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**Seven Heads
Ten Horns
and their
History**

(2019)

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Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Seven Heads, Ten Horns, and their History.

Topics.

- A beast with ten horns and seven heads. (Rev. 13:1-3).
- A leopard, a bear, and a lion.
- The beast that that was, and is not, and is about to rise. (Rev. 17:8).

A BEAST WITH TEN HORNS AND SEVEN HEADS

REVELATION 13:1-3

- **Revelation 13:1-3:** And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. ²And 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. ³One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth marveled as they followed the beast.

The seven heads refer to seven great powers of the world that are separated from the ten world powers represented by the horns (called kings, Rev. 17:12). The seven heads of John's vision symbolise seven great world kingdoms that have had a major influence upon Israel. They are:

1. Egypt.
2. Assyria.
3. Babylon.
4. Media Persia.
5. Greece.
6. Rome.
7. The final global antichristian ten horned beast powers.

This vision strongly resembles Daniel's vision in chapter seven. There Daniel saw four great beasts different from each other rising-up in succession from the great sea that four winds of heaven had stirred up (Dan. 7:2-3), signifying the four nations springing up out of a state of commotion, disorder, and anarchy. In Daniel's vision, the ten refers the last period of world power, that rises-up out of the fourth kingdom (Rome) which is, connected with and reaches forward to the seventh and final head of the beast, as the following verse shows.

- **Revelation 17:12:** 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. (The eighth beast).

In chapter seventeen the angel tells John that the beast he saw is seven kings, five who have fallen, one is and the other has not yet come, and when he does come, he will remain for only a short while. (Rev. 17:10). The following list, shows who the seven kings of John's vision are; who the five that have fallen refer to; who the fourth kingdom of Daniel's vision is and who the one to come refers to.

The first of the seven is:

1. **Egypt (fallen):** is the first great power of John's vision, that had major influence over the people of Israel. The Hebrew people were in bondage to Egypt for over four hundred years, and when God by mighty plagues bought them out of Egypt a nation (Israel) was born.
2. **Assyria (fallen):** is the second great power of John's vision, that had major influence over the people of Israel. Assyria's armies invaded the land of Samaria and overthrew the ten tribes of Israel dwelling there and ruled over them.
3. **Babylon (fallen):** is the third great power of John's vision, and the first world kingdom, that Daniel saw in his vision of the iron man symbolised by his head of gold (Dan. 2:32) (Dan. 2:37) and a lion that had eagle wings, that were torn off (Dan. 7:4), meaning it could not fly or stand up, to arise again on its feet, but had to be lifted-up by others and once standing again it was given the mind of a man (v17-18). The inhabitants of Jerusalem and of the land of Judah had become so corrupt God used Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon as His servant to bring His judgment upon Jerusalem, and the land of Judah. The armies of Babylon invaded Jerusalem burned the city destroyed the temple and took the people captive for seventy-years. (Jer. 25:8-9).
4. **Media Persia (fallen):** is the fourth great power of John's vision, and the second world kingdom, that Daniel saw in his vision of the iron man symbolised by his silver chest and silver arms (Dan. 2:32) (Dan. 2:39), and by a ferocious bear destroying and conquering multitudes of nations. (Dan. 7:17-18). Media existed as a kingdom in its own right prior to Persia, but Cyrus the Great king of Persia toppled the Median rulers and turned Media into the Kingdom of Persia. The LORD not only called Cyrus the king of Persia His anointed shepherd and called him by name, but also equipped Cyrus for battle (Isaiah 45:1, 28). Added to this the LORD says, even though Cyrus (a secular king) does not know Him, He will go before him (Isaiah 45:2-3). Cyrus invaded and defeated Babylon and gave Israel written permission to return to their homeland and rebuild their beloved city Jerusalem and the temple of God.
5. **Greece (fallen):** is the fifth great power of John's vision, and the third world kingdom, that Daniel saw in his vision of the iron man symbolised by the middle and thighs being bronze (Dan. 2:32) (Dan. 2:39), and by a leopard with four heads (i.e., four kings over four kingdoms) and four wings on its back with enormous governing authority and ruling power, influence, and control. (Dan. 7:17-18). Media Persia fell to Alexander the Great after which the empire of Greece became firmly fixed under his control, and the city of Alexandria grew into one of the greatest cities of the ancient world. Alexandria's death created enormous problems, because there were no plans for a succession, so his empire went to the four strongest generals who were:
 1. Ptolemy 1 the King of Egypt.
 2. Cassander King of Macedonia.
 3. Lysimachus King of Thrace.
 4. Seleucus I, King of Syria.

