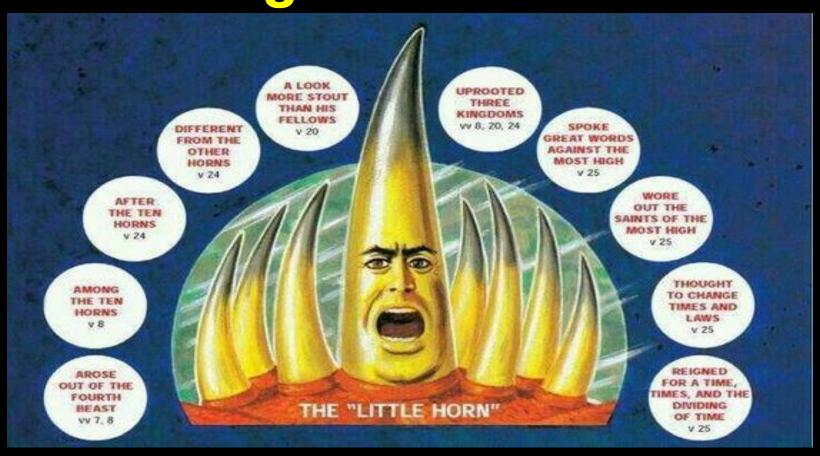
Daniel Chapter 7 – Part 4 The Change of Times & Laws







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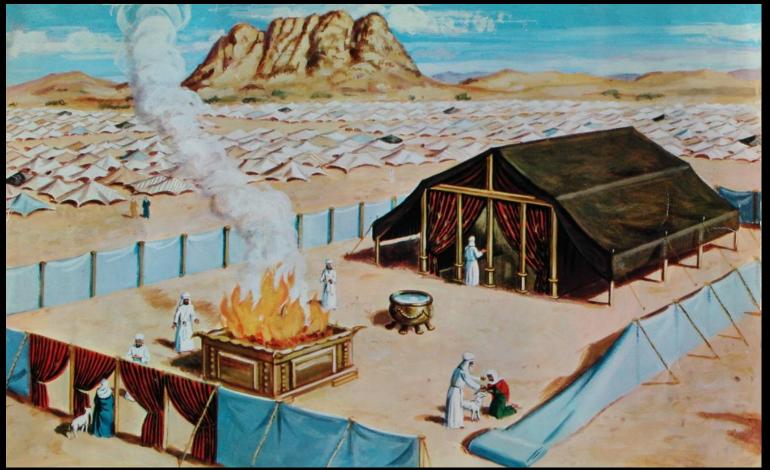
"WORSHIP"

Who will you Choose?



Get into the Ark Sanctuary





And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

Exodus 25:8

Psalms 77:13



Health Snippet - Activated Charcoal (cont'd)

Benefits and uses of activated charcoal (Seek Medical Advice) Activated charcoal can reduce the absorption of medications. If taking other medications, it's best to consult your doctor.

Activated charcoal is a natural remedy with various uses.

Household, cosmetic, and other potential uses

Gas reduction: study taking activated charcoal 8 hours before an abdominal ultrasound - it reduces the amount of gas in your gut, making it easier to get a clear ultrasound image. **Diarrhoea aid**: study activated charcoal helps treat diarrhoea.

Water filtration: helps filter water by removing contaminants, suspended solids, and microorganisms like bacteria — all without affecting the water's pH or taste.

Tooth whitening: whitens teeth when used as a mouth rinse or in toothpaste absorbing plaque & teeth-staining materials. **Hangover prevention**: is also touted as a hangover cure. **Skin treatment**: Applying to your skin is said to treat acne, dandruff, and insect or snake bites.

- Activated charcoal is available as a powder and pill. Be sure to follow the dosage instructions on the label.
- Start with the lower end of the recommended dose to see how you react to it before increasing the amount.

ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

- Aids digestion
- Treats food poisoning
- Prevents hangovers
- ✓ Treats bites & stings
- ✓ Reduced cholesterol levels
- Teeth whitening
- Beauty: soap & face masks

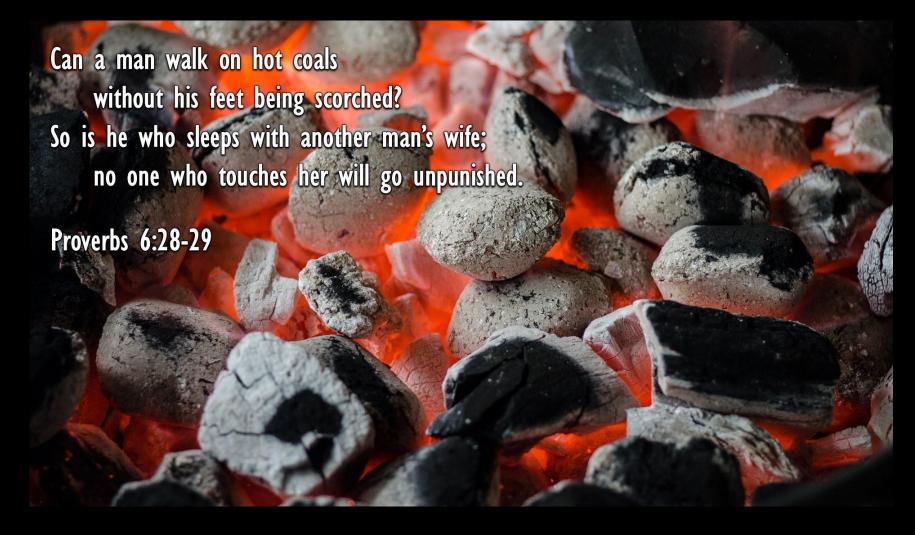
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Can We Trust Bible Prophecy?

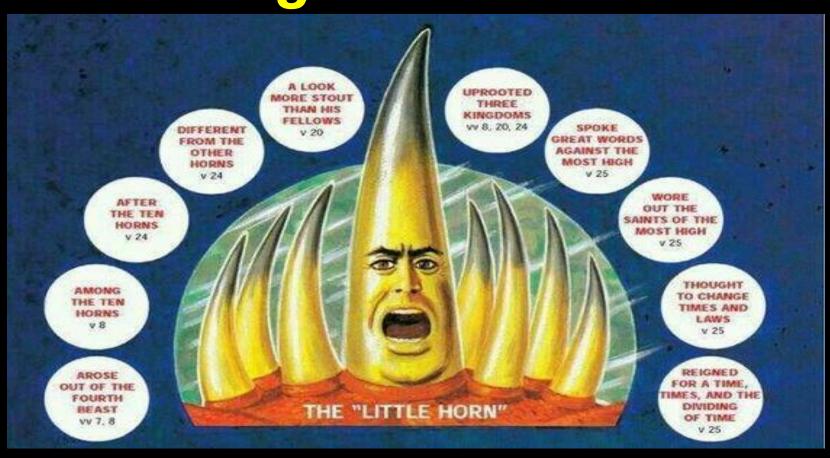




Yes we Can!



Daniel Chapter 7 – Part 4 The Change of Times & Laws



Past > Present > Future



Introduction

Any history book about the ancient world will confirm that the great world powers following Babylon were Media-Persia and Greece. But what about the fourth power, the dreadful and terrible beast? Though not specifically named in Scripture, history confirms that the power that defeated Greece was Rome, the only sensible identification for the fourth beast.

Look at the similarities between the expressions used to describe the fourth kingdom in Daniel 2 and the fourth kingdom in Daniel 7. Compare Daniel 2:40 and Daniel 7:7, 23.

World power may be said to have passed from the Greeks to the Romans at the battle of Pydna, in 168 B.C., where the Romans won a complete victory over Macedonia, which was divided into four confederacies that eventually became a Roman province. Thus, within another century of conquests, the world was united under Rome. History affirms, again, God's foreknowledge of world events.



