

Revelation, Part 16

The Antichrist

Rev 13:1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. 2 Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. 4 So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. 6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. 7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. 8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear. 10 He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

I think we all know who John is talking about here. Back in Revelation 12:3 pretty much the same description was used: seven heads, ten horns, and crowns". Antichrist is mentioned all over the Bible and often using this description or one similar to it. We will dissect each of these and try to understand what all this means, but before we do that we need to go look at some background material, which will be helpful in understanding this person, his origins and what he will do. John Walvoord says Daniel is the key to prophetic revelation, so that is where we are going next.

Daniel

Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, conquered Jerusalem in 597BC, taking Jews into captivity. Nebuchadnezzar selected aristocratic young Jews to be taken as slaves, and Daniel was a member of the Jewish aristocracy and maybe even part of the royal family.

The *Book of Daniel* is largely a chronicle of Daniel's experiences in captivity and is loaded with prophecy mainly relating to his people, Israel, both immediately after the captivity and long into the future to events we are currently studying in Revelation. The prophecies were so accurate that some critics dismiss Daniel as a second-century BC forgery instead of a sixth-century BC prophet.

Daniel wrote the first seven chapters in Aramaic, a Gentile Semitic language, and then switched to Hebrew for the rest. The first seven chapters deal mainly with Gentile-related issues, thus Aramaic, while chapter eight forward deals with issues relating mainly to Israel, thus Hebrew. We are not going to do a verse-by-verse of Daniel now, but we will be looking at some specific prophecies in chapters 2, 7, and 9 relating to our study in Revelation. We begin in chapter 2.

The King's dream

In Daniel 2, Nebuchadnezzar has a dream that troubles him greatly, and he calls for his wise men, astrologers, magicians, and soothsayers to interpret the dream. To test their truthfulness and accuracy, Nebuchadnezzar tells them they must first describe his dream to him and then interpret it. As you might imagine they cannot do that and tell the king so, "There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean."

Wrong answer! The king condemns the whole lot to death, but this would also include Daniel and his friends as "wise men". Daniel learns of this and prays to God for an interpretation of the dream, which is granted. So Daniel gets an audience with the king and tells him he can interpret the dream. Same deal as before. He must describe the dream and then interpret it. Here is Daniel's reply.

Dan 2:31 "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. 32 This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. 34 You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay,

and broke them in pieces. 35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

36 “This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king. 37 You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; 38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all — you are this head of gold. 39 But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. 40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others. 41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. 43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay. 44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. 45 Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.”

Nebuchadnezzar saw a giant sculptured image that was made in five parts

- Gold head
- Chest and arms of silver
- Belly and thighs of bronze
- Legs of iron
- Feet and ten toes a mixture of iron and clay

Daniel says this statue represents five kingdoms.

- Gold head (v 36-38) Is Nebuchadnezzar. “For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory.”
- Chest and arms of silver (v 39a). “But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours...” That is the Medo Persian Kingdom that conquered the Babylonians in 539BC. The two arms represent the two kingdoms Media and Persia that combined to defeat the Babylonians. Though this kingdom lasted over 200 years it is considered inferior to the Babylonian Kingdom.
- Belly and thighs of bronze (v 39b). This was the Grecian Empire. Alexander the Great conquered the Medo-Persians between 334 and 330 b.c. and assumed authority over its peoples and territory. Alexander’s conquests extended the Greek Empire as far east as the northwestern portion of India—an extensive empire that seemingly was over “all the earth”.
- Legs of iron (v 40-43). The legs of iron represent the Roman Empire. This fourth kingdom conquered the Greek Empire in 63 BC. Though the Roman Empire was divided into two legs and culminated in a mixture of iron and clay in the feet, it was one empire. This empire was characterized by its strength, as iron is stronger than bronze, silver, and gold, stronger than any of the previous empires, and crushed all those that had preceded it.
- Feet and ten toes a mixture of iron and potters clay. The empire that began as iron regressed to a state of clay mixed with iron. This mixture speaks of progressive weakness and deterioration. Two metals together form an alloy that may be stronger than either of the metals individually, but iron and clay cannot be mixed. The Aramaic word translated as “potters” (or “ceramic” or “miry” in some translations) suggests this clay is weak. We have contrasting elements with contrasting characteristics. There was no “kingdom” that followed Rome that could fit this description so it is assumed to be some future kingdom.

