

THE ANTICHRIST — FROM EUROPE OR ISLAM?

PART 2

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We started looking last week at what scripture has to say about **the Antichrist**.

The Bible reveals that in the end-time there will be a powerful charismatic figure who will deceive the majority ... and will be responsible for the deaths of tens or hundreds of millions people.

He has many titles: **The Beast ... the Prince who is to come ... King of The North ... Little Horn ... Man of Sin ... the Son of Perdition — though more popularly known today as The Antichrist.**

He will be the personification of evil — probably possessed by the Devil.

Does the Bible give any clue as to his origins? Where does he come from? Europe is popular. He is from Rome ... or the Old Roman Empire ... often said to be working with the Roman Catholic Church and the Vatican.

That's been the predominant belief for 1,800 years (since Hippolytus ... one of the bishops of Rome in 200 AD).

Although popular — and the majority view — we need to test it against the Bible itself. **Does a Roman Antichrist meet the Bible criteria?**

We looked last week at the key “Antichrist” scriptures. **Let's review again and see if ROME STANDS UP TO SCRUTINY?**

Daniel 2:36-45

36 **“This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.**

37 **You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;**

38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, **and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold.**

39 But **after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.**

40 And **the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.**

41 Whereas you saw **the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron**, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw **the iron mixed with ceramic clay.**

42 And as **the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay**, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.

43 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.**

45 Inasmuch as you saw that **the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold**—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.”

The “Foundation” Passage?

No real debate over the Gold ... Silver ... or Bronze.

The Iron is said to be Rome.

Dr David Jeremiah: “The legs of iron and the feet of iron represent Rome ... there is no way for it to be anything else. Because history proves Rome is the 4th Kingdom”.

That's the majority view.



But — let's examine closely what the Bible says.

Daniel 2:40

40 And **the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.** (Remember this chapter is in Aramaic)

- (i) Must crush ... shatter ... fragment
- (ii) All of the previous kingdoms

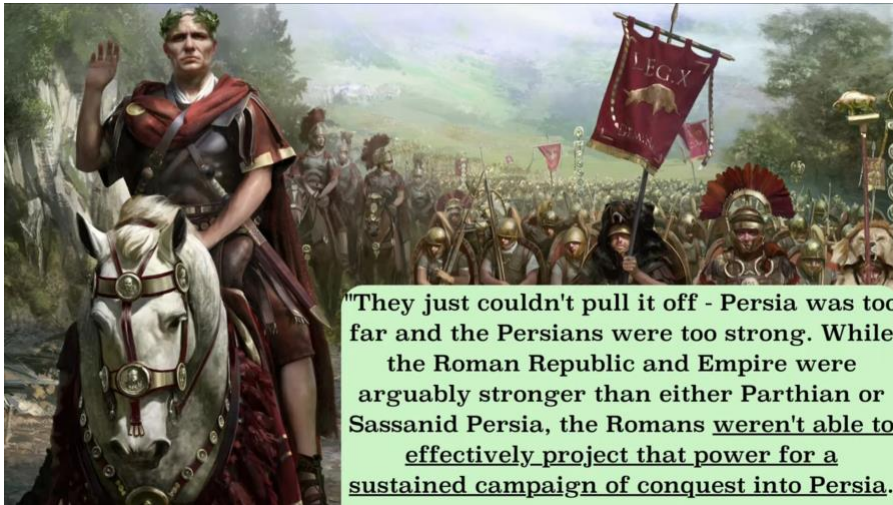
“Breaks in pieces” = ARAMAIC WORD “DEQAQ” = to shatter ... to pulverise

ROME FAILS THIS TEST!

Rome NEVER conquered Medo-Persia (Silver Empire). They fought against it for centuries ... BUT NEVER DEFEATED IT!!

