

May 3, 2025

West Valley End-Time Ministries Newsletter

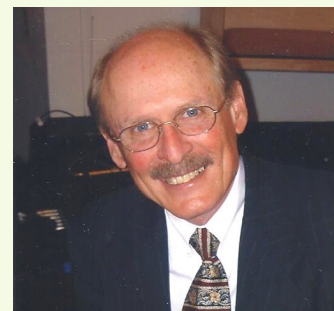
This Page Still Under Construction!

In This Issue

- ◆ Bible Study: "Confrontation and Community" — (Acts 5) — Page 2
- ◆ Prophecy Study: "Daniel's Prophecies" — (Daniel 7 Part 2) — Page 4

Prayer and Care Corner

- ◆ Prayer Requests
- ◆ WVM Care Projects
(A Developing Ministry)



Darrell Chilson, Pastor

Join Our Weekly Bible Classes

Time: 2 p.m. AZ & West Coast; 5 p.m. East Coast

Click to Join:

<https://westvalleyend-timeministries-511.my.webex.com/meet/pastor>



Jessica Lindsey, Bible Instructor

How to Reach Our Team

- ◆ Pastor Chilson — Pastor@wvetm.com
- ◆ Jessica Lindsey — BibleStudy@wvetm.com

How to Support the WVM Ministry

- Your Prayers
- Your Participation In Class
- Your Gifts

Resource Library Links

Our Website — WVETM.com

Videos
Newsletters
Supplementary Materials

"We are living in the season of Christ's return."

The mission of West Valley Ministries is to help Christ's followers recognize the signs of His approaching return and be prepared for that Great Day.



WVM Bible Class

Acts 5

Lying to the Holy Spirit

1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. **2** And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. **3** But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? **4** While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." **5** Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things. **6** And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him. **7** Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. **8** And Peter answered her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?" She said, "Yes, for so much." **9** Then Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." **10** Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband. **11** So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.

Continuing Power In the Church

12 And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. **13** Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. **14** And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, **15** so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid [them] on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. **16** Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

Imprisoned Apostles Freed

17 Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation, **18** and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. **19** But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, **20** "Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life." **21** And when they heard that, they entered the temple early in the morning and taught. But the high priest and those with him came and called the council together, with all the elders of the children of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought.

Apostles On Trial Again

22 But when the officers came and did not find them in the prison, they returned and reported, **23** saying, "Indeed we found the prison shut securely, and the guards standing outside before the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside!" **24** Now when the high priest, the captain of the temple, and the chief priests heard these things, they wondered what the outcome would be. **25** So one came and told them, saying, "Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!" **26** Then the captain went with the officers and brought them without violence, for they feared the people, lest they should be stoned. **27** And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, **28** saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" **29** But Peter and the [other] apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men. **30** "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. **31** "Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. **32** "And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

Gamaliel's Advice

33 When they heard [this], they were furious and plotted to kill them. **34** Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while. **35** And he said to them: "Men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do regarding these men. **36** "For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody. A number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was slain, and all who obeyed him were scattered and came to nothing. **37** "After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census, and drew away many people after him. He also perished, and all who obeyed him were dispersed. **38** "And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; **39** "but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it--lest you even be found to fight against God." **40** And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten [them], they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. **41** So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. **42** And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.



DANIEL'S PROPHECIES – DANIEL 7

Daniel 7 - Part 2

Personal Note

The study of Bible Prophecy may seem daunting at times – like a 5,000-piece puzzle that is nigh impossible to assemble. And while prophecy is much like a divine puzzle, God intends for us to **understand** it as His followers. The apparent cloak of mystery over these prophecies is not to hide the future from His Church or to keep us from understanding, but rather to prevent these sacred writings from being misused and irreverently abused as common, rather than sacred. The word “understand” occurs in the Book of Daniel 14 times, and the Book of Revelation begins with the words, “show His servants” and “made it known”, and includes a blessing upon those who “read,” hear,” and “keep the words of this prophecy.”

