

## What About the 1290 and 1335?

Perry F. Loudon, Jr. PhD

### Daniel 2

King Nebuchadnezzar, a pagan king, fell on his face, prostrate in front of a captive eunuch and rookie wise man, exclaiming, *“Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings, and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery!”* (Daniel 2:47 ESV<sup>1</sup>). This prophecy still speaks to us today in vivid detail as we see the European Union try as she may, but never able to unite the seven remaining kingdoms of feet and toes of this great statue. The description of these feet and toes are found in verses 41-43:

*“And as you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom, but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it, just as you saw iron mixed with the soft clay. And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. As you saw the iron mixed with soft clay, so they will mix with one another in marriage, but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay.”*

Now, if we look closely at Daniel’s expression of *feet and toes*, there appear to be two divisions here with the words *“toes of the feet”*, nonetheless, of the same substance – iron and clay. If this is so, we can interpret the kingdoms of the image as follows:

Head	Babylon	605BC – 538BC
Chest and arms	Medo-Persia	538BC - 331BC
Belly and thighs	Greece	331BC - 168BC
Legs	Pagan Rome	168BC – 476AD
Feet	Divided Kingdoms	476 AD – 1798
Toes	Papal Rome	1798 – End

We will look at this division of kingdoms in the remaining prophecies but let us turn to what the substance of these kingdoms is made of. Ellen White tells us explicitly that this mixing of iron and clay in the feet and toes is church-state unions that would plague nations until Jesus comes.

*“The mingling of churchcraft and statecraft is represented by the iron and the clay. This union is weakening all the power of the churches. This investing the church with the power of the state will bring evil results. Men have almost passed the point of God's forbearance. They have invested their strength in politics, and have united with the papacy. But the time will come when God will punish those who have made void His law, and their evil work will recoil upon themselves (Manuscript 63, 1899).”*

### The Feet and the Toes

The first church-state union was the short-lived alliance between the Jewish Sanhedrin and Governor Pilate which ended with the crucifixion of the Prince of the Covenant. Next, we have Emperor Constantine becoming the head of the Christian Church. When Constantine transferred his capital to Constantinople, the Bishop of Rome was left alone among ever menacing Barbarian tribes. The *“feet”* of Daniel 2 tells the story of the Bishop of Rome’s struggle for domination between 476, when the Western

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<sup>1</sup> All Scriptures are from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise indicated.

Roman Emperor Romulus Augustulus was dethroned by the Barbarian Odoacer, to 1798, when the French General Berthier took Pope Pius VI captive and deposed his temporal power. The “toes” of Daniel 2 tell the story of 1798 until Michael stands up. These feet and toes are seen in each of the remaining three prophecies of Daniel of chapter 7 (7:8-11, 20-27), chapters 8&9 (8:10-14,23-25; 9:27b) and 10-12 (11:23-45; 12:7&11).

### **The Feet, Minus the Toes**

We know well the history of the kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. We have seen partial fulfillment of the prophecies in the toes with Papal Rome, and we have abundant light on this section from the Spirit of Prophecy. What about the feet and the years 476 to 1798? The rest of this paper will be dedicated to this portion of Nebuchadnezzar’s image.

We know in Daniel 2 that these kingdoms will remain divided despite some being stronger than others, intermarriage, and alliances. Many nations of Europe did not follow customary inheritance laws with the passing the entire estate to the eldest son. Instead, it was the custom of the Franks to divide lands partitioning their estates between all their sons. Even if a king enlarged his region and spread Catholicism was the religion of the land, it would be redistributed between his heirs. This was the case with the Merovingian Dynasty of Clovis I, and again with the Carolingian Dynasty of Charlemagne. Consequently, the popes had to constantly maneuver and work with these kings and rulers using rewards like crownings, titles, and relics, or by threats of anathemas, and excommunication to secure their church-state alliances.

Daniel 7 enlarges and expands on the kingdoms of Daniel 2 and after Rome, or the fourth beast, we see ten divided kingdoms with three being uprooted and another coming up among the remaining seven kingdoms. Papal Rome rose out from among the Barbarian tribes as three tribes were defeated by the Eastern Roman Empire. The three tribes of Vandals, Ostrogoths and Heruli holding Arian beliefs, that Jesus was created and not equal with God the Father, were eradicated within a few years of the breakup of the Western Roman Empire. The remaining seven tribes of Alemanni, Anglo-Saxons, Suevi, Visigoths, Burgundians, Bavarians, and Franks soon converted to Catholicism and integrated into Western Europe of today. Daniel 7:25 states, “they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.” This equals 1260 years ending in 1798. Therefore, the starting date was 538.

