

ISAIAH 28:8

“The little horn denotes a succeeding kingdom to arise in the latter part of the reign of the four horns, a kingdom of fierce countenance, strange language, a wonderful destroyer, to stand up against the Prince of princes, and at last to be broken without hand. This horn was not Antiochus Epiphanes, as claimed by some, for he was not ‘exceeding great’ in comparison with Medo-Persia and Grecia that went before. He did not increase his dominions, was not another horn, but only one (the 8th in order) of the 26 kings that constituted the Syrian horn of the goat. He did not stand up against the Prince of princes (Christ), but **died 164 years before our Lord was born.**

“This horn must symbolize Rome, as in the parallel visions of Dan.2 and 7. Rome came out of one of the horns of the goat, as it conquered Macedonia B.C. 168, and in 161 became connected with the people of God by its league with the Jews; 1Mac.8; Josephus’ Antiq., b. xii., c. x., sec.6; Prideaux, vol.ii., p, 166; thus becoming a subject of prophecy, and **appearing to the prophet to come out of the Macedonian horn.** It extended its conquests toward the east, south, and pleasant land (Palestine), making provinces of the following countries: Syria, B.C. 65.; Palestine, B.C. 63; Egypt, B.C. 30. It stood up against the Prince of princes, nailing Christ to the cross. By Rome the daily was taken away and the transgression of desolation set up; that is, there was a change in the religion of the empire, Paganism (the daily desolation) was taken away, and the papacy (the transgression of desolation, or the abomination that maketh desolate) was set up. Dan.12:11. An host was given him: the hordes of barbarians the overran the empire, but were converted to the papal faith.” Uriah Smith, *Synopsis of Present Truth*, 19, 20.

“A new power is now introduced, - ‘the robbers of thy people;’ literally, says Bishop Newton, ‘the breakers of thy people.’ **Far away on the banks of the Tiber**, a kingdom had been nourishing itself with ambitious projects and dark designs. Small and weak at first, it grew with marvelous rapidity in strength and vigor, reaching out cautiously here and there to try its prowess, and test the vigor of its warlike arm, till, conscious of its power, it boldly reared its head among the nations of the earth, and seized with invincible hand the helm of their affairs. Henceforth the name of Rome stands upon the historic page, destined for long ages to control the affairs of the world, and exert a mighty influence among the nations even to the end of time.

“Rome spoke; and Syria and Macedonia soon found a change coming over the aspect of their dream. The Romans interfered in behalf of the young king of Egypt, determined that he should be protected from the ruin devised by Antiochus and Philip. This was B.C.200, and was one of the first important interferences of the Romans in the affairs of Syria and Egypt. Rollin furnishes the following succinct account of this matter:-

“Antiochus, king of Syria, and Philip, king of Macedonia, during the reign of Ptolemy Philopater, had discovered the strongest zeal for the interests of that monarch, and were ready to assist him on all occasions. Yet no sooner was he dead, leaving behind him an infant, whom the laws of humanity and justice enjoined them not to disturb in the possession of his father's kingdom, than they immediately joined in a criminal alliance, and excited each other to shake off the lawful heir, and divide his dominions between them. Philip was to have Caria, Libya, Cyrenaica, and Egypt; and Antiochus, all the rest. With this view, the latter entered Coele-Syria and Palestine, and in less than two campaigns made an entire conquest of the two provinces, with all their cities and dependencies. Their guilt, says Polybius, would not have been quite so glaring, had they, like tyrants, endeavored to gloss over their crimes with some specious pretense; but, so far from doing this, their injustice and cruelty were so barefaced, that to them was applied what is generally said of fishes, that the larger ones, though of the same species, prey on the lesser. One would be tempted, continues the same author, at seeing the most sacred laws of society so openly violated, to accuse Providence of being indifferent and insensible to the most horrid crimes; but it fully justified its conduct by punishing those two kings according to their deserts; and made such an example of them as ought, in all succeeding ages, to deter others from following their example. For, while they were meditating to dispossess a weak and helpless infant of his kingdom by piecemeal, Providence raised up the Romans against them, who entirely subverted the kingdoms of Philip and Antiochus, and reduced their successors to almost as great calamities as those with which they intended to crush the infant king.’ - *Ancient History*, Book 18, chap. 50.

“‘To establish the vision.’ The Romans being more prominently than any other people the subject of Daniel’s prophecy, their first interference in the affairs of these kingdoms is here referred to as being the establishment, or demonstration, of the truth of the vision which predicted the existence of such a power.” *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, 256, 257.

“1. This power was to come forth from one of the four kingdoms of Alexander’s empire. Let us remember that nations are not brought into prophecy, till somehow connected with the people of God. Rome had been in existence many years **before it was noticed in prophecy**; and Rome had made Macedon, one of the four horns of the Grecian goat, a part of itself B.C. 168, about ten years before its first connection with the people of God. See 1 Mac. 8. So that Rome could as truly be said to be ‘out of one of them,’ as the ten horns of the fourth beast in the seventh chapter, could be said to come out of that beast, when they were ten kingdoms set up by the conquerors of Rome.

