," compiled from Journal wires, Albuquerque Journal, Feb. 12, 1986, p. A9

¹⁹⁶ "U.S. Uncovers 30 Libyan-Backed Terrorist Plots," Knight-Ridder, Albuquerque Journal, April 6, 1986, p. A3

¹⁹⁷ "Land-Based, Carrier Jets Flew in Raid," Chicago Tribune, Albuquerque Journal, April 15, 1986, p. A2

proclaimed 32 degree, 30 minute - Gulf of Sidra territorial waters, two Libyan patrol boats responded with hostile intent. U.S. carrier based aircraft destroyed one and damaged the second. They also knocked out a SAM battery after it challenged the aircraft by firing six missiles.¹⁹⁸ The next day, on the 25th, three additional patrol boats were dispatched in the direction of the U.S. fleet, and were either sunk or damaged.¹⁹⁹

15. On April 2, a TWA jet liner was sabotaged over Greece, killing four Americans. Washington suspected Libyan involvement.²⁰⁰

16. On April 5, a West German nightclub frequented by American servicemen was bombed. One serviceman was killed, 63 wounded, and approximately 140 civilians were also wounded. Libyan diplomats were linked with the attack.²⁰¹

17. On Thursday, April 9, the Italian Catholic bishop of Libya, Giovanni Martinelli; plus three priests from the Philippines, Malta, and Poland; and an Italian nun, were taken from their quarters in Benghazi.²⁰²

18. On Sunday, April 13, in anticipation of a U.S. attack, Khadafy ordered American and Western European civilians into locations considered prime military targets. He also offered \$100 million for six American hostages then-held in Lebanon by Moslem extremists.²⁰³

The Ships Of Kittim*

DANIEL 11:29 "At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south; but it shall not be this time as it was before. ³⁰ For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and give heed to those who forsake the holy covenant."

* (As historically established, Kittim refers to the island of Crete, and specifically to a seaport town that, in Daniel's day had the most powerful navy in the Mediterranean.)

On Monday, April 14, in response to the continued Libyan sponsored terroristic provocations, President Reagan ordered a direct attack on Libya. The U.S. naval carriers *America* and *Coral Sea* launched 15 A-6 and A-7 (medium bomber and light attack) aircraft, for a coordinated attack with 18 Air Force F-111 tactical bombers flying from England. The F-111's struck targets in Tripoli (including Khadafy's headquarters, a military airbase, and a terrorist training base); and the A-6 and A-7's struck targets in Benghazi (a command post and airbase).²⁰⁴ (This attack occurred before the American and European civilians could be deployed as human shields.) The attack against Khadafy's "headquarters" included his private residence. One of his children was killed in the residence, but Khadafy was in his 'prayer' tent on the lawn, unscathed.

Reagan's justification was based on two intercepted cables between the Libyan embassy in East Berlin and Khadafy's headquarters in Tripoli. The first was sent on April 4, advising Khadafy that a terrorist attack would occur the next day. The second cable was sent April 5, the day of the West

¹⁹⁸ "U.S. Forces Strike Against Libya," compiled from Journal wires, Albuquerque Journal, March 25, 1986, p. A1

¹⁹⁹ Karen DeYoung, "U.S. Gained From Operations, Admiral Says," Washington Post, Albuquerque Journal, March 27, 1986, P. A8

²⁰⁰ "Thatcher Ok's Bases for Libya Strike," A.P., Albuquerque Journal, April 13, 1986, p. A8

²⁰¹ *IBID*

²⁰² "Libya Moves Westerners Into Camps," compiled from Journal wires, Albuquerque Journal, April 14, 1986, p. A1

²⁰³ *IBID*

²⁰⁴ "Land-Based, Carrier Jets Flew in Raid," p. A2

Berlin disco bombing, advising Khadafy of the success ““which could not be traced to Libyan people.””²⁰⁵

The history of these events established four basic premises. The first was that the king of the north (the Soviet Union, through a Libyan front) would again return to play a disruptive role in world affairs. The second was that this presence would extend into the realm of the king of the south (the European airports, West Berlin disco, etc.). Thirdly, the Soviet’s previously successful intrigue (Nicaragua) would prove to be a dismal failure this time (by way of a highly successful U.S. military strike against Libya). And fourth, that this action should be by the “ships of Kittim. Each of these criteria were succinctly fulfilled.

The Disinformation Campaign

DANIEL 11:29 “At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south; but it shall not be this time as it was before. ³⁰ For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and give heed to those who forsake the holy covenant.”

The air attack against Libya was designed to overtly deter Libyan aggression and covertly kill Khadafy. During the months preceding the attack, the CIA conducted a sophisticated dis-information campaign which was designed to threaten and taunt Khadafy. Immediately after the attack, Khadafy fled into the vast expanse of Libyan desert in fear for his life, while meantime, the U.S. government was still keeping busy preparing a second dis-information campaign.²⁰⁶

JEWISH SYNAGOGUE MASSACRE -- (1986)

DANIEL 11:29 “At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south; but it shall not be this time as it was before. ³⁰ For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and give heed to those who forsake the holy covenant.