In 533, Emperor Justinian I sent a letter to Pope John II giving him all ecumenical authority in the church. Additionally, that same year, Justinian provided to the pope autonomy over the Duchy of Rome separate from the Western Byzantine seat in Ravenna. However, the Ostrogoths had occupied the city of Rome for many years. In 538, General Belisarius reached and occupied Rome. It was soon besieged by an overwhelming number of Goths under their King Vitiges. Belisarius, after a series of battles and with both sides suffering from disease and famine, defeated over half of the Ostrogoth force at the Milvian Bridge sending the rest of the Goths to flight and ending the siege in 538. It is at this point that the papacy was able to occupy Rome under Christian rule and the time, times, and half a time of the prophecy of Daniel 7:25 began.

This “little horn,” in 756, was given a dominion through the Donation of Pepin, though small, it gave the papacy temporal power as well as ecclesiastical power. It would go on through councils and dogma to speak great words against the Most High and persecute God’s true people through its church-state unions.

While Daniel 2 and 7 primarily deal with temporal kingdoms, the prophecy of Daniel 8&9 is quite different with its references to the sanctuary and the Day of Atonement. And this “horn” actually challenges God in heaven! So, we have the papacy attacking the sanctuary system and changing God’s commandments. Even though the papacy has a dominion, it still must use powerful nations to do its bidding. France was the first nation to use its military might to conquer and convert subjects to Catholicism. In time, they would also be foremost in using its power in the crusades and the Protestant Reformation.

In Daniel 8, he is given a time period of 2,300 days when the sanctuary will be cleansed referring to the Day of Atonement, but Daniel fainted, and the angel could not continue with the interpretation. However, because of Daniel’s prayers, the angel comes back and gives him the start date for the 2,300-day prophecy and about the Prince of the Covenant being broken. The start date for these 2,300 days and 70 weeks prophecies began with Artaxerxes decree to rebuild and relaunch the economy of Jerusalem in 457BC. Jesus started His earthly ministry in week 70 which was 27AD at His baptism. In the middle of the week or 31AD, He was crucified and ended the sacrificial service. Then in 34AD, at the end of the week, after Stephan’s defense before the Jewish Sanhedrin, he was stoned and the 70-week probationary period for the Jews closed. Even so, the 2,300-day prophecy continued until 1844 when Jesus went into the heavenly Most Holy Place and begin the Day of Atonement work on our behalf. During this period, the papacy will continue to tear down the covenant and the sanctuary service.

Now we come to Daniel 10-12. We are told this prophecy is a great conflict (Daniel 10:1), and we are also told about three time prophecies in Daniel 12:7,11,12, the “time, times, and half of time” (or 1260 years, the 1290, and the 1335 respectively. We have previously seen in chapter 7 the “time, times, and half of time” which ended in 1798. While we have not seen the 1290 and 1335, we do know that the 1290 ends in 1798, and the 1335 ends in 1843, that blessed year before the great disappointment. Counting back 1798-1290, we come to 508, and 1843-1335, we come again to 508. What happened in 508AD? Neither Daniel 2, 7, nor 8&9 gives us clues as to what took place in 508, which leaves us to the only conclusion that this event must be in the prophecy in Daniel 11.

Time Prophecy	Corresponding Event Prophecy	Literal Historical Event
“Time, times, and ½ a times” Daniel 7 and 12	Daniel 7:24 <i>“As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them”</i> Daniel 7:26 <i>“But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and destroyed to the end.”</i>	This began in 538 when the Papacy had all three elements to rule Christendom: a temporal power arm (508 Frankish kingdom), authority (533 the letter from the Emperor), and domination to operate from (538 the defeat of the Ostrogoths from Rome). It ended in 1798 when the French Directory ordered General Berthier to capture and exile the pope removing his temporal authority.
2300 Days Daniel 8	Daniel 8:14, <i>“And he said to me, “For 2,300 evenings and mornings. Then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state.”</i>	This is the heavenly Day of Atonement which began 2,300 years from the Decree of Artaxerxes in 457BC. In 1844, Jesus, our High Priest, entered the Most Holy Place in Heaven.
70 Weeks Daniel 9	Daniel 8:24, <i>“Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.”</i>	Our starting point is the same as the 2,300 Days with the decree Artaxerxes decree in 457BC. Jesus started His earthly ministry in week 70 which was 27AD at His baptism. In the middle of the week or in 31AD, He was crucified and ended the sacrificial service. Then in 34AD, at the end of the week, after Stephan’s defense before the Jewish Sanhedrin, he

