

#### PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

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**SERIES: Israel** 

TITLE: Program 17 – Ten Toes, Ten Horns And The Fourth Beast – What Could It All Possibly Mean?

## **TUESDAY**

### **OPEN**

The events that happened on September the 11th in the year 2001 were events that brought absolute horror to the United States of America. People were absolutely devastated. It was called a horrific event and it was horrific. We had never seen anything like that within our shores. It has been labeled even worse than what happened at Pearl Harbor. And yet you know what, Beloved? What happened that day is nothing to be compared with the events that are going to take place in the future. There is coming a time of tribulation such as this world has never known and will never know again. And you know when it's all going to begin? It's going to begin when the man of lawlessness, the anti-Christ walks on top of that temple mount and declares himself to be god.



### **PART ONE**

It's going to begin when the man of lawlessness, the anti-Christ walks on top of that temple mount and declares himself to be god. Jesus told His disciples in Matthew chapter 24, ["When you see the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place as spoken of by Daniel the prophet, then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let those that are on the housetops not go back to their houses to get their clothes. Let those that are in the country not come back into the city." He says, "For then there will be a time of great tribulation."] (PARAPHRASE Matthew 24:15-21) Who is this abomination of desolation that causes horror? In the Scriptures he's referred to as the anti-Christ. In the Scriptures he's referred to as the man of lawlessness. In the book of Daniel we have a description of him as a little horn. A little horn that comes out of the fourth kingdom, out of the fourth beast mentioned in Daniel chapter 7. And what I would like to do is I would like to look at that passage with you. If you'll remember in our last session we looked at Daniel chapter 9 and we saw that there is going to be a peace treaty made with Israel, made with many in Israel. They're going to be permitted to have sacrifices and grain offerings in their temple and that's going to be a seven year agreement, a seven year covenant. But in the middle of those seven years, that man, that prince as he is described in Daniel chapter 9 from the Roman Empire that prince is going to break that covenant and he is going to come on the wing of abominations and he is going to make desolate. Make desolate means he is going to cause horror. He is going to cause horror for three and one half years. Let's look at that in greater detail and let me take you to the interpretation of the meaning of the fourth beast in Daniel chapter 7. In Daniel chapter 7 he talks about this fourth beast with the horns on his head. And he says, "While I was contemplating the horns...," ten horns "...behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it...."(Daniel 7:8a) So what you have is ten horns. Then you



have the little horn which makes eleven. Then you have three taken out which leaves you a total of eight. "...and behold, this horn...," this little horn that comes up after the ten, "...possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great boasts."(7:8b) In other words this a man full of confidence. This is a man of power. This is a man that makes great claims. Well he keeps looking until he sees the Ancient of Days takes his throne. And then the court sits and the books are opened. So he gives this whole view and then he says in verse 11, "Then I kept looking because of the sound of the boastful words which the horn was speaking...;" this little horn, this anti-Christ, this man of lawlessness. He says, "... I kept looking until the beast was slain...."(7:11a) The beast is the governmental power that has ten kings involved in it, ten separate like nations or entities or divisions of this nation some of them weak, others of them strong, some of clay; some of iron as we see in Daniel chapter 2. And then he says, "...and its body...," the beast's body, "...was destroyed and given to the burning fire." (7:11b) All right now, he wants to know the meaning of this beast and the ten horns and so in Daniel chapter 7, verse 19 he says, "Then I desired to know the exact meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others...."(7:19a) Now I believe that this fourth beast is different from all the others because when you look at a description of the fourth beast over and over and over again he tells you that he's different. That he's different from the other beasts. Remember in Daniel chapter 2 there's a statue with four kingdoms and then the kingdom of God is set up. A stone crushes the statue and the stone becomes a great mountain, a great kingdom filling all the earth. It's speaking of the kingdom of Messiah. It's speaking of the kingdom of God. That fourth part of that statue is legs of iron and feet and toes of iron and clay. Ten toes on the feet of that statue. All right now, those ten toes are parallel to the ten horns of the fourth beast in Daniel chapter 7. Those ten horns have another little horn, coming up among them. Having eyes like the eyes of a man and a great mouth making boastful oaths. Just