Thus, while I know from experience how prayerful and diligent one must be to properly put the pieces of the Bible’s incredible prophetic puzzle together, I can also affirm that the reward is just as incredible. Not only can one go away from a session of study with a surprise encounter with God, or with the thrill of an unanticipated truth revealed, the serious student will also gain an unbelievable view of the mind of God, eliciting a flood of “worship” from the heart – seeing with spiritual understanding that without a doubt, **He is God and worthy of our deepest praise!**

Over the past months, we have studied the prophecies of Revelation, and now we are studying the prophecies of Daniel. In this particular study, I have attempted to extensively document my conclusions with historical facts and Scriptural cross-referencing for just one reason. I want my readers to have a clear view of who the players are on the stage of the end time drama, **according to prophecy**. Right now, most religious people see the Church of Rome as a Christian organization, led by such “wonderful” people as Pope Francis. Just this week, I heard one person say of Francis, “He was such a good man.” And for the most part, almost every Protestant and Evangelical church in the world believes that the Roman Catholic Church is part of the Christian community, simply because it teaches the Trinity, the Virgin Birth of Jesus, the Death of Christ for our sins, and His resurrection on the Sunday morning following His death. According to Bible prophecy, confirmed by history


and even current events, the Catholic Church (the papacy) is the Antichrist of Bible prophecy – not the faithful, honest hearted believers in Christ who ignorantly worship there, but the system of the papacy and its leaders – popes, cardinals, etc. While this may not be a popular view, it is critical to understand that unless we as end time Christians realize the evil nature of this organization, we will be deceived along with all those who knowingly and intentionally share in the rebellion of this power against Christ. The Bible clearly identifies the Church of Rome as a religious power that has and will make war against the followers of Christ and is destined for the judgment of God. Strong language, I know, yet nothing could be truer, and I dare not mince words at a time like this!

It is with this introduction that I wish to state how important this particular study of Daniel 7 is to an understanding all that I have just said. Daniel 7 paves the way, opens the door, sheds a spotlight on the entire Book of Revelation. And while Revelation is very clear about who the players are at the end of time – the Dragon, the Beast, and the False Prophet (all on the side of evil), Daniel reveals the actual “*birth, life, and death*”, so to speak, of the “little horn” of Daniel, the “beast from the sea” of Revelation 13, the “harlot” of Revelation 17 and a major character of “Babylon” in Revelation 17-19. Thus, I set forth the following pages – an account that is as concise, and yet as comprehensive as possible for me to construct, of the story of Daniel 7. I prayerfully submit it to you for your consideration!

Quick Review

In Part 1 of our study of Daniel 7, we discovered that Daniel 7 is a repeat of the vision dream of Daniel 2 – **four metals** representing **four world empires** in Daniel 2, and **four beasts** representing the **same four world empires** in Daniel 7.





The images above portray the parallel prophecies and identify the four world empires which lead us to this current study of **the fifth and final empire of prophecy** – the power which rules the world until the return of Jesus, at which time He will destroy **all** the empires of earth and establish in their place His own eternal kingdom. Daniel 2:44 describes it this way:

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.

Both Daniel 2 and Daniel 7 end with the account of the kingdoms of this earth being destroyed and the visible eternal kingdom of God established.

The Prophecy of Daniel 7 – Part 2

The fifth and final earthly empire Daniel sees in the vision of this chapter emerges from among the ten horns of the fourth beast [IMPORTANT], and is also seen in the image of Daniel 2 as the iron of the legs as it flows into the feet and toes [IMPORTANT]! Let's look at how this world power emerges onto the stage of history and especially **from whence it comes – [ALSO IMPORTANT!]**


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**. **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 [compare with “the number of a man” Revelation 13:18], and a mouth speaking great things/pompous words.** Daniel 7:7, 8.

Note: John describes the same power in Revelation 13:5, 6:

And he was given **a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies**, and he was given authority to make war for forty-two months [**3 ½ years¹**]. 6 Then **he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God**, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle [church], and those who dwell in heaven.

The *Emergence* of the “Little Horn” – The *Birth* of the Papacy

The fourth beast of Daniel's vision is Pagan Rome – the empire which ruled the world during the era when Jesus was here on earth and His Church established!



“At the opening of the Christian Era, this empire took in the whole south of Europe, France, England, the greater part of the Netherlands, Switzerland, and the south of Germany, Hungary, Turkey, and Greece, not to speak of its possessions in Asia and Africa” (Daniel and the Revelation, Uriah Smith).