Look at verse 44 “And in the days of these kings the God of Heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed”. The days of what kings (plural)? The ten toes represent ten kingdoms that are combined under this final version of the Roman Empire, the iron and clay kingdom.

A stone “not made with hands,” meaning not manmade strikes the iron/ clay feet' final kingdom, destroying it and all the others can be none other than Christ at the Second Advent. The kingdom that God sets up and that

follows these feet of clay and iron is an eternal kingdom that replaces ALL other kingdoms. And I think the context suggests the replaced kingdoms are “all other kingdoms” in existence at that time. That Kingdom is, of course, the Kingdom of God that follows the Tribulation. If the iron represents the old Roman Empire, most see the iron and clay as the so-called Revived Roman Empire of the Tribulation that precedes and will be destroyed by the Eternal Kingdom.

The mixture of elements that do not mix weakens the iron. Though Rome succeeded in conquering the territories that came under its influence, it never could unite the people to form a united empire. Some see the problem for Rome as that it was a mixture of numerous races and cultures that could not be brought together. Europe is currently being invaded by Islam and is creating weakened governments that are struggling to deal with this foreign culture and all its practices. If the Tribulation is near, then my money is on Muslims being the clay that weakens the unity of this final version of the kingdom which is likely some form of the current European Union.

The Future Eternal Kingdom

Amillennialists hold that this Eternal Kingdom was established by Christ at His First Advent and now the church is that kingdom.

Premillennialists, however, hold that the kingdom to be established by Christ on earth is yet future. At least six points favor that view:

1. The stone will become a mountain suddenly, not gradually, and “mountain” is likely used here to represent a government. Christianity did not suddenly fill “the whole earth” (Dan. 2:35) at Christ’s First Advent, nor did it become a worldwide rule.
2. Though Christ came in the days of the Roman Empire, He did not destroy it as the “Stone” does.
3. During Christ’s time on earth, the Roman Empire did not have ten kings at once, yet Nebuchadnezzar’s statue suggests that when Christ comes to establish His Kingdom, ten rulers will be in existence and will be destroyed by Him.
4. Though Christ is now the Chief Cornerstone to the church (Eph. 2:20) and “a stone that causes [unbelievers] to stumble” (1 Peter 2:8), He is not yet a “smiting Stone,” as He will be when He comes again.

5. The Stone (Messiah) will crush and end all the kingdoms of the world, but the Church has not and will not conquer the world's kingdoms.
6. The Church is not a kingdom with a political realm, but Christ's rule in the future Millennium will be.

Nebuchadnezzar's dream clearly teaches premillennialism, that Christ will return to Earth to establish His rule on the Earth, thereby subduing all nations. The Church is not that kingdom.

Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar were shown a glimpse of the future, not only the immediate future for the next 600 years but out beyond 2,600 years and our future. Daniel, in his visions, was not shown the intercalary period we call the Church Age. The events Daniel was shown were chronological without the interruption of the Church Age. Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar saw up to the time of Christ and the Roman Empire in existence at that time, the iron legs. The next thing he was shown was the kingdom in power during the time of Daniel's Seventieth Week, the feet and toes of iron and clay. He was not shown the two thousand years (so far) between Christ's first and second coming.

Now turn to Daniel chapter 7 where we have another vision. These events take place when Daniel was about 68 years old (taken captive at 16).

