Three Angels, One Message God's Everlasting Gospel



By Pastor and Author John T. Anderson

Welcome & Announcements







For God So Loved the World, that He Gave His Only Begotten Son, that Whosoever Believeth in Him Should Not Perish, but Have Everlasting Life.

For God Sent Not His Som Into the World to Condemn the World; But that the World Through Him Might Be Saved. John 3:16-17





"Seven Faces of Apostasy" Evangelistic Series Sermon Eight









- 1. Authority from pagan Rome
- 2. Worldwide religious power
- 3. Claims equality with God
- 4. Persecuting Power
- 5. Reigns for 1260 years
- 6. Number of his name 666

Satan is the great deceiver, even appearing as an "angel of light."

Jesus warned of wolves in "sheep's clothing." Deception would come in the garb of Christianity!

Paul said that even if an angel came from heaven with a "different Gospel," he should be rejected. Galatians 1:8. The Holy Bible is our faithful Guide, the lamp for our footsteps! Psalm 119:105

"By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established."

Matthew 18:16

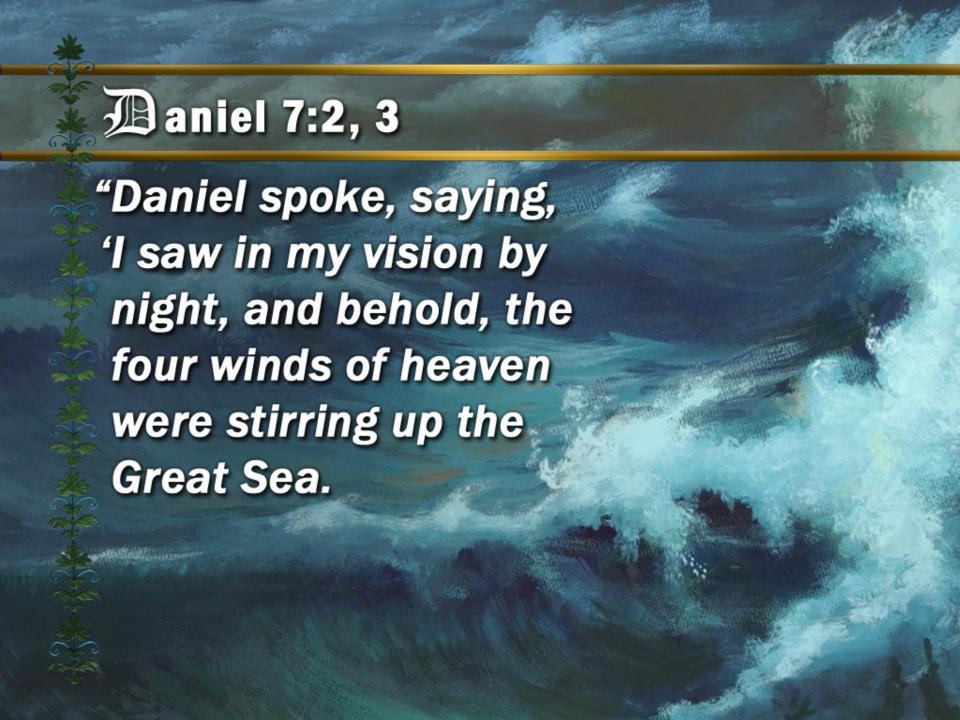
This is so important God provided 7 witnesses!

Seven Witnesses:

- 1. Three Old Testament Prophetic Pictures of the "Beast"
- 2. Four New Testament Prophetic Pictures of the "Beast"
- 3. Protestant Reformers and the "Beast"

The picture of apostasy in Daniel 7's "little horn."













