

the **FUTURE ROMAN EMPIRE**

The Old Testament prophets saw six great empires which, under the control of Satan, oppressed God's chosen people, Israel. Two of these empires preceded the time of Daniel—Egypt and Assyria (*see Isa. 10:14; 27:13; 52:4*).

In his visions, Daniel saw four additional oppressive empires. In Daniel 8, the second and third of these empires are identified as Media-Persia and the Greek Empire, established under Alexander the Great. Since Daniel identifies the first empire as Nebuchadnezzar's Babylonia in *Daniel 2:38*, there can be no doubt that the fourth empire is Rome. Daniel could have known this only by supernatural revelation, because Rome's conquest of Jerusalem (63 B.C.) occurred long after the time of this prophecy.

The New Testament book of Revelation, however adds two more oppressive empires, for a total of eight. The apostle John, writing about A.D. 90, saw the Beast with seven "heads" (*Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 9*). These "heads" or "mountains" (or empires) are represented as seven successive "kings" (*Rev. 17:10*). This would be number six, namely, the great Roman Empire of New Testament times.

Significantly, however, the seventh and last of these kings "has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time" (*Rev. 17:10*). THIS will be the REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE, (in the form of a ten-nation confederation), the final phase of the great image of *Daniel 2* (the ten toes), and the Beast in *Daniel 7* (the ten horns), and the eleventh "little horn" who will arise "among them" (*Dan. 7:8*). (In both visions, the message of the ten horns, the ten toes, and the four beasts is one and the same from different vantage points—and all picture a world dictator governing ten nations at the time of the end!)

Revelation 17:8 says this Beast with seven heads suddenly "is not" (*cf Rev. 17:11*). Then the Beast reappears as "the eighth" empire, though it is actually "of the seven". The wounding of the Beast is mentioned 3 times in *Rev. 13*. (*verse 3, 12, and 14*). The wound produces death, but restoration to life follows. Some commentators think that this statement represents the fall of the old Roman Empire and its restoration through the ten-nation confederacy.

Others believe that it speaks of the resurrection of Judas Iscariot, for he and the Antichrist are the only ones ever called the "son of perdition". (*John 17:12 and 2 Thess. 2:3*). God alone knows. A third possibility would be that the Beast-king

(Antichrist), is assassinated midway through the Tribulation hour, perhaps in retaliation for overthrowing three members of the original ten nations federation. Such an event would give the great counterfeiter, Satan, the opportunity to perform a resurrection. This would prove invaluable to the prestige of the Antichrist, since the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ was affirmed by His resurrection 2000 years before (*Matt. 12:39-40*). Remember the Antichrist proclaims himself God and even sits in the Temple in Jerusalem during the Tribulation (*2 Thess. 2:4 and Matt. 24:15*). Thus a counterfeit resurrection would assure the world that he is all that he claims to be. (Remember he wants their worship). Thus this kingdom of the Beast is the last and greatest oppressor of Israel. (last 42 months of tribulation).

Daniel foresaw the beginning of this forty-two month dominion in *Daniel 7:25* (note the contrast with the first phase of the career of "the little horn" in *7:24*), and also in *Daniel 9:27* (after the breaking of the seven-year covenant), and in *Daniel 11:36-39* (the world-wide dominion of the king who will do "according to his own will".) The Lord Jesus described this latter part of the seven-year Tribulation period as the "great tribulation" (*Matt. 24:21, 29*) that would follow the setting up of the abomination of desolation, "spoken of by Daniel the prophet" (*Matt. 24:15 [cf. Dan. 9:27; 12:11]*).

the
FUTURE ROMAN EMPIRE
(continued from inside)

I believe the explanation for the first death of the final Beast-King who was “wounded by the sword” (Rev. 13:14) is in Daniel. As the King of the North (Gog of Russia) sweeps through “the Glorious Land” (Dan. 11:41-45) on his way to the Middle East, he kills the Beast. (See the brochure Overview of Revelation 3 of 3 ARMAGEDDON CAMPAIGN). But as Revelation 13:3 tells us, he suddenly comes back to life, duplicating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, something no one has ever done. Thus this leaves the Beast-King as the eighth and final oppressor of Israel, with no further challengers to come from any earthly kingdoms (Rev. 13:4-13).

Welcome to HOPIC

We are excited to finally be back in the NEWLY RENOVATED KEY MIDDLE SCHOOL, at 6402 Franconia Road, Springfield, Va. Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell, Sr., want to invite you and your family to come and join us as we exalt and worship God in His Holy Presence.

Our Vision

Our Goal and desire is the same as that of our Lord Jesus Christ, to fulfill God's end-time calling to enlarge the Kingdom of God, by reaching the multitudes with the gospel of Christ for all levels of our society. We are bringing glory and honor to the Father of our Lord Jesus by teaching and preparing God's people for works of service through the Word and Anointed Worship, through the manifested presence and revelation power of the Holy Spirit.



House of Praise International Church
Where Jesus is still Lord

Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell, Sr.

Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell, Sr.
7406 Alban Station Court, B-206A

www.hopic.org

Phone: 703-866-4140

Email: pastor@hopic.org

Ministering the truth of God's Word in the power of the Holy Spirit!
Copyright 2010, Harlan Stilwell, Sr., and its licensors. All Rights Reserved.



House of Praise
International Church

*Ministering the truth of God's Word in
the power of the Holy Spirit!*

ET-REV-114



the
**FUTURE
ROMAN
EMPIRE**

Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell Sr.