Daniel 7:1 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. 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. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. 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. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

The word translated “winds” may also be rendered “spirits” and even “angels” which is likely the meaning here. Elsewhere in Scripture, this word is used to refer to God’s providential actions in the affairs of men through angels. Note they are “of heaven”. Daniel also sees four “beasts” come up out of the agitated Great Sea which could be the Mediterranean Sea, meaning the nations around it, or the “sea” of people representing Gentiles, or it could be both. “Beast” is an Aramaic word that translates to “wild animals” and here represents four kingdoms. The first beast was like a lion, an animal symbolizing power and strength. This lion had eagle wings, which speak of swiftness. Interestingly, the lion and eagle were both symbols of Babylon (cf. Jer. 4:7, 13; Ezek. 17:3). The violent wrenching of the wings from the lion would deprive it of its great mobility. This could refer to Nebuchadnezzar’s insanity or to his empire’s deterioration after his death.

The lion’s rising up on two feet (its hind legs) made it look more like a man. The fact that it received a man’s heart suggests that the animal lost its beastly nature and showed compassion. This may refer to Nebuchadnezzar’s humanitarian interests.

“The second beast was like a bear, an animal of formidable strength” (Dan 7:5). This represents Medo-Persia, the empire that followed Babylon. The Medo-Persian army was strong and fierce (Isa. 13:15-18). Unlike the grace of the man-like lion, the bear was ponderous and ungainly. It was reclining with one side higher than the other, “It was raised up on one side” (V5). This suggests that though Persia rose later than Media, Persia soon overshadowed the Medes in their united kingdom. The three ribs in the bear’s mouth probably represent the kingdoms of Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt, three nations conquered by the Medes and Persians.

The bear was told to devour flesh. This command suggests that kingdoms operate by divine appointment and not their own authority. In devouring other kingdoms and extending its territory into a vast empire, the bear was fulfilling God’s purpose.

The third beast Daniel saw was like a leopard, an animal noted for its swiftness (v 6). This beast had four wings “of a bird,” stressing a swiftness

beyond its natural capacity. An additional feature of this beast is that it had four heads and authority to rule was given it. The kingdom that conquered Medo-Persia was Greece, which did so with great speed, conquering the entire empire between 334 and 330 BC. A few years after Alexander died his kingdom was divided into four parts (cf. Dan. 8:8, 22) and became four kingdoms united.

We have a vision that is running parallel to the giant statue we saw in Daniel 2. Now, watch this...

Dan 7: 7 “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; 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. 8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, 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.”

Daniel now describes the fourth beast. Instead of likening it to some known animal Daniel simply called it a “beast”. Apparently, it was a mongrel composed of parts of a lion, bear, and leopard-like the beast in Rev. 13:2.

Rev 13:2 Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.

This fourth beast was more terrifying and powerful than the three preceding beasts, which were all ferocious and destructive. This beast has large iron teeth with which it was able to crush and devour its prey. The empire represented by this mongrel beast had crushed and assimilated into itself the three previous empires described as the lion, the bear, and the leopard. “It trampled underfoot whatever was left...” (Dan. 7:19). A significant feature of this fourth and different beast was that it had 10 horns which, according to verse 24, represents ten kings.

Dan 7:15 “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 arise out of the earth. 18 But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

Daniel was disturbed by his dream. Though he had demonstrated the ability to interpret dreams on previous occasions, he could not interpret this one or his next one. So he called on one of those standing nearby, apparently the angel later identified as Gabriel (8:16; 9:21), to interpret the vision to him. It was explained that the four great beasts represent four kingdoms. The fifth and "forever kingdom" is the everlasting Kingdom of God.

Dan 7:19 "Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet; 20 and the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.

Notice that Daniel spends little time on the first three beasts. The same applies to the first three kingdoms of the great statue Nebuchadnezzar saw in his dream. His focus is always on that fourth kingdom or beast. Daniel is uninterested in the first three because the fourth is, by far and away, the most important and has the most impact on both Israel and mankind in general. God put it in Daniel's heart to fear this kingdom.

Though Daniel seems to have had no difficulty in interpreting the significance of the first three beasts, it was the fourth beast that caused him consternation, and he asked the angel (probably Gabriel) to interpret the meaning of the beast and its ten horns, and the other horn that came up among the ten that was so imposing. What is represented by the ten horns and particularly the little horn is of great significance, for from this point on to the end of the prophecy, Daniel concerned himself with the revelation about the person and work of the individual represented by this little horn.