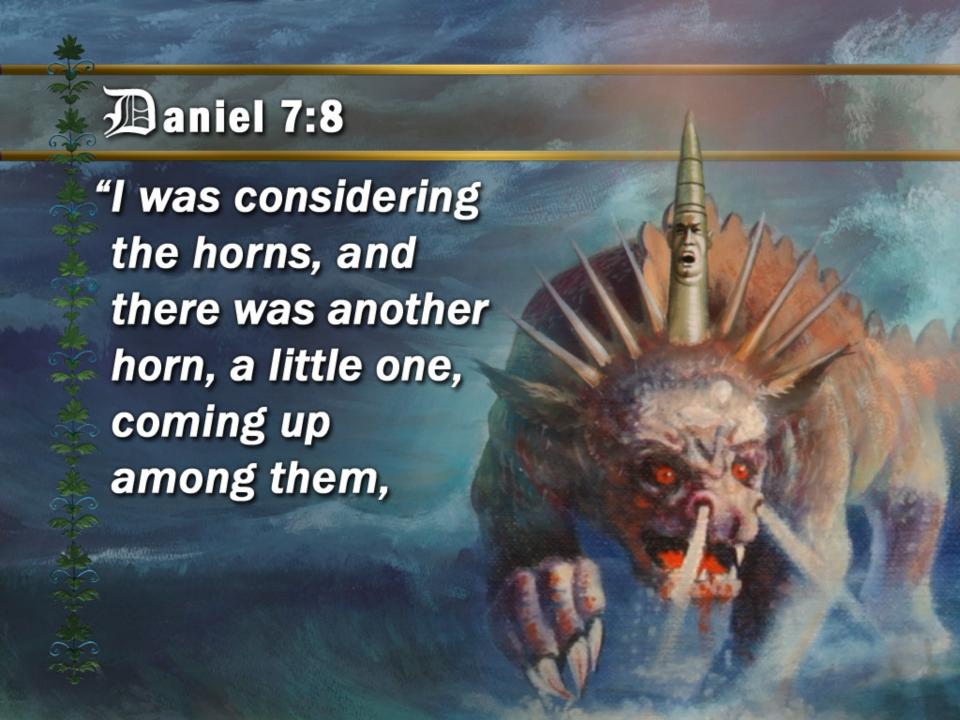


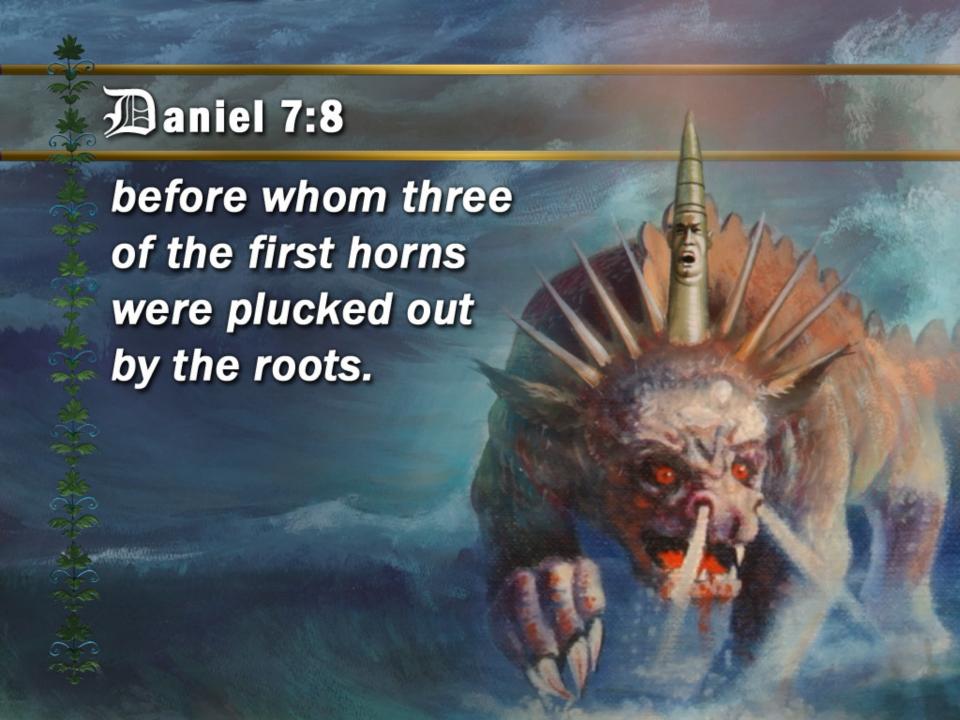


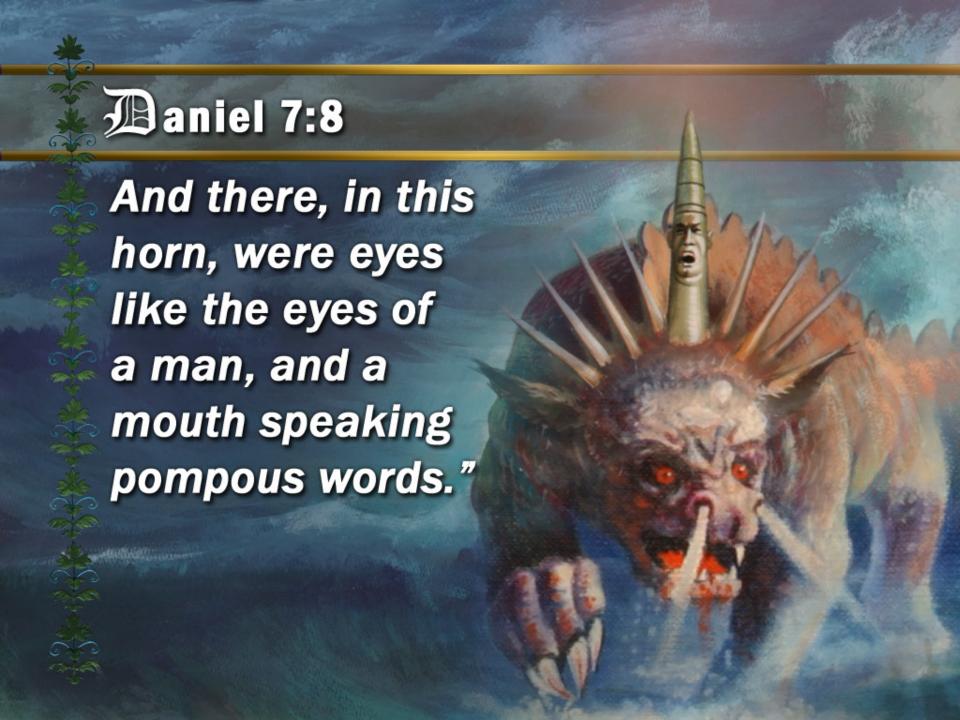














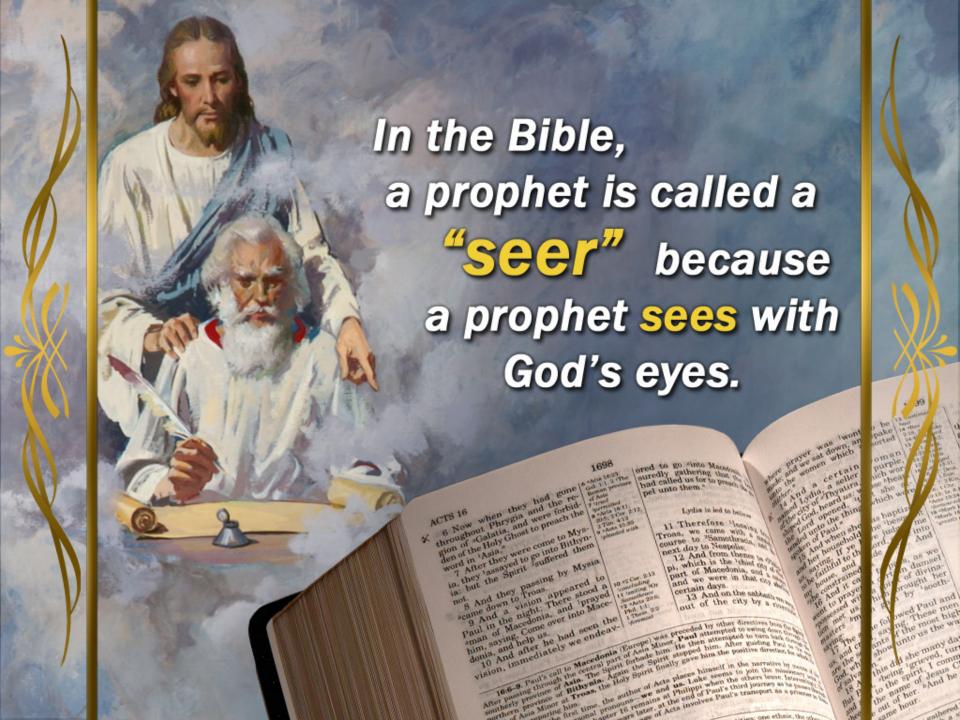


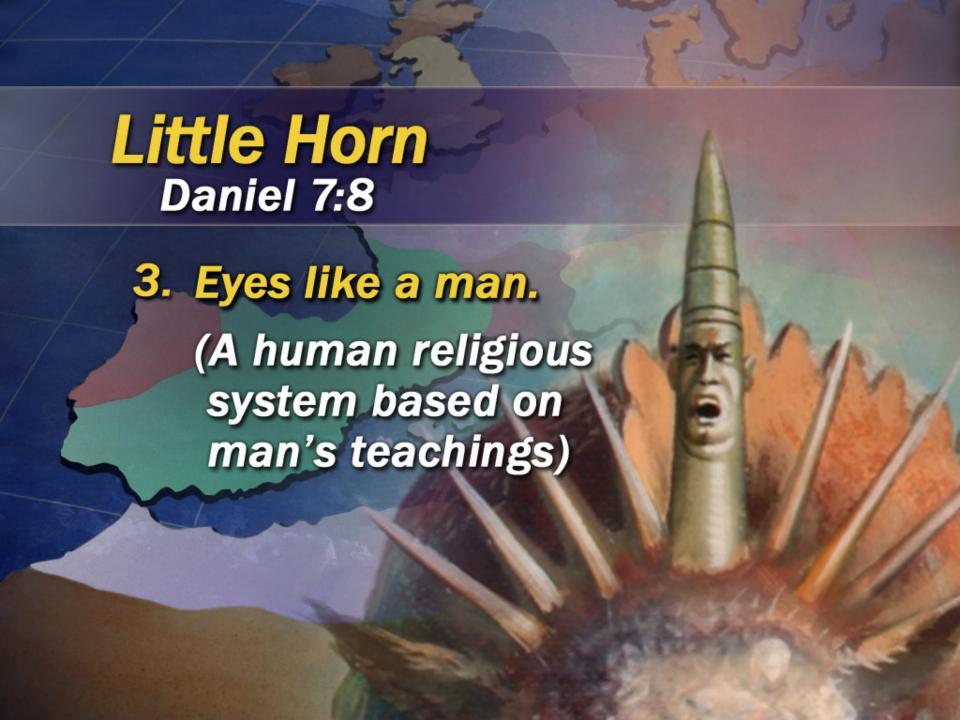


1. Arose among the ten horns.
(Western Europe)

2. Would arise after the ten horns.









3. Eyes like a man

(A human religious system based on man's teachings)

4. It is diverse.



3. Eyes like a man

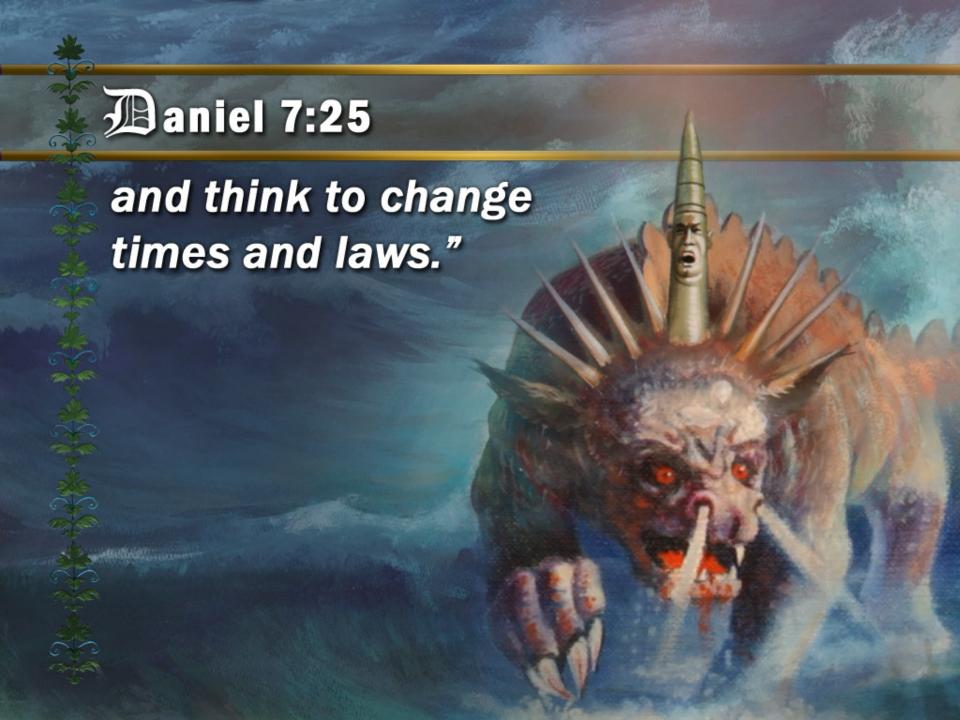
(A human religious system based on man's teachings)

