

# Daniel 7:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

## Analysis

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Daniel requests further clarification specifically about "the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet." This repetition emphasizes the fourth beast's uniquely terrifying nature. The combination of iron teeth and bronze nails suggests mixed composition and overwhelming destructive power—this beast doesn't merely conquer but annihilates opposition.

The threefold description of destruction—"devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue"—stresses comprehensive devastation. The fourth beast doesn't just replace previous empires but systematically destroys all alternatives. Historically, Rome's military machine conquered methodically, crushing resistance and incorporating territories into a centralized system. Prophetically, final antichrist will similarly seek total domination, tolerating no competing allegiance.

Daniel's specific focus on this beast indicates recognition of its unique threat to God's people. Previous empires persecuted Israel, but this final empire poses qualitatively different danger through its comprehensive power and blasphemous opposition. This points to end-times persecution when believers face systematic, global opposition requiring divine intervention for survival (Matthew 24:21-22). Christ's return will destroy this beast completely (v. 11), delivering His people.

## Historical Context

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Rome (27 BC-AD 476 Western, 1453 Eastern) exceeded previous empires in scope, organization, and longevity. Roman military and administrative efficiency created unprecedented centralized control. Early Christians experienced this power through persecutions under Nero, Domitian, Decius, and Diocletian. Rome's systematic nature—law codes, infrastructure, bureaucracy—matched the vision's comprehensive destructiveness.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does the fourth beast's unique dreadfulness illustrate qualitatively different opposition believers face from comprehensive secular power combined with spiritual deception?
2. What does Rome's systematic destruction foreshadow about end-times persecution's global, organized nature?
3. How should recognizing this beast's ultimate destruction encourage endurance through seemingly overwhelming opposition?

## Interlinear Text

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אֵד יִן	צָבִית	לִיָּצֵב א	עַל	חִיּוֹתָא	רְבִיעַ יֵת א	דִּי	הָן ת
<b>Then</b>	<b>I would</b>	<b>know the truth</b>	<b>of</b>	<b>beast</b>	<b>the fourth</b>	H1768	<b>which was</b>
H116	H6634	H3321	H5922	H2423	H7244		H1934
שְׁנֵי ה	מִן	כָּלֶה וִן	דָּחִיל ה	יֵת יָרֶה	שְׁנֵי יֵה	דִּי	
<b>diverse</b>	<b>from</b>	<b>all</b>	<b>dreadful</b>	<b>the others exceeding</b>	<b>whose teeth</b>	H1768	
H8133	H4481	H3606	H1763	H3493	H8128		
פְּרָזֶל	וְטַפְרֵי יֵה	דִּי	נָחַשׁ	אָכַל ה	מִדָּקָה		
<b>were of iron</b>	<b>and his nails</b>	H1768	<b>of brass</b>	<b>which devoured</b>	<b>brake in pieces</b>		
H6523	H2953		H5174	H399	H1855		
וְשָׁאֵר א	בְּרַגְלֵי יֵה	קָפְסָה:					
<b>the residue</b>	<b>with his feet</b>	<b>and stamped</b>					
H7606	H7271	H7512					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Daniel 7:7** (Parallel theme): After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.