		was stoned and the 70-week probationary period for the Jews closed.
1290 Days Daniel 12	?	We know this time period links with Daniel 7 and the <i>time, times, and half of time</i> which ended in 1798, so if we move back 1290 year, we come to 508.
1335 Days Daniel 12	?	We know this time period links with Daniel 8 and the <i>2,300 days</i> which ended in 1844. Notice the phrasing of Daniel 12:12, " <i>Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days.</i> " Obviously, those who lived after October 22, 1844, did not consider themselves blessed. However, those same people certainly felt blessed and euphoric for the year prior to that date and indeed, they were blessed. Hence, 1843-1335 leads us back to the year 508.

### 508AD

We saw earlier that papacy after 476 was surrounded by Barbarian nations who were either pagan or Arian. The Ostrogoths occupied Rome and Italian peninsula up until 538 and the papacy had made alliances with their kings. The period from 493 to 537 was called the Ostrogothic Papacy and the Arian Ostrogoths had in large part determined who would be Pope. This began to change when Clovis I married a Burgundian princess named Clotilde, a devout Catholic and was baptized after a battle that he contributed the victory to the God of his wife. Clovis went on to conquer to enlarge his domain and to convert his subjects to Catholicism. This did not go unnoticed by the pope in Rome and the Emperor Anastasius in Constantinople.

According to Gregory of Tours theatrical account:

*Clovis received an appointment to the consulship from the emperor Anastasius, and in the church of the blessed Martin he clad himself in the purple tunic and chlamys, and placed a diadem on his head. Then he mounted his horse, and in the most generous manner he gave gold and silver as he passed along the way which is between the gate of the entrance [of the church of St. Martin] and the church of the city, scattering it among the people who were there with his own hand, and from that day he was called consul or Augustus. Leaving Tours he went to Paris and there he established the seat of his kingdom. There also Theodoric came to him<sup>2</sup>. (History of the Franks Book II, no. 38)*

Based on the Battle of Vouillé in 507, Dr. Frank W. Hardy suggests the following events connected with Clovis occurred in 508:

- (a) Emperor Anastasius I Dicorus (491-518) gives Clovis an honorary consulship in celebration of his victory over Alaric,
- (b) Clovis asserts his status as conqueror by riding through the streets of Tours showering bystanders with coins,
- (c) he eliminates a number of rival Frankish kings,
- (d) he establishes his capital in Paris,

<sup>2</sup> <https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/basis/gregory-hist.asp>

*(e) he publishes a law code which had been in preparation earlier, and finally  
(f), on Christmas day, he accepts Catholic baptism at Tours, from the aged and saintly Bishop Remigius<sup>3</sup>.*

With Clovis conquering barbarian and Arian nations for the church and being bestowed the title of Imperial Roman Consul in the year 508<sup>4</sup>, a 1290-year reign began with Catholicism as the official state religion of France until 1798<sup>5</sup>. The papacy was given a temporal *power* in 508 to enforce the emperor's letter of 533 which gave the Bishop of Rome all *authority* in the church, and finally, in 538, with the liberation of Rome from the last Arian nation, the popes had *dominion* free from paganism and Arian.

### **Daniel 11**

We clearly see the divided kingdoms from 476-1798 in each of Daniel's prophecies: Daniel 2:41; Daniel 7:8, 20-22,24-25; and Daniel 8:10-14,23-25 & 9:27b. Remember, the date 508 is found at the end of Daniel 12 in verses 11 and 12. There is a glaring problematic issue here. If Daniel's prophecies are progressive, repeating, and enlarging, where are the divided kingdoms in the prophecy of Daniel 11?

Many have embarked on the interpretation of Daniel 11 since the beginning of the Seventh-day Adventist church. In a recent article in the Adventist Review<sup>6</sup>, it is obvious we still have a wide range of views for verses 23-39. None of the proposed interpretations incorporate the date 508 and most add something from Revelation including Islam, elements that Daniel certainly could not have said, "*And he (Daniel) understood the word and had understanding of the vision*" (Daniel 10:1).