NEVER “shattered” Greece. Defeated its military ... but admired its philosophy ... art ... architecture ... religion ... literature. The Greek language continued as the universal language of the

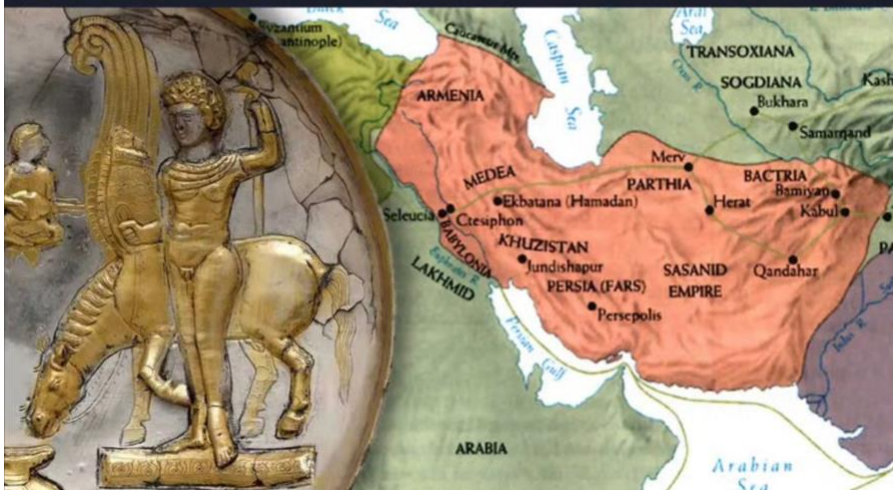
Roman Empire. They NEVER PULVERISED OR FRAGMENTED THE BRONZE EMPIRE!



Fall of the Sassanid Empire: The Arab Conquest of Persia 633-654 CE

The Sassanid Empire was one of the most militarily, economically, and culturally powerful states of Late Antiquity. Yet, during the mid-Seventh Century, it fell before the relentless Arab Conquest.

Aug 28, 2022 • By Robert C. L. Holmes, MA Ancient & Medieval History, BA Archaeology



We can see the meaning of “DEQAQ” twice.

Daniel 2:44-45

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. (DEQAQ)**

45 Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that **it broke in pieces** the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.” (**“broke in pieces” — DEQAQ**)

The Kingdom of God obliterates all others! It doesn't absorb art ... literature ... movies ... architecture ... religions!!

No way around it? **Rome COMPLETELY fails the Biblical test** (at least of Daniel Chapter 2).

Also. **God seems to be giving Nebuchadnezzar understanding of his kingdom ... people ... and territory?** (He's not interested in anywhere else) God is working with him.

A map will show that **Babylon ... Medo—Persia and Greek Empires were all Eastern. Rome was a Western Empire. It wasn't a “4th” Empire in territory of Babylon!**



THE 4TH EMPIRE IN THE STATUE UTTERLY DESTROYS/PULVERISES
(DEQAQ) THE PREVIOUS 3 EMPIRES... DID ROME EVER DO THAT?



So ... if Rome didn't pulverise and crush the Gold ... Silver and Bronze Empires — who did?

History shows it was the Islamic Empires.

Rome fought against the Persian Empire for six centuries (64BC to 629 AD). IT NEVER DEFEATED IT!

But the Islamic Empire defeated it in 5 years.

The Islamic Realm also conquered the territories of Babylon and most of the Greek Empire.

AND IT SMASHED AND PULVERISED!! CULTURE ... RELIGION ... LANGUAGE ... LAW ... ART ... LITERATURE.

The Islamic Realm is still there today — 13 centuries later!

Consider the Daniel Chapter 2 statue as it is today:

GOLD:	BABYLON →	IRAQ TODAY	MUSLIM!
SILVER:	PERSIA →	IRAN TODAY	MUSLIM!

BRONZE: GREEK EMPIRE—> ASIA MINOR MUSLIM!

It would seem that comparing the Bible and actual history leads to the conclusion that the Islamic realm is a much better fit than Rome or Germany?

