

THE FOUR BEASTS OF DANIEL 7

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16.1.16

Prophecy is a bit challenging. What do all of the scriptural symbols mean?

A popular view of prophecy is to focus on Europe and Rome. The Continent of Europe is post Christian. We are past the Christian period for Europe. Has anything really really changed in the last 50 years? Europe no longer looks like it will be playing a major part in end-time events.

If it's not Rome or Europe ... who could it be? Islam is a major religious force on earth ... one quarter of the world's population (1.67 billion) are Muslims. Islam has a prime directive ... to convert everyone to Islam and Sharia law.

In terms of activity ... threats ... the will ... Islam fits the bill.

This week ... bombings and killings in Istanbul ... Jakarta ... Burkina Faso ... all done by Islamic militants.

We are not just "reading" Islam into the scriptures ... the Bible itself points us to and directs us to these Islamic countries. Look in Daniel 2 and the statue is Iraq, Iran ... Greece and Turkey (Javan ... Western Turkey). All are Islamic.

Sometime soon ... Iran is going to war ... with a counter-attack by Turkey. (Daniel 8 ... The Ram and He Goat are Islamic countries)

Isaiah 13:1 (NKJV)

1 The burden against **Babylon** (Iraq) which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw.

Isaiah 15:1 (NKJV)

1 The burden against **Moab**. (Jordan ... Islamic)
Because in the night Ar of Moab is laid waste
And destroyed,
Because in the night Kir of Moab is laid waste
And destroyed,

Isaiah 17:1 (NKJV)

1 The burden against **Damascus**. (Capital of Syria ... Islamic)
"Behold, Damascus will cease from being a city,
And it will be a ruinous heap.

Isaiah 19:1 (NKJV)

1 The burden against **Egypt**. (Islamic)
Behold, the Lord rides on a swift cloud,
And will come into Egypt;
The idols of Egypt will totter at His presence,
And the heart of Egypt will melt in its midst.

Isaiah 21:13 (NKJV)

13 The burden against **Arabia**. (Islamic)
In the forest in Arabia you will lodge,
O you traveling companies of Dedanites.

Isaiah 23:1 (NKJV)

1 The burden against **Tyre**. (Lebanon ... Islamic)
Wail, you ships of Tarshish!
For it is laid waste,
So that there is no house, no harbor;
From the land of Cyprus it is revealed to them.

Daniel 9:25-27 (NKJV)

25 "Know therefore and understand,

That from the going forth of the command
To restore and build Jerusalem

Until Messiah the Prince,

There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; (weeks =
Shabua)

The street shall be built again, and the wall,
Even in troublesome times.

26 "And after the sixty-two weeks

Messiah shall be cut off, (Christ's crucifixion) but not for Himself;

And the people of the prince who is to come

Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. (The Prince who is to
come ... The antichrist)

The end of it shall be with a flood,

And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

27 Then he shall confirm a covenant with many (the Jews) for one
week; (7 years ... 1 week)

But in the middle of the week

He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. (He ... the
antichrist)

And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate,

Even until the consummation, which is determined,

Is poured out on the desolate." (sacrifices are stopped ... the
abomination being installed)

NB: In Islam ... they say their Mahdi (redeemer, world leader) will
bring in a 7 year period of peace at his return.

Daniel 9:26 (NKJV)

26 "And after the sixty-two weeks

Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself;

And the people of the prince who is to come (the antichrist)

Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.

The end of it shall be with a flood,
And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

So who destroyed the Sanctuary and the City? If we can identify those ... we can see where the "prince" will come from. General Titus, a Roman, was in charge of the campaign but the slaughter and destruction were carried out by Roman Legions V, X, XII, XV. Although called Roman soldiers and Roman legions ... they were in fact ... local conscripts. In the main from Arabia, Syria, Egypt (Islamic countries today). So the "prince to come" will likely be Islamic ... I would guess Syria.

The Bible itself shows that Romans don't need to necessarily come from Rome.

Acts 22:24-29 (NKJV)

24 the commander ordered him (Paul) to be brought into the barracks, and said that he should be examined under scourging, so that he might know why they shouted so against him.

25 And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said to the centurion who stood by, "Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman, and uncondemned?"

26 When the centurion heard that, he went and told the commander, saying, "Take care what you do, for this man is a Roman."

27 Then the commander came and said to him, "Tell me, are you a Roman?"

He said, "Yes."

28 The commander answered, "With a large sum I obtained this citizenship."

And Paul said, "But I was born a citizen."

29 Then immediately those who were about to examine him withdrew from him; and the commander was also afraid after he found out that he was a Roman, and because he had bound him.

Paul was born in Tarsus (South East Turkey) ... he was a Jew ... a Benjamite ... an Hebrew of the Hebrews. So ... not actually from Rome or Europe. So ... therefore ... the legions may have been "Roman Legions" ... "Roman Soldiers". This was a label they carried but ethnically ... they were Syrian, Arabian, Egyptians (Islamic countries today).

Isaiah 28:14-15 (NKJV)

**14 Therefore hear the word of the Lord, you scornful men,
Who rule this people who are in Jerusalem,
15 Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death,
And with Sheol we are in agreement.**

When the overflowing scourge passes through,
It will not come to us,
For we have made lies our refuge,
And under falsehood we have hidden ourselves."

Isaiah 28:18-19 (NKJV)

**18 Your covenant with death will be annulled,
And your agreement with Sheol will not stand;
When the overflowing scourge passes through,
Then you will be trampled down by it.**

19 As often as it goes out it will take you;
For morning by morning it will pass over,
And by day and by night;
It will be a terror just to understand the report."

Daniel 7:1-14 (NKJV)

1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts.

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

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

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

5 "And suddenly **another beast, a second, like a bear.** (Medo-Persia ... Iran ... The Ram of Daniel 8 ... Islamic) It was raised up on one side, **(so one side was higher than the other like one horn was higher than the other on the Ram ... Daniel 8)** and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. **(Were the ribs pointing in different directions ... north, south and west? As mentioned in Daniel 8)** And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'

6 "After this I looked, and there was **another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. (Airborne attack??) The beast also had four heads, (4 nation confederacy??) and dominion was given to it.** (Greece ... Javan ... or rather Turkey ... Islamic)

7 "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, **a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; (Islamic Realm? Rome?) it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.** (Traditionally ... The Church of God has understood that to be 10 resurrections of the Roman Empire. Identities of each horn can be found in some old articles ... though not all that persuasive?)

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

9 **"I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated;**

His garment was white as snow,

And the hair of His head was like pure wool.

His throne was a fiery flame,

Its wheels a burning fire;

10 A fiery stream issued

And came forth from before Him.

A thousand thousands ministered to Him;

Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him.

The court was seated,

And the books were opened.

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

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

13 "I was watching in the night visions,

And behold, One like the Son of Man, (Jesus)

Coming with the clouds of heaven!

He came to the Ancient of Days,

And they brought Him near before Him.

14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,

That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion,

Which shall not pass away,

And His kingdom the one

Which shall not be destroyed.

If we identify the fourth beast as Rome ... we have our "old problem" that Rome did not "break in pieces ... crush and pulverise" the other nations. Yet verse 7 tells us the terrible beast does do that ... and Islam fits that description perfectly.

Daniel 7:15-18 (NKJV)

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

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

17 **'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which shall arise out of the earth. (All of this is future)**

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