Introduction (cont'd)

The Roman Empire did not succumb to another world empire, as had the previous kingdoms; instead, it disintegrated. From AD. 330 on, when Emperor Constantine moved the seat of government from Rome to Constantinople, a long decline began in the western half of the empire. Its authority slowly disappeared, its vitality evaporated, and its apparatus of government faded away. Into this void stepped the barbaric tribes from the north, who carved the empire up into many smaller pieces and in AD. 476 deposed Romulus Augustulus, the last of the Western emperors.

The prophecy does not treat the horns of the beast independently; on the contrary, they are presented as a continuation of its activities. The horns correspond to the mingling of the iron with the earthenware in the feet and toes of the image of Daniel 2. As in Daniel 2, the fourth empire, as a single power, broke apart; this was depicted in Daniel 7 as the activity of the ten horns. They represent the European nations that emerged from the Roman Empire and, to a large extent, maintained her civilization.





Introduction (cont'd)

Historians tell us that "out of the ruins of political Rome, arose the great moral Empire in the 'giant form' of the Roman Church."— Alexander Flick, The Rise of the Mediaeval Church (New York: B. Franklin, 1959), p. 150, quoted in The SDA Bible Commentary, vol. 9, article 1142, p. 878.

Indeed, when the western half of the Roman Empire fell to the Germanic tribes, the Bishop of Rome became an important figure in the West, and soon he exercised not only spiritual but also political power. "The Roman Church in this way privily pushed itself into the place of the Roman World Empire, of which it is the actual continuation; the empire has not perished, but has only undergone a transformation."—Adolf I Harnack, What Is Christianity? (quoted in The SDA Bible Commentary, vol. 9, article 1359, p. 841)

Again, don't miss this point:

The persecuting little-horn power arises out of the Roman Empire—it never ceases to be a Roman power. Why is this point especially important for us to remember, particularly in the context of last-day events, when all sorts of wild speculation is made about the identity of end-time players.

*The Rise of the Catholic Church

*After the Roman government fell apart, the Roman Catholic Church began to play an important role in the growth of a new civilization in Western Europe.





Daniel 7:23-24 - Another horn shall Rise

Daniel 7:23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

A cursory look at history reveals that after the collapse of the Roman Empire, which came about by attacks from barbarians from the north, the bishop of Rome took advantage of the overthrow of three barbarian tribes and established himself as the sole power in Rome as of A.D. 538. In this process, he adopted several institutional and political functions of the Roman emperor.

We just read that the Little Horn Power arises after the break-up of Rome into ten kingdoms. So it would have to arise after 476 A.D. What power arose in Europe by uprooting three nations? How was that power different from the four kingdoms and the other ten horns [or kingdoms]? Who or what is the Little Horn?

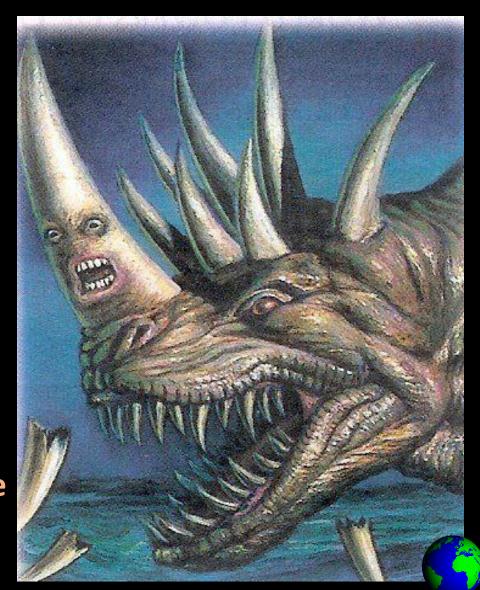


Rise of the little horn

There was a time when the Roman empire had a most wonderful opportunity to accept the true God. Rome was the universal kingdom during the life of Christ.

But to the Roman kingdom, heaven itself was poured out in the person of the Saviour, and it was Rome that nailed him to the cross. It was a Roman seal on his tomb, and a Roman guard at his grave. The early church suffered persecution at the hands of this same power. Judgment came to Rome when these barbarians overran the empire with fire and sword, and the kingdom was divided into ten parts. SDP 94.1

But Roman history did not end with the division. Daniel watched, "And, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before which there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots." A new power, a power outside the empire is here represented by the little horn. SDP 94.2



History gives only one possible identity of the Little Horn Power

Daniel 7 unmistakably points to the Roman Papacy of the Middle Ages as the Little Horn. The Roman Empire finally disintegrated in 476 AD as the ten kingdoms of Europe arose. After these ten kingdoms were established, a Christian church-state entity, the Roman papacy, was established.

This church-state power grew over several centuries and rose to prominence in Western Europe. The Little Horn came into existence exactly when the prophecy said it would. Of the ten divisions of the Roman Empire, the Roman papacy rose to power as three of the Germanic tribes were destroyed [uprooted] in Italy: The Heruli in 493 A.D., the Vandals in 534 A.D., and the Ostrogoth's in 538 A.D. This happened just as Daniel predicted, and the remaining seven kingdoms can still be found in modern Europe today.

The Bible says this power was "diverse" or different from the powers before it. For the first time in history, a church/state power arose, slashing the sword in the name of Christ. Ruling from Rome, the Little Horn's combination of spiritual and political power reigned in the place of the ancient emperors.





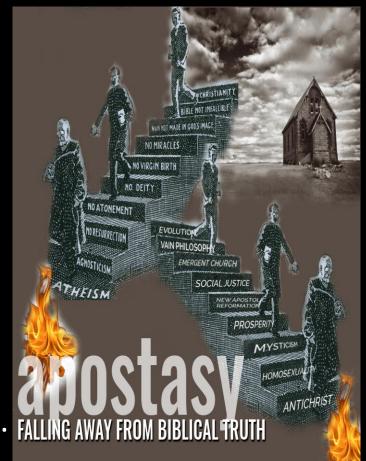
The experience of the Christian church and the coming of the Antichrist

Acts 20:29-31 - For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

Paul's Warning Included Three Important Points:

- 1. First, opposition would come from the outside Like wolves, men would attack God's people with satanic persecution, attempting to destroy the church.

 * By the grace of the Lord, the church would still survive.
- 2. The next problem would be much more serious APOSTASY would arise from WITHIN. In God's church, men would begin speaking perverse, crooked and twisted things.
- 3. Paul warned that the beginning of this apostasy would come quickly. These apostates would be "of your own selves," Paul warned in his last words to the elders at Ephesus.





The experience of the Christian church and the coming of the Antichrist (cont'd)

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Key Points:

- 1. Falling away comes from Greek word APOSTASIA which literally means "a falling away or departure from the purity of faith," thus "an apostasy."
- 2. Son of perdition is used in only one other place in Scripture to describe Judas Iscariot who betrayed his Lord. In other words, the Antichrist would also betray the Lord within the church of God. Popular Christianity would get caught up in a landslide of apostasy and betray the gospel while still maintaining an outward form and profession of faithfulness.
- 3. Man of sin literally means in the original Greek "the man of lawlessness." Paul warns us that the Antichrist would stand in opposition to the law of God.
- 4. He as God sitteth in the temple of God This phrase reveals that the Antichrist would claim for himself the prerogatives of God. Paul speaks of God's temple as a symbol of His church (Ephesians 2:19-22). * Therefore, this man of sin would actually take his "seat" of political authority within the church.





More details of Antichrist in Daniel 8

A parallel vision in Daniel 8 records more details of the Antichrist's apostasy in Christianity. Using a similar symbol of a little horn that grows strong, Daniel wrote:

Daniel 8:11-12 - "Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host [Jesus Christ], . . . and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered."

The Bible is clear, the great struggle of the ages is not a battle against atheism and unbelief.