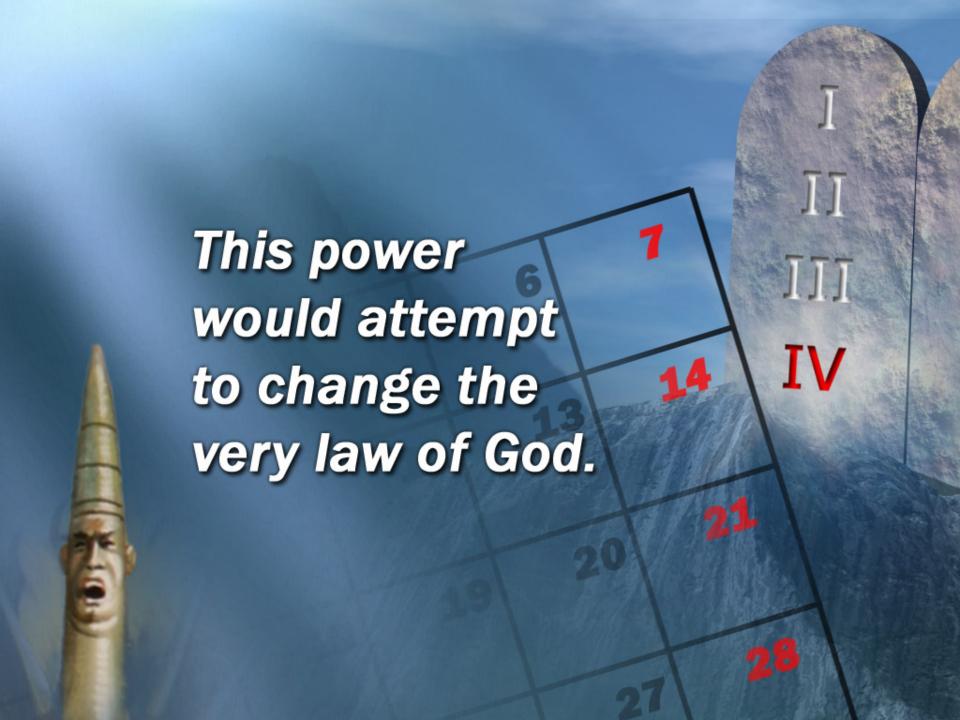
4. It is diverse.

(A religio-political power)

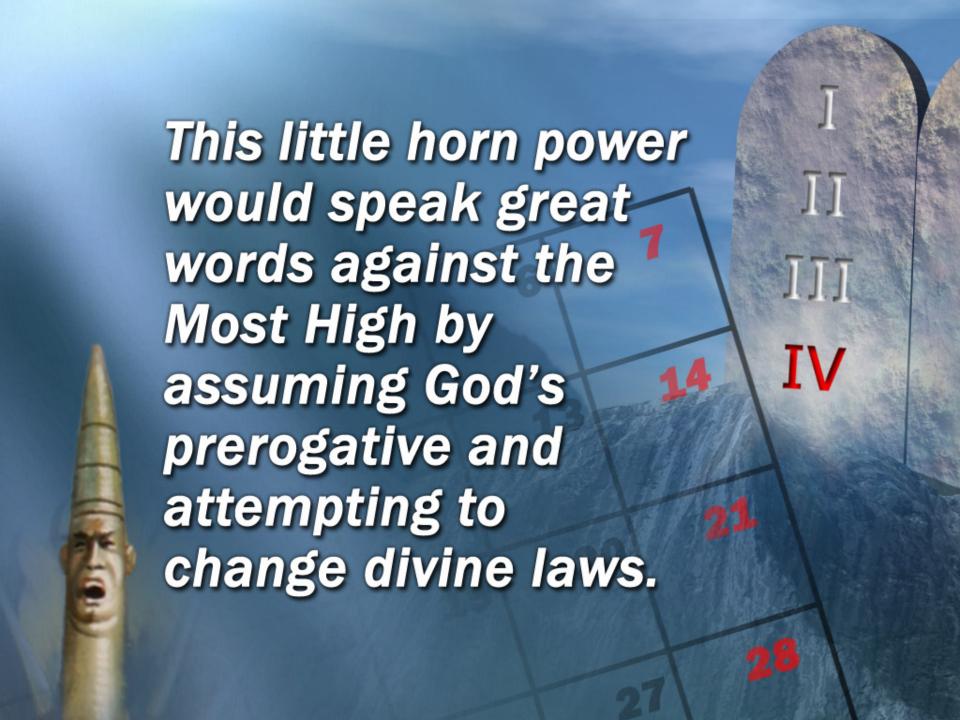


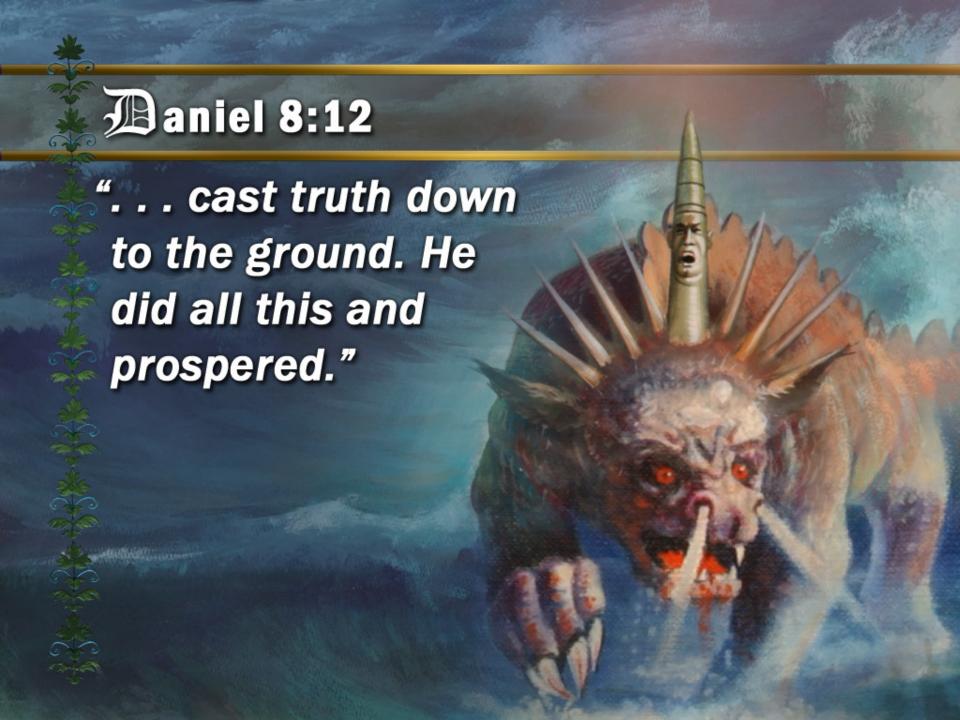














The Catholic World p.809 March 1994

"The Sun was a foremost god with heathendom . . . There is, in truth, something royal, kingly about the sun, making it a fit emblem of Jesus, the Sun of Justice.

