DANIEL & REVELATION

Questions relating to the application of the prophecies of Daniel and John to our day.



Is there relevance and Present Truth which we all need to understand in these Divine Revelations, relating to the LATTER DAYS, the END OF TIME, MANY DAYS, THE APPOINTED TIME, the TIME OF THE END? With what is happening around us on every side today, and "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth," (Luke 21:26) surely we are fast approaching the most climactic event ever to transpire in God's Universe.



Consider:

"A text without its context is a pretext!"

Most doctrinal beliefs have been conceived and believed using the Proof Text Method of study. Practically any belief can be supported using this method, but it has serious flaws. For example: "Judas went out and hanged himself." (Matt.27:5). "Go and do thou likewise."(Luke 10:37)

Questions follow for which any Scriptural answers would be greatly appreciated, provided such proof is in harmony with its Context.





In Daniel chapter 4, verse 25, Nebuchadnezzar was told in his vision, that SEVEN TIMES would pass over him. If we take Daniel's "TIME" here to mean ONE YEAR, which is the only reasonable option, then Nebuchadnezzar ate grass like an ox for SEVEN YEARS, and not 2520 years! (7 x 360 years.)

Why, in the same book, by the same author, do we take Daniel's "TIME" in chapter 7 and chapter 12, to mean 360 years instead of literal days, as Daniel applied a "TIME" to Nebuchadnezzar?

Consider....

If we are to be consistent, and in harmony with the context of the rest of Daniel's book, shouldn't Daniel's "TIME, TIMES, and PART OF A TIME", mean literally THREE and a HALF YEARS, just as the SEVEN TIMES meant SEVEN LITERAL YEARS?



In Revelation 13:1-5, the beast power which rises up out of the sea, has one of its heads wounded fatally, but his deadly wound is healed, and all the world wonders after the beast. They worship him, and he speaks great things and blasphemy. In verse five, his power is given to him for 42 months.(1260 days— $3 \frac{1}{2}$ years.)

Notice that Scripture puts the time he has this power <u>AFTER</u> his deadly wound is healed.

If his deadly wound was given in 1798, when Napoleon's general took the Pope prisoner, as most Protestants believe, then how can the time of his power start in 538AD and end in 1798 BEFORE his deadly wound is healed?



In Daniel 7:1 we have Daniel's first vision in the first year of Belshazzar, who was the very last Babylonian king (see Daniel 5:30,31).

In verse 17 of chapter 7, "These great beasts which are four, are four kings, which SHALL arise out of the earth."

How then can the first Lion beast represent ancient Babylon which had all but passed off the scene? With Babylon on its way out of the picture, and its king Nebuchadnezzar long dead and buried, why would the angel tell Daniel these four beasts ARE YET FUTURE?



In Daniel 7, the first lion-like beast had eagle's wings. (Note: Babylon's emblem was a winged bull.) This beast was made to stand upright like a man and a man's heart was given to it.(verse 4).

If this beast represents Nebuchadnezzar, then we have a problem, because Nebuchadnezzar was NOT made to stand up like a man, but rather to get down on all fours like an ox, to eat grass, and act like a beast for seven years!

Does this first Lion-like beast really fit this prophecy or should we be looking for a present day application which fits the specifications?



In Daniel 7: 7,8 we have the great and dreadful beast. This is supposed to represent Pagan and Papal Rome, paralleling the legs of iron etc of Daniel 2.

In verse 11, Daniel watches till this dreadful beast is slain and completely destroyed in flames.

Please note verse 12, where Daniel says. "As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: YET THEIR LIVES WERE PROLONGED FOR A SEASON AND TIME." This Scripture indicates that the four beasts exist at the same time, and the first three observe the fate of the dreadful fourth beast.

Doesn't this suggest that the Word of God is telling us that this prophecy is yet future, and could be relevant to the first beast of Revelation 13?



Daniel 7:9-14 is a picture of the Judgment Scene and the setting up of Christ's Kingdom.

If the above scene only refers to 1844, then how can all the beasts be contemporary instead of successive as depicted in Daniel 2?

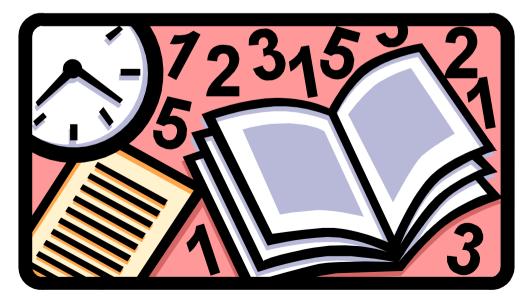
Surely here we have a clue that this prophecy has yet a future fulfilment!