Dan 7:21-22 "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, 22 until the Ancient of

Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.

Several facts about this little horn had already been revealed to Daniel (v. 8):

- It came after the 10 horns (kings) were in existence and were contemporaneous with them.
- It uprooted 3 of the 10 horns (kings).
- It was intelligent (it had the eyes of a man).
- It was arrogant and boastful (v 11).

Now three additional facts are given (v 21-22):

- He will persecute the saints of the Most High.
- Obviously, the horn represents a person. In Dan 7:24 he is said to be a king. The “saints” refers primarily to the nation Israel (V 18). His persecution of Israel will take place in the Tribulation.
- He will overcome (he was defeating) the nation Israel and will bring that nation under his authority (Rev. 12:13-17; 17:7).
- He will be judged by God (Rev. 19:19-20). Israel, no longer under the rule of the little horn, will enter into her covenanted blessings in the kingdom (Dan. 7:18).

Dan 7:23 “Thus he said:

‘The fourth beast shall be
A fourth kingdom on earth,
Which shall be different from all other kingdoms,
And shall devour the whole earth,
Trample it and break it in pieces.

Though historically the sphere of the fourth beast, though greater than the extent of each of the previous three kingdoms, was limited, the sphere of this coming ruler in the fourth kingdom will be worldwide. Daniel was told that this empire will devour the whole earth (Rev. 13:7). And it will be a ferocious conquest, in which that kingdom will “trample and break” those who oppose it.

This anticipates a coming one-world government under a worldwide dictator. This “king” that rules the “world” is Antichrist. Many struggle with the concept of Antichrist being able to exert his rule over the entire earth, myself included, and I don’t think he does. The reference to the “whole

earth” may be a reference to what was the known world in Daniel’s and Christ’s day which was limited to much of but not all of modern Europe, the Middle East, the Far East, Russia, and northern Africa. And that may be what is referred to here. The specific nations mentioned elsewhere in prophecy concerning the end times are all nations that would be part of the above geographical areas.

Dan 7:24 The ten horns are ten kings
Who shall arise from this kingdom.
And another shall rise after them;
He shall be different from the first ones,
And shall subdue three kings.

The angel then interpreted the meaning of the ten horns, stating that they are ten kings in this kingdom. The fourth empire, despite its great power, will be characterized by progressive division and possibly weakness resulting from the division — the iron and clay feet.

When the hordes from the North conquered the Roman Empire in the fifth century AD, they did not unite to form another empire. Instead, individual nations emerged out of the old Roman Empire. Some of those nations and others stemming from them have continued till the present day. Some hold this present age is the ten-horned era of the fourth beast. Other premillennialists, however, hold that the time of the ten horns is yet future, that the present Church Age is not seen in this vision, and that ten kings will coexist over a future revived [or realigned] Roman Empire which I believe is the correct interpretation. Daniel was not shown the Church Age in his Seventy Weeks Prophecy, so why would he be allowed to see that here?

Sometime after the rise of the ten horns, and no clue was given to Daniel as to how much later, another king (the little horn, 7:8, 20) will arise. The ten horns or kings are not successive but reign simultaneously because the Little Horn disrupts three of the ten horns as it comes up. Note also that he is not given the title of king here. In his rise to power, he will subdue three kings (called three horns in v. 8). That is, he will bring three of the ten nations under his authority in his initial rise to power is the way some see this. I think it is stronger than that. The word translated “subdue” means to bring low and is also translated “humble,” “abase,” and “put

down”. Three kingdoms resist his authority and are subdued either by violence or by some non-violent form of treachery overcoming their resistance to his rise to power. They don’t submit to the Little Horn readily.

Dan 7:25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High,
Shall persecute the saints of the Most High,
And shall intend to change times and law.
Then the saints shall be given into his hand
For a time and times and half a time.