Although Alexander is not named in the Bible, he is described prophetically in Daniel chapter eight as the great horn between the he-goat's eyes. (Dan. 8:5-8) (Dan. 8:20-22).

6. **Rome (one is):** is the sixth great power of John's vision, and the fourth world kingdom, that Daniel saw in his vision of the iron man symbolised by his legs, feet, and toes, (Dan. 2:33) (Dan. 2:40-41) (Dan. 2:42-43). It, is said to be different from the previous kings and their kingdoms, in that it appears terrifying and exceedingly strong. It

had ten horns and iron teeth and anything it did not destroy with its teeth it crushed with its feet. (Daniel 7:7). This is the legs, feet, and toes that Daniel saw in his vision in chapter two which was Rome the fourth world kingdom (Dan. 2:40-41) (Dan. 2:42-43). The legs of iron continue down to the feet and ten toes mixed with iron and clay, which signifies that the final beast is Rome with all its affiliated nations and Papal power extending on through history to the last days when it will in some form rise again as the final world power. The early history of the small, but powerful city-state of Rome began with its gradual domination of Mediterranean powers, especially many of the states and nations of Greece. They built up their empire between the 3rd century BC and the 3rd century AD., and at Rome's height the Empire stretched from North-Western Europe to the Near East and encompassed all the lands of the Mediterranean.

Rome and Religion: Roman state religion was considered the formal link between men and the gods. Their religion was a type of contract between Rome and the highest god amongst all their gods. They held that their highest god would look after Rome's security and progress, providing the state looked after the god's needs by supplying the proper sacrifices and worship. Now here in (Rev.13:2) John sees a ten-horned beast rise-up out of the sea, like a leopard, a bear and a lion which are all symbols of Daniels vision with the leopard symbolizing Greece, the bear Media Persia, and the Lion Babylon. The natural idea, therefore, in this passage, is that in the latter days power that is represented by the beast would spring up among the nations, when the world is restless and unsettled, like the waves of the ocean.

7. **The final world power (still to come):** is the seventh great power of John's vision symbolised by the ten horns of the beast and is the sixth world kingdom, that Daniel saw in his vision of the iron man symbolised by his ten toes. Counting from Babylon the first kingdom of Daniels vision Rome is the fourth Kingdom, counting from Egypt the first kingdom of John's vision, Rome is the sixth kingdom (falling one short of God's perfect number seven). In John's vision Rome, is the successor of the five that had fallen (Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Media-Persia, and Greece). All these great world-kingdoms were of the same mind and the same spirit in that they were all founded in unrighteousness (i.e., all worshipped pagan gods and were in violation of Gods law).

In the previous chapter: these beast kingdoms are collectively pictured as a great red dragon (Rev. 12:3), with seven royal heads, symbolising that they are of the same antichristian spirit and aggressively hostile toward Israel, and by extension the church. Historically Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Media Persia, Greece, and Rome were all major capital cities and empires of the world. Both Daniel and John's vision highlight the truth, that that the spirit of the dragon has flowed through history and will continue to do so from generation to generation until its evil power climaxes in the latter days of the final antichristian beast kingdoms, and the stone that was cut from a mountain by no human hand (the Lord Jesus Christ), breaks in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold and brings all these kingdoms to an end, after which God's Kingdom which will never be destroyed will stand forever. (Daniel 2:44-45). The seven heads are:

1. Egypt.
2. Assyria.
3. Babylon.
4. Media Persia.
5. Greece.
6. Rome.
7. The ten toes (a mixed empire).

These seven heads are all full of blasphemous names since they all worshipped idols and pagan gods and were aggressively hostile toward God's people Israel. In Daniel's vision Rome is counted as the fourth kingdom for his vision starts at the head of the image which was gold and symbolises Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. In John's vision in Revelation chapter thirteen, Rome is counted as the sixth kingdom for his vision begins at the first world empire which was Egypt. We know that Rome is built upon seven hills and that in Daniel's vision, the legs of the image symbolise Rome, which means that the empire of Rome flows down to the ten toes, prophetically this carries the idea that Rome in some form and shape will rise again as ten nations (or an alliance of ten sovereign nations or countries, (perhaps something like NATO today), and these ten will form the final world empire. The feet and toes of the great image are partly of iron and partly of clay, signifying that latter day ten horned empire would be made up of some strong nations and some weaker nations. (Dan. 2:33) (Dan. 2:42).

The ten toes: some commentators have supposed that the ten horns refer to ten kingdoms, that arose after the fall of the Roman empire, the problem with this idea is that should that be the case they would be accurately known, but a careful study shows that this is not so, there are more than twenty different lists given by various commentators and interpreters. Added to this there has been no kingdom or empire of nations on earth that has fully fulfilled all that is spoken of concerning this ten-horned beast. Following is a far more fitting and likely scenario. The two legs of iron symbolise that the Roman Empire would be divided into two branches, being the Eastern and Western empires. The ten toes (five on each foot) signify that each branch of the Roman Empire would consist of five kingdoms. The heart of the Eastern Empire (also called the Byzantine Empire) is modern day Turkey with its capital in Constantinople (formerly Byzantium) now modern-day Istanbul. Thought there are various ideas who these kingdoms are, the four most likely scenarios are:

The first scenario: supposes that the five kings from the Western Roman Empire embraces the following countries:

1. Britain
2. France
3. Spain (or the whole Iberian Peninsula, including Portugal)
4. Italy
5. Germany

While the five kings from the Eastern Roman Empire embraces:

1. Turkey
2. Greece
3. Syria
4. Egypt (including part of Sudan)
5. Libya

One of the kings from one of these kingdoms is the 11th horn who we now know will be the man of lawlessness (man of sin in KJV) who the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. (2 Thess. 2:8).

The second scenario: there are around two hundred nations that are part of the United Nations, for these nations to submit to only ten kings, seems hardly likely, for this reason many today believe the ten kings symbolise ten regions with one designated leader representing their region, mimicking the Roman Empire. The final makeup of the ten regional unions could be something like the following:

1. European Union.
2. Eastern European Union.
3. North American Union.
4. South American Union.
5. Central American/Caribbean Union.
6. Middle Eastern/North African Union.
7. African/Sub-Saharan Union.
8. South and Central Asian Union.
9. Eastern and South-eastern Asian Union.
10. Asian Pacific Union.

The third scenario: supposes that the ten regions will unite the entire world under a single form of government embracing the following:

1. The European union.
2. The Mediterranean union.
3. The African union.
4. The union of south American nations.
5. The Slavic union.
6. The gulf cooperation council.
7. The south and south east Asian association.
8. The north American union.
9. The Caribbean community.
10. The Arab league.

The fourth scenario: supposes that the ten horns, symbolise the following ten countries:

1. Spain
2. Portugal
3. France
4. Britain
5. Austria
6. Italy
7. Luxemburg
8. Switzerland
9. Belgium
10. Netherlands

All ten working in concert with each other to bring about a New World Order for the survival of the planet and humanity and to bring justice and peace to all countries. Any one of these scenarios (or something similar) will form the global New World Order in the latter days. It will be a self-appointed organisation that is most likely composed of scientists, economists, businessmen, international high civil servants, heads of state and former heads of state from all continents. They will deal with a variety of international political issues and will be convinced that the future of humankind must be controlled for the survival of the planet and the human population and for the establishment of permanent justice and peace.

This New World Order of ten regions with one designated leader representing their region, will replace the old form of Government with a form of government that will not only have controlling power at a global level, but also have the power to enforce laws across all countries in the world. (Mimicking the Roman Empire). To achieve this ideal global sovereignty, individual and independent nations must be destroyed and replaced with a form of government that will have:

- Control over the world's natural wealth to assure equal access and distribution for all the countries.
- Control at a global level of bank institutions, the financial international organizations, and foreign investments.