Within five months of the Libyan attack, a particularly egregious act of terrorism occurred against Istanbul, Turkey’s, main Jewish synagogue, the “Jews of Neve Shalom.” On Saturday, September 6, 1986, at 9:20 a.m., two attackers, in their 20’s, entered the synagogue shortly after the start of services. They locked the main door behind them, and standing 30 feet apart, started spraying the all-male congregation, young and old, with machine gun fire. They killed 21, wounded 4 (one seriously), and left one 17 year old unscathed (he pretended to be dead). They then poured gasoline over seven of the bodies, and set fire. Finally, they pulled the pins on their handgrenades, and blew themselves apart. Seven rabbis were among the dead, and Istanbul’s chief rabbi was wounded. The ten women upstairs were unharmed.

There was immediate widespread suspicion who these men were, and that “in such a well planned terrorist action that they had no accomplices.”²⁰⁷ It was speculated that their automatic weapons and grenades entered Turkey through diplomatic means,²⁰⁸ and although several groups claimed responsibility, Abu Nidal was the leading suspect. (As described previously; during 1985, Libya

²⁰⁵ “Cables to Khadafy Provided Evidence,” L.A. Times & Washington Post Service, Albuquerque Journal, April 15, 1986, p. A1

²⁰⁶ Seymour Hersh, “North Tries, Unsuccessfully, to Alter Plans for Raid on Libya,” The Kansas City Star, Feb. 27, 1987, p. 6B

²⁰⁷ “Gunmen’s Identities Stump Investigators,” A.P. - Istanbul, Turkey, Albuquerque Journal, Sept.9, 1986, p. A8

²⁰⁸ *IBID*

provided Abu Nidal a home base of operations which produced 33 attacks in which 90 people were killed and 350 wounded.) Fifteen months after this attack, an article in the U.S. News & World Report (without divulging the intelligence source) pointed to Abu Nidal as the culprit.²⁰⁹

While the entirety of this work demonstrates that Daniel is called to prophesy to the nations, in this context we find that this Jewish massacre crosses the limiting line of Jewish pertinence to become an internationally acknowledged event.

But the account of this event is not limited to this eleventh chapter of Daniel. It is also presented in the Daniel 8:11 & 12 commentary, (confirming the Soviet sponsorship of this horrific deed). When we explore this prophetic event even further, we find additional confirmation in the book of Psalms for that year of 1986.

PSALMS 86:14 "O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seek my life, and they do not set thee before them. 15 But thou, O Lord, art a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. 16 Turn to me and take pity on me; give thy strength to thy servant, and save the son of thy handmaid. 17 Show me a sign of thy favor, that those who hate me may see and be able put to shame because thou, Lord, hast helped me and comforted me."

Clearly, Daniel 11:30 and 8:11 & 12 refer to this same event. But the Psalms is a little different. The many chapters of Psalms are full of references to enemies, and calls for the thwarting of their misdeeds and misbegotten gains. Similarly, this defensive perspective has already been presented in context with the seventy 'years' of Jeremiah (Daniel 9). In verse 25 Daniel describes, and history documents, that the nation of Israel is built with "squares and moat" -- defensive fortifications. Likewise, it should come of no surprise that, with or without any specific prophetic significance that the book of Psalms could be randomly interpreted as presenting Israel's plea for God's favor against any one of the many onslaughts of "ruthless men."

But this Psalms 86 passage (for the year 1986) is more. In verse 16, the son of a "handmaid" is in jeopardy. In this verse, we find a plea for GOD's protection for that singular son. Once again, GOD provides a key clue for interpretative confirmation, and I again cite the Istanbul synagogue massacre and the fact that only one person was unscathed, -- a seventeen year old boy. (Ref. Dan. 8, "The Transgression That Makes Desolate - Neve Shalom")

CHINA - Tiananmen Square

DANIEL 11:32 "He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant; but the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action. 33 And those among the people who are wise shall make many understand, though they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plunder, for some days. 34 When they fall, they shall receive a little help. And many shall join themselves to them with flattery; 35 and some of those who are wise shall fall, to refine and to cleanse them and to make them white, until the time of the end, for it is yet for the time appointed."

²⁰⁹ Patricia Cullen Clark, "Washington Whispers -- Abu Nidal, Challenging Arafat," U.S. News & World Report, Nov. 30, 1987, p. 15

Perspective

In the scope of human affairs, governments have run the extremes, from espousing inherent God ordained 'human rights,' to denying any basic individual rights in deference to governmental goals and objectives. It is in this context that this first verse commences an extended scathing indictment of the nation of China.

Newspaper articles and investigative reporting still remind the world of the event in which peaceful protest by this country's young idealists was met with violence by a government willing to sacrifice compassion and tolerance for unbending rule. This event is known as Tiananmen Square, a populist gathering in the same location where in 1949 Mao proclaimed the defeat of the Chinese Nationalists and the founding of a "New China."²¹⁰

During the years 1981 to 1987, Hu Yaogang was General secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, and was viewed by the populous masses as being lenient towards intellectuals and students. His abrupt dismissal in January of 1987, by Deng Xiaoping (then chairman of the Party Central Military Commission (considered China's supreme leader), was a disconcerting event for those expecting greater liberalization of thought.

Upon his death in mid-April of 1989, a group of university students marched on Tiananmen Square to express dismay with the slow progress of political reform and were joined by thousands of other young idealists. Deng Xiaoping offered restrained response. However, after several more demonstrations, the April 26 official Party newspaper, *People's Daily*, accused the students of an "organized conspiracy to sow chaos."²¹¹

Tiananmen Square

During the following weeks, up to 150,000 students²¹² participated in various demonstrations. However, by the first few days of June, with students fully occupying Tiananmen Square and having issued the May 16 Declaration, the attention gained by this event was dealt with by force.

