

The Four Winds and the Sealing of God's Elect



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by Steve Barwick

Some folks have speculated, based on recent current events, that the sealing of God's elect is over, and therefore we're on the verge of the arrival of the antichrist.

This thought seems to be gaining a bit of traction among a growing number of Bible students. So let's take a look at what the Scripture says, and see what we can ascertain about the sealing of God's elect, including when it *starts* and when it *ends*.

We know from Revelation chapter 7 that the sealing of God's elect is directly tied to the Biblical four winds. Indeed, as Revelation 7:1-3 reveals, in the final days of this flesh earth age the four winds that usher in the final events leading up to the arrival of the antichrist are about to blow, but are suddenly stopped.

And those four winds are stopped for a very specific reason, i.e., so the servants of God who are destined to stand against the antichrist can be sealed in their foreheads with the knowledge and truth they need to make that stand successfully, in Christ, and on behalf of their heavenly Father. As it is written:

Rev 7:1 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

Rev 7:2 And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,

Rev 7:3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.

The four winds were held back from blowing, which means the end-times events that those four winds would have ushered in were also held back from taking place.

This event (i.e., the four winds being held back from ushering in the final events leading up to antichrist's arrival) began the period of the sealing of "the servants of God in their foreheads" with the truth of God's Word.

When does that time-period end? The above verse tell us: "...till we have sealed the servants of God in their foreheads." In other words, once the sealing is over, the four winds that usher in the final events of the end will begin to blow.

The Four Beasts of One-Worldism

So let's check out the Scriptures that describe the specific events that will take place when the four winds are finally released to by God, and see if any of those events are taking place *right now*.

If they *are* taking place, that would indicate the sealing is over, the antichrist is about to arrive, and the end of this flesh earth age is upon us.

But if those events are *not* taking place right now, then there's more work to do in the field, particularly in terms of bringing God's Word forth to the elect who will ultimately stand against the antichrist.

As it's written:

Dan 7:1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

This was a God-given prophetic dream.

Dan 7:2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

As you can see in the verse above, at this point in Daniel's prophetic end-times vision the four winds have been released. But it's important to note exactly what happens when they're released. They actually "strove" – which means to *gush forth* (ref., Strong's H-1519 and H-1518) -- upon "the great sea."

As we know from Revelation 17:15, the sea is symbolic the people -- *all* of the people of the world. As it is written there, "*The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.*"

So we're about to learn what happens when the four winds gush forth upon all of the people of the world. We can then compare that to what's happening right *now* in the world, and ascertain whether or not the four winds have indeed been released, and thus the sealing of God's elect would be over with.

So it's important to understand that the prophetic events described from this point forward in Daniel chapter 7, which you're about to read, are designed to *usher in* the antichrist and his one-world religio-political system.

So once the four winds are released and begin to gush forth upon all of the people of the world, here's what to expect, in chronological order:

Dan 7:3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

The first thing we learn is that as the four winds gush forth upon the people of this earth, they usher in the arrival of "four great beasts" that rise up from the sea, which is to say, from among the people of the world.

So this is *global* in nature. That's very important to understand.

These "four great beasts" are different ("diverse") from one another. That means they each have their own characteristics, and also, that they're different in terms of their chronology, i.e., each one arises at a different time, one after the other, chronologically speaking.

These "beasts," of course, are symbolic. Our heavenly Father does not deal in grotesque creatures. But He uses *symbols* to impart knowledge and wisdom and understanding to His elect servants in the final days of this flesh earth age.

As we'll see shortly, these beasts represent *the four stages of one-worldism* that take place, one after another, leading directly to the appearance of the antichrist. So let's see what else we can learn about these four "beasts":

Dan 7:4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

The winged lion was always the symbol of ancient Babylon.



Even our heavenly Father used the lion as the symbol of Babylon in Jeremiah 4:6-7, saying, “*Set up the standard toward Zion: retire, stay not: for I will bring evil from the north, and a great destruction. The lion is come up from his thicket, and the destroyer of the Gentiles is on his way; he is gone forth from his place to make thy land desolate; and thy cities shall be laid waste, without an inhabitant.*”

The word “Gentiles” used above means the *nations* of this world. In Old Testament times, this “lion” represented king Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon coming forth from Babylon to conquer the surrounding nations, including the centerpiece of nations, Jerusalem.

So here in Daniel’s vision, the winged lion is symbolic of the Babylonian captivity of these end days, which will ultimately lead to the appearance of the antichrist himself.

In other words, this winged lion represents the spirit of Babylonish *one-worldism* that is carried throughout the world by the four winds as they gush forth in the final days of this flesh earth age.

Just as Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon was sent forth by God Himself (Jeremiah 25:9) to conquer the surrounding nations of his time and to rob them of their independence and sovereignty, bringing them under the subjugation of the one-world system of that time, so in the final days of this flesh earth age will this spirit of

Babylonian one-worldism go forth to conquer the nations and ultimately bring them into subjection to one-worldism *through the actions of the remaining three beasts*.

