Daniel 7 Part 3: "The Nations"

We will continue with Daniel chapter 7 and start with verse 13, which is where we left off. So it looks like we will be using part 3 to connect Daniel 8. Now, I just want us to do a little recap where we have nations being revealed through prophetic symbolism in Daniel 7. It has revealed to us the nations from Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and then Rome, which will never lose their seat of power till the rock (the everlasting kingdom) comes down and destroys the seat of this beast forever and ever. And so now, let us move over to verse 13 where it says....

Daniel 7:13 - I saw in the night visions, and, behold, [one] like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

This verse right here can be an entire sermon of its own, but if you look into chapter 8, it gives us a bit more detail, so as of right now, we will just kind of breeze through a little understanding of what this is all about. When we look into the life of our Saviour's work, we understand that He went to the cross and then He later ascended to heaven to sit at the right hand of God the Father. This is where Christ, our High priest began His work in the heavenly Sanctuary. Take a look at the book of...

Hebrews 9:24 - "Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."

As we do our research, we will find that for around 18 centuries, this work of ministering for us continued in the first apartment of the sanctuary, which we know to be the holy place. The blood of risen Saviour which was shed for us pleads in behalf for the repentant believers who have confessed their sins, secured their pardon and acceptance with the Father through Christ, yet, of course, their sins still remained upon the books of record. As in the typical service, there was a work of atonement at the close of the year, or like at the end of all things, and so, before Christ's work for the redemption of men is completed, there is a work of atonement for the removal of all our sins, all our iniquities from the sanctuary.

Micah 7:18, 19 - Who [is] a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth [in] mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

Isaiah 1:18, 19, 20 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken [it].

And so, this service that started with Christ at His ascension would begin the cleansing of the Sanctuary or the 2300-day prophecy that we find in Daniel 8:14. When all this is finished and completed and probation closes as stated in **Revelation 22:11**, then Jesus will have his dominion...

Daniel 7:14 - And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion [is] an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom [that] which shall not be destroyed.

The Saviour longs to manifest His grace and stamp His character on the whole world so that we may possess His kingdom where He is preparing a place for all who love Him and are contending for the faith daily. It is His purchased possession and it is His kingdom that He desires to bring us to and make everyone free, pure, and holy so that this can happen. But in order for this to happen, we have to surrender to Him and do our part. Though Satan works to hinder this purpose in us overcoming by the blood of the Lamb, and partake in character building, yet through the shedding of blood for the world, there are triumphs to be achieved that will bring glory to God and His Son and this process will not be easy. The Word says...

Acts 14:22 - Confirming the souls of the disciples, [and] exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

We should not think that it is some strange thing that tribulation comes to us all.

1 Peter 4:12, 13 - Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

In order to enter into God's kingdom and possess it, we must be purified and have the dross removed from our lives. The dross of self, the dross of sin, the dross of iniquity, the dross of bad habits, and the dross that simply separates us from our Creator, and if we are professing to be His, He will sit as a refiner, and He will sit as a molder in our very lives and if we are allowing God to work, it is going to be felt and it will be painful.

Isaiah 64:8 - But now, O LORD, thou [art] our father; we [are] the clay, and thou our potter; and we all [are] the work of thy hand.

Isaiah 1:25- And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin:

Zechariah 13:9 - And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It [is] my people: and they shall say, The LORD [is] my God.

Psalms 51:7 - Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Psalms 65:3 - Iniquities prevail against me: as for our transgressions, thou shalt purge them away.

Psalms 79:9 - Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name: and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake.

Proverbs 16:6 - By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.

And what will this entirely do for us if we allow God to refine us, purge us, mold us and love us?

Romans 5:3, 4, 5 - And not only [so], but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Furthermore, if we are going to be the sons and daughters of God and possess His everlasting kingdom that Daniel said would fill the earth, we must understand that Christ most surely will not be satisfied till the victory is complete, and "He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied." **Isaiah 53:11.**

And all the nations of the earth shall hear the gospel of His grace and mercy before the appointed time spoken of by Daniel the prophet. Not all will receive His grace as we can see it today, but "a seed shall serve Him; it shall be accounted to the Lord for a generation." **Psalm 22:30.**

"The kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High," and "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." "So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and His glory from the rising of the sun." **Daniel 7:27; Isaiah 11:9; 59:19.**

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!...Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places:...for the Lord hath comforted His people...The Lord hath made bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God." **Isaiah 52:7-10.** God shall have His everlasting kingdom very soon. And as we move forward, it appears that all that is being revealed to Daniel, he does not understand fully the depths of what is going on. So he was troubled.

