

SATAN'S WARFARE AGAINST THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Introduction Deut. 4:2: "Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it."

(See Chart No 14—*God's Commandments—Our Protection*)

Throughout the ages, Satan has used many weapons against the Ten Commandments, but the most dangerous weapon of all has been the teaching that Christ gave the Church authority to add to or take away from the Commandments of God. In spite of God's thrice-repeated warning (Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:6; Rev. 22:18), this doctrine has shaped the thinking and conduct of millions of professed Christians.

This may come as surprise to us, but it has not taken God by surprise. He predicted it long ago. How Satan has used leading men of the Church to make a breach in the law of God, is the theme of one of the most absorbing prophecies of the Bible. It is found in Daniel, chapter 7.

Discussion 1.—THE FOUR GREAT BEASTS AND THE TEN HORNS (vv 1-8 and 15-25)

(See Chart No. 19—*Seven Keys to Bible Symbolism, also No. 20—Lion and Bear, and No 21—Leopard and Fourth Beast*)

The simplest way to explain these symbols is to compare Daniel 7 with Daniel 2. The same four empires—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome—followed by a ten-fold division, are symbolised in both chapters.

DANIEL 2		DANIEL 7	
Symbol	Meaning	Symbol	Meaning
<i>Head of Gold</i> (vv 37, 38)	BABYLON	<i>Lion</i> (v 4)	BABYLON
<i>Breast and arms of Silver</i> (v 39)	MEDO-PERSIA	<i>Bear</i> (v 5)	MEDO-PERSIA
<i>Thighs of Brass</i> (v 39)	GREECE	<i>Leopard</i> (v 6)	GREECE
<i>Legs of Iron</i> (v 40)	ROME	<i>Fourth Beast</i> (vv 7, 19, 23)	ROME
<i>Feet and Toes</i> (vv 41-43)	KINGDOMS OF WESTERN EUROPE	<i>Ten Horns</i> (vv 7, 8, 20, 24)	KINGDOMS OF WESTERN EUROPE

Note especially the close correspondence between the description of the legs of iron (Dan. 2:40), and the fourth beast (Dan. 7:7, 19, 23). The language used in both cases is almost identical (e.g. "iron", "break in pieces and bruise", etc.). This comparison provides the most conclusive key to the identification of the Fourth Beast as Rome.

2.—THE MYSTERIOUS "LITTLE HORN" (vv 8, 20, 25)

This was the detail that intrigued Daniel (vv 19, 20), and it is obviously the focal point of the whole chapter. Ten clear specifications are given, which enable us to identify this power with absolute certainty.

(See Chart No. 22—*Identification of the Little Horn*)