Persecution from powers outside the church only proved to fan the fires of faith. The great apostasy started from within God's church. Satan's great triumph is the corruption of Christianity. The devil has hoodwinked the Christian world. (See Revelation 13:1-3)

The Antichrist has already come as an historical power in Christian Europe.



Daniel 7:25 - Change Times & Laws

Daniel 7:25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

There are the 10 identifying marks of the little horn, commonly known as the Anti-Christ power. To be this power, all 10 marks must be fulfilled. There is only one power that fulfils every identifying mark, that is the Papacy/Roman Catholic Church. The people are not the antichrist but the system is the system of antichrist.

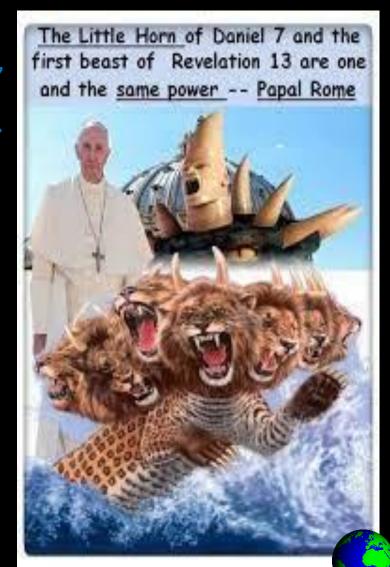
We will now go through and show how the Papacy/Catholic Church meets these requirements.

The Papacy was diverse or different from the other powers before it. It was not just a political nation but was in fact a church, which had gained temporal or political power.



The ten identifying marks are as follows

- 1. Arises out of the fourth beast/Rome, Vs 8, 24.
- 2. Arises after the 10 horns/10 divisions of western Rome, Vs 8, 24.
- 3. Arises among the 10 horns/10 divisions of western Rome, V 8.
- 4. As he arose he plucked up 3 horns by the roots / exterminated 3 kingdoms of western Rome, Vs 8, 24.
- 5. Began little but became more stout, greater or more arrogant than his fellows, Vs 8, 20.
- 6. Diverse, or different, from the others, V 24.
- 7. Eyes like the eyes of man, speak great words, which is blasphemy against the Most High, Vs 8, 25. The Bible defines blasphemy as; when being only a man you make yourself as God. (John 10:30-33) Also claiming to be able to forgive sins when only a man. (Mark 2:5-7)
- 8. Thinks to change times and laws, V 25.
- 9. Wears out, that is persecutes the saints, V25.
- 10. He would reign for a time, times, and the dividing/half a time, V 25.



Little horn reign time period

The word time in the original language here means a year, thus it would be a time = 1 year, times = 2 years, half a time = 1/2 a year. Making 3 1/2 years in total. In Revelation 12:6 it is known as 1260 days and in Revelation 13:5 42 months, showing us that each year had 360 days in it. A day in Bible prophecy = a year. (In Ezekiel 4:6, Ezekiel was acting out a prophetic parable, and the Lord gave him each day for a year and in Numbers 14:34, the Lord prophesied that each day the spies searched the land, 40 days in total, they would spend a year wandering in the wilderness, 40 years in total). So we find a day = a year in prophecy, thus we have here this little horn reigning for 1260 years.

This **1,260-day time period** is referred to **seven times** in the Bible's prophecies.

Three times as a "time, times, and half a time"
twice as 42 months
twice as 1,260 days

Based on the 30-day calendar used by the Jews, these time periods are all the same amount of time: 3-1/2years = 42 months = 1,260 days.

Scriptures:

Daniel 7:25

Daniel 12:7

Revelation 11:2

Revelation 11:3

Revelation 12:6

Revelation 12:14

Revelation 13:5

A.D. 538

Terrible persecution of God's people would last 1,260 prophetic days—or 1,260 literal years.

A.D. 1798

France's General Berthier inflicts
"deadly wound," ends papal supremacy

Revelation 13:3

Little horn "uproots" final opposing power, the Ostrogoths

Daniel 8:9–12; 7:8, 24

Also the Flood record gives us 30 days in a month (150/30=5): The 150 days (Genesis 7:4) began on the 17th day of the second month (Genesis 7:11), and ended on the 17th day of the seventh month (Genesis 8:4).

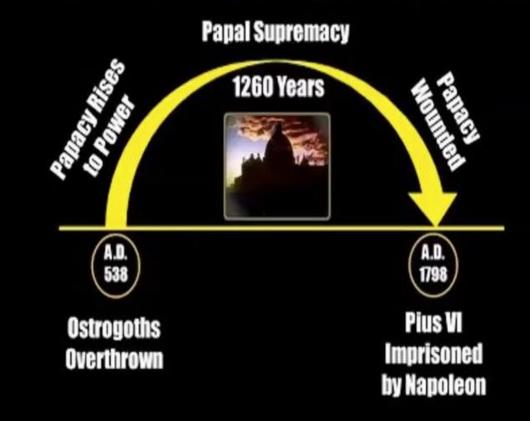
Little horn reign time period (cont'd)

More stout or greater than his fellows, arrogant. The Papacy began as a church in the city of Rome. A member of the sisterhood of Christian churches around the world, and the bishop or elder of the city of Rome, was no more important than the bishops in any other major city including Jerusalem, Antioch, or Alexandria. However, by 538 A.D. the Papacy was no longer just a little church, it was a controlling political force that controlled kings and queens of Europe.

It is of note that those who supported the Papacy were to be found in all nations, instead of owing allegiance only within one nation's boundaries.

The Papacy was diverse or different from the other powers before it. It was not just a political nation but was in fact a church, which had gained temporal or political power.

The 1260 Years of Papal Supremacy



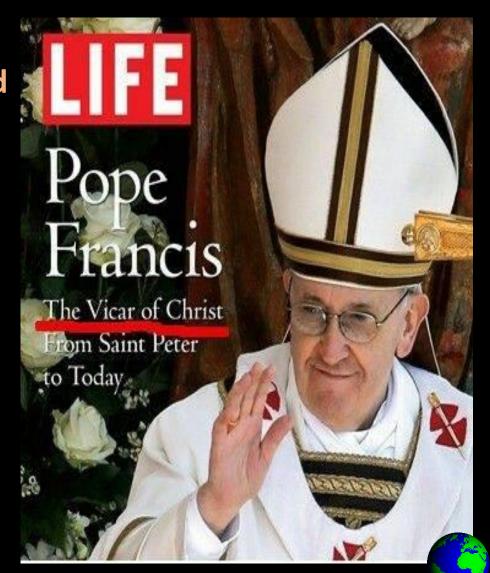


Making himself God

"The Pope is of so great dignity and so exalted that he is not a mere man, but as it were God, and the vicar of God...the Pope is as it were the vicar of God on earth...Chief king of kings, having plentitude of power." - Prompta Bibliotheca Canonica Juridiea Moralis Theoloogica, by Lucii Ferraris.

"All names which in the scripture are applied to Christ, by virtue of which it is established that He is over the church, all the same names are applied to the Pope." - On the Authority of Councils, 1619 ed., book 2, Ch 17.

"We hold upon this earth the place of God almighty." "But the supreme teacher in the church is the Roman Pontiff. Union of minds, therefore requires, together with a perfect accord in the one faith, complete submission and obedience of the will to the church and to the Roman Pontiff, as to God Himself." - The Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII, pg 304.



Claiming to forgive sins

"And God Himself is obliged to abide by the judgment of His priest and either not to pardon or pardon, according as they refuse to give absolution, provided the penitent is capable of it." - Duties and Dignities of the Priest, by Ligouri, p 27.

"Were the Redeemer to descend into a church, and sit in a confessional to administer the sacrament of penance, and a priest to sit in a confessional, Jesus would say over each penitent, 'ego te absolvo", the priest would likewise say over each of his penitents, 'ego te absolvo', and the penitents of each would be equally absolved." - Duties and Dignities of the Priest, by Ligouri, p 34.