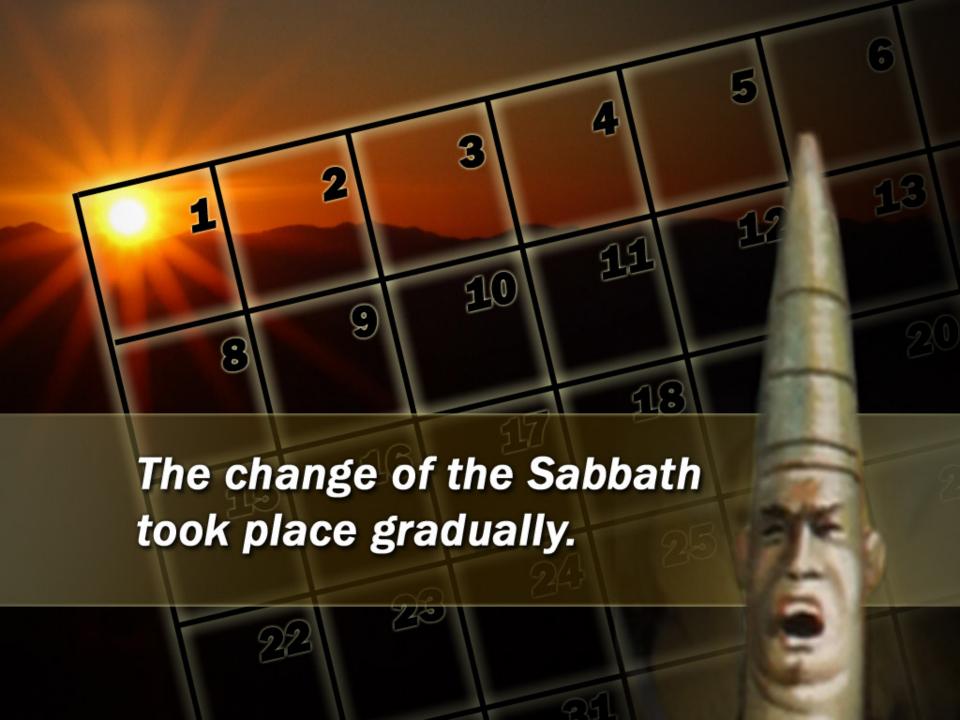
The Catholic World p.809 March 1994

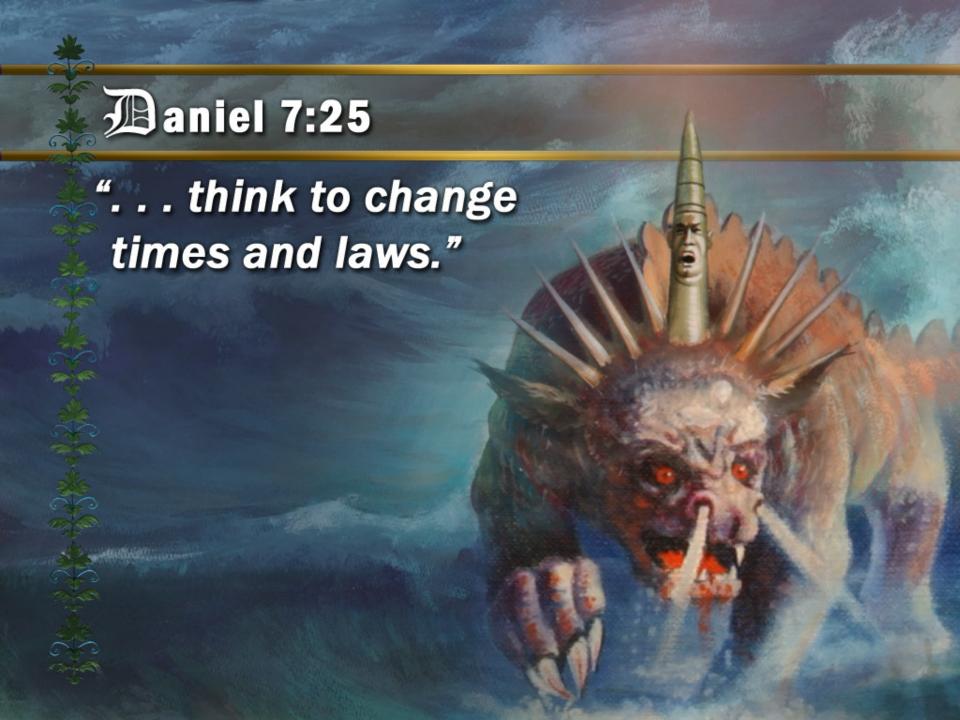
Hence the Church in these countries would seem to have said, 'Keep that old pagan name. It shall remain consecrated, sanctified.'

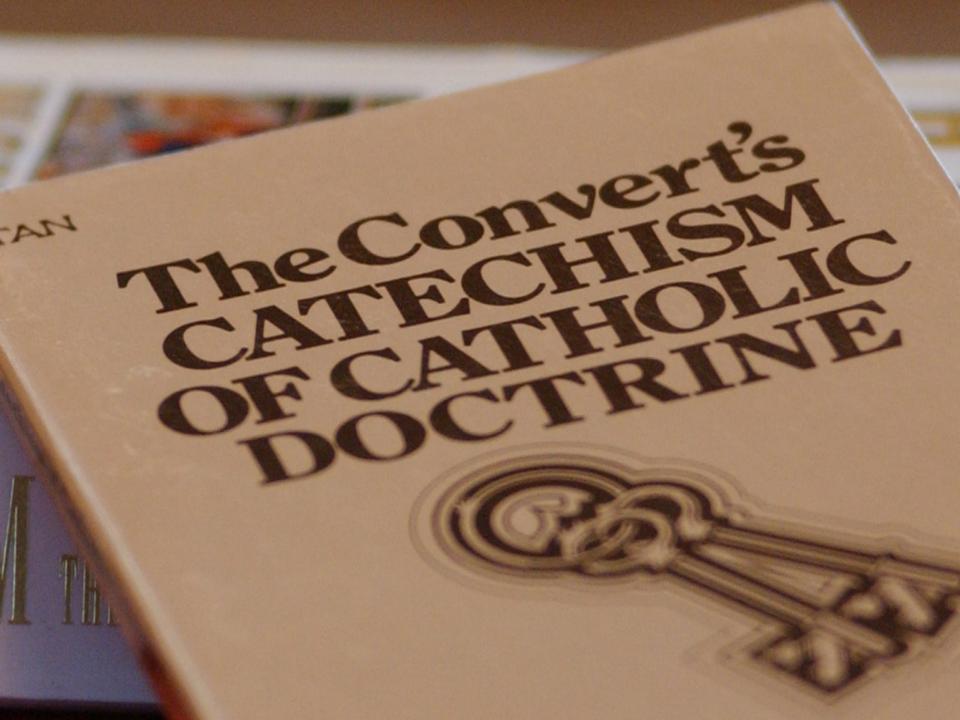
The Catholic World p.809 March 1994

And thus the pagan Sunday, dedicated to Balder, became the Christian Sunday, sacred to Jesus."





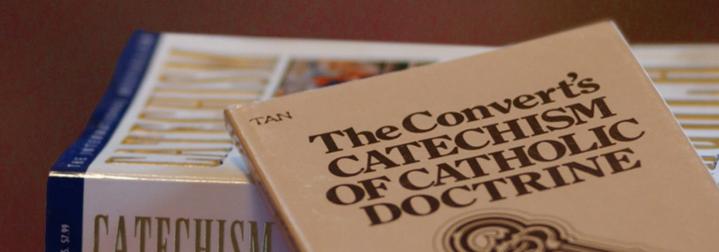




The Convert's Catechism

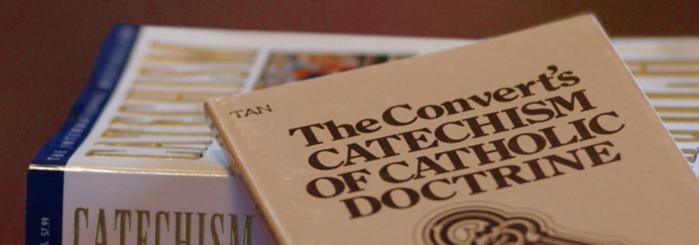
"Q. Which is the Sabbath day?

A. Saturday is the Sabbath Day.



The Convert's Catechism

- Q. Why do we observe Sunday instead of Sabbath?
- A. . . . because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday."



CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEI

The Catholic Encyclopedia vol. 4, p. 153

"The church, after changing the day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath of the seventh day of the week to the first

The Catholic Encyclopedia vol. 4, p. 153

made the third commandment refer to Sunday as the day to be kept holy as the Lord's Day."

ENCYCLOPE



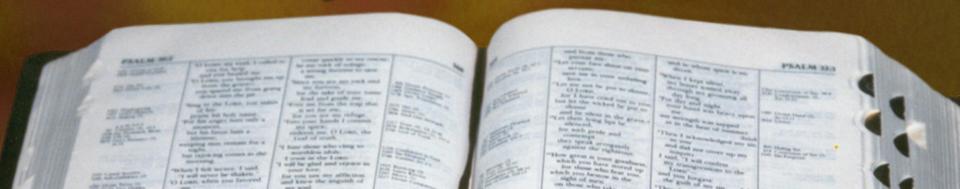


VI VII III. VIII IV IX X-1 X-2

VVI II VII III VIII IX IV X

Faith of Our Fathers p. 561 Cardinal James Gibbons

"You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday.



Faith of Our Fathers p. 561 Cardinal James Gibbons

The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday."







The horn of Daniel 7 made blasphemous claims, persecuted God's people and attempted to change God's holy law.



It came into being as pagan Rome was declining and enjoyed an uninterrupted reign of 1260 years.

Only the papacy fulfills the specifications of the horn power of Daniel 7, not "preterism" (Antiochus **Epiphanes**) or "futurism" (Antichrist coming at the end of the age).





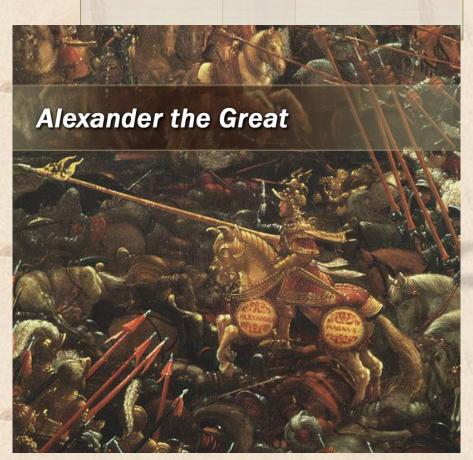


http://www.british-israel.us/40.html

A goat symbolized Greece



http://www.british-israel.us/40.html



Then he is shown a horn power, representing Rome, in both its civil and papal phases.

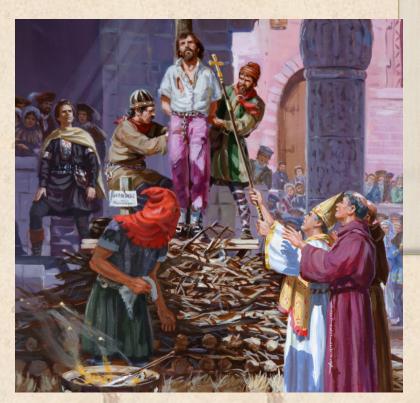
"And out of one of them (the four "winds") came a little horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious land.