Here we see the Little Horn or the Antichrist in action. Besides several facts already given about this coming king, three additional ones are now revealed:

1. He will oppose God’s authority. He will speak against the Most High (cf. Rev. 13:6).
2. He will oppress His saints (Israel).
3. He will introduce an entirely new era in which he will abandon all previous laws and institute his own system.

This changing the “times and laws” probably refers to changing the religious observances and religious traditions. We know he will set an “image” of himself up in the Temple and demand worship of himself. This passage seems to suggest that and perhaps more. As in Daniel 9:27, he will appear as Israel’s friend but will become Israel’s persecutor (the saints will be handed over to him), and he will occupy Jerusalem. In Dan 11:45, which gives details of the campaign of Armageddon, it says, “And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain, yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him) for three and one-half years”. The seas must be the Med and the Dead Sea, and the holy mountain probably refers to Jerusalem.

Rev 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Rev 13:5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.

A time, times, and half a time refer to the three and one-half years of the Great Tribulation, with “a time” meaning one year, “times” two years, and “half a time” six months. This equals the 1,260 days in Revelation 12:6 and the 42 months in Revelation 11:2 and 13:5.

Dan 7:26 ‘But the court shall be seated,
And they shall take away his dominion,
To consume and destroy it forever.
27 Then the kingdom and dominion,
And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven,
Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.
His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.’

When the Judge, God the Father, convenes the court, that is, when He judges the Little Horn, his power will be removed and he will be destroyed. This will occur at the Second Advent of Christ. At the beginning of the Millennium, the Son of Man will be given authority to rule (cf. Dan. 7:14), And He will rule over the saints, the people of the Most High (Israel) which has been bound to God by God’s covenant with Abraham. This kingdom will not be overthrown or superseded by another. It will continue in the Millennium and on forever. All peoples and kings will worship and obey Him.

Relax! I’ve read the end of the book. We win!

Dan 7:28 “This is the end of the account. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed; but I kept the matter in my heart.”

This prophetic panorama of the times of the Gentiles was so awesome to Daniel that he was deeply moved. He did not share the vision with anyone at the time, but later when he wrote the prophecies that bear his name, he recorded what had been revealed to him in the vision. One cannot escape the parallels between the truths revealed to Daniel here and what was revealed to Nebuchadnezzar early in his reign. Both cover the span of the times of the Gentiles. Both dreams indicate that Israel and her land will be ruled over by four successive world empires.

- The first was Babylon, represented by the head of gold and the winged lion.
- The second was the Medo-Persian Empire, represented by the chest and arms of silver and the bear raised up on one side.
- The third was the Grecian Empire, represented by the belly and thighs of bronze and the four-headed winged leopard.
- The fourth was the Roman Empire, represented by the legs of iron with feet mixed with clay and by the mongrel beast. The iron-like strength of the fourth empire is seen in the iron legs (2:40) and the beast's iron teeth (7:7).

Sovereignty passed from Assyria to Babylon in 609 BC, from Babylon to Persia in 539 BC, from Persia to Greece in 330 BC, and from Greece to Rome in the first century BC.

Toward the end of the times of the Gentiles, worldwide authority will be exercised by one called "a Little Horn" who will seek to prevent Christ's rule on the earth by destroying God's covenant people. His short reign of seven years (Daniel 9:27) will be terminated by the Second Advent of Christ. At His coming, Christ will establish His millennial kingdom on earth in fulfillment of God's covenant with Israel.

The amillennial view that the Little Horn has already appeared sometime in the past is wrong because:

- No such ruler has attained worldwide status (7:23),
- No such ruler has subdued 3 of 10 kings who were ruling at once (v. 24),
- No such ruler has persecuted Israel (v. 21) for three and one-half years (v. 25),
- No such ruler has been destroyed forever (v. 26) by Christ's return.

This Little Horn is the antichrist who will attempt to create his liberal utopia of total world governmental control of all aspects of life just like we are seeing being espoused even today. In his narcissism, he will think of himself to be like God. Indwelled by Satan and, in the bitter anger of his failure, he will attempt to destroy Israel.

We will continue to look into this person next session.