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## A Remarkable Symbol

Lesson Forty-Four

### 1. At what time was Rome divided into ten parts?

Between the years 351 and 483 A.D.

### 2. After the ten horns had arisen, what was seen coming up among them?

“I considered the horns, and, behold, there come up among them another \_\_\_\_\_, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots.” Daniel 7:8.

Note: We must, then, look for the development of the “little horn” this side of 483 A.D. About that time, in fact, there was a pretentious power, seeking acknowledgment of its claims. As early as the beginning of the sixth century the bishops of Rome had become powerful enough to exert considerable of that influence at the imperial court which ere long exalted them to a station where they could commend the kings of the earth. There was only one hindrance to their supremacy, the opposition of the Arian powers to the doctrines of the Catholics especially to that of the Trinity. These opposing powers were rooted up, the Heruli in 493, the Vandals in 534, and the Ostrogoths in 538. See “Student’s Gibbon,” pp. 309-319.

“It is a remarkable fact, that the popes to this day wear a triple crown, a fact that exists in regard to no other monarchs... The papacy [is] well represented by the ‘little horn’... In fact, this one power absorbed into itself three of these sovereignties.” *Barnes’s Notes on Daniel*, p. 327.

“In 533, Justinian entered upon his Vandal and Gothic wars. Wishing to secure the influence of the pope and the Catholic party, he issued that memorable letter which was to constitute the pope the head of all the churches, and from the carrying out of which, in 538 (when the last of the three Arian horns was plucked up), the papal supremacy is to be dated. And whoever will read the history of the African campaign 534-538, will notice that the Catholics everywhere hailed as deliverers the army of Belisarius, the general of Justinian.” *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 136.

“The celebrated letter of Justinian to the pope in the year 533, not only recognized all previous privileges, but enlarging them, and entitling the pope and his church to many immunities and rights, which afterward gave origin to the pretensions displayed in the canon law.” *Gavazzi’s Lectures*, p. 66.

It is clearly evident, therefore, that just as soon as the last opposition to the papacy was removed, it became firmly seated by the famous letter of Justinian, that the bishop of Rome should be recognized as the head of the universal church and the corrector of heretics. The year 538 A.D. may be set down, then, as the time when the papacy became an established power.

**3. After speaking of the subjugation of the three powers by the “little horn,” what comparison does he draw between the subduing power and the others?**

“And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and shall be \_\_\_\_\_, and he shall subdue three kings.” Daniel 7:24.

Note: “This evidently points out the papal supremacy, in every respect diverse from the former, which, from small beginnings, thrust itself up among the ten kingdoms, till at length it successively eradicated three of them.” *Bagster, in Cottage Bible*.

“They [the ten] were political kingdoms. And now we have but to inquire if any kingdom has arisen among the ten kingdoms of the Roman Empire since 483 A.D., and yet diverse from them all; and if so, what one. The answer is, the spiritual kingdom of the papacy. This answers to the symbol in every particular, as is easily proved.” *Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 127.

**4. How was this power to use its authority?**

“And he shall speak great words against the \_\_\_\_\_, and shall \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Most High, and think to \_\_\_\_\_: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.” Daniel 7:25.

Note: The pope calls himself “the vicar of Christ.” Leo X blasphemously styled himself “The lion of the tribe of Judah.” Leo XII allowed himself to be called “The Lord our God.” Pope Martin V called himself “The most holy and most happy, who is the arbiter of heaven and the lord of the earth, the successor of St. Peter, the anointed of the Lord, the master of the universe, the father of kings, the light of the world.”

The following is a portion of the infallibility dogma as translated by Hon. W.E. Gladstone, in the “Vatican Council,” page 201: “All the faithful of Christ must believe that the holy apostolical see and the Roman pontiff possesses the primacy over the whole world, and the Roman pontiff is the successor of blessed Peter, prince of the apostles, and is true vicar of Christ, and head of the whole church, and father and teacher of all Christians; and that full power was given to him in blessed Peter to rule, feed, and govern the universal church by Jesus Christ our Lord.”

“They have assumed infallibility, which belongs only to God” They profess to forgive sins which belong only to God. They profess to open and shut heaven, which belongs only to God. They profess be higher than all the kings of the earth, which belongs only to God. They go beyond God in pretending to loose whole nations from their oath of allegiance to their kings, when such kings do not please them. They go against God, when they give indulgences for sin. This is the worst of blasphemies.” A. Clarke, on Daniel 7:25.

**5. How has the papacy worn out the saints?**

By its relentless persecutions of Christians, having put to death more than fifty million during the period of its supremacy.

Note: No computation can reach the numbers who have been put to death, in different ways, on account of their maintaining the profession of the gospel, and opposing the corruptions of the Church of Rome. A million of poor Waldenses perished in France;

nine hundred thousand orthodox Christians were slain in less than thirty years after the institution of the order of the Jesuits. The Duke of Alva boasted of having put to death in the Netherlands thirty-six thousand by the hand of the common executioner during the space of a few years. The Inquisition destroyed by various tortures, one hundred and fifty thousand within thirty years. These are a few specimens, and but a few, of those which history has recorded. But the total amount will never be known till the earth shall disclose her blood and no more cover her slain." Scott's Church History.