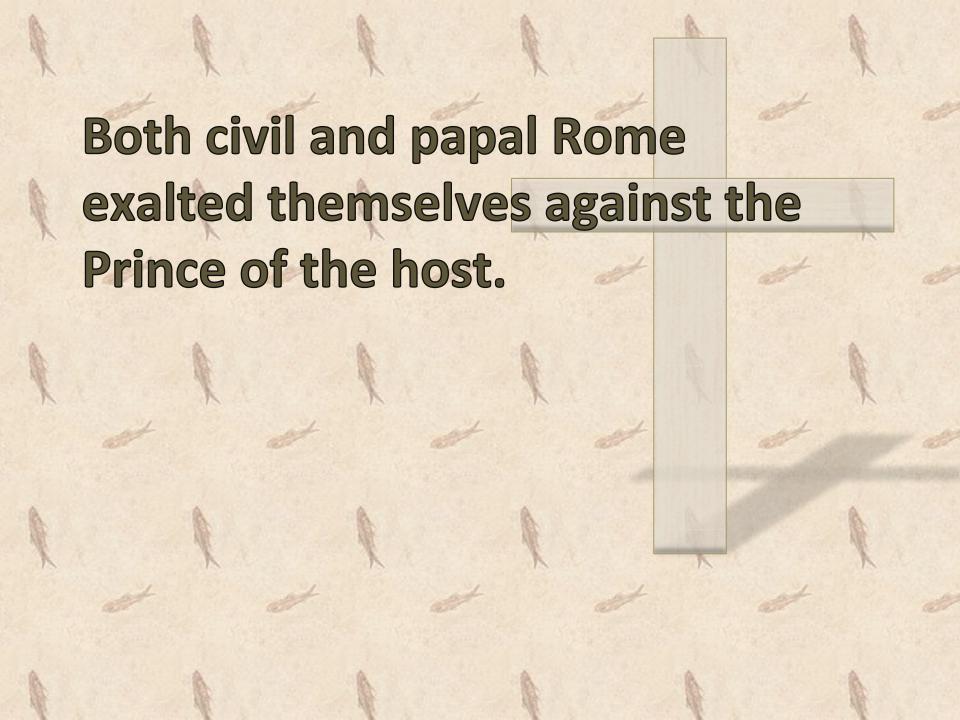


"And it grew up to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and some of the stars to the ground, and trampled them.

"He even exalted himself as high as the Prince (Hebrew: tsar) of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down....He cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered." **Daniel 8:9-12**

Both civil and papal Rome "trampled" on the "stars"; that is, they persecuted God's people.





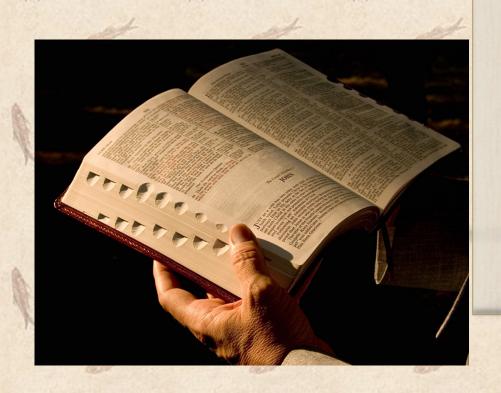
Both civil and papal Rome cast down His Sanctuary.



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b2/
Ercole de Roberti Destruction of Jerusalem Fighting Fleeing Marching Slaying

Burning Chemical reactions b.jpg

Both civil and papal Rome cast Truth down to the ground.



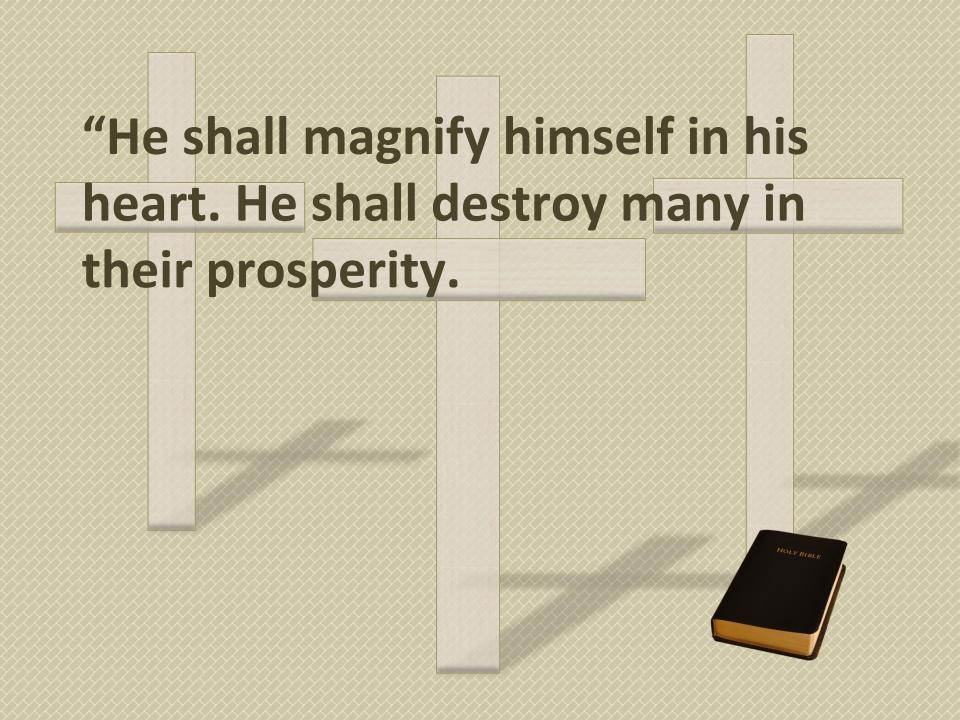
This scope of the this horn's activities, extending across many centuries, makes it certain that it's talking about a system, not one person.

This horn describes the philosophies and activities of Rome, especially in its papal

phase.



"He shall destroy fearfully, and shall prosper and thrive; he shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.



"He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without human hand." Daniel 8:24, 25

The specifications of Daniel 8's horn power fit perfectly with the other descriptions we've seen, and find fulfillment in the historical papacy.

There is one other picture of this power in the Old Testament: the "king of the north" in the latter part of Daniel 11.

The vision of Daniel 10-12 follows the same pattern as the statue dream of Daniel 2, the (wild) beasts of Daniel 7 and the (clean) beasts of Daniel 8.

It starts with "now" (Persia) and goes to the establishment of God's kingdom.

In the early verses, it predicts the activities of later Grecian rulers. The Seleucid rulers of Syria fighting against the Ptolemy rulers of Egypt, with Israel caught in between.

Sometimes in Bible prophecy, specific identities change when one assumes a role similar to another. Thus in Isaiah 14 it begins by addressing the "king of Babylon," but then moves seamlessly to addressing Lucifer, because the king of Babylon copied his thoughts and

In the same way, later in Daniel 11, the identity of the "king of the north" (representing the enemies of God's people; almost all of ancient Israel's enemies came from the "north") changes from Syria to the papacy.

We find this "king of the north" placing the "abomination of desolation." v. 31

During this time period (of the Middle Ages) many of God's faithful would "fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering." v. 33.

During this time the "king of the north" shall "exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished." v. 36.

"At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him." Who, in the "time of the end" is the "king of the South"? In its original setting, the "king of the South" stood for Egypt.

"Egypt" in the Bible stands for atheism. Pharaoh said to Moses, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go." Exodus 5:2.

The "king of the South" represents militant atheism, which has been on the march attacking God and His kingdom. God's people, the "Israel" of the last days, will find themselves "squeezed" between the opposing forces of militant atheism and fallen Christianity.

The "king of the north" will go out with "great fury to destroy and annihilate many" of God's children.

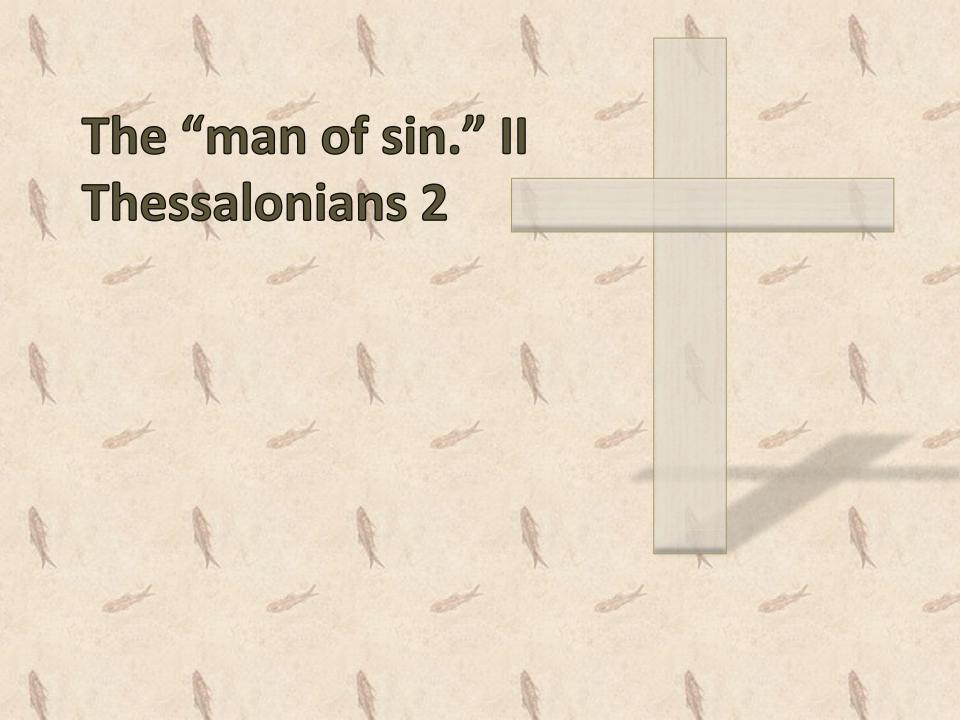
"He shall plant the tents of his palace (describing an enemy's invasion) between the seas and the glorious holy mountain (in the territory claimed by God);

"Yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him (similar to "broken without hand" 8:25)." v. 45.