Daniel 7:15 - Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of [my] body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

If you all remember in the previous sermon, many things regarding the end times and even in the time of Daniel where there are many beast and such being revealed which Daniel does not understand what is going on with all this symbolism....And so Daniel said...

Daniel 7:16 - I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

Daniel 7:17 - These great beasts, which are four, [are] four kings, [which] shall arise out of the earth.

Daniel 7:18 - But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

Daniel 7:19 - Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth [were of] iron, and his nails [of] brass; [which] devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

In this vision, it says that these nations are diverse from one another. They are different, dreadful, devour much, break nations to pieces, and the one whose teeth were of iron and his nails [of] brass would stamp the residue. What is residue? They are if you will the left over. It is what remains after something is done. Like a remnant of her seed, or an offshoot. Residue of the Lord's people in the last days would be left. There will be a residue of 144,000 living saints in the last days that cannot be touched by Satan or the world. Amen.

Daniel 7:20 - And of the ten horns that [were] in his head, and [of] the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even [of] that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look [was] more stout than his fellows.

The ten horns that were in his head we know are all powers and nations, and that there were three nations that fell and would be replaced, and even a horn or a power that would have eyes of a man and would speak great things against the Most High God.

Daniel 7:21 - I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

And this horn, this power, this man, this nation would make war with the saints and prevailed, and we saw that this world's history actually happened. God's people have been tortured by the beast of Rome from even the time of the birth of Jesus till this day. Who knows how many people are being killed till this day around the world because of the little horn power?

Daniel 7:22 - Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

And until God would return to earth and gather His saints unto Him where we will all possess the kingdom and judge the world...

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

Daniel 7:24 - And the ten horns out of this kingdom [are] ten kings [that] shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

And the ten horns/powers/nations would come out of this kingdom because it would rule over them also have ten kings, or like what we have today presidents, satan is always changing terms. And through the time of history, three of the nations would be removed and replaced because they will be subdued.

So ten horns will come up out of this last and final beast that would pluck up or subdue or better yet destroy three nations and they would be replaced. And this final beast that would rule till the return of Christ is Rome. These ten horns that would arise do perfectly symbolize the historic division of the Roman Empire into ten separate nations after its fall in 476AD.

When Rome fell, it split exactly into 10 separate nations:

- 1. The Saxons, originating the English nation.
- 2. The Franks, originating the French nation.
- 3. The Alamanni, originating the German nation.
- 4. The Visigoths, originating the Spanish nation.
- 5. The Suevi, originating the Portuguese nation.
- 6. The Lombards, originating the Italian nation.
- 7. The Burgundians, originating the Swiss nation.
- 8. The Heruli, disappeared in 493 A.D.
- 9. The Vandals, disappeared in 534 A.D.
- 10. The Ostrogoths, disappeared in 538 A.D.

Please, please make special note that <u>no other "beast"</u> is seen in prophecy after the fourth one. Pagan, as well as Papal Rome is to be the <u>last</u> global kingdom of mankind that is mentioned in prophecy who is also referred to as the king of the North and not Turkeys as so many confused supposed Bible scholars proclaim today which is designed to confuse and to turn your eyes away from the papacy and eventually even think that there is a Muslim antichrist that is supposed to rule that comes out of Turkey, etc....Now, let us take a look at the next verse....

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

And this power/king shall again speak greatly against God, and he shall wear out the children of God, and this power or king would think to even change the times and even the laws of God. During this time, there would be a timeframe in which they would devour much: time and times and the dividing of time.

So what is Daniel is actually saying, "a time, times, and half a time."??

Let's first look into other areas of prophecy to try and define this. Revelation 13:5 speaks of this time as forty-two months. It says, "...and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months." The forty-two months of Rev 13:5 and the "time, and time and dividing a time" of

Daniel 7:25 equal the same thing, 42 months. So, 42 months actually equals "3 1/2 years." But does this make sense with Daniel? A "time (one year) and times (two years) and the dividing of time, (half a year) actually equals three and a half years, or forty-two months (12+24+6=42 months). So, yes, it appears this does make sense in Daniel. Plus, Revelation 12:6 confirms this as authentic when it says that the church of Jesus would hide in the wilderness for exactly 1260 days. During this time, the little horn goes about killing Christians. Fact is, 42 months, or 3 and a half years actually equals 1260 days.