Daniel Chapter 2 is the key go-to-passage for Rome. YET — SO VERY WEAK!

Let's return to Revelation Chapter 17: THE HARLOT AND THE BEAST!

Revelation 17:9-10

9 “Here is the mind which has wisdom: **The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.**

10 **There are also seven kings.** Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time.

Dave Hunt commenting on these verses: “The woman is that great city ... furthermore she is built on 7 hills. Only 1 city has for more than 2,000 years been known as ‘the city on 7 hills’. The city is Rome”.

Example of “CONFIRMATION BIAS”? You already believe Rome is “the answer” so you favour information that backs up your belief.

But: **The verse says SEVEN MOUNTAINS (GREEK: OROS) — NOT SEVEN HILLS (GREEK: BOUNOS).**

And said to be **symbols of Kings or Kingdoms** (a common Bible symbol). And note: **5 have already passed away!**

Not a reference to Rome! Incidentally ... there are many cities on “7 hills” — Mecca (the beating heart of Islam!!)... Jerusalem ... Istanbul — and also San Francisco ... Seattle ... and many others.

My view: The great city is MECCA — the Holy City of Islam and the centre of worship of 1.8 billion adherents.

NO ROME IN DANIEL CHAPTER 2 OR REVELATION CHAPTER 17?

Daniel 9:26-27

26 “And after the sixty-two weeks

Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; (*Jesus sacrificed*)

And the people of the prince who is to come (*the Antichrist*)

Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. (*Destroy Jerusalem and the Temple*)

The end of it shall be with a flood,

And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

27 **Then he* shall confirm a covenant with many for one week;** (**the prince who is to come*)

But in the middle of the week

He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.

And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate.

Even until the consummation, which is determined,

Is poured out on the desolate.”

The challenge is to identify the “PRINCE WHO IS TO COME”.

Popularly understood to be the final Antichrist ... who will cause the Jewish sacrifices to cease and establish the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION IN JERUSALEM.

The majority view is that this prince will be Roman. Based on “the people ... who shall destroy the city and the sanctuary” — being Roman armies in 70 AD.

Roman General Titus besieged Jerusalem in 70 AD. The city and temple were destroyed. Over 1 million Jews were killed.

So — it follows that THE PRINCE — ANTICHRIST — must be Roman?

NOT SO QUICK!!

The Roman Empire was much too big to use actual “native Romans”. Most legions were made up of LOCAL CONSCRIPTS. History records 4 legions who fought at Jerusalem in 70 AD — Legions V ... X ...XII and XV. Detailed records show them to be Arabian ... Syrian ... and Egyptian.

If THE PRINCE — ANTICHRIST — comes from the people who destroyed Jerusalem and the temple — most likely to be from Arabia ... Syria ... or Egypt (all Islamic countries today).

An Islamic Antichrist fits scripture much better than Roman or European.

We’ve looked at 3 key end-time passages.

Daniel Chapter 2 tells of 4 Kingdoms that run to the time of God’s Kingdom. The 4th Kingdom of Iron is said to be Rome — but ROME FAILS THE TEST. It didn’t “BREAK IN PIECES” the former kingdoms. ISLAM DID!!

Revelation Chapter 17 tells of a Harlot — a city — sitting on 7 MOUNTAINS — 5 of which have fallen — one still to come. “By magic” this scripture becomes a “city on 7 hills” —with Rome being selected (as confirmation bias?) Mecca is likely to be a better option?

Daniel Chapter 9 and the 70 Weeks Prophecy. The ethnic peoples who destroyed Jerusalem and the temple were actually from Arabia ... Syria ... and Egypt (Islamic today). So THE PRINCE TO COME will most likely be Islamic too.

A Roman (European) Antichrist may be a more popular tradition — but Biblical support is VERY WEAK! But — not there at all!

We are looking at an Islamic Antichrist!!