This first beast therefore does not necessarily represent a *physical* conquest, but instead, a global *spiritual* conquest.

In other words, as the four winds gush forth onto the earth, the first thing that happens is the hearts of the people of the world are turned to humanistic, Babylonish one-worldism, and they embrace it, much as you've seen folks here in the U.S. (and around the world) recently begin to embrace socialism and various forms of perversion. It's the Satanic spirit of the time, sent forth by God to see which of His children have been listening to His Word, and which haven't.

Again, the winged lion is the symbol of Babylon, and "Babylon," translated from the Hebrew, means *confusion*. And humanistic one-worldism *is* confusion.

Humanism (i.e., it was "made to stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it") negates God's Word.

That spirit of humanistic one-worldism sets the stage for everything else that must take place as the four winds continue to gush forth upon the earth. Here's the next beast that's brought forth by the four winds:

Dan 7:5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

The "bear," of course, symbolizes Russia of today, meaning the descendents of the children of Esau, Jacob's twin brother. They were also called Edom, meaning the red ones.

Every time the territorial integrity of the Russian bear is threatened, the bear gets angry and militant. This was true of the children of Esau thousands of years ago, for example, in Numbers 20:14-21 when they came out militarily against the children of Israel to stop them from trespassing on their territory as they made their way to the Promised Land.

And it's *still* true of the descendants of Esau today. They simply don't like their territorial integrity to be challenged by anyone or anything (including westernized one-worldism). And they act aggressively whenever they perceive a threat to it. Indeed, the spirit of one-worldism *is* a threat to the Russians, because it is largely *western* in nature.

For example, in 2008, Russia sent Special Forces troops into the nearby nation of Georgia when they felt that nation was moving too close to the western NATO powers of the European Union. At the same time, Russia publicly threatened to nuke nearby Poland if that nation allowed the western missile shield program to be set up there.

And Russia flexed its military muscles again in 2014, in the Crimea region of the Ukraine, when Russia's leaders perceived that the Ukraine was drifting too far to the west by signing a free trade pact with the European Union.

While these events are indeed exciting in relation to Scriptural prophesy regarding Russia, it hardly fulfills the command to the Russian bear, given in Daniel 7:5 above, when it is told to "*Arise, devour much flesh.*" Let's keep everything in perspective with the Scriptures themselves.

Right now, the Russian bear is merely giving us a taste, or a sneak preview, if you would, of what to expect when the above verse is actually fulfilled *after* the four winds are released.

The Russian bear is displaying its personality, and is revealing a specific character trait that any good Bible student should know is a "mark" of the children of Edom (i.e., Esau) i.e., they are a people who will go to great lengths to protect their territorial integrity (Numbers 20:14-21).

So once the first beast -- which is the spirit of humanistic/Babylonian one-worldism -- is unleashed by the four winds (Dan. 7:4), Russia will then act as it always has to protect its territorial integrity, by immediately grabbing up three "ribs" (i.e., nearby nations) into its territorial orbit. Why? In order to make sure they have strategic geography between themselves and the west as the world moves further into one-worldism.

Here's the third great beast:

Dan 7:6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

After the spirit of humanistic one-worldism is ushered in (beast #1), and Russia's three territorial grabs are completed (beast #2), the Kenites (i.e., false Jews, symbolized by the leopard; beast #3) will then rise to power through the four hidden dynasties they control, seizing dominion.

This is not the nation of Israel, but the manipulative Kenite elite who operate from behind-the-scenes on the global stage, controlling banking, politics, the news media and even religious thought and understanding in the churches.

The "four wings of a fowl" are said by many Bible scholars to be the four main branches of Judaism (i.e., orthodox, reform, conservative, and reconstructionist).

The "four heads" are obviously the four hidden dynasties the Kenites control, which is to say, politics, economics, education and religion.

This leopard/Kenite beast is given dominion, because it has a *job* to do, i.e., to set up the fledgling New World Order from behind-the-scenes for its ultimate debut on the world stage.

In other words, with the spirit of humanistic one-worldism having been released first, followed by Russia's conquest of three "ribs" (i.e., nearby nations) making them feel territorially secure, it's then time to *implement* westernized one-worldism.

The Kenites are like the stage hands behind the curtains who get everything prepared so the play can be launched. Yet they're never seen by the audience (except for God's elect, who have this knowledge sealed in their foreheads and know what to look for).

Dan 7:7 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**.

After the leopard/Kenites (i.e., beast #3) take dominion on the global stage from behind-the-scenes in order to set up and begin the launch of the fledgling New World Order, the ten-horned *political* one-world system of Revelation 13:1-3 then roars into being.

The "ten horns" mentioned in the verse above are the ten supernatural kings who will rule over the one-world system under Satan (Daniel 7:24/Revelation 17:12).