By the evening of June 3, under the shroud of darkness, soldiers started killing civilians.²¹³ By 06:15, the square had been cleared with the exception of about 50 people.²¹⁴ After the troops subdued the populous (some troops were sympathetic while others were oppressive and murderous), the Chinese government announced that "6,000 fully armed soldiers were killed and hurt..., while only 300 students and bystanders were killed by mistake."²¹⁵ Western analysts estimated that 200,000 troops were called to Beijing, partly to suppress the student revolt, but more significantly as leverage in a perceived internal power struggle.²¹⁶ Actual student/civilian deaths have never been independently verified.

Surprisingly, considering the instant world wide knowledge and recognition of this event, Tiananmen Square was a short lived experiment in civil liberties. Still today, recognized Chinese dissidents are

²¹⁰ John K. Fairbank, *Children of the Dragon*, Macmillan Publishing Co., NY, 1990, p. 11

²¹¹ Fairbank, p. 11

²¹² *IBID*, p. 11

²¹³ *IBID*, p. 126

²¹⁴ *IBID*, p. 174

²¹⁵ *IBID*, p. 204

²¹⁶ "Students Pledge To Hold Square," A.P., Beijing, *Albuquerque Journal*, May 29, 1989, p. A8

still being arrested and persecuted, and recently one, Liu Nianchun, has abruptly disappeared after overt government threats.²¹⁷

The U.S. State Department accuses China of “repressing dissenters and abusing prisoners” and bemoans “an unsatisfactory year on human rights.”²¹⁸ Sixty Minutes also reports on China’s systematic starvation of orphans,²¹⁹ but the Chinese government rigidly limits journalists and suppresses much information including forced prison labor, forced abortions, religious persecutions, and untold repressions.

According to Daniel, it appears that the rigidity of this Chinese government will endure “until the time of the end, for it is yet for the time appointed.”

SADDAM HUSSAIN -- (1970 -- 2006)

DANIEL 11:36 “And the king shall do according to his will; he shall exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak astonishing things against the God of gods. He shall prosper till the indignation is accomplished; for what is determined shall be done. ³⁷ He shall give no heed to the gods of his fathers, or to the one beloved by women; he shall not give heed to any other god, for he shall magnify himself above all. ³⁸ He shall honor the god of fortresses instead of these; a god whom his fathers did not know he shall honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. ³⁹ He shall deal with the strongest fortresses by the help of a foreign god; those who acknowledge him he shall magnify with honor. He shall make them rulers over many and shall divide the land for a price.”

Upon closely reading Daniel’s depiction, one is struck with the many facets of description. This passage offers approximately 15 clues to this ruler and his methods. Interestingly, there appears to be several historical circumstances that can be considered in determining the accuracy of the fulfillment.

Historical Perspective

The pro-western Hashemite dynasty ruled the country of Iraq from its inception in 1921, until a military coup by General Abd al-Karim Qassem in July 1958. Five years later Qassem was ousted, leaving the country racked with political turmoil for another five years until July 1968, when the Baath Arab Socialist Party gained control. Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr was President, but by early 1970, acting Vice President Saddam Hussain was already recognized as the “de facto ‘strong man in Bagdad.’” In July of 1979 Saddam accepted the post of President, albeit merely a formal gesture.²²⁰

Political Maneuverings - (1970 - 1990)

The sequence of milestones during Saddam’s reign are presented as follows:

1. In September of 1970, with Iraqi troops deployed in Jordan, Saddam prevented Iraqi involvement in clashes between the Jordanian military and the resident PLO.²²¹
2. In October of 1973, while Egypt and Syria combined forces for a concerted attack on Israel, Iraqi forces and support were uncommitted.²²²

²¹⁷ Susan Lawrence, “The Ghosts of Tiananmen,” U.S. News & World Report, June 5, 1995, p. 38

²¹⁸ “Chinese Official Appeals For Warmer Ties With U.S.,” Amarillo Globe, Apr. 20, 1996, p. 12A

²¹⁹ “Sixty Minutes,” CBS Television, broadcast Jan. 21, 1996

²²⁰ Lawrence Freedman, and Efraim Karsh, The Gulf Conflict, 1990 - 1991: Diplomacy and War in the New World Order, Princeton University Press, NJ, 1993, p. 29, 44