Below is a proposed interpretation for Daniel 11:23-24:

- ***And from the time that an alliance is made with him he shall act deceitfully,***
  - The word "alliance" (ESV), "league" (KJV), or "join themselves" (YLT) comes from the Hebrew word "châbar." Strong's definitions include: "to join (literally or figuratively); specifically (by means of spells) to fascinate:—charm(-er), be compact, couple (together), have fellowship with, heap up, join (self, together), league." The definition does not indicate that this is any type of written, formal agreement as generally results from a peace treaty.
  - Starting at 476, after the fall of the Western Roman Empire the Papacy had to make temporary alliances with its barbarian neighbors in order to survive. Nevertheless, the alliance with the Franks beginning in 508 would not only be stronger than all the rest, would remain steadfast until the time appointed of 1798.
- ***and he shall become strong with a small people.***

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.historicism.org/Documents/Clovis\\_and\\_508.pdf](http://www.historicism.org/Documents/Clovis_and_508.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Imperial\\_Roman\\_consuls](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Imperial_Roman_consuls)

<sup>5</sup> <https://rlp.hds.harvard.edu/faq/catholicism-france>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.adventistreview.org/what-does-daniel-chapter-11-mean>

- *At this time because of the Barbarian invasions and Arianism, Catholicism was small but began to spread rapidly throughout southern, central, and western Europe through missionaries and with the sword of the Franks.*
- ***Without warning he shall come into the richest parts of the province,***
  - The process of gaining land and temporal authority was a major goal of the Papacy throughout the early medieval times and by 756, he had the dominion Daniel was told about in chapter 7.
  - Prior to 533, the only semi-independent property the Papacy had was the Lateran Palace which was likely given by Constantine shortly after he “converted” in 312.
  - In 533, the Duchy of Rome 533 was provided to the Bishop of Rome even though it was officially ruled under Byzantine Exarchate of Ravenna. With the expulsion of the Ostrogoths from Rome by General Belisarius in 538, the Papacy had a small dominion in Rome and the 1260-year prophecy began.
  - In 728, the Donation of Sutri by the king of the Lombards formed the first extension of independent papal territory which was located on the border of the Duchy of Rome and contained the strategic fortified Castle of Sutri overlooking the road into Tuscany.
  - In 756, the Donation of Pepin of the Papal States gave the Papacy a large independent section of central Italy running from Rome to Ravenna. This was based on an alliance with the Pepin the Short (or the Young) who in exchange for the popes blessing to dethrone the Merovingian Dynasty king, who was not spreading the faith for Christendom, would make himself king and stating the Carolingians of kings. Anointed by Pope Stephen II in 754, he then went to war against the Lombard defeating them and giving their land as a donation to the Papacy. Pope Stephan may have used the forged Donation of Constantine in his appeal to Pepin to go against the Ostrogoths. Before the Lombards took the area, it was formerly the region controlled by the Byzantine Exarchate of Ravenna. Now the pope had a legal claim to an independent temporal kingdom of his own.
- ***and he shall do what neither his fathers nor his fathers' fathers have done, scattering among them plunder, spoil, and goods.***
  - Simony, the practice of buying and selling ecclesiastical privileges, church offices, or promotion, began as early as 498. Competing for the Papacy in that year, Symmachus and Laurentius both bribed the Ostrogoth Theodoric for his support to make them the pope using funds from the Roman aristocrats. Theodoric took both bribes and they made Symmachus pope because he had more support than Laurentius. The final known act of the Roman Senate was a decree directed against simony, "shameless trafficking in sacred things was indulged in. Even sacred vessels were exposed for sale"<sup>7</sup>
- ***He shall devise plans against strongholds, but only for a time.***

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<sup>7</sup> [https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Catholic\\_Encyclopedia\\_\(1913\)/Pope\\_John\\_II](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Catholic_Encyclopedia_(1913)/Pope_John_II)

- Competing for the Papacy in 498, Symmachus and Laurentius both bribed Ostrogothic King Theodoric for his support to make them the pope using funds from the Roman aristocrats. Theodoric took both bribes and they made Symmachus pope because he had more support than Laurentius. The final known act of the Roman Senate was a decree directed against simony, "shameless trafficking in sacred things was indulged in. Even sacred vessels were exposed for sale "
- The pope of Rome had to “devise plans” to be a temporal ruler, using monastic establishments to spread spiritual rule throughout Europe and gaining leverage against the Emperor who had the Bishop of Constantinople at his side.
- When Emperor Justinian I sent the famous letter to Pope John II giving him all ecumenical authority in the church, the struggle from then on was not of the primacy church bishops, it was a struggle for the primacy of Rome over Constantinople. Technically, the Bishop of Constantinople was under the pope, yet, the former had the emperor's ear and the emperor had the sword. This struggle of church-state power would continue until the pope had a stable, temporal militant army of his own.
- “*but only for a time*” is a significant phrase. The word “time” used here is the Hebrew word `eth and Strong's H6256 which basically means “the time of an event.” Hence the Papacy will engage in scattering plunder, spoil, and goods among those who honor them until the time of the end in 1798.

