

Hope for Today

Why you shouldn't Fear the Judge

5 Issues to Deal with in Daniel 7

1. What are the beasts symbols of?
2. Who/what is the Little Horn?
3. Where does the judgment take place?
4. When does the judgment take place?
5. What is this period of 1,260 days?

Below is a table showing the relationship of the symbols from Daniel 2 and Daniel 7

Symbol in Daniel 2	Empire	Period	Symbol in Daniel 7
Head of Gold	Babylon	609 – 539 BC	Lion with eagle's wings
Chest & arms of silver	Medo-Persia	539 - 331 BC	A bear raised on one side
Waist & thighs of brass	Greece	311 – 168 BC	Leopard with four heads and four wings
Legs of iron	Rome	168 BC – 476 AD	Terrifying beast with iron teeth
Ten toes	Ten Kings	From 476 AD	Ten kings:

Daniel 7:15 "I Daniel was distressed in my spirit.... and the visions of my head troubled me." There are issues in this vision that have disturbed Daniel. What are they?

Who or what is the little Horn a symbol of? Has he already appeared or is he/it in the future?

Listen to what Martin Luther said about the little Horn; who he identified the little horn as. **Martyn**

p.372,373 – Martin Luther

"O, how much pain it has caused me, though I had the Scriptures on my side ... that I should dare to make a stand alone against the pope, and hold him forth as antichrist (*little horn*)....."

Wow, Luther and the reformers saw the Papacy of their time as the little horn! Let us see if that matches, or is just speculation. Below we will follow what Daniel saw as the characteristics, and see how they match up.

Characteristics of the Little Horn

1. **Arose from the 4th Beast**
2. **Arose amongst the 10 horns**

The Church and Churches p. 42,43 - J.J. Ignatius von Dollinger

"Out of the ruins of the Roman Empire there gradually rose a new order of states whose central point was the papal see."

LaBianca - Professor of History, University of Rome

"To the succession of the Caesar's came the succession of the Pontiffs in Rome." When Constantine left Rome he gave his seat to the Pontiff."

Daniel 7:8 "I was thinking about the horns, and behold, **there came up among them another** little horn," So clearly the little horn comes up after the 10 horns have come into existence. Tragically this was the case with the Medieval Papacy.

3. **Arose after the 10 horns**

Daniel 7:8 “... before whom three of the first horns were uprooted...”

4. Uprooted 3 of the horns

Heruli – Extinct AD 493/Ostrogoths – Extinct AD 533/Vandals – Removed from Rome and dealt a crushing blow in AD 538

All 3 nations were targeted by the Emperor at the request of the Bishop of Rome!

5. Starts small - Grows great (Daniel 7:20)

While the Papacy had small beginnings it grew into not just a major religion, but into a major political force!

6. Has rule for 1260 days

Daniel 7:25 “And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and one-half time.”

Is this symbolic or literal? The famous scientist Sir Isaac Newton, who loved to study prophecy, reminded us of a principle of prophetic interpretation of time prophecies. **Ezekiel 4:6** “....I have laid on you a day for each year.”

In Bible apocalyptic (end-time) prophecy, one prophetic day equals one literal year. We can also see this in Numbers 14:34. So when we take this period of 3,5 times, we see that in the book of Daniel that a “time” is a year. So 3,5 times or years equals 1 260 days. **3,5 years/42 months/1260 days.**

If this time prophecy is correct, then it would mean that this power has a period of dominance for 1260 years. If we look in history for this time period we discover 2 significant dates that match. The first being 538 AD. What happened in 538 AD?

The Ostrogoths, the last of the Arian kingdoms to oppose the Roman church, were overthrown in the year 538AD clearing the way for a Catholic Pope to be appointed by Emperor Justinian.

1260 years later Napoleon’s general, Berthier, broke the Roman Church’s political power in the year **1798 A.D.** The exact date is February 15, 1798

Church History p.24

“The murder of a Frenchman in Rome in 1798 gave the French an excuse for occupying the Eternal City and putting an end to the Papal temporal power. The aged Pontiff himself was carried off into exile to Valence.... The enemies of the Church rejoiced. The last Pope, they declared, had resigned.”

Activities of the Little Horn

1. Speak words against God

Daniel 7:25 “And he shall speak words against the Most High,”

Revelation 13:6 “It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name,”

John 10:33 “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God”

Blasphemy – let's look at a definition based on Jesus' experience. Blasphemy is claiming the right and powers of God!

Symposium on Revelation p. 340-341 – Fritz Leits

"The infallibility of the pope is the infallibility of Jesus Himself ... whenever the pope thinks, it is God himself, who is thinking in him."

2. Makes war with the saints

Daniel 7:21 "... and that horn made war with the saints and overcame them..... shall wear out the saints of the Most High...."

The Western Watchman – Dec 24,1909

"The church has persecuted. Only a tyro (novice) in church will deny that... When she thinks it good to use physical force, she will use it."

In the year 2000 Pope John Paul II publicly apologized for atrocities over the last centuries, committed by the church. **Time Magazine p23, "ACT OF CONTRITION In the jubilee year and the season of the Lent, Pope Paul II confronts the Crusades, the Inquisition the Holocaust, and the other horrors in seeking to express regret of sins committed by the Catholics in the past 2,000 years."**

3. Thinks to change times and laws.

Daniel 7:25 "... and plot to change times and laws...."

We will return to an explanation of how this happened.

4. Has dominion for 1,260 days

The Encyclopaedia Americana – 1941 Edition

"In 1798 he (Berthier) ... made his entrance in Rome, ABOLISHED THE PAPAL GOVERNMENT and established a secular one."

The sad reality is that the Medieval Papacy meets all the characteristics of the Little Horn!
--

Let's conclude, by reminding ourselves of the fact that God is in control of history. So that while the little horn is wreaking havoc, Daniel's attention is twice called back to events in Heaven that will settle matters.

Earthly & Heavenly Sequence

- Little Horn on earth (vs8)
 - **Judgment set up in Heaven (vs9-10)**
- Little Horn continues on earth (vs 11-12)
 - **Son of Man receives dominion (vs 13-14)**

Daniel 7:8 "... in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man,"

Daniel 7:13 "I saw in the night visions, and there came one like the Son of Man" The little horn appears to be in contest with the Son of Man, while maybe not even knowing it, for both are described as being "like...man"

Daniel 7:9-10 "I beheld till thrones were placed, and one that was Ancient of Days did sit: the judgment was set, and the books were opened."

Daniel 7:26 "But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away,"

Is this why Revelation tells us that "The hour of His Judgment has come"