Note that in Daniel 7:23 the fourth beast devours the WHOLE earth, and treads it down and breaks it in pieces.

Has Rome in ANY form ever taken over the WHOLE earth?

This is obviously an end-time prophecy which we need to understand for our day. In fact, Scripture clearly shows all the beasts of Daniel 7 are end-time powers.





Daniel 7:25 says the fourth beast power will change times and laws. Seventh-day Adventists have applied this to the changing of the Sabbath by the Papacy, during the 1260 years of supposed Papal supremacy—538AD-1798AD.

However, there is a real problem here in that it was Emperor Constantine who officially made the Sabbath to Sunday change in 321AD, 200 years before 538AD.

How could the Papacy be charged with changing God's Sabbath law, when they were not in a position of power to do so at that time? In fact, Pope Vigilius, the then Pope, was put in prison at one stage by Emperor Justinian. Check it out in the history books.



Daniel has a second vision in the third year of Belshazzar, and he was transported in vision to the river Ulai, (which today is known as the Karun River. It flows out of Iran and meets the Tigris and Euphrates just before emptying into the Gulf of Iran.)

Alexander the Great finally defeated Darius III's army at the battle of Arbela in 331 BC. The battle took place at least 500 miles away from the Ulai River.

Generally in Scripture the prophet is transported in vision to the place where the vision is to take place. See Jeremiah 13: 1-11, 17-20. Also Jeremiah 51:59-64.

To be consistent with Scripture, how could Alexander fit this prophecy? Doesn't it seem likely that there is a future application here, especially as we watch these middle-east nations pushing westward, northward and southward today just as the Scripture says?



In verse 7 of Daniel 8, the "he-goat" power breaks BOTH horns of the "ram" power.

For over two hundred years before Alexander finally defeated Darius at the Battle of Arbela in 331 BC, the Persian empire had had ONLY ONE king at any time.

How then could Alexander break BOTH the horns of the Persian dynasty? Is it possible that the great horn of the Goat Power, could represent the United States of America, which has already broken the smaller horn, --Iraq, and is bristling right now to take out the other horn—Iran?

To fulfil the prophecy Alexander would have to overcome and utterly defeat BOTH the powers represented by the TWO horns on the Ram. This could not be done by Alexander, as there was ONLY ONE king of Persia ruling.



Cyrus the Great first went North—NOT Westward— to Ecbana in 549BC and captured the Median capital. Then he pushed Westward—NOT Northward-- to conquer Lydia and Asia Minor. Thirdly, Cyrus turned Eastward—NOT Southward-and conquered as far as the frontier of India. (Civilization Past and Present, p.33 by Wallbank & Taylor.)

Is it possible that this prophetic sequence ever happened in ancient times?

Compare what is happening today, with Iran pushing at the West, and watch for it pushing North and South as well.



In verse 5 of Daniel 8, the "he-goat" Power which conquers the "ram"Power, involves countries from "the face of the whole earth." In no way did Alexander's support come from the whole earth. He enlisted help from the former Greek city states for his wars. Transport in those days was by foot or horse or boat and was tediously slow, compared to today's travel means by air and sea.

How then can this great horn represent Alexander?





The "he-goat" Power "does not touch the ground" as he travels to the Ulai River from "the face of the whole earth." Daniel 8:5

How could this apply to Alexander in 321 BC?

Alexander the Great and his troops travelled thousands of miles on foot, over a period of years, to traverse the vast expanses of the Persian empire.

Surely only modern day sea and airpower could accomplish the specifications of this prophecy.



In the Scriptures the symbolic name "Grecia" has two completely different meanings. It can refer to the ancient nation of Greece.

However, the name Grecia is more frequently translated as "Gentile" and refers to the GENTILE NATIONS of the world—those who are Non Jews. (Compare Acts 20: 1,2 and Mark 7:25,26, Romans 1:16, Romans 10:11-13 and John 7:35. Check margins also.)

Could it not represent the modern Gentile Nations of the world?

Compare also Revelation 11, and Luke 21, and the "times of the Gentiles".





From history we know that no "Little Horn" Power ever came out of the areas of land conquered by Alexander which were later divided among his four generals. The farthest west Alexander conquered was Macedonia.

