

Near the end of the present dispensation the old Roman Empire will be drawn together again as a 10-nation power bloc emerges.¹ (p. 48)

When the Rapture of the Church takes place and the Tribulation begins, the “feet partly of iron and partly of clay” consolidate into the Revived Roman Empire, which shall exist during the seven years of Tribulation, the culmination of the Age of Israel. (p. 58)

25. We want to concentrate on the fifth power symbolized by the “feet partially of iron and partially of clay.” They emphasize the Revived Roman Empire of the Tribulation:

Horns” (Rev. 13:1) in Scripture denote power, which is given to the little horn, the beast, by the dragon and reveals that this dominating personality of the Tribulation is the agent of Satan. Since Satan is a spirit, he needs earthly agents who agree to accomplish his will; he therefore operates through the minds and activities of men such as the king of the West to affect the affairs of the world.

That this beast is greater than any power of the past is indicated by the reference to the leopard (Graeco-Macedonian Empire of Daniel 7:6), the bear (Medio-Persian Empire of Daniel 7:5), and the lion (Babylonian Empire of Daniel 7:4). The king of the West epitomizes all the brilliance of Alexander the Great, the massive power of Cyrus the Great, and the autocratic royalty of Nebuchadnezzar.

The beast’s empire is discussed in more detail in Revelation 17:2-12. According to Revelation 17:14, the confederation of kings (the ten horns) under the beast makes war “against the Lamb.” But Jesus Christ overpowers them, completing His glorious victory at the end of the campaign of the great day of God, the Almighty.² (p. 15)

26. Conclusion: The “people” – SPQR,³ i.e., Vespasian, Titus, and the Roman Army – of the “prince who is to come” – the antichrist, or dictator of the Revived Roman Empire – are those who “shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.”

NOTE: Their present location in modern-day Israel is out of place and out of God timing, thus we pray for Israel under the principle of Zionophobia: the Jews have placed themselves in harm’s way in the midst of those who more than any others wish to impose genocide upon them.

¹ R. B. Thieme, Jr., *Daniel: Chapters One through Six*, 3d ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 1995), 44–48.

² Thieme, *Armageddon*, 2d ed. (2002), 15.

³ SPQR is the acronym formed from *Senatus Populus-que Romanus*: The Senate and the People of Rome.

27. It is this event that sealed the final fifth cycle of discipline for the Jews and they remain scattered until the Second Advent of Christ. Consequently, the Jews will remain dispersed throughout the nations during the Church Age.
28. In the dispensation of the Tribulation, Jews will repatriate themselves back into the land of Israel and will enter into a treaty with the antichrist who is the dictator of the Revived Roman Empire.
29. The “people” identify the national entity to which the Beast-Dictator is a citizen. That nation can be identified by discovering the one that destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple which was SPQR.
30. The Roman Empire in the First Century was virtually at its greatest extent. Britannia (England) to the Northwest, Gaul (France), Italy, Macedonia,⁴ Ancient Greece, Asia Minor (Turkey) to the North, Judea and the Levant⁵ to the East, and the North Coast of Africa from Egypt to the Atlantic Ocean. Not only did it encircle the Mediterranean Sea but its Eastern extremities reached the Black Sea, Caspian Sea, the Persian Gulf, and the Red Sea, plus numerous Seas that branch off the Mediterranean: the Ligurian, Adriatic, Tyrrhenian, Ionian, and Aegean. It was a huge empire.
31. Therefore, the possibilities of the ethnic origin of the Beast/Dictator are widespread, but from among the nations of the ancient Roman Empire’s boundaries is the area from which this Satan-possessed dictator will emerge.

⁴ “Modern Greek Makedhonia [Μακεδονία], Serbo-Croatian and south-central part of the Balkan Peninsula that comprises northern and northeastern Greece, the southwestern corner of Bulgaria, and the independent Republic of Macedonia. Greek Macedonia is bounded by Albania to the west, independent Macedonia and Bulgaria to the north, the Greek region of Thrace to the east, and the Aegean Sea to the southeast, and the Greek regions of Thessaly and Epirus to the South” (“Macedonia” in *The Encyclopaedia Britannica: Micropaedia* 15th ed. [Chicago: Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2010], 620–21).

⁵ “Levant”: Name given to the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea between Western Greece and Western Egypt. (*Merriam-Webster’s Geographical Dictionary*, 3d ed. [Springfield, Mass. Merriam-Webster, 2007], 647).

32. He will be a Roman from the viewpoint of Daniel who was writing in the sixth century B.C. (c. 530), a time when the Roman nation was in its infancy.
33. To get perspective, we first note the time Daniel wrote his prophecies and the origin and formation of the city of Rome.
34. This excerpt is taken from the introduction to the Book of Daniel from *The Scofield Study Bible*.

