# The Revelation of Jesus Christ

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- I have been using the term "antichrist" in our study, but in truth the term is never used in Revelation. It is always "the beast".
- Antichrist should be understood as a false, or pseudo Christ, and John did use the term elsewhere.
- 1st John 2:18 Dear children, the last hour is here. You have heard that the Antichrist is coming, and already many such antichrists have appeared. From this we know that the last hour has come.
- 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:3 But if someone claims to be a prophet and does not acknowledge the truth about Jesus, that person is not from God. Such a person has the spirit of the Antichrist, which you heard is coming into the world and indeed is already here.

 Make no mistake about it, the world is looking for someone who can bring all the nations of the world together for the common good of man.

• It is also true that the Evil One is using the legitimate desires of mankind to move the world to a place where he can step in and use his political power to control people, and demand their worship.

 The human movements toward such a "utopia" have been accelerating over our lifetimes.

Daniel 7, 8, and 11 describes the coming world ruler as being an exceptional man.

A politician like we've never seen.

A orator such as we've never heard.

An economic wizard beyond what we've ever experienced.

And one possessing an intellect that dwarfs that of others.

- Daniel 7:7 After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, <u>a fourth beast</u>, dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great boasts.
- Rev 17:9 Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits, 10 and they are seven kings; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while.
- The fourth beast is the Roman Empire the one that was when John was writing The Revelation of Jesus Christ.

- Egypt
- Assyria
- Babylon (Time of Daniel)
- Medo-Persia
- Greece
- Rome (4<sup>th</sup> beast)
- End Time Confederacy

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#### HEAD OF GOLD KINGDOM OF BABYLON

#### CHEST & ARMS OF SILVER

KINGDOM OF MEDES & PERSIANS

#### BELLY & THIGHS OF BRONZE

KINGDOM OF ANCIENT GREECE

#### **LEGS OF IRON**

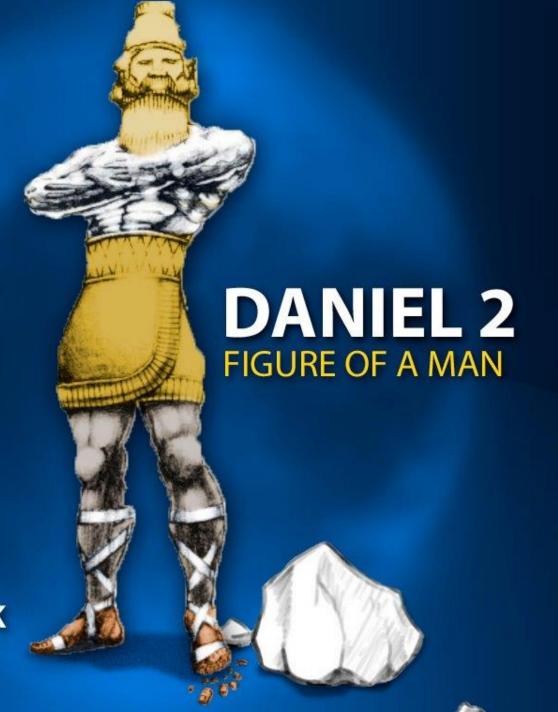
KINGDOM OF ANCIENT ROME

#### FEET OF IRON & CLAY

KINGDOM OF RESTORED ROME

#### **CRUSHING ROCK**

KINGDOM OF GOD



 Daniel 7:23 "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it. 24 As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings. 25 He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time. 26 But the court will sit for judgment, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever. 27 Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.'

 To gain such a great amount of power over the whole earth, the beast will have to be strategic, smart, charismatic, and powerful.

 He will get his power from Satan and will be possessed by a powerful demon, or perhaps Satan himself.

• He will convince the world of the inconceivable – that Israel is worthy of existence, and is worthy of the world's protection.

 1 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names. 2 And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority. 3 I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast; 4 they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?" 5 There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him. 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven.

• Let's begin by establishing that it was commonly known in New Testament times that Antichrist was coming. (this is not the first the N.T. saints were hearing of him)

• 1st John 2:18 - Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

 John tells us that Antichrist will come in the "last hour" and he also states that his day was already the "last hour".

- 2nd Thes 2:1 Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, 2 that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. 3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.
- The issue Paul was addressing was whether, or not, the Rapture had already occurred – that they had missed it – and that the Day of the Lord had already come.

 By the way, we see here another argument for the second ½ of the Tribulation being the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lord.

 Why is that? Because Paul says that the man of lawlessness has to be revealed in order for the Day of the Lord to begin.

 Paul assures them that there will be apostasy (a mass turning away from Christ), and Antichrist will be revealed by demanding worship in the Holy Place, and if that has not happened, then the Day of the Lord has not begun.

 1 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.

• This is the same beast, "monster", that we saw in Rev 11:7 that killed the two witnesses.

 The "beast", I believe needs to be understood as both a person and a system. (a king and a kingdom)

• The beast is said to come out of the "sea", and many believe that simply means he rose up out of the nations of the Earth.

 That is possible, but maybe the answer is in Rev 11:7 "When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them."

 We do know he is a man from Rev 13:18, so the beast is a man who comes up out of the abyss? (the place where the fallen angels were held)

 So how might we reconcile the difference between Rev 13:1 and Rev 11:7?

• I believe it makes sense to conclude that the Beast is a man called out of the nations, who is then possessed by a demon that was bound in the abyss. (where the worst of the worst were held)

 Couple this with the fact that while Satan has a lot of power, it is usually used for his deceptive purposes by inhabiting a person. (Judas, and Ananias and Sapphira)

 Let's talk about the timing of Revelation 13 – definitely sometime after the Rapture and way before the "abomination of desolation".

• He (the Beast) will need some time to convince the world to enter a peace treaty with Israel, and vice versa.

• So there needs to be time for the treaty, for Israel to rebuild the temple, and for temple worship to be re-established.

 So yes, this means that the "beast" will be active in his deceptive peaceful mode during at least the first 3 Seal Judgments. (False peace, war, and famine)

 And you can see how the need for his "services", world peace and harmony, become even greater when there is world wide war and world wide famine as a result of the war.

• If you think the world is ready now for a "deliverer", just wait until the Seals begin to be broken.

- And then we read in verse #1 "having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names."
- The beast, as a kingdom or a system of government, has ten heads, seven horns, and ten crowns with blasphemy written on them.

• It is hard to be dogmatic about the exact extent of this kingdom, but many think it is at least like the Roman empire, and therefore believe it is the revived Roman empire.

 Now many say that the United Sates is nowhere to be seen in the end time kingdoms, but maybe we should not be so sure.

• In the 90's I heard "globalization" and thought, "it's just cute talk", today I hear the term and think, "it's upon us".

 The ten horns may well be referring to the 10 economic regions that many in the globalist movement of our day have in mind for their Utopia.