- Control at a federal and regional level, control of external relations with various countries and nations, and control of international trade practices by the member states.
- Control over its own economic and military institutions to intervene anywhere in the world to re-establish peace and democracy.
- Control over agents that it can use around the world to frequently create crises.
- Control of people in high positions of the media to promote the crisis and create confusion and fear to bring an end to the old and open the way for the new.

The future New World Order regimes will occupy the highest political, financial, and religious positions in the world. No one should think that chaos, especially the present chaos in Europe, will prevent the New World Order from bringing about this final world empire, since it is a principle of life that the New World Order understands very clearly that chaos is necessary to justify making the changes that are needed to achieve a required end.

David Rockefeller wrote: some even believe we are part of a secret cabal working against the best interests of the United States, characterizing my family and me as 'internationalists' and of conspiring with others around the world to build a more integrated global political and economic structure—one world, if you will. If that is the charge, I stand guilty, and I am proud of it." (Taken from David Rockefeller, Memoirs, p. 405). Throughout most of human history, political organization has been at a tribal, city and state level, and in more recent centuries a subcontinental level, however, now with the advent of superior transportation, weapons, and instant worldwide communication there is for the first time the ability for a union of member states to organize at a worldwide level. As the pieces of the New World Order fall slowly but steadily into place, it will become clear that its pattern of government will be according to how the Roman Empire governed its vast empire.

The ten horns: (v4) horns are emblems of power and denote that the dragon in some respects represented ten combined powers. The picture is of a wild beast (the dragon), representing a concentrated single hostile form with all the antichristian forces and power and authority of successive empires that have opposed or oppressed the people of God, and sought to destroy their efforts for good. All evil has its root in a spirit that is at enmity with God, therefore, the dragon symbolises all the sovereignties and powers which have been influenced and guided by that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world. (Rev. 12:9) (Rev. 20:2).

A LEOPARD, A BEAR, AND A LION

The ten-horned beast with seven heads, had the appearance of:

- A Leopard.
- A bear.
- A lion. (Rev. 13:1-3).

These are an allusion to Daniels vision of the metal statute and its feet and the ten toes in Daniel chapter two, and John's vision in Revelation chapter seventeen. Daniels vision of the metal statute and its feet and the

ten toes (Dan. 2:36-45) embraces the entire history of the world as it affects Israel and God's final destruction of the kingdoms of this world and the return of Christ in glory.

NOTE: Daniel 2 is the same as John's vision in Revelation 17 except Daniel starts at Babylon and John starts at Egypt.

Egypt: is not included here in chapter thirteen or in (Dan 7), but it is the first fallen king in (Rev. 17:10).

Assyria: is not included here in chapter thirteen or in (Dan. 7), but it is the second fallen king in (Rev. 17:10). The vision of Daniel (Dan. 2:36-45) starts at Babylon.

1. Babylon is the first head of GOLD. (Dan. 2:38).

- Identified as gold in (Dan. 2:38).
- Identified as a lion in (Dan. 7:4).
- Identified as the third king fallen in (Rev. 17:10).

2. Media Persia is the second head of SILVER. (Dan. 2:32).

- Identified as silver in (Dan. 2:32).
- Identified as a bear in (Dan. 7:5).
- Identified as the fourth fallen king fallen in (Rev. 17:10).

3. Greece is the third head of BRASS in (Dan. 2:39)

- Identified as brass in (Dan. 2:9).
- Identified as a leopard with four heads in (Dan. 7:6).
- Identified as the fifth king fallen in (Rev. 17:10).

This entire beast system is the Great Red Dragon in (Rev. 12:3).

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4. Rome is the fourth head of IRON in (Dan. 2:40).

- Identified as iron in (Dan. 2:40).
- Identified as a beast with iron teeth and ten toes in (Dan. 7:7, 23).
- Identified in as the sixth head (or king) in (Rev. 17:10).