"To parry the force of this damaging testimony from all history, papists deny that the church has ever persecuted any one, it has been the secular power; the church has only passed decision upon the question of heresy, and then turned the offenders over to the civil power, to be dealt with according to the pleasure of the secular court. The impious hypocrisy of this claim is transparent enough to make it an absolute insult to common sense. In those days of persecution what was the secular power? Simply a tool in the hand of the church and under its control, to do its bloody bidding. And when the church delivered its prisoners to the executioners to be destroyed, with fiendish mockery it made use of the following formula: 'And we do leave thee to the secular arm, and to the power of the secular court; but at the same time do most earnestly beseech that court so to moderate its sentence as not to touch thy blood, nor to put thy life in any sort of danger.' And then, as intended, the unfortunate victims of popish hate were immediately executed." Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation, p. 141.

#### **6. What change has the papacy sought to make in the law of God?**

It has expunged the greater part of the second commandment, in order to establish the adoration of images, dividing the tenth to complete the number ten. It has also abolished the fourth commandment (as far as its power extends) by substituting the first day of the week for the seventh.

Note: "The keeping holy the Sunday is a thing absolutely necessary to salvation; and yet this is nowhere put down in the Bible; on the contrary, the Bible says Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy (Exodus 2:8), which is Saturday, and not Sunday; therefore the Bible does not contain all things necessary to salvation, and consequently, cannot be a sufficient rule of faith." A Sure Way to Find Out the True Religion.

#### **7. How long was the papacy to have power over the saints, times, and laws?**

"And they shall be given into his hand until a \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. " Daniel 7:25.

#### **8. Where is this expression of time found in the New Testament?**

"And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, from the face of the serpent." Revelation 12:14.

#### **9. How is this same period again represented?**

"And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_." Revelation 12:6. (These days, being in symbolic prophecy, are themselves symbolic.)

### **10. What is the rule for reckoning symbolic days?**

“This shall be a \_\_\_\_\_ . . . And when thou has accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah \_\_\_\_\_: I have appointed thee \_\_\_\_\_.”  
Ezekiel 4:3-6 (Numbers 14:34).

Note; “So Ezekiel 4:6, ‘I have appointed thee each day for a year,’ where the prophet was symbolically to bear the iniquity of Israel as many days as they had sinned years. In this usage we find authority for interpreting days in prophecy as denoting ‘years’” George Bush, Prof. of Hebrew and Oriental Literature in New York City University, Notes on Numbers 14:34.

Then 1260 years was to be the period of papal dominion. It having been established 538 A.D., the time when Justinian’s decree went into effect, we find that the power of the papacy should be broken in 1798.

### **11. What event marked the close of this period?**

In February, 1898, Berthier entered Rome at the head of the French army, and taking Pope Pius VI prisoner, established a republic in Rome. The pope died in exile the following year. For over two years there was no pope.

Note: “In 1797 A.D., Napoleon was ordered by the French Directory to destroy the papal government. Bonaparte now invaded the papal territories and rapidly overran them. He had orders from the directory to destroy the papal government, but, on his own responsibility, he disregarded these instructions and concluded with the helpless pontiff the peace of Tolentino on the 19th of February, 1797. Upon the return of Bonaparte from Italy, General Berthier was ordered by the directory to carry out its instructions respecting the papal government, which Bonaparte had declined to execute. The people of the papal states were thoroughly discontented. Berthier marched to Rome, and was received as a deliverer. He proclaimed the restoration of the Roman republic made Pope Pius VI a prisoner and stripped him of all his property...and removed him to France where he was detained in captivity.” Pictorial History of the World, p. 756.

The pope was just as helpless in 1797 as he was in 1798, but 1797 was too early, the time did not fully expire till 1798, and “the Scripture cannot be broken.” John 10:35.

### **12. What was to take place before the dominion should be entirely taken away?**

“But the \_\_\_\_\_ and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.” Daniel 7.26.

### **13. Where in this chapter is this judgment first spoken of?**

“A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him: thousand thousands ministered unto Him, and ten thousand stood before Him: the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_.” Daniel 7:10.

Note: The judgment scene here noticed is laid in heaven. But even in connection with the judgment (Daniel 7:11) this power speaks such great blasphemy that the special attention of the prophet is called to his words. At the Ecumenical Council, July, 1870, the pope caused himself to be proclaimed infallible by a vote of 538 against 2.

**14. How soon after this did the pope lose his temporal dominion?**

In September, 1870, when Rome, no longer supported by the French, who had been defeated by the Germans, surrendered to Victor Emmanuel. Possession of the pope's dominion was formally taken October 2, 1870. See Chamber's Cyclopaedia, art. Italy.

**15. By what means is the beast to be destroyed?**

"I beheld then, because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake, I beheld even till the beast was \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and given to the \_\_\_\_\_." Daniel 7:11.

**16. What is the "burning flame" that is to destroy the papacy?**

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall \_\_\_\_\_ with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the \_\_\_\_\_." 2 Thessalonians 2:8.