**What About the 1290 and 1335?**

Following time-tested methods of Biblical interpretation using Daniel 2 is the template, using the repeat and enlarge method, and allowing the Bible to interpret itself, we can plainly see the Divided Church-State Kingdoms of Daniel 2, in the Ten Horns of Daniel 7, in the Little Horn Church-State Power in Daniel 8, and in as this Church-State Kingdom formed through Alliances in Daniel 11. We also find the linchpin time prophecy for this event connected with the 1290 days found in Daniel 12.

Now we can complete Daniel’s Time Prophecies chart we looked at earlier. Since the 1290 and 1335 dates begin in the same year, 508, we can use this passage for our corresponding even prophecy for both dates.

<b>Time Prophecy</b>	<b>Corresponding Event Prophecy</b>	<b>Historical Event</b>
“Time, times, and ½ a times” Daniel 7 and 12	Daniel 7:24 <i>“As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them”</i> Daniel 7:26 <i>“But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and destroyed to the end.”</i>	This began in 538 when the Papacy had all three elements to rule Christendom: a temporal power arm (508 Frankish kingdom), authority (533 the letter from the Emperor), and domination to operate from (538 the defeat of the Ostrogoths from Rome). It ended in 1798 when the French Directory ordered General Berthier to capture and exile the pope removing his temporal authority.
2300 Days Daniel 8	Daniel 8:14, <i>“And he said to me, “For 2,300 evenings and mornings. Then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state.”</i>	This is the heavenly Day of Atonement which began 2,300 years from the Decree of Artaxerxes in 457BC. In 1844, Jesus, our High Priest, entered the Most Holy Place in Heaven.
70 Weeks Daniel 9	Daniel 8:24, <i>“Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to</i>	Our starting point is the same as the 2,300 Days with the decree Artaxerxes decree in 457BC. Jesus started His earthly ministry in week 70 which was

	<i>sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.</i>	27AD at His baptism. In the middle of the week or in 31AD, He was crucified and ended the sacrificial service. Then in 34AD, at the end of the week, after Stephan's defense before the Jewish Sanhedrin, he was stoned and the 70-week probationary period for the Jews closed.
1290 Days Daniel 12	<b>Daniel 11:23, "And from the time that an alliance is made with him he shall act deceitfully, and he shall become strong with a small people."</b>	<b>This time period links with Daniel 7 and the time, times, and half of time which ended in 1798, so if we move back 1290 year, we come to 508 and find an alliance with the king of the Franks and the Papacy that would last until 1798.</b>
1335 Days Daniel 12	<b>Daniel 11:23, "And from the time that an alliance is made with him he shall act deceitfully, and he shall become strong with a small people."</b>	<b>This time period links with Daniel 8 and the 2,300 days which ended in 1844. Daniel 12:12, "Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days." In 508 Catholicism was given a militant arm to carry out its anti-sanctuary ministry dogmas against God's true people. Even so, the year 1843 brought a blessing to God's people, free from papal persecution and a steadfast belief that Jesus was returning in the following year to "cleanse the sanctuary."</b>

So, what does this mean for us in 2020? God's people in Daniel 11 are constantly besieged by false worship. Out of this Church-State Alliance between France and the papacy comes a power whose *"heart shall be set against the holy covenant"* (Daniel 11:28), and *"shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and pay attention to those who forsake the holy covenant"* (Daniel 11:30). We must ensure our heart is set on the Holy Covenant sealed with Jesus' blood, and we must keep His covenant commandments out of love for Him. However, the issue in the book of Daniel is not that others believe differently: the issue that the power of the government is used to enforce their beliefs. While we are compelled to give the Good News to the world, we are never to use force and must always allow others to follow their individual conscious even if it differs from what we believe. Those who combine church and state, as will be done in the future, will receive the same fate as the little horn of Daniel 7.

*"The people who know their God shall stand firm and take action. And the wise among the people shall make many understand"* (Daniel 11:32,33). Let this be said of us today.