boasting and boasting and boasting. All right. He says, ["I want to know the meaning of those ten horns. I want to know the meaning of that little horn. What makes this beast different?"](PARAPHRASE 7:19) Well I think it makes it different in that it's the Roman empire which now does not exist and then the Roman empire, so to speak, is revived and it could be that all the nations of the earth then, because the Roman empire basically ruled the earth at that time, that all the nations of the earth come together in a coalition. And out of this coalition, out of these ten, all the groups of all the nations of the earth, that out of them comes another ruler. All of a sudden he emerges out of this. And so he wants to know the meaning of this. And he says it was different than all the other beasts. And I think it's different in that it is a revived kind of world ruler that we haven't seen since the Roman empire. And it says and he wants to know "...the meaning of the ten horns that were on its head...," on the head of the beast, "...and the other horn which came up, and before which three of them fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth uttering great boasts and which was larger in [its] appearance than its associates."(7:20b) In other words, this is a great powerful, powerful person. "[And] I kept looking, and that horn...," that eleventh horn, that little horn, "...was waging war with the saints and overpowering them..."(7:21) Now who are the saints? Saints means ones that are consecrated, ones that are set apart. What is Israel? Israel is a people set apart. Israel are those that have been sanctified, set apart unto God for a special purpose. This is His chosen nation. This is His chosen people. These are the descendants of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. These are the ones that God promised this land from Genesis 12 on as an everlasting possession. This is the nation from which came the law and the covenants and which came the promises of Messiah and from which came Messiah. This is God's chosen nation. So these are the saints of the Highest One. So what is this little horn going to do? He's going to wage war against Jerusalem. Now when does that start? It starts when the abomination of desolation walks into



the holy place. So watch what it says. "I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them..." (7:21) This is an ungodly man overpowering God's people. "...until the Ancient of Days came...." (7:22a) In other words he's going to start and he's going to keep on doing it until the Ancient of Days comes, until God comes. And he says, "...and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One...." (7:22b) What is he saying? That judgment is going to be given by God and the Judge is going to say I'm choosing the saints. I'm choosing My saints. He says, "...and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom." (7:22c) So right after, right after, he overpowers the saints then the saints are going to take possession of the kingdom. And you know what? It's not going to be by their own prowess. It's not going to be political move. It's not going to be by their own power. It's going to be because Messiah is here as King of kings. We'll look at it because there is so much more that you need to know. I'll be right back in just a minute.

# **PART TWO**

And who is this fourth beast that Daniel chapter 7 is talking about? Listen carefully because God is very careful to number these beasts. In verse 23 he says, "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth which will be different from all the other kingdoms...," all the kingdoms that preceded it, "...and [it]...," this fourth kingdom, "...will devour the whole earth...."(7:23a) What does that mean? That means that wherever you're living this fourth kingdom will devour your nation. In other words it's all going to be encompassed into this fourth kingdom with these ten horns or these ten kings and this little horn that comes up among them. Now watch what he says. "... [it] will devour the whole earth and tread it [out] down...," the whole earth, "...and crush it."(7:23b) In other words we will never know the United States of America again as just the United States of America and the same for the other countries. And it says, "As for the ten