“2. It was to wax exceeding great toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. (Palestine. Ps. 106:24; Zech. 7:14.) This was true of Rome in particular. Witness its conquests in Africa and Asia, and its overthrow of the place and nation of the Jews. John 11:48.

“3. It was to cast down of the host and of the stars. This is predicted respecting the dragon. Rev. 12:3, 4. All admit that the dragon was Rome. Who can fail to see their identity?

“4. Rome was emphatically a king of fierce countenance, and one that did understand dark sentences. **Moses used similar language when, as all agree, he predicted the Roman power. Deut. 28:49, 50.**

“5. Rome did destroy wonderfully. Witness its overthrow of all opposing powers.

“6. Rome has destroyed more of ‘the mighty and the holy people,’ than all other persecuting powers combined. From fifty to one hundred millions of the church have been slain by it.

“7. Rome did stand up against the Prince of princes. The Roman power nailed Jesus Christ to the cross. Acts 4:26, 27; Matt. 27:2; Rev. 12:4.

“8. This power is to ‘be broken without hand.’ How clear the reference to the stone ‘cut out without hand’ that smote the image. Dan. 2:34. Its destruction then does not take place until the final overthrow of earthly power. These facts are conclusive proof that Rome is the subject of this prophecy. For an extended notice, see Advent Library, No. 33.

“The field of vision, then, is the empires of Persia, Greece, and Rome.

“That part of the vision that now engages our attention is the time - the reckoning of the 2300 days.” J. N. Andrews, *The Sanctuary and the Twenty-three Hundred Days*, 13, 14.

REMOVING THE FOUNDATIONS

“Each period of reform is preceded by a period of darkness. The aspects of that darkness are the main theme of the reform line that follows it. The darkness itself is the result of a progressive destruction that takes place in four main steps or epochs. Each period of reform is followed again by a progressive destruction of four.”

A CHOSEN GENERATION

1 Peter 2:3–10

THE SEVENTH SEAL

HASKELL

“It should be remembered that, as the experience of **Ephesus, Smyrna, and Pergamos, will be repeated in the last church** before the second coming of Christ, so the history of **Thyatira** will have its counterpart in the last generation.” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 69.

“He applied the test, but all pointed forward to the year 1843 as the time when the world must welcome its Saviour. **The condition of the people at the first advent of Christ was now repeated.**” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 75.

“There was a time in the history of **Pergamos**, when Christianity thought Paganism was dead; but in reality, the religion which was apparently vanquished, had conquered. Paganism baptized, stepped into the church. **In the days of Sardis this history was repeated.**” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 75, 76.

“Upon this last church—the remnant,—shine **the accumulated rays of all past ages.**” Stephen N. Haskell, *Story of the Seer of Patmos*, 69.

ANCIENT ISRAEL

“The trials of the children of Israel, and their attitude just before the first coming of Christ, **illustrate the position of the people of God** in their experience before the second coming of Christ.

“Satan’s snares are laid for us as verily as they were laid for the children of Israel just prior to their entrance into the land of Canaan. **We are repeating the history of that people.**

“**Their history should be a solemn warning to us.** We need never expect that when the Lord has light for his people, Satan will stand calmly by and make no effort to prevent them from receiving it. Let us beware that we do not refuse the light God sends, because it does not come in a way to please us.” *Healthful Living*, 280–281.

ALL THE GREAT EVENTS

“The Bible has accumulated and bound up together its treasures for this last generation. All the great events and solemn transactions of Old Testament history have been, and are, repeating themselves in the church in these last days.” *Selected Messages*, book 3, 338–339.

THYATIRA

“**God’s church on earth was as verily in captivity during this long period of relentless persecution as were the children of Israel held captive in Babylon during the period of the exile.**” *Prophets and Kings*, 714.

PARALLEL LINES: REPEAT AND ENLARGE

“While the seven churches present the internal history of the church, the seven seals bring to view the great events of its external history.” Uriah Smith, *The Biblical Institute*, 253.

THE FIRST FIVE SEALS

Revelation 6:1–11

“**And when he had opened the fifth seal . . .** [Revelation 6:9–11]. Here were scenes presented to John that were **not in reality but that which would be in a period of time in the future.**” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 197.

“**When the fifth seal was opened**, John the Revelator in vision saw beneath the altar the company that were slain for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. **After this came the scenes described in the eighteenth of Revelation, when** those who are faithful and true are called out from Babylon. Revelation 18:1–5 quoted.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 20, 14.

“We have now traced the churches, the seals, and the beasts, or living beings, as far as they will compare as covering **the same periods of time. . . . Neither do the last three churches, and the last three seals, compare, as covering the same periods of time, as the first four churches, and the first four seals do.** But, as we have shown, the churches, seals and beasts do agree, as covering the same periods of time for the space of nearly 1800 years, till we come down to a little more than half a century of the present time.” James White, *Review and Herald*, February 12, 1857.

WALKING TO AND FRO

Zechariah 1:7–11; Isaiah 14:4–7

HOW LONG?

Zechariah 1:12–17

HOW LONG?

Isaiah 6:11–13; Psalm 74:1–10; 79:5–10; Daniel 8:13; Revelation 6:9–11