²²¹ Freedman, and Karsh, p. 19

3. In March of 1975, Saddam settled a longstanding Shatt Al-Arab waterway dispute with Iran by conceding to Iranian demands. This was adhered to by Saddam until the end of that decade.²²³
4. After the January 1979, overthrow of the Iranian Shah, Saddam made open expressions of welcome to ingratiate himself with this new Islamic regime. To his disappointment, there was no reciprocation.²²⁴
5. In March of 1979 Saddam hosted an all-Arab conference which resulted in Egypt's expulsion from the Arab League due to Sadat's peace agreement with Israel (signed on March 27, 1979²²⁵). One year later found Saddam courting Sadat in a successful coaxing for military support. Over time, Egypt developed into a key provider, and Saddam inturn worked tirelessly to restore Egypt's membership in the Arab League.²²⁶
6. In July of 1979, after Saddam assumed the office of the presidency he began a ruthless purge to suppress any potential challengers. "(H)undreds of party officials and military officers, some of whom were close friends and associates, perished."²²⁷
7. In the spring of 1980, Saddam publicly raised concerns that Iran was sponsoring unrest in the Iraqi Sunni, Shi'ite, and Kurdish factions. He clamped down on these Iraqi factions, publicly criticized the Ayatollah Khomeini, and extended assistance to Iranian separatist factions in Iran.²²⁸
8. In April of 1980, when Iranian operatives attempted to assassinate his Deputy Premier, Tariq Aziz, Saddam executed the Shi'ite religious leader along with hundreds of Shi'ite political prisoners, and deported 100,000 Shi'ites.²²⁹
9. On September 23, 1980, in an effort to effect control within his own populous, Saddam began a limited force and scope invasion of Iran. Five days after the assault, Saddam stopped his forces having made his point, and sought immediate peace negotiations. As the war dragged on, Saddam continued to explore any venue available to reconcile his government with the religious zealots in Tehran. Finally, eight years later in July of 1988, with Iran's military resources exhausted, they moderated their stance against Saddam and accepted a peace plan.²³⁰
10. In 1981, the Israeli's launched a precision air strike against the French designed nuclear reactor in Osiraq, leveling the facilities. (During the 1970's to late 80's the French had become Iraq's second largest trading partner, exchanging oil for military and consumer goods.) These facilities were carefully cultivated by Saddam both as a military nuclear 'equalizer' and the political icon of a significant regional power.²³¹

²²² *IBID*

²²³ *IBID*

²²⁴ Freedman, and Karsh, p. 20

²²⁵ The New York Times - Page One, p. 285

²²⁶ *IBID*, p. 21

²²⁷ *IBID*, p. 19

²²⁸ *IBID*, p. 20

²²⁹ *IBID*, p. 20

²³⁰ *IBID*, p. 21

²³¹ *IBID*, pp. 23, 24, 32

11. In the 1982 Fez Arab summit, Saddam joined other Arab leaders in the consensus that the states of Israel and Palestine could both exist. He later went even further and publicly supported “the existence of a secure state for the Israelis.”²³²
12. Starting in 1982, the U.S. sought to use Iraq against the Iranian government (partly in retribution for the 1980 to 1981 hostage crisis) by authorizing agricultural credits, providing satellite and communications information on Iranian troop movements, and indirectly supplying U.S. arms. By 1984, U.S./Iraqi diplomatic relations, severed during the 1967 Six Day War, were restored. By 1987, Iraq was receiving \$1 billion in agricultural credit, the largest U.S. loan to any country.
13. In 1985, Saddam offered \$700 million for Israel’s consensus to the laying of an oil pipeline from Iraq to Aqaba, Jordan.
14. In early 1987, news of the U.S. administration’s Iran-Contra arms for hostages (held in Lebanon) was made public. A few short months later, in May, an Iraqi Mirage attacked the U.S. frigate *Sark* with two Exocet missiles, killing 37 sailors. Apologies over “mistaken identity” were accepted.²³³
15. During the years 1988 to 1989, clearly four challenges were made to Saddam’s leadership. The first was a near mutiny by his military officers, openly challenging his ability to provide military strategy during the Iran/Iraq War. The second was a plan to shoot down his plane on the return leg of an Egyptian trip. A third coup attempt was aborted; and the fourth, an assassination attempt, was unsuccessful.²³⁴
16. In 1988, at the end of the Iran/Iraq war with the inherent impact on the Iraqi standard of living, Saddam, feeling compelled to demonstrate a “peace dividend,” liberalized the Iraqi political climate and economic system. He also continued his moderate foreign policies by using statesmanship to effect the formation of the Arab Co-operation Council, and by signing a non-aggression pact with Saudi Arabia.²³⁵
17. In December of 1988, Saddam joined Egypt’s Husni Mubarak in sponsoring the PLO’s recognition of Israel’s right to exist, in spite of Syrian opposition.
18. In September of 1989, British citizen Farzad Bazoft, a journalist for the British newspaper, the *Observer*, investigated an explosion in a military complex near Bagdad. He taken under arrest, and within six months he was tried, sentenced, and executed.

Over the course of the prior year, western intelligence noted significant conventional and nuclear weapons development. One of particular significance was a ‘supergun’ capable of launching artillery payloads as far as Israel and possibly into orbit. The Canadian large bore gun genius, Dr. Gerald Bull had been commissioned by Saddam to design and build this ‘supergun.’ Unfortunately for Dr. Bull, he was assassinated, (whether by agents of western or Israeli agencies is uncertain) after warnings not to complete the weapon’s construction.

²³² *IBID*, p. 21

²³³ Thomas B. Allen, and F. Clifton Berry, and Norman Polmar, *CNN: War in the Gulf*, Turner Publishing, Inc. Atlanta, GA, 1991, p. 49

²³⁴ Freedman, and Karsh, pp. 29-30

²³⁵ *IBID*, p. 22

Now with the execution of this journalist, Western governments seized Iraqi bound nuclear and conventional weapons components. Under a near circus of media cameras, British, Greek, and Turkey customs agents impounded crate after crate of Iraqi bound hardware.