"The priest does not only declare that the sinner is forgiven, but he really forgives him...so great is the power of the priest, that the judgments of heaven itself are subject to his decision." - The Catholic Priest, by Michael Meuller, Kreuzer Bros., 1876.



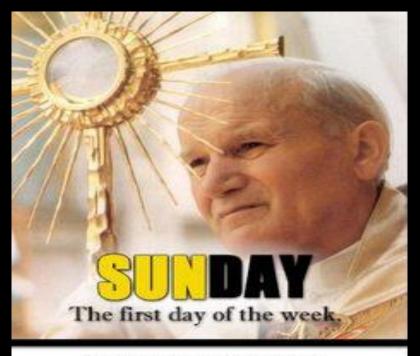
Think to change times and laws

It is interesting to note that the Bible says that he thinks to do this, for the reality is that he cannot actually do it. But this is also true of the Papacy as we will see by the following quotes:

"The pope has the power to change times, to abrogate laws, and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ. He can pronounce sentences and judgments in contradiction to the rights of nations, to the law of God and man." - Decretalia de translat. Ep Cop. Cap.

"The Catholic Church for over one thousand years before the existence of a Protestant, by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from Saturday to Sunday." - The Catholic Mirror, Sept 23 1893.

"You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we (Catholics) never sanctify." - James Cardinal Gibbons, The Faith of Our Fathers, p 111.



"The Church is above the Bible; and this transference of Sabbath observance from Saturday to Sunday is proof positive of that fact." Catholic Record London Ontario, September 1,1923

"It is always somewhat laughable,
to see the Protestant churches,
in pulpit and legislation,
demand the observance of Sunday,
of which there is nothing in their Bible."
Peter R. Kraemer
Catholic Church Extension Magazine, USA (19

Change of the Law

When someone meddles with God's law, he is actually meddling with God Himself! His law is an expression of His character and supports His position as the Creator. On this earth, Jesus lived among us as God in the flesh. If anyone had a right to change God's law, it would have been Jesus. Yet Jesus Himself told us that nothing would change in the law of God. (Matthew 5:17-18)

It is interesting to note that the Catholic Church has removed the second Commandment from her doctrinal books and catechisms, because it condemns the worship of images. Thus they split the tenth Commandment into two so as to still have Ten Commandments. See Catholic change to the Ten Commandments and who changed the Sabbath to Sunday or the Sabbath to Sunday change. (Exodus 20:8-11)

Key Points:

- 1. The Creator Himself rested on the seventh-day and made that day holy (Genesis 2:1-3).
- 2. The Sabbath reminds us that only the Creator can make us holy (Exodus 31:13).

TENTHE COMMANDMENTS

I. I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD: YOU SHALL NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME.

II. YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD YOUR GOD IN VAIN.

III. REMEMBER TO KEEP HOLY THE LORD'S DAY.

IV. HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER.

V. YOU SHALL NOT KILL

VI. YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.

VII. YOU SHALL NOT STEAL.

VIII. YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST YOUR NEIGHBOR.

IX. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE.

X. YOU SHALL NOT COVET YOUR NEIGHBOR'S GOODS.



Catholic Catechism

"Question: What Bible authority is there for changing the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day of the week? Who gave the Pope the authority to change a command of God?"

"Answer: If the Bible is the only guide for the Christian, then the Seventh-day Adventist is right in observing the Saturday with the Jew. But Catholics learn what to believe and do from the divine, infallible authority established by Jesus Christ, the Catholic Church...Is it not strange that those who make the Bible their only teacher should inconsistently follow in this matter the tradition of the Church?" - Question Box, by Conway, 1903 edition, ps 254-255.

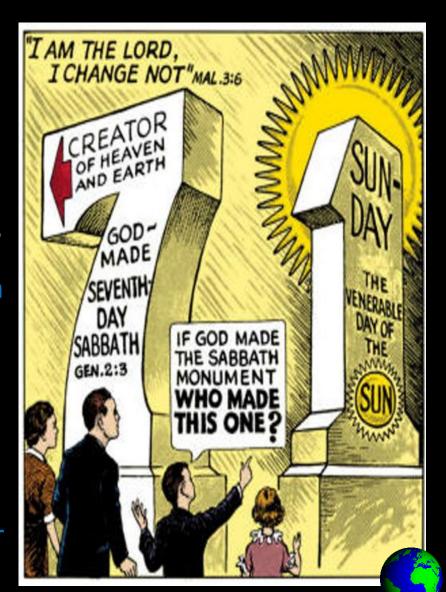
"Question: Which is the Sabbath day?"

"Answer: Saturday is the Sabbath day."

"Question: Why do we observe Sunday instead of

Saturday?"

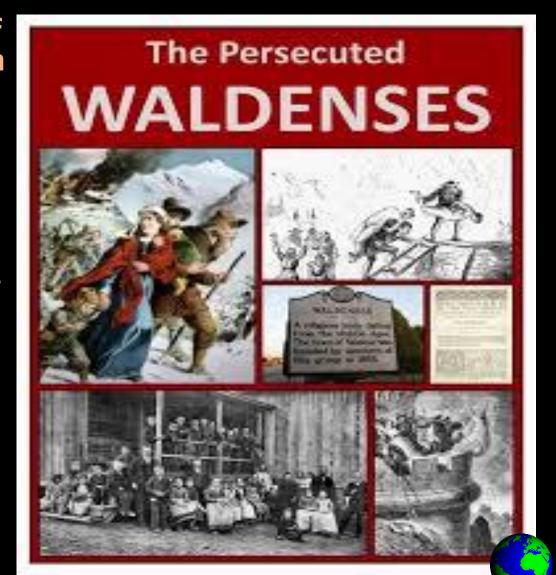
"Answer: We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodicea (336 A.D.), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." - Peter Geiermann, The Converts Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, Second Edition, 1910, p 50.



Wear out the saints of the Most High

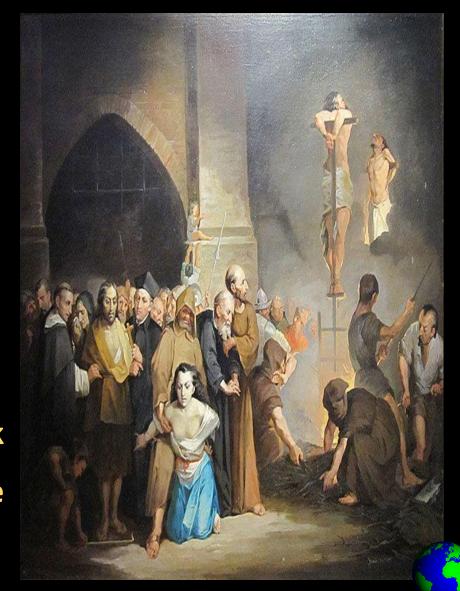
The Papacy is well known for its persecution of so called heretics. Pope Gregory XIII executed a plot in which he killed 70,000 in one day on St. Bartholomew's Day massacre in France, 24th August 1572. In July 1209, 60,000 Albigenses slaughtered at Beziers. On the 24th April 1655, 18,000 Waldenses were killed. 1,000,000 Waldenses perished in France. 900,000 orthodox Christians were slain in less than thirty years after the institution of the order of the Jesuits. The inquisition destroyed, by various tortures, 150,000 within thirty years.

"...it is estimated by careful historians that more than fifty millions of the human family have been slaughtered for the crime of heresy by Popish persecutors, an average of more than forty thousand religious murders for every year of the existence of Popery." - History of Romanism, Dr J Dowling p 541-542.