The author of this book, Daniel, whose name means *God is my judge*, was taken in his youth to Babylon in the first deportation under Nebuchadnezzar. He soon excelled in wisdom in this land famous for its wise men, and ultimately rose to become first among the three highest officers of the Medo-Persian Empire (5:29; 6:1–3). His life in Babylon extended to at least 530 B.C. It voices the only prophecy in the Old Testament (9:24–27) that sets the time of Christ's first advent.

The historical events, occurring at the beginning of the times of the Gentiles, illustrate prophetic events that take place at the end of this period and culminate catastrophically in the termination of Gentile world rule at the return of Christ, the Messiah. Thus, the persecution of God's children in chapters 3 and 6 foreshadows the more severe and universal persecution of God's people that will take place at the end of this age (7:25; 8:24; 12:1); likewise, the blasphemous repudiation of the God of Israel, as in 5:1–4; 6:5–12, will appear in a more universal form and with greater intensity at the end of the age (7:25; 9:26; 11:37; 38).⁶

35. At the time Daniel was writing *Daniel*, Rome was in its infancy and initially became known as the Roman Republic. It was during this time that the Jews' began a period of reversionism that included the 70-heptad failure to observe the septennial⁷ sabbatical year of rest and each seventh-year Jubilee.
36. Lack of records tracing the heptads and the Jubilee years make it difficult to reconstruct the 70 heptads during which the Jews failed to observe the septennial Jubilee years.

⁶ C. I. Scofield, ed., *The Scofield Study Bible: NASB* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), 1173.

⁷ "Septennial: period of seven years; occurring or being done every seven years; consisting or lasting for seven years. From the Latin *septennium*, a synonym of the Hebrew *shavua'* and the Greek *hepta*" (*Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th ed., s.v. "septennial").

37. This inconsistency reflects the absence of the Jews' observances of the Jubilees over the time leading up to the fifth cycle of discipline imposed when Nebuchadnezzar took the Hebrew remnant to Babylon in 586 B.C. Here is some commentary on this by Jack Finegan:

There is uncertainty as to how regularly and how literally the Jubilee year was observed. According to one rabbinic source, the institution was abolished after the fall of Samaria (723 B.C.), since the words of Leviticus 25:10 require the Jubilee only when it can be proclaimed "throughout the land to all its inhabitants," which was no longer possible after the deportation of the people of Northern Israel, and most Talmudic authorities are said to grant that the Jubilee was not observed in the Jewish calendar after the Babylonian exile. On the other hand, the Sabbatical year and the Jubilee were so closely related in the book of Leviticus and in their significance that it is difficult to think that the latter would fall away all together. Also, the existence of the book of Jubilees (which probably dates in the original Hebrew from the second century B.C. and was found in Hebrew fragments in Cave 1 at Qumran /kum-rän'/) and the more recently published Melchizedek text from Qumran Cave 11 attest to the importance of the idea of Jubilee in that time.⁸

38. The recovery of missing Jubilees does not prevent us from interpreting the entirety of Daniel's prophecy. All we need to understand is the structure of the heptads and the septennial Jubilees to comprehend the intent of the 70-year captivity in Babylon and the subsequent 490-year period contained between the issuing of the decree by Artaxerxes in 445 B.C. and the public entry of Jesus Christ into the city of Jerusalem in A.D. 33.
39. Jesus explains the circumstances that will prevail throughout the Church Age in Matthew 24:4-8:

Matthew 24: 3 - As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, His disciples suddenly appeared to Him saying, **(1)**: "Tell us when these things will happen [**destruction of the Temple, [Lk 21:20-24]**, and **(2)**: what will be the sign of Your coming [**2d Advent, v. 27]**, and **(3)**: what will be the sign of the end of the dispensation of Israel?" [**vv. 9-26]**.

⁸ Jack Finegan, *Biblical Handbook of Biblical Chronology: Principles of Time Reckoning in the Ancient World and Problems of Chronology in the Bible*, rev. ed. (Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1998), 129.

40. The disciples' questions encompass three dispensations which are asked out of chronological order which is as follows: (1) "Tell us when these things will happen": the destruction of the Temple will occur in the Church Age (A.D. 70), Matthew 4-8; (3): what will be the sign of the end of the dispensation of Israel?": the Tribulation will be the time when Lucifer seeks to impose genocide upon the world's Jewish population, vv. 9-26, and (2) "what will be the sign of Your coming?" the Second Advent.

Matthew 24:4 - "Be alert: make sure no one deceives you through human viewpoint.

v. 5 - "For many will come on the basis of My reputation, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will deceive many reversionistic believers.

v. 6 - "Also, you will surely hear of wars [**combat**] and rumors of wars [**cold wars**]. Be alert and do not be frightened for it is necessary that these things occur, but the end of the dispensation of the Tribulation is not yet.

v. 7 - "For nation shall be attacked by nation, and kingdom shall fight against kingdom. There will be famines [**economic disasters**] and earthquakes in various places.

v. 8 - "But all of these things are just the beginning of the birth pangs.