Still, some will say that 42 months does NOT equal 1260 days because all our months do not equal 30 days each today. And if you multiply 365 days for a year by 3.5, you do NOT get 1260. You will get 1277.5 instead. The fact here is that a month in the Bible is based upon lunar reckoning. (That is, 1 month = 29.56 days, rounded to 30 days.) In fact, most Orthodox Jews to this day still use this method a time when calculating their feast days or other events. So, moving on....next.....

Where in this world, or who in this world fits all this that is being revealed to Daniel? This power or nation is Rome. And what would arise out of the nation Rome: a little horn power with eyes of a man speaking great things. So, who in the world is doing this? Is the president of Rome speaking great things against the most High and changing the times and laws? No. Who killed the saints of the most High God? Or what have you.... Let us take a look into some history here so we can know this as. Let us do some research and expose who this little horn is that comes out of Rome for the sake of the Babes in Christ and who may listen to this sermon that may not know. And by going over this, it will help you teach others and preach this as well.

Clue #1 - We understand this forth beast to be Rome and would never lose their power until Christ would come. So we need to go to the nation of Rome and see what power comes out of it in order to know who this is. Let us go to the book of Revelation and find some more clues.

Clue #2 - We see that it is a nation ruled by a church. So let us investigate the one who rules this nation through the church. Who governs the Church of Rome, the Catholic Church?

Clue #3 - The Pope rules the church and the state of Rome....in fact; they claim power of all the earth.

"All the faithful must believe that the Holy Apostolic See and the Roman Pontiff [the Pope] possesses the primacy over the whole world, and the Roman Pontiff is the successor of blessed Peter, Prince of the Apostles, and is true vicar of Christ, and heed of the whole church, and father and teacher of all Christians; and that full power was given to him in blessed Peter to rule, feed, and govern the universal Church by Jesus Christ our Lord."--Creeds of Christendom. vol. 2, p. 262.

"We define that the Holy Apostolic See (the Vatican) and the Roman Pontiff hold the primacy over the whole world."-A Decree of the Council of Trent, quoted in Philippe Labbe and Gabriel Cossart, "The Most Holy Councils," col. 1167.

"Fear, then, our wrath and the thunders of our vengeance; for Jesus Christ has appointed us [the popes] with his own mouth absolute judges of all men; and kings themselves are submitted to our authority." Pope Nicholas I (858-867 AD)

"It is the office of the Papacy to tread under foot kings and emperors." J.H. Ignaz Dollinger, in The Pope and the Council, (London), page 35

"See, sir, from this Chamber, I govern, not only to Paris, but to China; not only to China, but to all the world, without anyone knowing how I do it." (Tamburini, General of the Jesuits.)

So, we can clearly see that the power that comes from Rome openly and boldly proclaims the pope to be that power of Rome and of the world. Now, what are these great things that the pope would speak against the Most High God?

Clue #1 - Pope claims, and his church claims that he is god or even Jesus Christ.

"The Pope is of so great dignity, and so exalted that he is not a mere man, but as it were God. and the vicar of God." -Ferraris Ecclesiastical dictionary

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

"The Pope and God are the same, so he has all power in Heaven and earth." Pope Pius V, quoted in Barclay, Chapter XXVII, p. 218, "Cities Petrus Bertanous".

Clue #2 - Changing times and laws

"The Pope is of great authority and power that he can modify, explain, or interpret even divine laws... The Pope can modify divine law, since his power is not of man, but of God, and he acts as vicegerent of God upon earth." -Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Ribliotheca, "Papa," art. 2, translated.

"The Pope has the power to change times, to abrogate laws, and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ." "The Pope has the authority and often exercised it, to dispense with the command of Christ." Decretal, de Tranlatic Episcop. Cap. (The Pope can modify divine law.) Ferraris' Ecclesiastical Dictionary.

