

# 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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וְיַדְעָה אָנָּא אֶצְבִּית אֶלְכָּה	לְיַצְּבָּה אֲנָה עַל	בְּרֵבִישׁ יְמָתָּה אֲנָה חַיּוֹתָה	דַּי תְּ
Then I would know the truth of beast	the fourth	H1768	which was
H116 H6634 H3321 H5922	H2423 H7244		H1934
שְׁבַת הַמְּלָה וְלֹא מְלָה שְׁבַת הַ	דְּחִילָה תְּ	יְתַבֵּה שְׁבַת יְהָה	דַּי
diverse from all	dreadful	the others exceeding	whose teeth
H8133 H4481 H3606 H1763	H3493		H1768
מִזְקָה הַ	אָכַל הַ	מִזְקָה הַ	
were of iron and his nails	of brass	which devoured	brake in pieces
H6523 H2953 H1768 H5174	H399		H1855
רְפָסָה: בְּרֶגֶל יְהָה וְשָׁאָר אֶ			
the residue with his feet and stamped			
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.