So how could the Little Horn Power, if it is indeed representing the Papacy, arise out of one of the four horns from Alexander's divided kingdom?

It would seem that there is more to be revealed regarding the Little Horn Power, and Revelation 13 could well give us some clues.

In God's own time, He will reveal more and more Present Truth, as He says in Daniel 12, and "the wise will understand as knowledge is increased."



Daniel 8:13 is a specific question . "How long shall be the vision concerning the DAILY, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden underfoot?"

Daniel 8:14 is the answer given to the question.

Shouldn't we establish first what the DAILY is because in Daniel 12:11 it is "from the time that the DAILY shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days?

The DAILY being taken away, is obviously the key, and the starting point for the prophecy.

For a possible explanation of what the DAILY BEING TAKEN AWAY, could mean, see Revelation 11, where the Gentiles have control of Jerusalem for 42 months.



From Daniel 7 to 12 the question is asked repeatedly, "How long?" Every time the angel answers it is always in the context of the end of the world, over TEN times.

Time of the end Time appointed When the transgressors are come to the full.... The latter days

End of the days and so on.

Doesn't this suggest that the final fulfilment of these prophecies will be at the end of time—that there is yet to be the primary fulfilment to give God's people a clear roadmap of what lies ahead for the closing chapters of this world as we know it?



The 2300 (*days* is a supplied word and not in the original) in the original is "erebboqer" meaning literally "evening/morning." If Daniel had meant days he would have used the Hebrew word "yom". In verse 26 of Daniel 8, the angel refers to "the vision of the evening and morning which was told is true." Every evening and morning there was a special worship service, often referred to as the "Continual", or "the DAILY" to honour God and glorify Him.

Could the 2300 "ereb-boquer" be referring to 2300 worship services?

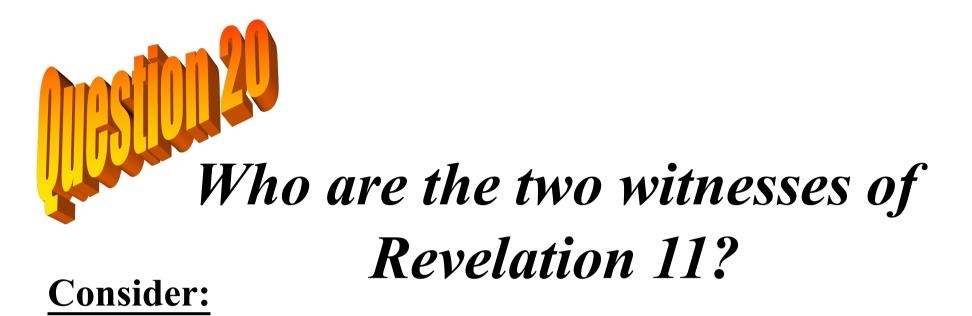
If this is the case then 2300 evening/morning services could well be 1150 days, which then allows the prophecy to fit within the TIME, TIMES and PART of a TIME with the rest of Daniel's prophecies.



In Revelation 7 the four angels holding back the four winds of strife, are told not to hurt earth, sea or trees, until....the servants of God are sealed!

In Revelation 8: 1-12 the first four trumpets sound, hurting the earth, sea and trees, after the golden censer is cast to the earth, in verse 5.

Doesn't this indicate plainly that the trumpets, can only sound AFTER the sealing is completed and human probation is closed?



- 1. These two beings prophecy for 1260 days(or 42 months, the same time period as the Rev 13 beast has supremacy).
- 2. One can cause rain to cease,(compare Elijah), and the other can turn water to blood and bring other plagues as well.(compare Moses.) See Revelation 11, John 1:19-23 and Deut 18:15-18.
- 3. Every serious Jew expects Moses to precede Messiah's return.
- 4. Malachi 4 speaks of Elijah returning before the great and terrible Day of the Lord, and speaks of Moses also.

In conclusion: As you prayerfully consider the points raised in this short study, we hope you will keep an open mind, to allow the Spirit of God to lead you.

Surely, as we approach the most momentous time in the history of the Universe, the Lord will reveal more and more Truth from these wonderful and fascinating prophecies of Daniel and Revelation.

There is much, much more, that we could present but this will no doubt be sufficient to whet the spiritual appetite and start more intense study into these prophecies.

May the Lord bless you richly as you look deeper and deeper into His Word. Sincerely,

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