19. Also, still in 1990, U.S. agricultural credits had exceeded \$1 billion, but Iraq was under investigation for trading these goods to other countries for arms (known as the Italian Banca Nazionale Lavoro --BLN -- scandal). In addition, increasing U.S. criticism was leveled at Saddam for ““gross violations of human rights.”” In response, Saddam denounced the U.S. Persian Gulf presence, and escalated anti-American sentiments.²³⁶
20. Still at this same time period, the Soviets were allowing a mass Jewish exodus to Israel, and secret meetings were being held between Israel and Syria which alarmed Saddam. Fearing a conspiracy, he warned Israel against attacking his scientific or military facilities (anticipating a replay of the 1981 raid against the Osiraq reactor, but this time against his super-gun and other capabilities), hinting at retaliation by chemical warheads. The Israelis responded by inferring a nuclear counterstrike. Saddam subsequently used several diplomatic channels to successfully defuse the rhetoric.²³⁷

The Cause & Course of The Persian Gulf War -- (1990 - 1992)

Problems continued to mount for Saddam in 1990. In 1980, at the beginning of the Iran/Iraq War, Saddam’s coffers held \$35 billion. Ten years later, after the war and spending lavishly on military resources, the Iraqi government was \$80 billion in debt and needed \$230 billion to rebuild Iraq’s economic infrastructure. His \$13 billion in oil revenues barely paid the military budget.²³⁸

Where at the start of 1990 oil was \$20.50 per barrel, the two countries of United Arab Emirate (UAE) and Kuwait contributed to 75% of oil over-production (a 24 million barrel per day production versus the 22 million barrel bench mark), as established by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). This excess drove the price down to \$18.00 within three months, costing Iraq \$2.5 billion in ‘lost’ revenues.²³⁹

After pleas and overt threats failed before the OPEC ministers, direct threats were targeted against Kuwait. On July 15, 1990, the Iraqi army was mobilized to the Kuwaiti border. At 01:00 on August 2 the attack was begun, supported by 140,000 troops and 1,800 tanks.²⁴⁰

The plan was to immediately seize the Emir’s seaside residence, the Dasman Palace, and the main royal palace in Kuwait City; and thereby capture the al-Sabah royal family. Thus, Saddam would have eliminated them as ““traitors or agents of ‘world imperialism,’”²⁴¹ and forced Kuwaiti subservience by puppet government. He could have withdrawn his troops within months if not weeks.²⁴²

Unfortunately for Saddam, the Emir had fled to fight for his throne, and what could have been an open and closed chapter in Middle Eastern history, ““turned into a feud between Iraq and almost the

²³⁶ *IBID*, pp. 26-28, 31

²³⁷ *IBID*, p. 32

²³⁸ *IBID*, p. 39

²³⁹ *IBID*, pp. 41, 46

²⁴⁰ *IBID*, p. 67

²⁴¹ *IBID*, p. 68

²⁴² *IBID*, p. 68

entire international community.”²⁴³ Initially, the Arab nations requested that the western powers leave this aggression to the Arabs. Accordingly, within a few days of the attack, the Arab League issued a statement of condemnation with little effect.²⁴⁴

Within hours of the invasion the United Nations began working on a resolution to demand immediate withdrawal, and unified international pressures were mounted against the Iraqi regime, with even the most reticent governments falling in line. The United Nations “Desert Shield” was deployed on August 8 with unprecedented international concurrence.

This new era of international cooperation yielded a coalition of 22 countries, with 695,000 troops, 1,695 combat aircraft, and 174 warships²⁴⁵ heading toward a January 17 early morning commencement of “Desert Storm” air offensives.

On Feb. 24, at 04:00, G-Day (ground offensive day) began. One hundred hours later the Iraqi forces were decimated, and President Bush declared a cessation of hostilities. Of the more than 290,00 Iraqi troops, 100,000 deserted, 65,000 became prisoners of war, and an estimated 3,000 were killed in action.²⁴⁶ Of U.S. forces, there were 108 non-hostile Desert Shield deaths from August to January, and 150 Desert Storm deaths for the 100 hour period.²⁴⁷ A total of 3,000 Iraqi T-55, T-62, and T-72 tanks were destroyed or captured.²⁴⁸ Of the 1,956 M1A1 U.S. tanks, four were damaged beyond repair and another four had repairable damage. The effectiveness of the U.S. coalition forces is best summed up in the following excerpt from the book: “CNN: War in the Gulf.”

“One M1A1 tank took two direct hits in the turret from a T-72. The Abrams crew was shaken, but their tank was still able to fight. The tank commander slewed his turret around, the gunner lased and fired, and they killed the T-72 that had hit them.”²⁴⁹

GOG & MAGOG, PERSIA, LIBYA, AND ETHIOPIA

DANIEL 11:40 “At the time of the end the king of the south shall attack& him; but the king of the north shall rush upon him like a whirlwind, with chariots and horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall come into countries and shall overflow and pass through. ⁴¹ He shall come into the glorious land. And tens of thousands shall fall, but these shall be delivered out of his hand: Edom and Moab and the main part of the Ammonites. ⁴² He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape. ⁴³ He shall become ruler of the treasures of gold and of silver, and all the precious things of Egypt; and the Libyans and the Ethiopians, shall follow in his train. ⁴⁴ But tidings from the east and the north shall alarm him, and he shall go forth with great fury to exterminate and utterly destroy many.”