The Inquisitions by the little horn

"The Catholic Church...loudly proclaims that she has a horror of blood. Nevertheless when confronted by heresy she...has recourse to force, to corporal punishment, to torture. She creates tribunals like those of the inquisition...encourages a crusade or a religious war...especially did she act thus in the sixteenth century with regards to Protestants...she lit in Italy the Low Countries and above all in Spain the funeral fires of the inquisition. In France...and in England...she tortured the heretics whilst both in France and Germany...she encouraged and aided, the religious wars. No one will deny that we have a great scandal to our contemporaries...Indeed even among our friends and our brothers we find those who dare not look this problem in the face. They ask permission from the church to ignore or even deny all those acts and institutions of the past which have made orthodoxy compulsory." - The Catholic Church, the Renaissance and Protestantism, Professor Alfred Baudrillart, London, 1908 pgs 182-184.

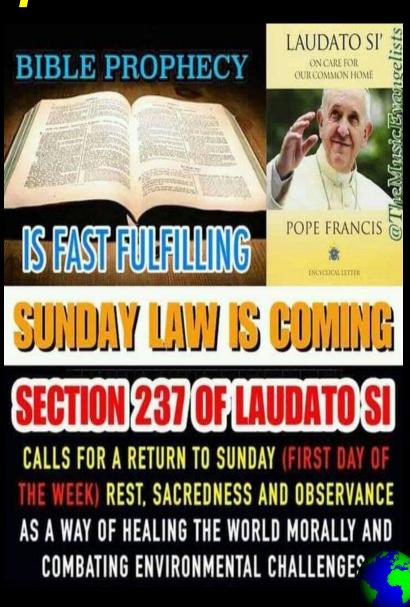


The Papacy still justifies her position

"...that the church of Rome possesses the supremacy of both powers, the spiritual and the temporal, that she has the right to employ both swords in the extirpation of heresy; that in the exercise of this right she has never exceeded by a hairs breadth her just prerogatives and that what she has done aforetime she may do in time to come as often as occasion shall require and opportunity may serve." - Encyclical Quanta Cura (Syllabus of Errors) 1864, Pope Pius IX.

As we have seen, the Papacy rose to full supremacy in 538 A.D., and it came to its end exactly 1260 years later in 1798 A.D. when Napoleon's General Berthier, under orders from the French ruler, marched into Rome and took Pope Pius VI prisoner thus taking from the Vatican it's political or temporal power.

"The Papacy was extinct: not a vestige of its existence remained and among all the Roman Catholic powers not a finger was stirred in its defence. The eternal city no longer had prince or pontiff; its bishop was a dying captive in foreign lands, and the decree was already announced that no successor would be allowed in his place." - The Fall of the Western Empire, George Trevor, p 440.



Daniel 7:26-27 - Judgement of little horn

Daniel 7:26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

The Roman Church prospered during the Middle Ages, just as the Bible had predicted. This prosperity and lawless reign continued until something dramatic happened in heaven. As we just read, the prophet saw a judgment scene taking place in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary. God's Holy Ten Commandment law abides safely within the hearts of His obedient people and inside the heavenly Ark of the Covenant. During the judgment, dominion was taken away from the Little Horn Power at the end of the 1260 years. The heavenly judgment then focuses on the rightful Ruler, Lord, and King of the universe, Jesus Christ. With all the obedient saints of God, we are called to participate in the restoration of His (1) dominion, (2) glory, and (3) kingdom.





Dominion given back to Jesus

First, dominion is given to Jesus: The Roman Church exercised religious dominion for more than one thousand years. Therefore, Jesus reasserts His dominion over His faithful people. This, points to the re-emergence of God's truths after 1798, truths that had been long trampled by the Little Horn Power.

Second, glory is given to Jesus: This reminds us of the call to worship as proclaimed in Revelation 14:6-7. Christ is pictured as restoring true worship and the true knowledge of God as our Creator.

Third, Jesus receives His kingdom: This refers to His people. God's kingdom is comprised of His obedient subjects. In the Sermon on the Mount, in Matthew 5, Jesus taught the foundational principles of His kingdom. While in vision, Daniel saw the Little Horn Power destroyed and Christ's kingdom reconstituted along proper lines during the heavenly judgment scene. What joy must have filled Daniel's heart as he saw Christ's kingdom made up of every nation and tribe on planet earth!





The judgement begins in 1844

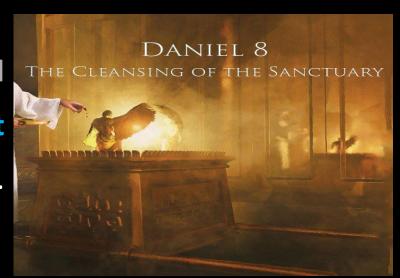
The portrayal of Daniel 7 is clear. Jesus goes to His father to perform the work of judgment. In the heavenly court the Father legally takes away the kingdom from the little horn and gives it to Jesus, to whom it rightfully belongs. Then Jesus gives it back to man who lost it in the first place. God does not take the kingdom back by force. Rather, he takes the little horn to court! This process is made clear in Daniel 7:14, 18, 22.

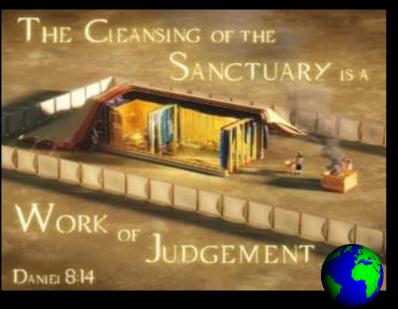
The judgment began in 1844 with those who first lived upon the earth and continues with each successive generation in chronological order, then it is certain that Abel (the fourth person to live on the earth), was judged in 1844 or shortly thereafter. The Bible tells us that all must appear before the great judgment seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:10).

The question is, How could Abel appear before the judgment seat of Christ when he was dead in 1844?

The answer is quite simple:

Abel did not need to appear there in person because the exact transcripts of his life-with not a jot or tittle missing-- are there in the books. He is judged in absentia just like a person can graduate from school in absentia.

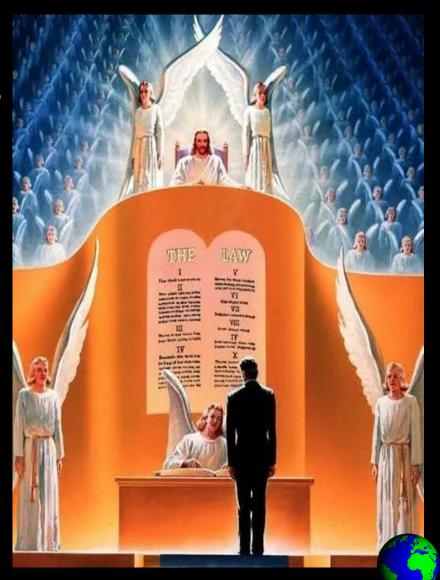




Judgement of the little horn

In Daniel 7 the little horn is judged first and then the saints are judged afterwards. The character of the little horn resembles the character of Cain-it is lawless, it murders the saints of the Most High, it tramples on the sanctuary and its services-particularly the daily (which represents the sacrifice of Christ for sin). And yet, as we have seen, the little horn (those individuals who belong to this system) claims to worship and serve the true God. Those who belonged to this vile power must have had their names in the Book of Life because they claimed to be doing the work of Christ!!

During the 1260 years this power slew the saints of the Most High and their blood, like Abel's, cried out for justice (Revelation 6:9-11). In earthly tribunals God's people were falsely accused and condemned to die. There was no one to plead their cause. The wicked were portrayed as righteous and the righteous were portrayed as wicked. Obviously this was a travesty in justice which needed to be rectified.