It was a truly “dreadful, terrible, and exceedingly strong” and ruthless empire – the political power which crucified Jesus and continued to persecute His Church from the days of its birth. Rome was the empire which martyred the Apostles, beheaded Paul, and attempted to kill John in a boiling caldron of oil, finally banishing him to the Isle of Patmos where he wrote the Book of Revelation. Rome, as per Jesus’ prophecy of Matthew 24, destroyed Jerusalem and the Jewish temple in A.D. 70 and slaughtered a million Jews at that time in what is called the Jewish War, described by the historian Josephus. Nero, Vespasian, Domitian, and Diocletian are some of the notable emperors of Rome who persecuted the Church.

But Rome was also where followers of Jesus Christ lived and worshiped. The Church at Rome is the church to which Paul wrote his “Epistle to the Romans”. It was the church to whom Paul ministered for two years prior to his execution by order of Nero. Originally, the Church of Rome was the Christian church at Rome. Paul’s epistle begins with the salutation, “To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints” Romans 1:7. But the church Paul loved, taught, wrote to and ministered to in the mid-60’s A.D. was destined to infamy!

In 313 A.D., Emperor Constantine legalized Christianity in the Roman Empire by issuing the Edict of Milan. The main purpose of the edict was to grant religious freedom and toleration throughout the Roman Empire, specifically for Christians. It effectively ended the persecution of Christians and allowed them to worship openly without fear of retribution, giving them legal status and the right to organize churches. In 380 A.D., the Edict of Thessalonica established Christianity as the official religion of the Roman Empire.

Sadly, the new freedoms bestowed upon Christians in the empire also created the environment for the Church, already fraught with compromise and an internal departure from the religion of Christ and the Apostles, to become institutionalized. John says in his first letter to the church, written after his return to Ephesus in about 95 A.D.:

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. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with



us; but [they went out] that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.
1 John 2:18, 19.


This trend toward apostacy is described by historian Jean Henri Merle d' Aubigne:

“The first pastors or bishops of Rome enjoyed a respect proportionate to the rank of the city in which they resided. For the first few centuries of the Christian Era, Rome was the largest, richest, most powerful city in the world. It was the seat of the empire, the capital of nations. And ‘If Rome is the queen of cities, why should not her pastor be the king of bishops?’ was the reasoning these Roman pastors put forth. ‘Why should not the Roman Church be the mother of Christendom? Why should not all nations be her children, and her authority their sovereign law? It was easy, for the ambitious heart of man to reason thus, [and] ambitious Rome did so.” (*History of the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century*, Vol. I, p.8, D’ Aubigne.

It was under the rule of Emperor Constantine that the Church in Rome gained a foothold in the empire. The first council of the church was convened by Emperor Constantine in 325 A.D., the Council of Nicaea, at which Arianism² was condemned, the Nicene Creed was formulated, Sunday was recognized as a day of worship, Easter was disassociated from the Jewish calendar, certain church law was established, and basic teachings of the Church which Jesus and the Apostles had established were compromised. Church authority and protocol was put in place to bring uniformity to all the churches in Christendom. Pagan traditions such as the observance of Sunday as “the Lord’s Day”, the authority of the church to interpret the Scriptures according to its traditions, and, over time, all the heresies we see in the Church of Rome today took hold within the church. A false Christianity was borne and ultimately became an empire of religious and political authority over the entire world.

How It All Happened

Daniel says that the fourth beast which he saw, representing the Roman Empire, had **ten horns**. “Horns” in prophecy always symbolize divisions of power within a nation or empire. History records that as the Church of Rome as a **religious** power grew in strength and influence in the empire from the early 300’s A.D. under the rule of Emperor Constantine, the **political** strength of the Roman Empire soon began to decline. Between 351 and 476 A.D., ten separate barbarian kingdoms invaded, settled and took control of the Western Empire of Rome and ultimately succeeded in bringing about the fall of Western Rome. All of these kingdoms were Arian², antagonistic to Christian teaching, and to the Catholic Church they were heretics. Thus, not only were these Arian kingdoms a threat to the



Roman Empire, but they also became bitter enemies of the Church of Rome. The church was not willing to tolerate their beliefs and waged war against those tribes which were unwilling to submit to her authority. In 476 A.D., Odoacer, military leader of the Heruli, led a revolt against Romulus Augustus, emperor of the Western empire, deposed him, and took the throne of Italy. That event is traditionally considered the end of the Western Roman Empire. (See map of all these barbarian kingdoms³).

