

Current Affairs #63 – The Propaganda War

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Now concerning this beast of Daniel 7, it is described in the following terms. Verse 7 of Daniel 7,

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 (Daniel 7:7 NKJV).

These are pretty impressive descriptions.

- Descriptions like “**dreadful**,” the word *dechal*,¹ which is to slink, sneaky, and by implication, to create fear. It is causatively, to be formidable, to make afraid, fear, terrible, interesting, dreadful. It was dreadful; it was terrible.
- It speaks of being *emthan*,² the word for “**terrible**,” and it means well-loined, burly, formidable, mighty. In other words, it will look sleek and massive, and it will be slinking or stalking. These are characteristics of the nature of this beast.
- “**Strong**,” the word *taqqiph*,³ which means mighty, formidable. So much so that people would say, “Who can make war against the beast?” Keep in mind, we are not talking about a *T. rex*, or an *Indominus rex*, as the series that has been created for television, of dinosaurs. It is being presented as the most massive, well-endowed (in the sense of power), sleek, and formidable, in every sense of the word.
- Terrible, and strong, and exceedingly great— “**exceedingly**” is *yattir*,⁴ and it means it is preeminent. It is exceedingly; it is excellent. It seems to have no flaws. It seems to have no vulnerabilities. It is great or large—domineering in its character.

¹ See Strong’s Hebrew 1763 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/1763.htm>

² See Strong’s Hebrew 574 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/574.htm>

³ See Strong’s Hebrew 8624 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/8624.htm>

⁴ See Strong’s Hebrew 3493 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/3493.htm>

- Huge, great “teeth” refer to its capacity to devour— “huge iron teeth.” “Teeth” is the Hebrew word *shen*,⁵ as in *shen*, *lamed*, *waw*, *mem*, which is the word for “peace.” *Shen* here is a tooth, and in Hebrew it is pictured as two front teeth, for devouring.
- So, it devoured and “**broke into pieces**,” to crumble or to crush, *deqaq*⁶—to crush in pieces and stamp, to put your foot on, to dominate with its feet.
- And it was different from all the other creatures, and it had ten horns.

Why do I go through this litany of characteristics for this beast? We should be able to just read it and say, “Ah, it is dreadful and terrible, and exceeding strong, huge iron teeth, devouring, breaking in pieces, trampling the residue with its feet, and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.” If we are talking about a kingdom, and we are told in Daniel 7—the one who is speaking said, “These four great beasts are four kingdoms.”⁷ So this kingdom (and we will look at it in just a moment) will look like it is flawless, unassailable, cannot be dominated. Indeed, it dominates. It has thought about everything. It has put in place solutions that look magnificent, and it possesses the power to enforce its rule on the earth. Whoever stands in its way... First, it devours, and then it crushes—two different things. It devours, meaning it absorbs, it takes in as nourishment. It chews up with its great iron teeth, so it tells me that people will be consumed by whatever this kingdom is.

Let me give you a hint: it is systemic—systems. These are systems that will draw you in, in a fashion that is irresistible. And those who try to come up with an alternative to these systems, those it does not devour, it will crush and break in pieces. If you think of this in the context of business, where a common rubric is to kill the competition—crush it or break it into pieces, compete with anything and everything that proposes an alternative, use the power and strength of its ability to crush, to break into pieces anyone who “challenges” it—if you think of it in terms of a business concept or a kingdom that deals with opposition and conflict, it will dominate. It will establish its hegemony over everything and anything that presents a competing factor to it. It will eat up

⁵ See Strong’s Hebrew 8128 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/8128.htm>

⁶ See Strong’s Hebrew 1855 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/1855.htm>

⁷ See Daniel 7:17 NKJV: “Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth.”

everything by offering the best alternatives, the thing that nobody else can offer but this kingdom. And anything that tries to exist apart from its hegemony, from its ability to dominate and control, it will launch such a fierce countermeasure against them, as to crush them, to rub them into the earth (to make them one again with the earth), and also to break them into pieces—to just destroy them.

We often see major businesses, challenged by a smaller business, will actually roll out such financial resources as to overwhelm, inundate, crush, break into pieces, the ability of that business, whose idea might well be superior to a greater business, but crush it to pieces, grind it to powder, so to speak, kill the competition or crush it. This is the mental imagery that is being suggested here.

Now concerning the word for “man,”⁸ the man who speaks for it, the word here is not *adam*;⁹ the one who speaks as the little horn speaking for the beast, that word is not the word *adam*. It is the word *enash*.¹⁰ It is not *adam*. It means whomsoever or whosoever, a man of an unspecified form. It may often refer to, and this is from *Gesenius’ Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon to the Old Testament Scriptures*, such a man is often referred to as a people, a band of men, a troop, possessor of vital power. So here, it is not necessarily the reference to an individual as much as it is a type of man, in reference to the character of the man who speaks. The point is that we will hear mankind echoing the sound of the beast when they speak. So, there will be a general consensus in the earth that these blasphemous things that are being said are well-received and echoed in the earth. Again, it is not so much the concept of an *adam*, a particular man, like the first man; it is the concept of mankind represented by and being corrupted in the representation of this message that is coming forth.