The Dark Record of the Papacy

"The history of God's people during the ages of darkness that followed upon Rome's supremacy is written in heaven, but they have little space in human records. Few traces of their existence can be found, except in the accusations of their persecutors. It was the policy of Rome to obliterate every trace of dissent from her doctrines or decrées. Everything heretical, whether persons or writings, she sought to destroy. Expressions of doubt, or questions as to the authority of papal dogmas, were enough to forfeit life of rich or poor, high or low. Rome endeavored also to destroy every record of her cruelty toward dissenters. Papal councils decreed that books and writings containing such records should be committed to the flames. Before the invention of printing, books were few in number, and in a form not favourable for preservation; therefore there was little to prevent the Romanists from carrying out their purpose." - The Great Controversy, pp. 61-62

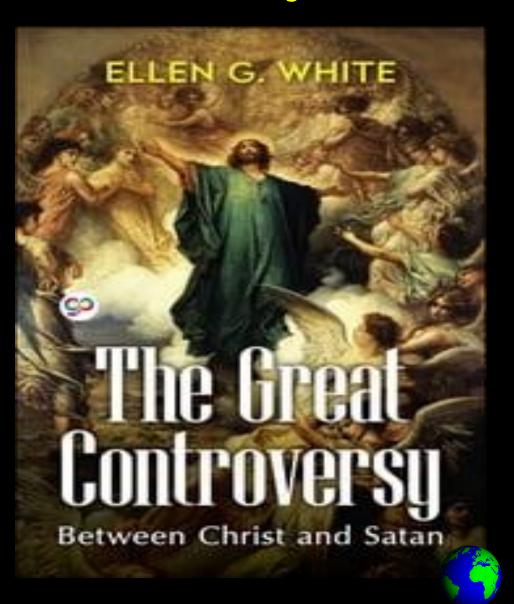




Understanding The Great Controversy

The above analysis helps us better understand how it is that the Father has a kingdom (Matthew 26:29; Luke 9:27), the Son has His kingdom (Matthew 16:28), and Jesus will give His people the kingdom (Luke 12:32; Matthew 25:34). Are there really three kingdoms? No. A careful study of the Bible reveals that the kingdom originally belonged to the Father. When the world was created, the Father delegated rulership to Adam and Eve (Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 8:5-8). Satan then stole the rulership of this world from Adam and Eve (Luke 4:5-8). At the second coming, this kingdom will be restored to Jesus (Matthew 16:28). Who will then restore it to His people (Revelation 20:4; Daniel 7:26-27). At the end of the Millennium, Jesus will then give it to His Father to whom it belonged in the first place (1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Matthew 26:29; Luke 9:27.

For more on this, study carefully, Luke 22:29-30).



Understanding Judgement in Heaven

This study of the judgment would not be complete without taking into account the relationship between Daniel 7 and 8 and Daniel 12. When the judgment began in 1844, (as described in Daniel 7:9-10, 13; and 8:14) Jesus is portrayed as High Priest. He is seen ministering in the heavenly sanctuary in both the daily and yearly services in behalf of His people. There is not a hint in these passages that Jesus has assumed His position as king. In fact, Daniel 7:14, 18, 26-27 makes it abundantly clear that only at the conclusion of this judgment does Jesus receive the kingdom. So if Jesus will not become king (we are speaking here, not of the kingdom of grace but of the kingdom of glory) until after the judgment, then what is He now? The book of Hebrews clearly indicates that Jesus has been our High Priestly Advocate since His ascension (Hebrews 8:1-2; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:25-26; Romans 8:34). In 1844 Jesus did not cease being our High Priestly Advocate but rather added another function to His ministry-that of Judge. In the Old Testament Cultus the High Priest retained his high priestly garments until the Day of Atonement was over. If we are now in the antitypical Day of Atonement, Jesus must still be garbed in the garments of the High Priest. But at the conclusion of the judgment Jesus will lay aside His priestly vesture and garb himself with the raiment of a king.





And when will this take place?

"stands up." The expression "stand up" is employed in other places of Daniel 11 to refer to a king who takes the throne or begins to reign (11:2-3). Notice here that Jesus stands up or begins to reign before the time of trouble. This must mean that Jesus will receive the kingdom in heaven at the close of probation before He comes back at the end of the time of trouble.

This fits perfectly with Daniel 7 where Jesus goes to His Father to receive the kingdom but only delivers it to His people upon His return to the earth. It also squares with the parables of the kingdom that Jesus referred to. This must be the time when He changes His priestly garments to His kingly robes.

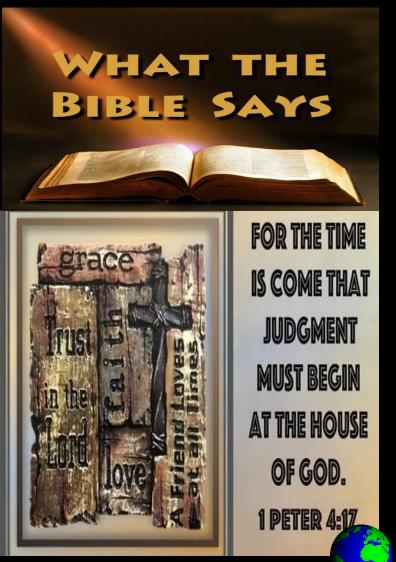
A crucial point has been missed by virtually all commentators and it is this: Jesus is now garbed as High Priest but when He comes He will be garbed as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Revelation 19:11-16 actually describes his raiment.



The process of the judgment

The righteous dead and living are vindicated in the heavenly court during the pre-Advent investigative judgment. The wicked oppressors of God's people are found wanting in this same judgment. At the second coming Jesus will resurrect the righteous dead and glorify them along with the righteous living. All their sins have been deleted in the pre-advent judgment and therefore they receive only the positive traits of their self-identity. They are now given the kingdom by Jesus (Revelation 20:4). During the 1000 years the saints (who are now kings, priests and judges) will participate in the sentencing of their wicked oppressors. Their judges on earth are now judged in heaven. All the good deeds of the wicked will be deleted at this time. The wicked at this point do not know that their cases are being examined in heaven because they are dead. They are judged in heaven, in absentia. But after the millennium the wicked will be resurrected from the dead. Their own self-identity will be returned to them at this time minus all the good deeds they performed in their life. They will then see, in person, the justice of their sentence and with one accord will proclaim the justice and love of God. Then, and only then, can God destroy sin and sinners.



Daniel 7:28 - Daniel is troubled

Daniel 7:28 Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

Daniel is still troubled by the enormity of what he has seen, but keeps the matter in his heart. He has much more to see before this book is over.

In order to fully understand the relationship between the coming of the Son of man to the Father in Daniel 7:13 and the standing up of Michael in Daniel 12:1 it is necessary to keep in mind that the little horn has two periods of dominion. The first was during the 1260 years when millions of God's true children were mowed down. Daniel 7:9-10, 13 describes the moment when Jesus began the process of vindicating those who were unjustly judged by the little horn.



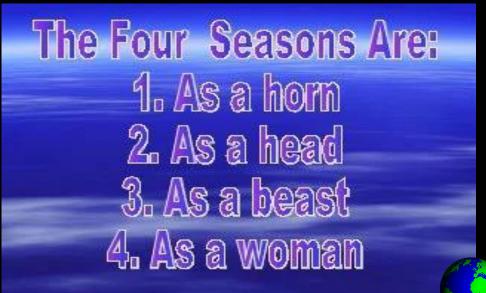
Prophecy – The 2 phases of little horn

But prophecy affirms that the little horn will have a second period of dominion when it will once again slay the children of God. Jesus will also defend these in the heavenly court in the ongoing process of the judgment before the close of probation (there will be no martyrs after the close of probation).

This two-stage dominion of little horn is brought out clearly in Revelation 6:9-11 where the martyrs of the past cry out for judgment and vengeance and they are told to rest a while until the rest of the martyrs are slain like they were. Thus two groups of martyrs are brought to view: the martyrs who were slain by the little horn in the past and the martyrs who will be slain by this power in the future.