But while the Western Roman Empire fell to these ten barbarian tribes, Emperor Justinian of the Eastern Empire (headquartered in Constantinople) and the Catholic Church, in a church-state union/partnership, began consolidating **the entire empire**. In 533 A.D., Emperor Justinian issued a decree declaring the pope to be the head of all the churches, and his chief general, Belisarius, began a military campaign, reconquering all the ten kingdoms responsible for the fall of the Western Empire, headquartered in Rome. By 538 A.D., Justinian and the Catholic Church had full control of the entire Roman Empire, now with the Church of Rome supreme in all of what had been the original Roman Empire!


And what about the words of Daniel in regard to the “little horn’s” rise to power? “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” Daniel 7:8. The three horns, or kingdoms, most resistant to the authority of the Catholic Church, and the last to be overthrown by Belarius, were the Heruli (Odoacer’s throne in Rome), the Ostrogoths and the Vandals between 533 and 538 A.D. Once again, the details of the prophecy are recorded in history!

The Ten Horns of the Fourth Beast

The ten horns of Daniel 7:7 represent the same ten nations identified in Daniel 2:41, 42 by the toes of the image:

And as **the toes of the feet** were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly **strong** and partly **broken**. 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. Daniel 2:42-44.

Note that the iron of the legs of the Daniel 2 image continues to exist in the feet and toes of the image. In Daniel 2 **and** Daniel 7, Rome continues to exist in strength among the



world's nations, but in a different form – a religious form – thus, the terms describing her – “blasphemous,” “thinking to change the times and Law of God,” “speaking pompous words against God,” and “persecuting the saints” just as John does in Revelation 13!

And he was given **a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies**, and he was given authority to make war for forty-two months [3 ½ years] Then he opened his mouth in **blasphemy against God**, to blaspheme His name, His dwelling, and those who dwell in heaven. 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**. 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. Revelation 13:5-8.

Daniel even says in his account of the vision that the “little horn” which emerges among the other ten horns “shall be different from the first ones” (Daniel 7:24), but it has the strength and character of the empire from which it was “born”! What I want my readers to understand is that **the final world empire on earth before Jesus comes is a Roman Empire – “the Holy Roman Empire”** – an empire having the original strength and vicious character of the empire from which it emerged, as is evident in its history of persecuting those who refuse to bend to its authority – the empire which even now is emerging on the world stage as a blasphemous power, claiming the prerogatives of God, receiving the “worship” of the world and its leaders, and destined to persecute the followers of Christ once again before Jesus comes, as per the prophecies of Revelation previously studied. (See Revelation 13:1-8).


And There's More!

In the following verses, Daniel receives from God more important information about this little horn which emerges from the fourth beast – the Roman Empire:

I was watching; and the same horn was **making war against the saints, and prevailing against them**, 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**. Daniel 7:21, 22.

Notice the same language in Revelation of the same power which we have identified as the Church of Rome!

And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and **he was given authority to make war for forty-two months [3 ½ years¹]**. Then he opened his mouth in **blasphemy** against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in



heaven. **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. Revelation 13:5-7.

Not only did the Church of Rome slaughter over fifty million followers of Christ during the Middle Ages for “heresy” – refusal to recognize the authority and teachings of the Catholic Church (remember the Protestant Reformation – Hus, Jerome, and Tyndale, burned at the stake, John Wycliffe, Martin Luther, John Calvin, etc.?), John also tells us in Revelation 13 that there will be a repeat of the slaughter of the followers of Christ by the Church of Rome, in collusion with the coordinated efforts of corrupt government and false religion, just before Jesus returns. Remember these words, “He was granted power to... cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast **to be killed**”? (Revelation 13:15).

And the angel speaking to Daniel continues:

Thus he [the angel] said: ...**“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. He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change times and law.** Then the saints shall be given into his hand for **a time and times and half a time [3 ½ years¹]**. Daniel 7:23-25.

The “pompous words” are also recorded as “blasphemies”. Blasphemy is man claiming the authority and prerogatives of God. Jesus was accused by the Jewish leaders of blasphemy when he told the paralytic that his sins were forgiven. The Church of Rome claims to be able to forgive sin and determine the eternal destiny of its adherents – thus “confession”, “purgatory”, “penance”, “indulgences”, etc. Further, and just as unthinkable, the Church of Rome claims to have changed the sacredness of the Sabbath of the Law of God from Saturday to Sunday! It has “thought to change times and laws” – not just any laws, for all earthly laws are subject to change by the legislative bodies of nations, but the very Law of God! Notice the difference between the Ten commandments of the Bible, and the Ten Commandments of the Catechism on the next page.