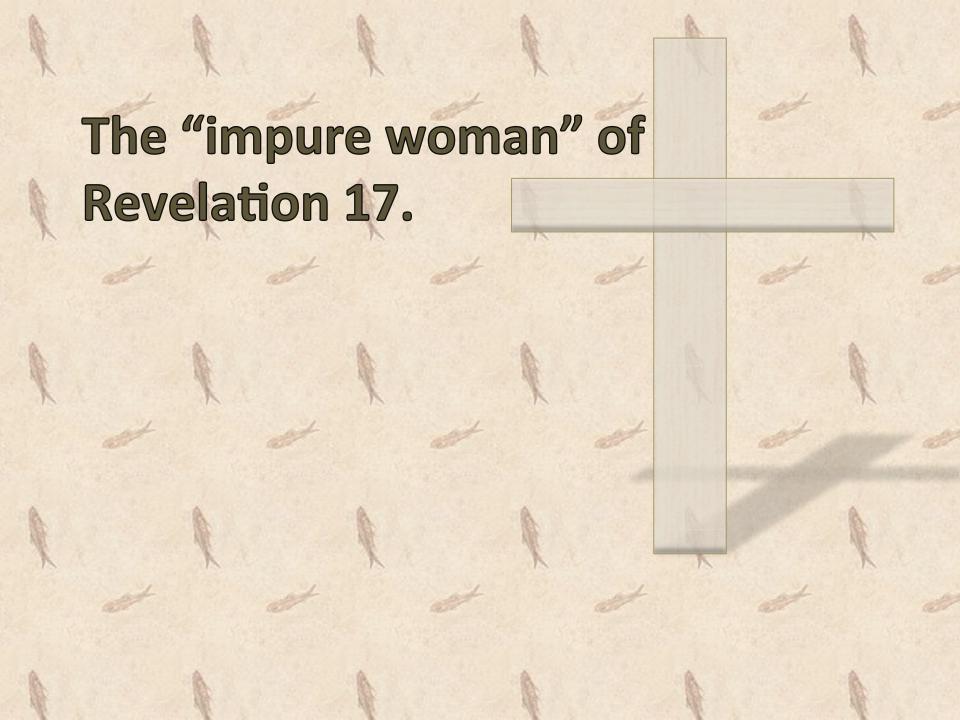
What does this mean? When this power (the papacy, under the symbol of the "king of the north") invades God's holy territory (attempts to coerce all into obeying its mandate in contrast to God's holy law), then will come the final "time of trouble" and the glorious

The persecuting, blasphemous, self-magnifying "king of the north" in the latter part of Daniel 11, along with the "horn power" of chapters 7 and 8, represents the historical papacy.

Along with the "beast" of Revelation 13 and 14, there are three other New Testament pictures of this entity.



The "Antichrist" I John 2 and 4



Paul warned the believers of his day that the day of Christ's coming would not come until there was a "falling away first."

"Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come.

"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

"Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

"Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work;

"Only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming." II Thessalonians 2:1-8.

Note that this "falling away" or apostasy, will claim to be Christian, but will be making blasphemous claims. Only one other time in Scripture is the term "son of perdition" used, referring to Judas Iscariot, who walked with Christ, but then betrayed Him.

When civil Rome was removed as a world power, then the papacy emerged. Again, the scope of this power makes it impossible for a "one person" application; it must be a system, a "kingdom." The papacy fulfills it perfectly.

John foretold of a coming "Antichrist." "Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

"Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.

"Every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world." I John 2:18, 22; 4:3.

Satan is the original and ultimate Antichrist! He is the one who declared, "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High." Isaiah 14:13, 14.

From the beginning, Satan has coveted the place, power and position belonging only to God. He wants to be worshiped.

As we've seen from the beginning, Satan's strategy is to use people to do his work for him. He used Eve to tempt Adam. He used the Sanhedrin, the religious leaders, to put Christ on the cross. His strategy hasn't changed.

Back in John's day, he could already see the seeds of apostasy begin to sprout. Those who left the safety of the Word of God and taught heresy were around in John's day. Paul saw the inroads of apostasy in his time.

Through the church of the Middle Ages, Satan has erected a magnificent deception, elevating "tradition" in the place of the Scriptures, changing God's holy law,

making it illegal to own a Bible, persecuting those who resisted, and laying claim to equality with God! All in the name of religion! The Roman Pontiff claims to be the "greatest bridge maker," "Pontifex Maximus." Amazing!

What does the term "Antichrist" mean? "Christ" must refer to Jesus. But what about that prefix anti?

We are familiar with the prefix "anti" as meaning "opposed to," or "against," as in "antigovernment."

The English language is derived roughly 50% from Latin words, 50% from Greek words. The prefix anti, coming from Latin most certainly means "against."

But the New Testament was not written in Latin, but in Greek.
What does the prefix anti mean in Greek?

It can mean "against," or "opposed to," but primarily it means "in the place of." Someone who "takes you place" can be "against" you, but not necessarily. "In the place of" is the primary emphasis of anti in Greek.

"When he (Joseph) heard that Archelous was reigning over Judea instead of (anti) his father Herod, he was afraid to go there." Matthew 2:22.

"For even the son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for (anti) man." Mark 10:45. What fits better as a meaning for anti? "against" or "in the place of"?

This word anti is used repeatedly in the Greek Old Testament (LXX) to describe the succession of kings. "And it happened after this that the king of the people of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his place." II Samuel 10:1.

There are literally scores of examples, more than 80 of them, of this type of usage of anti in the Septuagint, describing a king ruling in another's place.

"Then the king was deeply moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said thus: 'O my son Absalom--my son, my son Absalom--if only I had died in your place (anti)! O Absalom my son, my son!" II Samuel 18:33.

"So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of (anti) his son."
Genesis 22:13.

In identifying the Antichrist, we must look for an entity which, though its overall policies would stand in opposition to God, one of its key characteristics would be to stand in the place of God, or at least attempt to do so.

In all the pictures of apostasy given in Scripture, this blasphemous arrogance of attempting to take God's place has been highlighted.

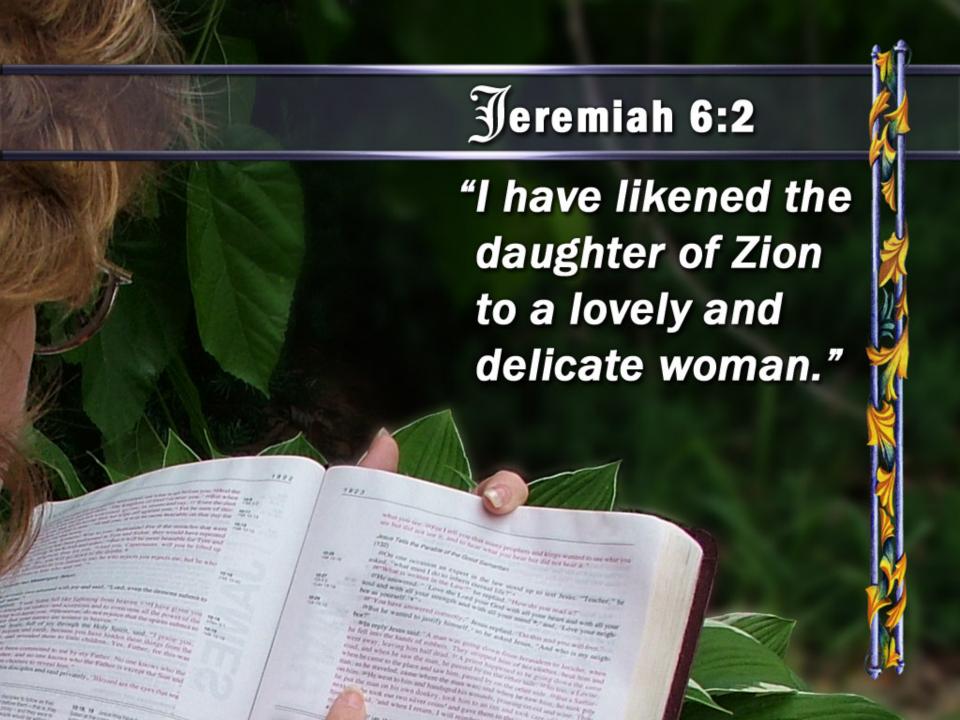
One of the pope's titles is "Vicar of the Son of God." "Vicar," coming from a Latin root, means "one who stands in the place of," as in the word "vicarious." The "Son of God" is Christ. "We hold on this earth the place of God Almighty."