& Heb. *thrust at*

EZEKIEL 38:10 “Thus says the LORD GOD: On that day thought will come into your mind, and you will devise an evil scheme ¹¹ and say, “I will go up against the land of unwalled villages; I will fall upon the quiet people who dwell securely,. all of them dwelling without walls,

²⁴³ *IBID*, pp. 68-69

²⁴⁴ *IBID*, p. 71

²⁴⁵ Allen, Berry, and Polmar, p. 97

²⁴⁶ *IBID*, pp. 213, 220, 221

²⁴⁷ *IBID*, pp. 216, 220

²⁴⁸ *IBID*, pp. 209, 213

²⁴⁹ *IBID*, pp. 212

and having no bars or gates”; 12 to seize spoil and carry off plunder; to assail the waste places which are now inhabited, and the people who were gathered from the nations, who have gotten cattle and goods, who dwell at the center of the earth. 13 Sheba and Dedan and the merchants of Tarshish and all its villages will say to you, “Have you come to seize spoil? Have you assembled your hosts to carry off plunder, to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to seize great spoil?” 14 Therefore, son of man, prophesy, and say to Gog, Thus says the LORD GOD: On that day when my people Israel are dwelling securely, you will bestir yourself^f 15 and come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great host, a mighty army; 16 you will come up against my people Israel, like a cloud covering the land. In the latter days I will bring you against my land, that the nations may know me, when through you, O Gog, I vindicate my holiness before their eyes.”

ⁱ Gk: Heb *Will you not know?*

Ezekiel 38 sets the stage for one of history’s more significant conflagrations. Gog is depicted as assembling its forces, being poised to “*seize spoil and carry off plunder,*” and Sheba, Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish confront Gog. But according to the eleventh chapter of Daniel, the king of the south goes beyond a verbal challenge, and thrusts at someone described as “*him.*” This “*him*” could either be in reference to the “*king of the north,*” who subsequently counter attacks, or this “*him*” could refer to another government, such as Iran, which might , effect intrigue in an unwalled (i.e., no credible military presence) like Iraq.

This future Soviet affrontation would probably be predicated upon a shift of Russian leadership to a strong-nationalist typical of Vladimir Putin.

The representative list of combatants include:

GEOGRAPHICAL IDENTITIES OF WESTERN ALLIES

Tribe/Country	Author’s Interpretation	Harpers Dictionary²⁵⁰	Eerdmans Dictionary²⁵¹	Interpreters Dictionary²⁵²
King of the South ^a	United Kingdom			
‘strong prince’ ^b	United States			
*Egypt ^c		Egypt	Egypt	Egypt
Sheba ^d		Yemen	Southern Arabia	N.W. Arabia S.W. Arabia
Dedan ^d		Arabia	Southern Arabia	N.W. Arabia
Merchants of Tarshish ^d	US & UK	Sea Traders	Great Wealth	Distant Paradise

^a Daniel eleventh chapter

^b Daniel 11:5

^c Daniel 11:43

²⁵⁰ Paul Achtemeier, Harpers Bible Dictionary, Harper & Row, San Francisco, CA, 1985

²⁵¹ Allen Meyers, The Eerdmans Bible Dictionary, Eerdmans Publishing Co, Grand Rapids, MI, 1987

²⁵² The Interpreter’s Dictionary Of The Bible, Abingdon Press, NY, 1962

^d Ezekiel 38:13

When this half of combatants is evaluated, we see the evidence of current Western geo-political alliances. Just as in the Persian Gulf war, the nations of the Arabian region were protected and defended by American, British, and French troops among others. It would appear that this profitable alliance will continue for one more conflict, but with apparently greater involvement and at a greater cost.

*Please note that it is not entirely clear whether Egypt will be allied with either the Western allies and suffer the convergence of Libya and Sudan, or whether Egypt will align itself with the attackers and suffer some type of defensive strike, possibly nuclear, by Israel.

GEOGRAPHICAL IDENTITIES OF SOVIET ALLIES

Tribe/Country	Author's Interpretation	Harpers Dictionary	Eerdmans Dictionary	Interpreters Dictionary
“him”	*Iraq			
King of the North ^e	Soviet Union			
Libyans ^f				
Ethiopians ^f	Sudan			
Gog ^g		north	Asia Minor, far north of Israel	north
‘land of Magog’ ^g - (fire - typical of Gog)		Unidentified	Unidentified	Southern Russia
Meshech ^g		Asia Minor	Unknown distant land	Ukraine
Tubal ^g		Unidentified	S.E. of Black Sea - Turkey, Russia, Iraq, Iran	Cappadocian area - Turkey political unit
Persia ^h		Iran	Iran	Iran
Cush ^h		Ethiopia	Sudan	Sudan
Put ^h		Libya	Libya	Libya
Gomer ⁱ		S. Russia	N. of Black Sea	Unidentified
Beth-togar’mah ⁱ - (Dead center Turkey)		Gurun, Turkey	N. of Palestine	Gurun, Turkey, due north of Palestine

^e Daniel eleventh chapter

^f Daniel 11:43

^g Ezekiel 38:2

^h Ezekiel 38:5

ⁱ Ezekiel 38:6

Once again, certain alliances present themselves. Clearly, the Soviet Union, Iraq, Iran, and Libya have tacit interests. But Ethiopia, cited in Daniel 11:43, should be presented in its historical context.

During Daniel's time that entire expanse immediately southeast of Egypt along the Red Sea was known as Ethiopia. Today, 2/3rds of that region is occupied by modern day Sudan, and the 1/3rd further southeast is today's Ethiopia. Thus, although Daniel called that region "Ethiopia," it's this author's expectation that he was referring to modern day Sudan.

Secondly, Turkey has been a member of NATO since the 1950's, but has sometimes been criticized for failing to meet all of NATO's expectations, being too cautious about not provoking its nearest and most ominous neighbor. This self preservation characteristic may either prove to manifest itself in allowing Soviet forces to pass through unimpeded, or there may be a political, religious, or social induced realignment of alliance.