In the Catholic version of God’s Law, the second commandment is removed, because it forbids the worship of images, and the tenth commandment is divided into two commandments to make up for the one removed! While the fourth commandment remains intact, the Catholic Church claims that she changed the seventh-day Sabbath of the fourth commandment to the first day of the week, Sunday. I quote: “It pleased the church of God, that the religious celebration of the Sabbath day should be transferred to ‘the Lord’s

day' [meaning Sunday]." *Catechism of the Council of Trent*, p. 347. The "times" of Daniel 7:25 is in reference to the Sabbath of the seventh **day**, and the "laws" of that verse are in reference to the Law of God and His other commands as written in Scripture!

Bible Ten Commandments		Catholic Ten Commandments	
1st	"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before me. (Exodus 20:2-3 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:6-7)	1st	I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.
2nd	"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. (Exodus 20:4-6 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:8-10)		Deleted. (There is idolatry in the Papal system so the second Commandment has been deleted or sometimes it has been absorbed into the first. All remaining Commandments are therefore shifted along one count.)
3rd	"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. (Exodus 20:7 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:11)	2nd	You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
4th	"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (Exodus 20:8-11 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:12-15)		Remember to keep holy the LORD'S Day. (The Sabbath is the fourth Commandment by normal count. The day to be kept is no longer mentioned since they changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and they called it the "LORD'S Day" which they declared to be <u>Sunday</u>) (Note that God had more to say about the fourth Commandment than all others and with good reason. It is very important.)
5th	"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. (Exodus 20:12 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:16)	4th	Honor your father and your mother.
6th	"You shall not murder. (Exodus 20:13 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:17)	5th	You shall not kill.
7th	"You shall not commit adultery. (Exodus 20:14 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:18)	6th	You shall not commit adultery.
8th	"You shall not steal. (Exodus 20:15 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:19)	7th	You shall not steal.
9th	"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (Exodus 20:16 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:20)	8th	You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
10th	"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's." (Exodus 20:17 ESV; Deuteronomy 5:21)	9th	You shall not covet your neighbour's wife. (The Tenth Commandment is split into two to get back to Ten Commandments.)
		10th	You shall not covet your neighbour's goods.

Judgment

But Daniel tells us that a Day of Judgment is coming when all that has been done against Christ and His Church will be met with justice – God's justice! Some think that God's "justice" is extreme and that his "wrath" is inconsistent with His character of love, but that is simply not true. In reality, His extreme love for us was demonstrated at the cross where Jesus bore the justice of God's broken Law and where our Savior endured the wrath of God against evil on our behalf. At the end, it is because of His love for the saved that vengeance is meted out against those who have "hurt" (an understatement) His children throughout our earthly sojourn. God says, "Vengeance is Mine – I will repay." And He will repay! So for the saved of old, and those who **will be** cruelly martyred for their stand for Christ and His truth; for the children who have been physically and sexually abused, and many murdered by evil people; for the disease and death which Satan has brought upon our race; for all the sin which has ruined relationships – all causing so much pain, suffering, sorrow, and tears; for all the falsely condemned, the victims of inhumane bigotry, the slander and injustice leveled against God's children throughout history – for all of that,



God's scales of justice **will balance**, and the innocent and the faithful will be vindicated! Here is Daniel's account of the Great Day of Judgment:

I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; a fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. **The court was seated, and the books were opened.** I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till **the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame.** As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. Daniel 7:9-12.

The Victorious End of the Story

And again, in the middle and at the end of this chapter – just to make sure we don't miss how the story ends, Daniel repeats the account of the Judgment and the victory of God over evil on behalf of His cherished Church:


I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed. Daniel 7:13, 14.

"But **the court shall be seated**, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it forever. 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." 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. Daniel 7:21-28.

John, in Revelation chapters 18-20, tells of the same Judgment, the same end of evil and evildoers, and the same giving of the Eternal Kingdom to those who have been redeemed – the Bride of Christ and the recipients of His inheritance!