After this fourth head Daniel sees the feet and toes of this statue partly of Iron and partly of soft clay. (Dan. 2:41-43). The ten toes (ten horns in Rev.12:3) (Rev.13:1) Rev.17:3, 7, 12, 16) symbolise ten latter day kingdoms.

After seeing the ten toes Daniel says:

- **Daniel 2:44-45:** In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever, ⁴⁵just 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 after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure."

In Revelation the spirit of the beast and his kingdom is of irreconcilable antagonism to Christ, this is not a new image; Daniel in his vision saw four great beasts (symbolizing four kings), which history shows were:

1. Babylon.
2. Media Persia.
3. Greece.
4. Rome.

These kingdoms would be different from all previous kingdoms and devour the whole earth and trample nations down, and break them to pieces. Daniel predicted that out of this fourth kingdom (Rome) ten kings would

arise, and out of them another (the man of lawlessness (man of sin in KJV), who would be different from rulers of the previous kingdoms in that he will speak blasphemous words against God. However, God will judge this final ten horned empire, and destroy its dominion and greatness, that it has under the whole of heaven. After this judgment the kingdom of men will become the Kingdom of God, and be an everlasting kingdom. (Dan. 7:17-27).

THE BEAST THAT THAT WAS, AND IS NOT, AND IS ABOUT TO RISE

REVELATION 17:8

- **Revelation 17:8:** The beast (with seven heads and ten horns) that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come.

The beast that was: most scholars agree, John wrote the book of Revelation, in 96 A.D., and Rome was destroyed in 70 A.D., so prior to the time of John writing the book of Revelation, Rome was a great empire. This means, the expression, "the beast that was," refers to Rome.

The beast that was not: at the time John was given the vision of Revelation the empire of Rome was destroyed. This means, the expression, "the beast that was not," also refers to Rome.

The beast about to rise: later Rome rose again, but not in its ancient secular form, but in the form of the Roman Papal Church, which means the expression, "the beast about to rise," also refers to Rome.

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The ten-horned beast: (ten toes in Daniels vision), signifies the final antichristian beast nations that arise out of the ancient empire of Rome. Daniel sees Christ at the end of the age crushing the ten toes, whereas John sees Christ at the end of the age crushing the ten horns, which means the ten toes, signify the same beast empire as the ten horns.

The seven heads: symbolise seven great world kingdoms. The foundation of the seven heads is the dragon that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world. (Rev. 12:9) (Rev. 20:2). Upon this foundation the following seven major world kingdom that have had a major influence upon Israel arose:

1. Egypt (the first of the seven heads).
2. Assyria (the second of the seven heads).
3. Babylon (the third of the seven heads).
4. Media Persia (the fourth of the seven heads).
5. Greece (the fifth of the seven heads).
6. Rome (the sixth of the seven heads).
7. The final ten beast nations (the seventh of the seven heads).

In Daniels vision (Dan. 2:36-45) Rome is pictured as the legs of the great metal image and the ten-horned beast is represented as ten toes. (Dan. 2:41-43). The feet and toes are an extension of the legs, which means that in the latter days these ten toes of Daniels vision or the ten horned

beast nations of Johns vision will embrace the nations of the ancient Roman Empire, and nations aligned with them, and form the final global antichristian beast empire.

In chapter seventeen we read, the seven heads are:

- Seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he does come he must remain only a little while. (Rev. 17:10).

NOTE: it is not necessary to think the ten horned beast empire will be limited to ten nations only, for the following reason. The book of Revelation is very symbolic, no one believes there will be a literal beast with ten horns, or a literal two horned beast that speaks like a lamb, which means the number ten can also be taken symbolically, especially since the number ten signifies, completeness, and as such can be taken to symbolize this final ten horned beast empire, completes God's plan for our world as we know it, and prepares the way for Christ's return.

For further information concerning, "the seven heads and ten horns."

- See the notes following Revelation 13:1-3 (above).

FOOTNOTE

What I have presented here in this document should not be taken to be dogmatic, inflexible or the final word on the matter since I am fully aware greater understanding of God's revelation is continually becoming clearer before our eyes as we move closer to the time of Christ's glorious return in glory.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