And lastly, further evidence of these pending alliances can be discerned by news reports of nuclear weapon sales. A July 1992, Albuquerque Journal news article claimed that Iran purchased 3 nuclear weapons for \$500 million (either each or for all three, -- it was unclear), and an October 1992 article claimed that representatives of the Soviet Republic of Kazakhstan and Iran's defense minister, Akbar Torkan, finalized the July sale of 4 nuclear warheads.²⁵³ Subsequent to these reports, the Jerusalem Post reported that Iran had obtained an initial quantity of Soviet nuclear weapons prior to the already cited 1992 purchase, which were reportedly stored near Tehran, pending maintenance by Russian experts.²⁵⁴

*Please note that although current world events would intimate that Iraq would be the most likely candidate for a nation which would allow the massing of Soviet military forces, Iraq is not specifically identified by these prophetic passages, and this citation could apply to another country.

CHINA'S MILITARY MIGHT - Soviet Mortal Wound

DANIEL 11:44 "But tidings from the east and the north shall alarm him, and he shall go forth with great fury to exterminate and utterly destroy many."

EZEKIEL 38:18 "But on that day, when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, says the Lord GOD, my wrath will be aroused."

REVELATION 13:3 "One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth followed the beast with wonder."

During the concerted attack against the middle east by the Soviets and their allies, this king of the north is alarmed by tidings from the east -- Red China. As indicated, the Soviets will go forth to utterly destroy those behind this threat, but the prophecies of Ezekiel, starting at 38:17, describe a terrible price to be paid.

Please recall the Revelation 13 beast, having feet of the bear, body of the leopard, and head of the lion, and whose seven heads represent the world's seven empires: 1.) Babylonian/Chaldean; 2.) Medo/Persian; 3.) Hellenistic; 4.) Roman; 5.) United Kingdom; 6.) Soviet Union; and 7.) Red China. (Remember that the Anti-Christ is the eighth that arises out of the seven by the unity of the three end-time governments -- the Lion - U.K./U.S.; the Bear - Soviet Union; and the Leopard - Red China.) One of the seven heads of the beast is 'mortally wounded', that being the sixth head, the

²⁵³ Nick Ludington, "Iran Buys 4 N-Warheads, Rebels Say," A.P. - Washington, Albuquerque Journal, Oct. 13, 1992, p. A1

²⁵⁴ "Paper Reports Iran Has Nukes," Washington, Albuquerque Journal, April 10, 1998, p. A3

Soviet Union during this event. Then the U.N./Anti-Christ 10 nation alliance will 'heal' this militarily defeated nation, and allow the Soviet peoples to continue to be governed by their Soviet leadership.

As such, speculation would suggest that Mikhail Gorbachev would be a most likely candidate to emerge into the leadership of this 'revived' nation. Speaking at the Fulton, Missouri, college campus where Winston Churchill delivered his famous 1946 "Iron Curtain" speech defining the essence of the Cold War, former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev called for the creation of a new "global government...to eliminate force and prevent conflicts from developing into a worldwide conflagration (by) collective action by the world community."²⁵⁵

THE ANTI-CHRIST

DANIEL 11:45 "And he shall pitch his palatial tents between the sea and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, with none to help him."

REVELATION 13:1 "And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems upon its horns and a blasphemous name upon its heads. ² And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority. ³ One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth followed the beast with wonder."

REVELATION 13:11 "The I saw another beast which rose out of the earth; it had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. ¹² It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed."

REVELATION 17:11 "As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to perdition. ¹² And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. ¹³ These are of one mind and give over their power and authority to the beast; ¹⁴ they will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for his is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."

Revelation 17 describes the seven kings which represent the seven world empires. This eighth king, as described previously, belongs to the seven because he arises out of the last 'divided' kingdom, which is per the Revelation 13 beast. (That is: U.K./U.S. - Lion; U.S.S.R. - Bear; Red China - Leopard.) Again, the ten horns represent the current five member United Nations Security Council permanent members, plus the five additional nominees. (That is: U.K., U.S., France, U.S.S.R., China, -- and Japan, Germany, Brazil, Nigeria, and India.)

It must be noted that these nations which align themselves comprise the "first beast." This "first beast" is an Anti-Christ entity, whose dominion shall last 42 months (3 1/2 years). (Please note that although this beast shall have his 42 month dominion, the Lion/Bear/Leopard may have the full 42 month dominion, and the remaining seven nations may have participation for a shorter length of time.) But not to forget, there's also a second beast. This second beast appears to be the personage

²⁵⁵ Eric Harrison, "Gorabchev Advocates Strong U.N.," L.A. Times, Albuquerque Journal, May 7, 1992, p. A9

whom we identify as THE Anti-Christ, in whom Satan directly controls. It also appears that this second beast will come on the scene at some later point in the 42 month dominion.

Also, as Daniel 11:45 points out, this eighth king, the Anti-Christ first-beast and second-beast, will not use the United Nations building in New York City as its throne. Instead, *“he shall pitch his palatial tents between the sea and the glorious holy mountain,”* (most probably in Jerusalem). There, the Anti-Christ first-beast and second-beast shall rule over the whole earth, *“yet he shall come to his end, with none to help him.”*

DANIEL 12, -- THE CONCLUSION

THE END OF THE AGE

DANIEL 12 “At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time; but at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. ² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. ⁴ But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, until the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.”