Conclusion

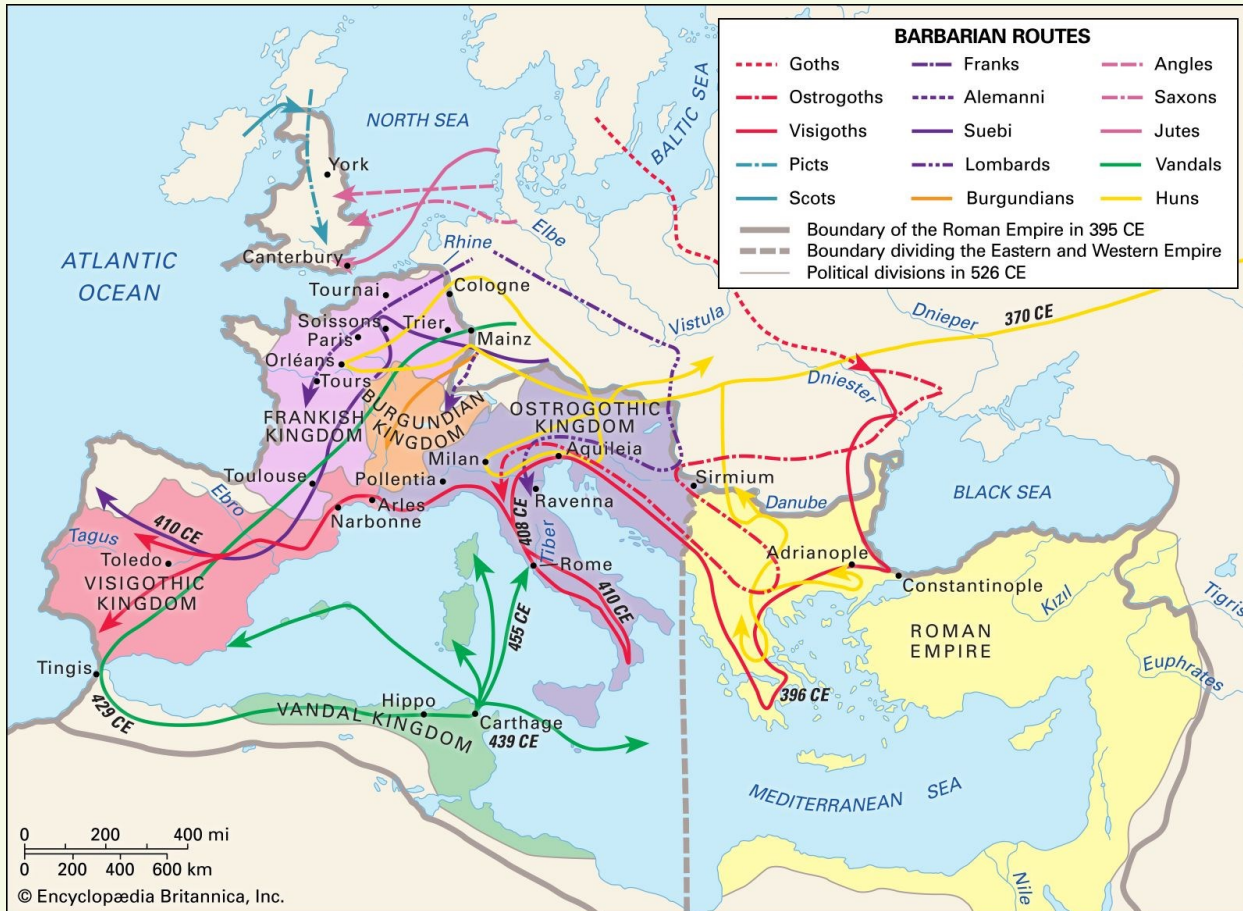
The prophecy is sure, and the days of its final fulfillment are upon us. Our strength during the storm ahead will be our steadfast confidence in God's faithfulness to us, and in the certainty that what **Jesus did for us** to save us, and **only what He did for us**, will **always** be sufficient to qualify us to inherit our heavenly home!



¹ This important time period will be discussed in our study of Daniel 12.

² Arianism is a Christological doctrine, originating from the teachings of Arius, that denies the traditional Christian understanding of the Trinity. It asserts that God the Father is superior to God the Son, who was created by the Father, making Jesus distinct from God. This doctrine is considered heretical by mainstream Christianity.

³ Map of the ten barbarian kingdoms which cause the fall of the Western Empire of Rome



The “Ten Horns”: Huns, Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Franks, Vandals, Suevi, Burgundians, Heruli, Anglo-Saxon, and Lombards. The connection between these and some of the modern nations of Europe is still traceable in the names, as England, Burgundy, Lombardy, France, etc.