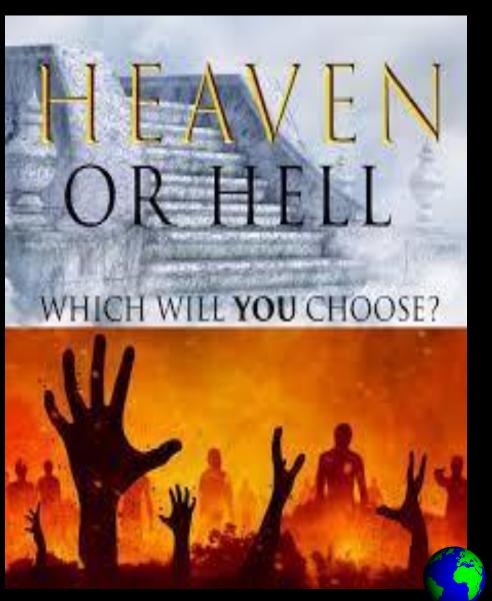
Revelation 13 also describes these two stages of the little horn power (now called "the beast"). This horn slew the saints of the Most High during the period of the 42 months (Revelation 13:5, 7). But after its deadly wound is healed, it will once again proclaim a death decree against God's people (Revelation 13:15).





All humanity needs to make a choice

The same panorama can be seen in Daniel 7 and 11. In Daniel 7 the little horn slays the saints of God for a period of 1260 years. In Daniel 11:31-39 we find a description of the same period only now the little horn is called "the king of the north." But at the time of the end (1798) the king of the south (atheistic communism in the French Revolution) arises against the king of the north (the papacy) and gives it a deadly wound. But then we are told that the king of north regains its power and once again goes out to slay many (11:40-45). Daniel 7 directs our eyes to Christ in the heavenly sanctuary and to the judgment that begins after 1798. The Little Horn's lawless work is unmasked, and God's obedient people are vindicated in the heavenly judgment half. Today Jesus is calling you to be in His kingdom. He wants you to share His pure gospel with all the nations of earth in these last days. Will you give Jesus total dominion over your life? Will you live ever and always for His glory? Will you be an obedient subject of His kingdom, by keeping all of His Ten Commandments?



Could you be an Antichrist?

As prophecy students we understand from the book of Revelation that the anti-Christ is the papacy putting itself in the place of God. Of course any system putting itself in the place of God is an anti-Christ. In 1 John 2:18, John writes, "even now are there many anti-Christs; whereby we know that it is the last time." So was John implying their were more anti-Christs besides just the papacy? If so could you or I have anti-Christ characteristics?

To answer this question, let's back up a little. In studying the Three Angels Message in Revelation 14:6-12, we see that a so-called religious system, Babylon, falls. Again we know from studying Revelation that this is a specific system. However, we also see that this system has an attitude. That attitude is legalism.

Man-made laws and a man-made day of worship combine to make a man-made way of salvation, outside of trusting in the merits of Jesus.

30 BIBLE VERSES

ANTICHRIST

Revelation 13:1-18

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

1 John 4:1-3

1 John 2:18

2 John 1:7

Revelation 13:14

1 John 2:22

Revelation 13:12

Matthew 24:15-21

Mark 13:21-22

Daniel 9:27

Matthew 24:23-26

Revelation 19:19-20

Mark 13:6

Revelation 13:16-17

Revelation 13:1

Matthew 24:4-5

Revelation 20:2-5

Daniel 7:4-8

Luke 21:8

Luke 12:40

Zechariah 14:1-21

Revelation 20:10

Revelation 20:15

Zechariah 11:17

Revelation 22:16

Jeremiah 5:30-31

Revelation 12:3

Matthew 7:21-23

Daniel 11:21



While Revelation pinpoints this system, it is clear that this attitude can be found in other systems as well, and history has demonstrated it. Were not the Sadducees and Pharisees making their own laws and trusting their own works for salvation? Yet they were not Babylon. So could it be that if I am not careful to crucify self and die daily, that this same attitude of Babylon could be found in my heart too?

So, if it is possible for me to have the attitude of Babylon, would it also be possible for me to have the same attitude as the anti-Christ, thus making me one of many anti-Christs? An anti-Christ is someone who sets himself up as Christ, just as the man of sin mentioned in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4: "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."





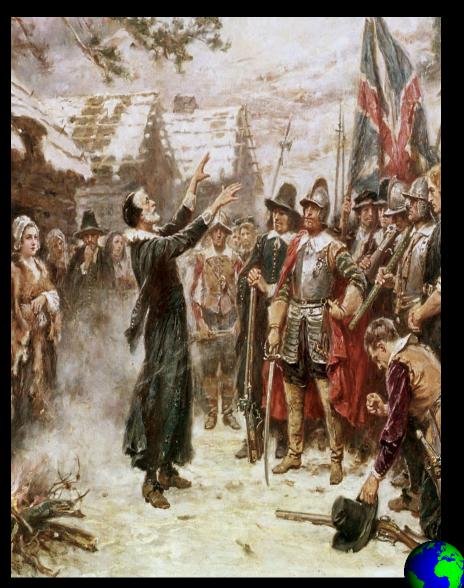
Here we see that the man of sin, or anti-Christ sits in the place of God. So how could I possibly be an anti-Christ, sitting in the place of God?

Isaiah 33:22 tells us; "For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver."
Our Lord God is our lawgiver and judge.
So, when I set myself up as judge of other people's motives, or think that I can interpret the law for everybody, I am usurping the seat of God and setting myself up as God, and thus becoming an anti-Christ!

Like Babylon, Anti-Christ is more than a system. It is an attitude. Ellen White explains, that while the pilgrims came to the new world, to escape the anti-Christ, that they carried the attitude of anti-Christ with them to the New World:



"It was the desire for liberty of conscience that inspired the Pilgrims to brave the perils of the long journey across the sea, to endure the hardships and dangers of the wilderness, and with God's blessing to lay, on the shores of America, the foundation of a mighty nation. Yet honest and God-fearing as they were, the Pilgrims did not yet comprehend the great principle of religious liberty. The freedom which they sacrificed so much to secure for themselves, they were not equally ready to grant to others. "Very few, even of the foremost thinkers and moralists of the seventeenth century, had any just conception of that grand principle, the outgrowth of the New Testament, which acknowledges God as the sole judge of human faith." (W. Carlos Martyn, The Life and Times of Luther, Vol. 5, p. 297. The doctrine that God has committed to the church the right to control the conscience and to define and punish heresy, is one of the most deeply rooted of papal errors. - The Great Controversy, pp. 292-3



2 Timothy 3:16 tells us that the Scriptures are profitable for doctrine and correction. I can only define God's law by what is in the Scriptures, but not by my personal opinions or traditions, like the Pharisees in Christ's time and religious leaders in the Dark Ages did. I am not the interpreter of the Law for the whole world, nor, can I think to change times and laws to meet with my own opinions or inclinations. Since I am not the Lawgiver, I cannot judge people by my own standards.

While open sin must be dealt with by the community of believers, according to 1 Corinthians 6, I as an individual cannot judge inward motives. In judging outward actions we must still be careful. Joseph almost put poor Mary away thinking he had all the evidence of an affair. Even with his overwhelming evidence, he was wrong! Even with all his evidence, he tried to put her away privately, without any public embarrassment. What a great example for us to imitate. Even with his incontrovertible evidence, Joseph was not going to judge Mary's heart.

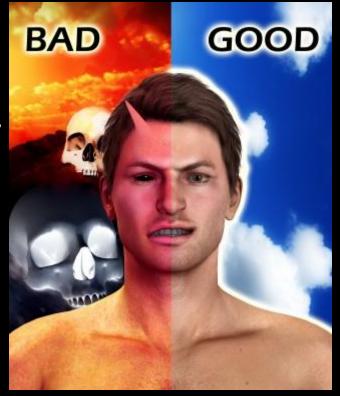




In 1 Corinthians 6, Paul teaches that churches, not individuals, to judge open and outward actions very carefully. He teaches no one to judge the heart and inward motives. 2 Timothy 3:16 tells us God and the Scriptures alone tell us what is right and wrong. I am not the Lawgiver or the interpreter of the law for the rest of the world.