The pope assumes the title "Vicar of the Son of God," using a term coming from Latin. Question: What if he wanted to use the same title, but employ words that came from Greek instead of Latin? What is the root, as we have discovered, in Greek that means "in the place of"? It is

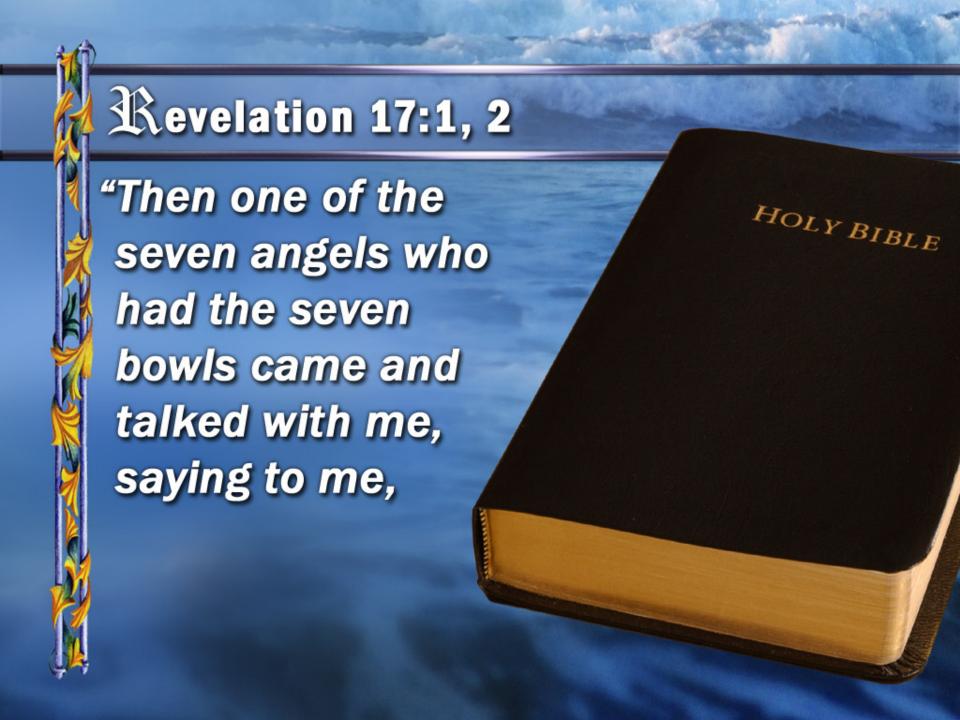
Instead of "Vicar of the Son of God," the title would be Antichrist! By his policies and claims, including the authority to alter Scripture and to forgive sins, the pontiff is the rightful owner of this blasphemous title.

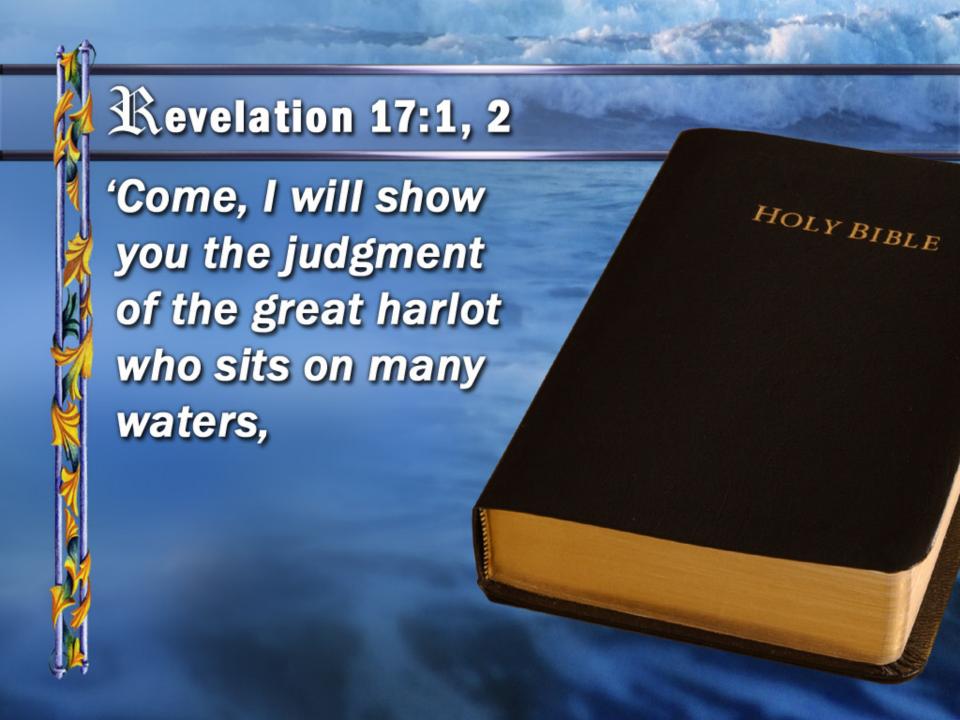
The impure woman of Revelation 17 is the seventh and last picture of apostasy.