DANIEL 2:44 “And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall its sovereignty be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand for ever; ⁴⁵ just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure.”

We finally arrive to the end of this age. The ‘stone’ cut by no human hand shall smite the image on its feet, and shall establish a kingdom which shall not only reign for 1,000 years on earth, but shall continue unto eternity.

QUESTIONS AND ANGELIC ANSWERS

DANIEL 12:5 “Then I Daniel looked, and behold, two others stood, one on this bank of the stream and one on that bank of the stream. ⁶ And I^h said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream, ‘How long shall it be till the end of these wonders?’ ⁷ The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream, raised his right hand and his left hand toward heaven; and I heard him swear by him who lives for ever that it would be for a time, two times, and half a time; and that when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to an end all these things would be accomplished. ⁸ I heard, but I did not understand. Then I said, ‘O my lord, what shall be the issue of these things?’ ⁹ He said, ‘Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed until the time of the end. ¹⁰ Many shall purify themselves, and make themselves white, and be refined; but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand; but those who are wise shall understand. ¹¹ And from the time that the continual burnt offering is taken away, and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. ¹² Blessed is he who waits and comes to the thousand three hundred and thirty-five days. ¹³ But go your way till the end; and you shall rest, and shall stand in your allotted place at the end of the days.’”

^h Gk Vg: Heb he

In this final chapter, Daniel presents two significant aspects. The first confirms the 3 1/2 year period which the Anti-Christ first-beast is allotted to work his will. This clock for this 3 1/2 years starts halfway through the seven year tribulation period, and presides over *the “shattering of the power of the holy people.”*

The second aspect concerns two time frames: the 1,290 days and the 1,335 days.

THE NUMBERED DAYS

DANIEL 12:11 “And from the time that the continual burnt offering is taken away, and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.¹² Blessed is he who waits and comes to the thousand three hundred and thirty-five days.¹³ But go your way till the end; and you shall rest, and shall stand in your allotted place at the end of the days.”

REVELATION 11:1 “Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told: ‘Rise and measure the temple of GOD and the altar and those And I will grant my two witnesses power to prophesy for one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.’”

As in any understanding of prophetic fulfillment, hindsight is usually most accurate. Foresight is prone to error. But having issued this ‘caveat emptor’ disclaimer, the following is presented for the readers consideration.

Concerning the these periods of time, we can evaluate the fact that the First Beast is destined to exert his authority for 3 1/2 years. As such, we can evaluate these dates in context with these 42 months:

42 MONTH ANTI-CHRIST FIRST-BEAST REIGN TIMETABLE

1,260 days = 3.450 years = 3 years, 5 months, 12 days* = - 18 days	Rev. 11:3
1,290 days = 3.532 years = 3 years, 6 months, 12 days = + 12 days	Dan. 12:11
1,335 days = 3.655 years = 3 years, 7 months, 26 days = + 7 weeks	Dan. 12:12
* Calculated at 365.25 days per year, and 30.44 days per month	

The postulation is as follows:

- The prophets will prophecy to the nations, and at the end of this 1,260 days the prophets will lie dead in the streets for 3 1/2 days. Although this approaches the ‘end,’ this is not the end, as the second and third woes are yet to come.

The 1,290 days spans the time from the setting up of the continual burnt offering and abomination to some unidentified milestone. Exercising the previous ‘caveat emptor’ disclaimer this writer presents the following hypothesis: This milestone is a date that can be referenced to the 42 month span of the Anti-Christ first-beast reign. These 1,290 days exceed that span by 12 days. It is proposed that this unidentified milestone extends beyond the end of the Anti-Christ’s reign into a post Anti-Christ era. This new era will last a total of 7 weeks. But 12 days into this era, a catastrophic international breakdown will culminate into ‘global nuclear war.’

- And finally, the 1,335 days exceeds the 42 month period by exactly 7 weeks. Once again, it can be speculated that the nuclear repercussions will prevail for an extended span of days (49 - 12 =

37) during which “*men will seek death and will not find it: they will long to die, and death will fly from them.*” (Ref. Rev. 9:6)

The blessing that accrues to the one who “*waits and comes to the thousand three hundred and thirty-five days,*” carries the implication of having physically survived to witness Christ’s return. This includes the 144,000 virgin Jews, (Ref. Rev. 7:3-8 and 14:1-5), and presumes to include those that have not taken the mark of the beast (Ref. Rev. 13:16-18).

The signing of the Peace Accord which recognized both Israel’s right to exist and the P.L.O. as the representative of the Palestinians, was signed on September 10, 1993. If this Fall, 1993 date is acknowledged as the start of the seven year tribulation period, then the mid point would be in the Spring of 1997, and the end is obviously in the Fall of the year 2000. As presented, Christ’s return would occur seven weeks after the Fall 1993 date -- approximately late Fall/early Winter of the year 2000.

It must be pointed out that this late Fall/early Winter is an artificial date, only pertinent to historians. As addressed in the Daniel 8 “2,300 Days” presentation, Mikhail Gorbachev’s tenure was actually 2,321 days, but GOD knew that Gorbachev’s administration required a learning curve before becoming effective. Likewise, it is argued that although the Israeli/Palestinian Peace Accord was actually signed on September 10, 1993, GOD knows the hearts of the leaders, and as only GOD knows the hearts of men, only HE can assign HIS date.

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