Only the Lord our God is our Lawgiver and Judge, and when we judge people according to our own standards, opinions and understanding, we usurp the throne of God and become an anti-Christ.

"From the beginning it has been Satan's studied plan to cause men to forget God, that he might secure them to himself. Hence he has sought to misrepresent the character of God, to lead men to cherish a false conception of Him. The Creator has been presented to their minds as clothed with the attributes of the prince of evil himself,—as arbitrary, severe, and unforgiving,—that He might be feared, shunned, and even hated by men. Satan hoped to so confuse the minds of those whom he had deceived that they would put God out of their knowledge. Then he would obliterate the divine image in man and impress his own likeness upon the soul; he would imbue men with his own spirit and make them captives according to his will." - 5 Testimonies 738.1



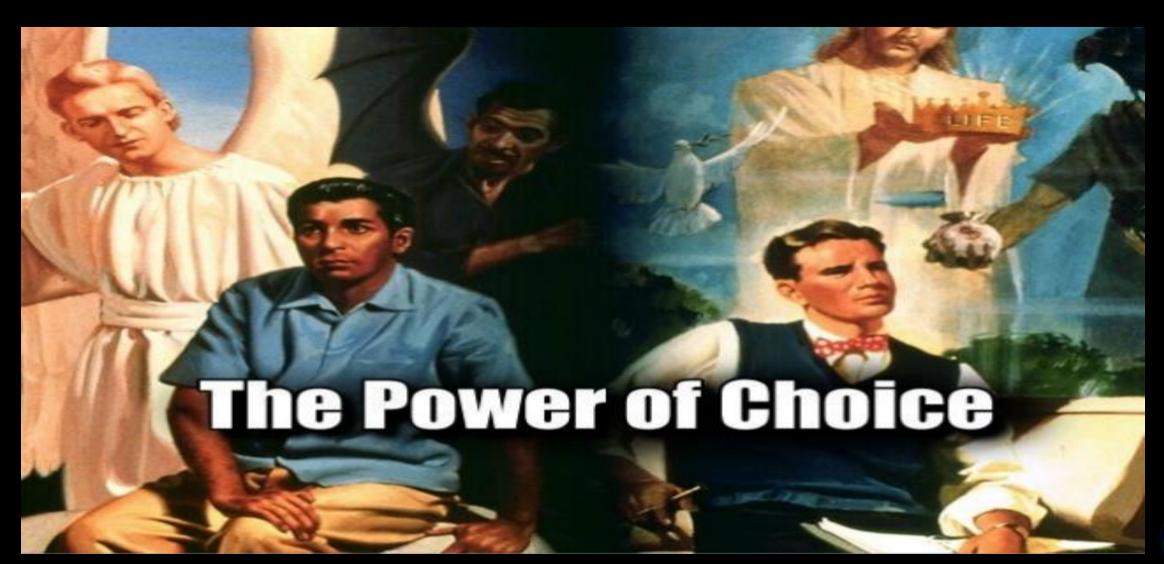


Conclusion

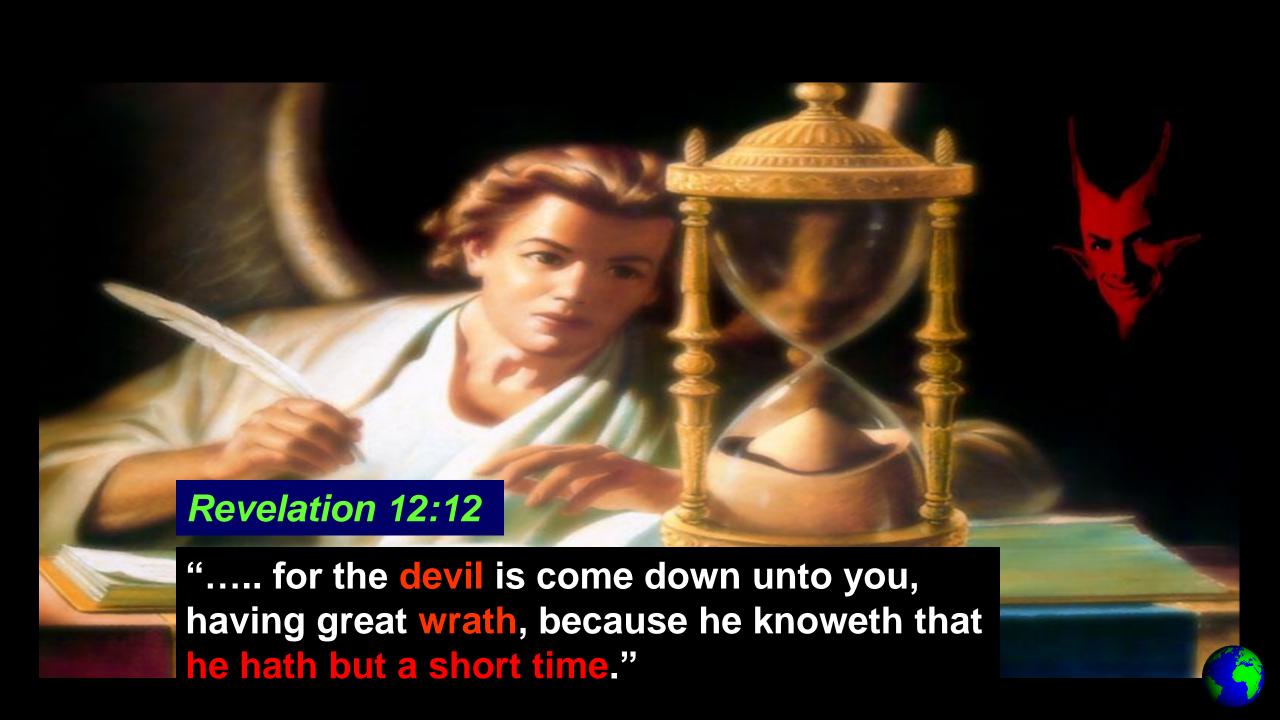
"In his own strength, man cannot meet the charges of the enemy. In sin-stained garments, confessing his guilt, he stands before God. But Jesus, our Advocate, presents an effectual plea in behalf of all who by repentance and faith have committed the keeping of their souls to Him. He pleads their cause, and by the mighty arguments of Calvary, vanquishes their accuser. His perfect obedience to God's law has given Him all power in heaven and in earth, and He claims from His Father mercy and reconciliation for guilty man. To the accuser of His people He declares: 'The Lord rebuke thee, O Satan. These are the purchase of My blood, brands plucked from the burning'. And to those who rely on Him in faith, He gives the assurance, 'Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment'. Zechariah 3:4". - Prophets and Kings, pages 586, 587.



God has given all:







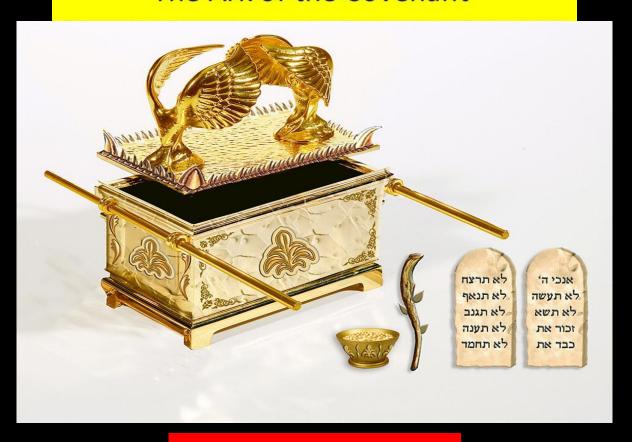
Enter The Ark of Hope

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

- John 10:16



The Ark of the Covenant



Psalms 77:13

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. -Revelation 3:20