⁸ See Daniel 7:8b NKJV: “And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.”

⁹ See Strong’s Hebrew 120 - <https://biblehub.com/hebrew/120.htm>

¹⁰ See Strong’s Hebrew 606 - <https://biblehub.com/str/hebrew/606.htm>

I want to shift from there to talk about Satan's kingdom, because this is not a matter on which the Bible is silent. We know what Satan's kingdom is. Come and read with me from the Book of 1 John, chapter 2, verse 15. There John says,

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever (1 John 2:15-17).

Right after that, he says, (verse 18)

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.

But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life.

These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you. But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

And now, little children, abide in Him... (1 John 2:18-28a).

When he speaks of “do not love the world” (in 1 John 2:15), here is the appropriate designation. The word for “world” there is the word *kosmos*,¹¹ and it has a creator; it is called the *kosmokratór*,¹² or the creator of the *kosmos* (the word “world”). *Kosmokratór* is a synonym for Satan, or the devil. Now if we go back briefly to the Book of Revelation, the 13th chapter, that speaks of this great beast that comes, we will observe from whence the power of this beast comes. And by these two I mean to conflate into one simple and common understanding, what this global kingdom is. John is speaking in the Book of Revelation,

Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, (Revelation 13:1a)

You remember, Daniel, in chapter 7, said in his vision at night he saw “the four winds of heaven stirring up the Great Sea.”¹³ That is not a reference to the sea of humanity. It is more of the reference to a location; and very likely, the sea in question is the Mediterranean, which would be close to where both John, and before him, Daniel, were residing at the time.

And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name (Revelation 13:1b).

You might readily observe that as between the record of Daniel, of the same thing, and John, there are some additional facts, additional statements that are not in Daniel. For example, the beast that is arising is singular—it is a beast; whereas, in the Book of Daniel, this beast arises as the fourth of four beasts. The three preceding ones were a lion, a bear, a leopard, and then this one described as a beast with ten horns. Here, John adds seven heads. So, there are seven heads upon which are

¹¹ See Strong’s Greek 2889 - <https://biblehub.com/str/greek/2889.htm>

¹² See Strong’s Greek 2888 - <https://biblehub.com/str/greek/2888.htm>

¹³ See Daniel 7:2 NKJV: “Daniel spoke, saying, ‘I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea.’”

attached ten horns. Alright? John adds the feature of seven heads. He also adds ten crowns, and these ten crowns are an addition to the horns. He tells us this about the singular beast (verse 2):

Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion (Revelation 13:2a).

So he mentions exactly the four beasts that had preceded in Daniel, but he mentions them in a reverse order. In Daniel, it is the lion, the bear, the leopard, and then the beast of ten horns; from John, in the Revelation, it is a leopard, a bear, and a lion, and they are all the predecessors of and this great ten-horned, seven-head beast resembles these three preceding ones. Now, the addition is that there are ten crowns upon the heads, and that would indicate, of course, rule. As we continue, he says (and this is where I was wanting to get to),

²The dragon gave him [the beast] his power, his throne, and great authority... ⁴So they [the people] worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?” (Revelation 13:2b, 4, comments added in brackets).

It is quite apparent that we are talking about the same kingdom. Let me also point out from the previous chapter, additional indications that this dragon is Satan. In chapter 12, preceding where we were reading and speaking of the opposition to the Child who was about to be born,

And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns and seven diadems on his heads (Revelation 12:3).

Further it will say in verse 9,

So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; (Revelation 12:9a).

This power of Satan is given to the beast. Satan’s kingdom, therefore, is the exact same thing as this kingdom of seven heads and ten horns. The thing he created, the *kosmos*, is described exactly in terms of its identity, and its source of the power to govern, and its purpose: to put on display the nature of the evil one.

That is why John would say, “Do not love the *kosmos*, do not love the world, because if you love the world, the love of the Father is not in you” (cf. 1 John 2:15). You cannot simultaneously trust in the world and trust in God. But you may point out, John used the same word, *kosmos*, in John 3:16. So the same John, writing in the Gospel, the most famous verse perhaps in the whole Scripture, “For God so loved the *kosmos*.”¹⁴ Do we have a contradiction? Is the *kosmos* the kingdom of Satan? Is the *kosmos* the world that God loves? This is a false dilemma because there are eight different meanings to the word *kosmos*. The primary meaning is the word, “world,” and that means an orderly arrangement of systems. That could apply to humanity. It could apply to the geography of the world. It could apply to any creation that is systemic—that is bound together and functions according to systems.

When we come back, I want to talk to you about that concept of “world” that you should not love, and it is Satan’s kingdom.

Continue to study with me. I am Sam Soleyn. Bye-bye.

¹⁴ See John 3:16 NKJV: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”