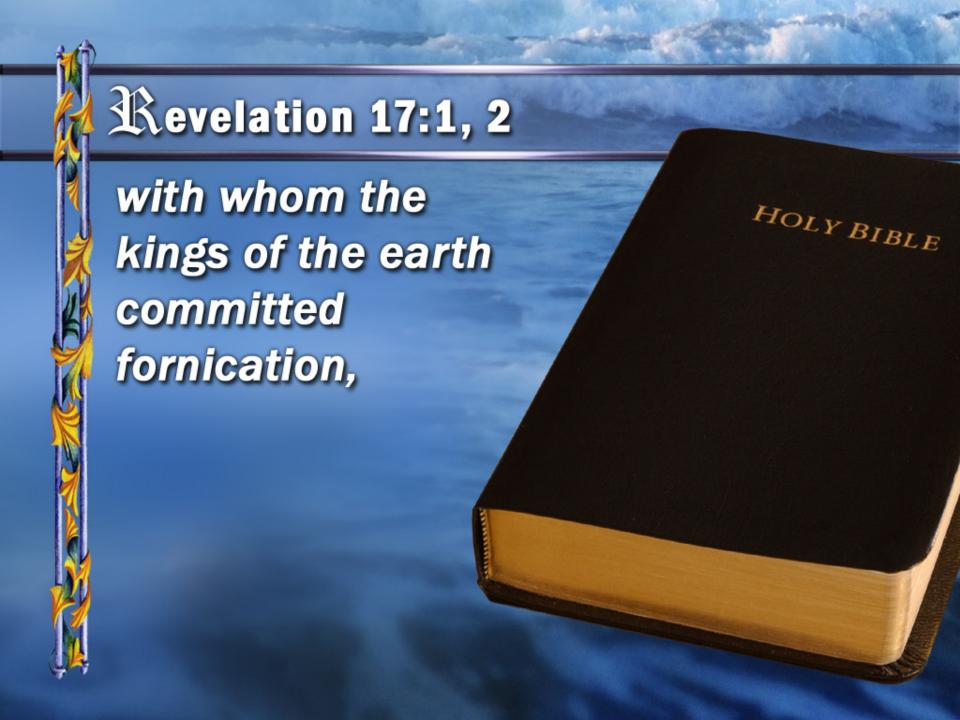


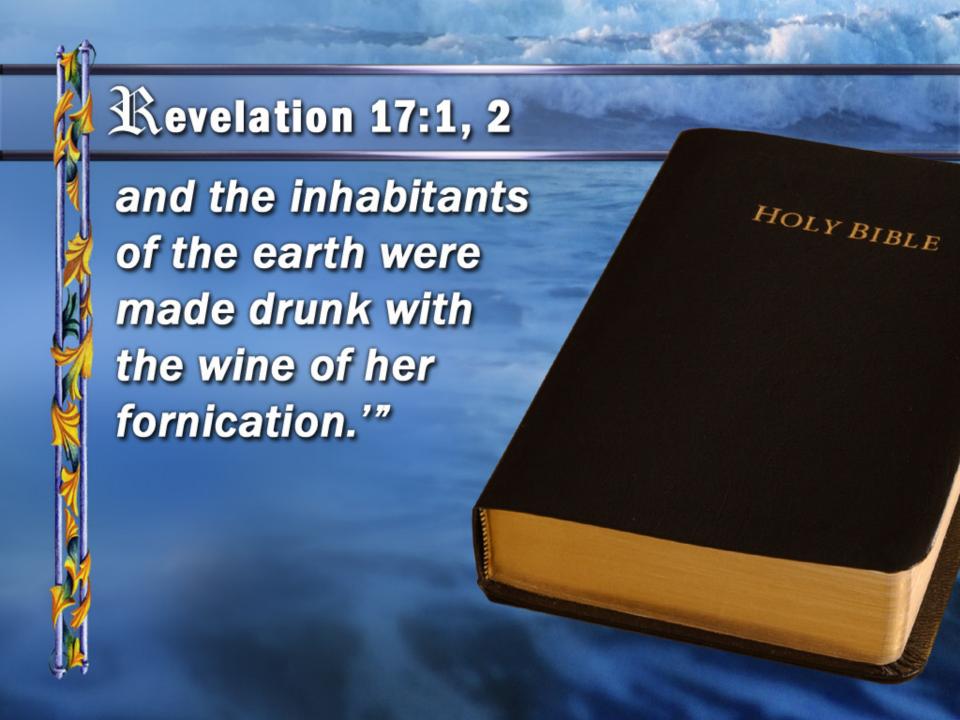






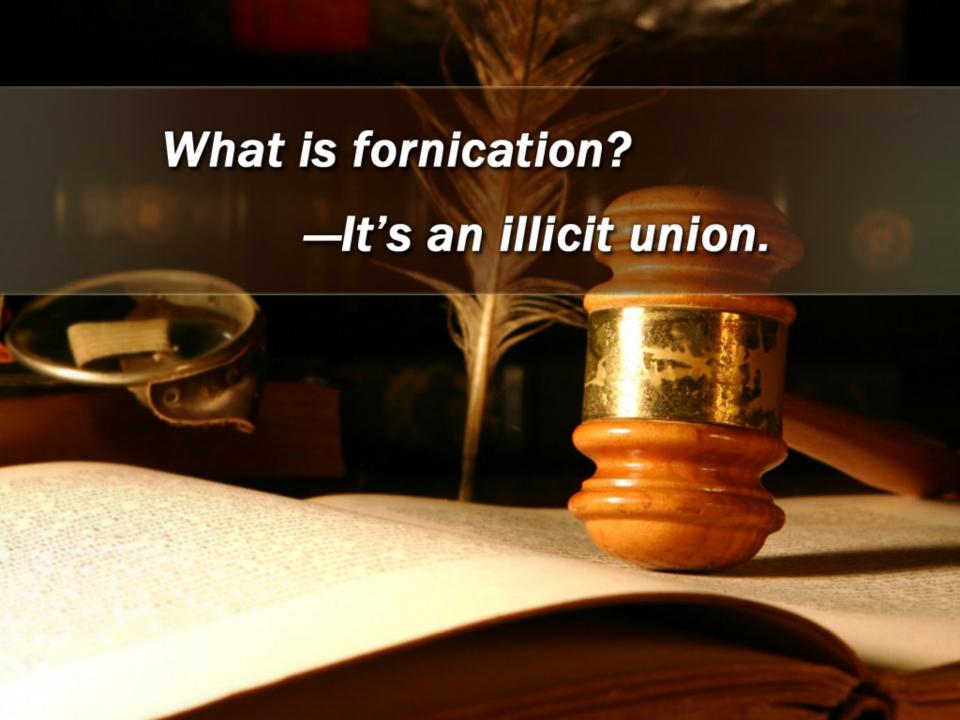


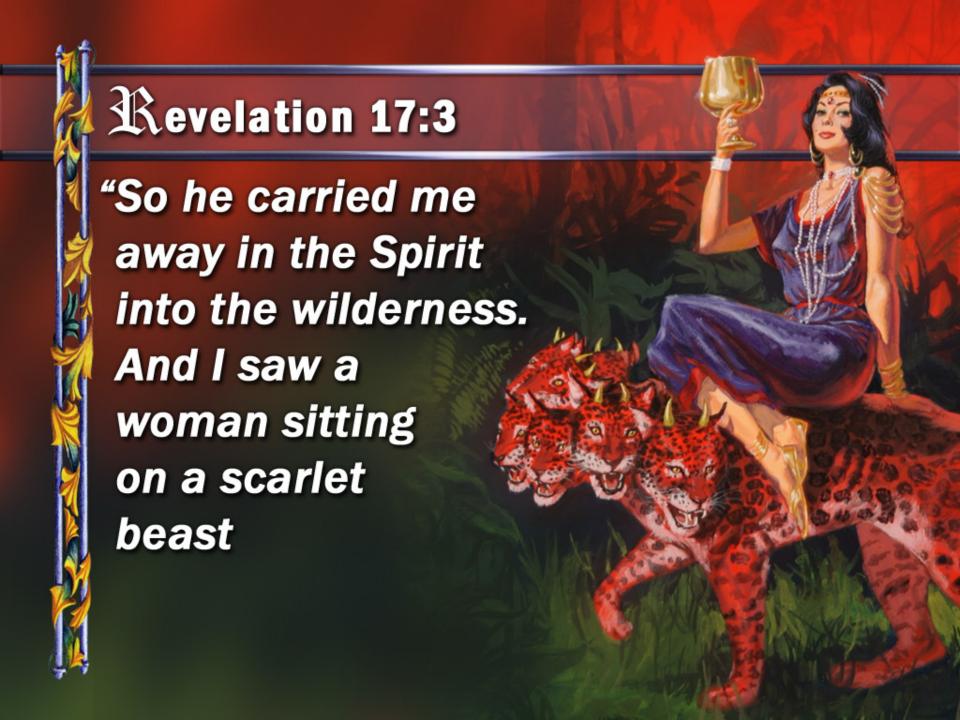


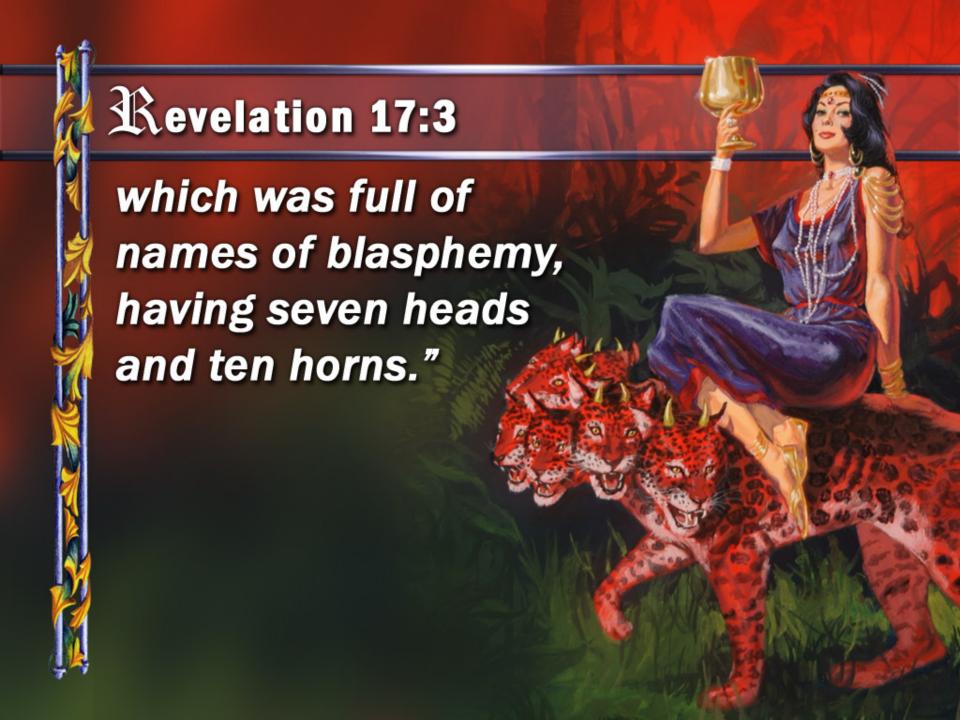


Revelation 17:15

"Then he said to me,
'The waters which you
saw, where the harlot
sits, are peoples,
multitudes, nations,
and tongues."









Revelation 17:4

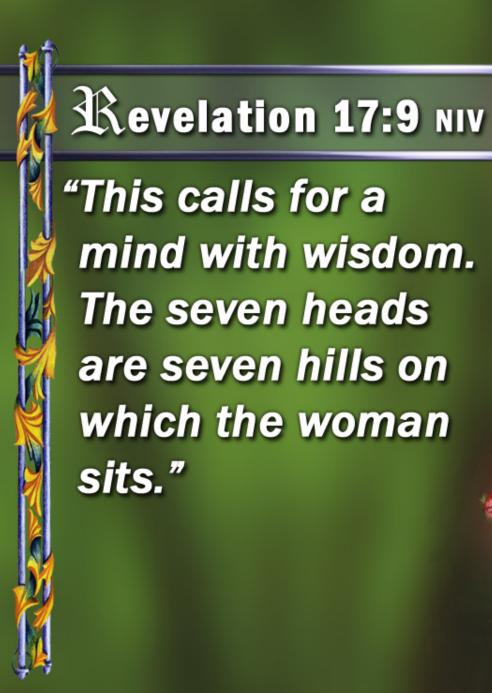
"The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls,



Revelation 17:4

having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication."









The fallen church system of Revelation 17 has colors of purple and scarlet and she sits on a city with seven hills.



The golden wine cup in her hand represents the intoxication of false doctrine.