These quotes prove that this little horn who would speak great things against the Most High is in fact the Pope who even changed the Sabbath day in the Ten Commandments, the fourth Commandment:

"The authority of the church could therefore not be bound to the authority of the Scriptures, because the Church had changed...the Sabbath into Sunday, not by command of Christ, but by its own authority." Canon and Tradition, p. 263

"The Catholic church," declared Cardinal Gibbons, "by virtue of her divine mission changed the day from Saturday to Sunday." Catholic Mirror Sept. 23 1983. (Official organ of Cardinal Gibbons)

"The Bible says, Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. The Catholic church says, No! By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day, and command you to keep the first day of the week. And lo, the entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic church!" Father Enright, C.S.S.R. of the Redemptoral College, Kansas City, Mo., History of the Sabbath, p. 802

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change (Saturday Sabbath to Sunday) was her act... And the act is a MARK of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things." H.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons.

"Sunday is our MARK of authority. . .the church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact" Catholic Record of London, Ontario Sept 1,1923.

The list goes on and on...And the evidence is overwhelmingly pointing to the Popes of Rome to be the little horn and when we get to Daniel 8, there will be more proofsas the office to be the little horn. We will continue more on this latter and push forward to when the judgment shall sit in...

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

But regardless the power this beast has and what he is able to accomplish, the judgment shall sit like a murder in the courts of the earth where he is found guilty of shedding innocent blood, the saints of the Most High God. This ruthless power shall have his dominion taken away, to be destroyed in the hell fire where the other beasts and false prophets are and those who love sin and are unrepentant.

Revelation 19:20 - And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Daniel 7:27 - And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom [is] an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

And this is where we have the saying of the prophet...

Micah 4:3 - And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do [this], saith the LORD of hosts.

Amen...And Daniel goes on to say...

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

Looking into the climax of this prophecy is God's final judgment on the world and these nations. The beast and the little horn power are judged, and their kingdom is taken away. At the same time, the verdict is made in favor of the saints and dominion is given to them forever and ever...eternity.

These same events were portrayed in Daniel 2 as we know when the stone crushed the statue of power and filled the whole earth with God's love, power and glory and kingdom. God will set up His everlasting kingdom that is full of love, joy and peace, and no more suffering, no more crying nor any more pain or death, for the former things are passed away. Revelation 21:3-4....

Revelation 21:3, 4 - And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, [and be] their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Let us all be mindful of the eternal blessings that are coming for all who are contending for the faith daily and striving to overcome. Brethren, whatever things are clinging in our life this day that are being a hindrance to fulfill the will of God and is stopping us from moving forward, we need to ask ourselves the question; is what I am doing today worth missing out of the everlasting kingdom, the dominion of the Lord? Is feeling good for a moment on this earth by indulging in sin, the lust of the flesh, really worth missing out of eternity? Is our backsliding from reforming really worth missing out on heaven and being with the Saviour? Is worldly honor really that better than hearing the Word proclaimed from the mouth of the Saviour?

Matthew 25:23 -His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Furthermore, let this register in our hearts and visualize this event that is coming and see that we are on the right side of the Lord with the sheep so we can enter into His rest, His kingdom that Daniel said is coming...

Matthew 25:31-26 -When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth [his] sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed [thee]? or thirsty, and gave [thee] drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took [thee] in? or naked, and clothed [thee]? Or

when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done [it] unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done [it] unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did [it] not to one of the least of these, ye did [it] not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

In closing, we will continue with more revelation and historical facts of these same prophecies in Daniel 8 with further info on all this....so until then...Let us strive to do all that we can for this world before it is too late. The Bible is clear. We are either doing His work or we are doing the works Satan. Let us progress forward brethren. We have not a moment to spare anymore. Let us not waste anymore time or we will be found outside the city which is a sad thing and is the reason why I push so hard for you all to see what I am saying in each sermon. We have to work, work, work, work, and work. We have to work out self, we have to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling, we have to help the lost, we have to help in the church, we have to help out our families, friends, co-workers and any one you can see and understand the truth as you know it. If you hide it, the kingdom of God will be hidden from you too. It will be taken. As much as you do unto others, it will be done unto us. As much as you bless the world with the truth is the amount of reward you have in heaven and in this world. What measure you give is what measure you return, in this WORLD AND THE WORLD TO COME. Sow the good seeds of the kingdom of God and reap a harvest of blessings according to your doings. May the God of heaven and earth awaken everyone to this call to get moving. Thank you for coming and I pray it was a blessing. See you next time with Daniel 8. Peace be with all who love our Lord and Saviour. Amen.