horns, out of this kingdom...," out of this fourth beast, "...ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them..." (7:24a-b) ten kings, ten major rulers. They'll take the whole earth, so to speak, and divide it up into ten segments of ten kings. But another will come after those ten kings and it's important that you get after. It says, "...another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and he will subdue three kings."(7:24c) There's three kings in that coalition that he's not going to like. There's three kings that he's going to put under his finger. And then it says, "[And] he will speak out against the Most High..." (7:25a) In other words this one world ruler that is overpowering or ruling these ten kings underneath them, subduing these three, he's going to speak out against the Most High God. Now listen if he speaks out against the Most High God, against the one who is being worshiped in that temple because it is the Most High God. So if he comes against the Most High God you can know this, he's going to come against the people of the Most High God. I mean if we think that we have seen people oppress the Jews and hate the Jews simply because they are Jews it's going to happen again and it would happen to anyone who believed in God. And so the people that are living then that come to believe in Jesus Christ will be under his oppression also. So it says, "He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One..."(7:25a-b) The saints of the Highest One are the Jews, the chosen ones, the ones that are set apart, the ones that are sanctified. "...and he...," this little horn, "...will intend to make alternations in time...and in law...."(7:25c) In other words he's going to say, ["Okay we're changing the times." And he's going to say, "We're changing the laws." And it says, "...and they...," referring back to the saints of the Highest Ones, the Jews, "...will be given into his hand...," and this is so important for how long, "...for time, times...," which is three, "...and half a time."(7:25d) For three and one half years. Now does it begin to fit together? Now does this begin to fit with Daniel chapter 9 where this prince who is to come, this ruler who is



to come makes a covenant with the many in Israel for seven years. In the middle of those seven years he breaks his covenant. In the middle of those seven years he stops the sacrifices. He stops the grain offering. He brings those to an end and when he brings those to an end then you have three and one half years left. So watch what it says. It says, "But...," and I love it, "...the court will sit for judgment, and his dominion..." (Daniel 7:26a) the anti-Christ dominion, the little horn of Daniel, the man of lawlessness as so called in 2 Thessalonians chapter 2, "...his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever. Then...," time phrase, "...the sovereignty [and] dominion and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; [and] His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions will serve and obey Him."(7:26b-27) In other words what's going to happen, Beloved? The kingdom of heaven is going to reign on earth. It will all be over then for all the other nations of the world because the King will be here. Now in Daniel chapter 12 as this book comes to a close, Daniel wants to know how long will it be until these things take place. Let's go now to Daniel chapter 12. In Daniel chapter 12 he says, "...How long will it be until the end of these wonders? [And] I heard [a] man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and [he] swore by Him who lives forever...," listen carefully, "...that it would be for a time, [and] times, and half a time...."(Daniel 12:6b-7a) In other words once again he's pointing to the three and a half years that precede the coming of the Son of Man to take His kingdom and to reign as King of kings. So this is what he says, he says it will be, "...for a time, times, and half a time; and as soon as they finish...," this fourth beast, "...shattering the power of the holy people...," breaking Israel, breaking Jerusalem, "...all these events will be completed." (12:7b) He says, "As for me, I...could not understand; so I said, 'My lord, what will be the outcome of these events?' [And] he said [to me], 'Go your way, Daniel, for these



words are concealed and sealed...until the end [of] time." (12:8-9) Do you know what? We now understand them. We're at the end of the end of time. He says, "Many will be purged [and] purified and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand."(12:10) I want to ask you a question, Beloved. How does all of this hit you? Does this begin to make sense? Are things clicking in your mind? Are you saying, "I don't understand at all but I'm beginning to understand it." Or are you listening to it and saying, "That crazy woman! That's a crazy woman. She's absolutely insane." And you go on with a wicked lifestyle. You go on in your rebellion against God. You go on living as if there is no right and there is no wrong and there are no absolutes and you can do as you please. What does God say? That there will be a time of purification and refining for those that have understanding. But the wicked, what are they going to do? They're going to keep acting wickedly. Now listen to me, Precious One, listen to me carefully. Jesus Christ is coming. He's going to set up His kingdom but before He does there is a time of tribulation coming on the face of this earth. A time such as has never been and never will be again. A time of tribulation such as has never been that will last for three and one half years. You don't want to be part of that. So have understanding. Listen and learn, Beloved, study God's Word precept upon precept.