Once launched, this final iteration of the one-world political system quickly seizes full control. It will "stamp (i.e., stomp) the residue with the feet of it," meaning it forcefully overtakes and replaces the previous three beasts.

In my opinion, the first three beasts essentially become amalgamated into this fourth beast. You can see this from Revelation 13:1-2 where a *single beast* is described as having the characteristics of all of the first three beasts described above, plus the fourth beast, as well. Here's what Revelation 13:1-2 says:

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority."

So here we see the leopard, the bear and the lion, *together as one beast*. I believe this to be the fourth beast of Daniel 7:7, having amalgamated the first three beasts into its own makeup.

I can say that with a fair amount of certainty, because the beast rising up out of the sea in Revelation 13:1-2, above, is described as "having ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns." Of course, that's straight from the description of the fourth beast of Daniel 7,

i.e., “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast...and it had ten horns.”

So the “beast” we see “rise up out of the sea” in Revelation 13:1-2 is the fourth beast of Daniel 7:7. And we learn in Revelation 13:1-2 that it has incorporated the first three beasts of Daniel chapter 7 into its makeup.

Dan 7:8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

This “little horn” arises from the “ten horns” (i.e., ten kings) of this fourth beast, which represents the final stage of the implementation of Satan’s one-world system.

The “little horn,” of course, is the antichrist, also known as “that man of sin, the son of perdition” from II Thessalonians 2:1-4.

In the verse above we learn that he has a “mouth speaking great things,” which we also learn of in Revelation 13:5-6, “*And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies...And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.*”

So once again, we see here that Daniel’s “fourth beast” is the same as the “beast” of Revelation 13.

Note that the “ten horns” (i.e., ten kings) appear to be in view on this earth *first*, before the “little horn” arises from among them. Indeed, Daniel says he “considered the horns,” meaning he was examining them carefully as this vision from God played out. And while he was examining the ten horns in the vision, “there came up among them another little horn...”

So, it appears the ten kings do indeed show up on the world scene first. Afterwards, the “little horn” publicly rises up from among them.

This bolsters the speculation that the ten kings might show up on the scene, publicly, during the *first half* of the antichrist’s reign. Then, the antichrist himself comes into the picture, publicly, at the beginning of the *second half*. That’s speculation, of course. And we’ll know for sure, one way or the other, when it happens.

Sealing Not Over

So there you have it. If the sealing is already over, and the four winds have already begun to gush forth upon the people of this earth, *those are the events you would expect to see taking place in the world right now.*

And indeed, we do see *bits and pieces* of some of these events beginning to take place, such as Russia's rumblings in the Ukraine, the Crimea and other areas of Eastern Europe, plus, the ongoing political talks of global economic union still taking place at various meetings of the G-7 and G-20 nations and their committees and intergovernmental groups.

But when the four winds actually begin to blow, it will *not* be in bits and pieces, over long periods of time. Remember, Daniel 7:2 the four winds "strove" (i.e., *gushed*) upon the world. So it will be with great power and authority, and most likely, astonishing rapidity, one event right after another.

The four main events ushered in by the four winds will be *momentous*, and *monumental* in nature. You'll know it's happening, because it will be unlike anything that's ever happened before.

I know some people will disagree with at least some of my thoughts above. That's no big deal. For the purposes of these ruminations, it really doesn't matter. As you can see, no matter how you parse the Scriptures, the four winds are not yet blowing, and therefore the sealing of the elect is not yet over, and there's still time to go before the antichrist arrives.

As I've mentioned repeatedly in past studies (see my study on the Four Winds and the Deadly Wound [here](#), for example), the long-prophesied war against Iran is the singular benchmark that brings all of these events to pass. So when you see that devastating war on Iran take place, *then* you know to begin watching for signs that the four winds have been released.

As you'll see when we get to Daniel 8:8, below, the four winds actually begin to blow after the long-prophesied attack on Iran takes place, and after the "he goat" that attacks Iran loses its power. That's when the "four beasts" of Daniel 7 begin to arise onto the scene (referred to as "four notable ones" in Daniel 8:8.)

In Revelation, I've always believed our heavenly Father had St. John write "*Here is the patience and faith of the saints*" for a specific reason. And that reason is so we don't get too far ahead of prophesy, and start jumping the gun. So let's continue getting our foundation straight...

The Singular Bible Event to Watch For

As I mentioned above, there's a very specific Scriptural event which *must* first take place *before* the four winds can be released upon this earth. And that event has not yet happened.

So let's go to the Scriptures once again to take a good look at that event and determine precisely when the four winds will indeed be released, and thus, the sealing of God's elect will be over.

As you'll see, the following events take place just *before* the four winds begin to blow and the "four beasts" we just studied in Daniel chapter 7 begin to arise. As it's written:

Dan 8:1 In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.

As you're about to see, this particular vision will reveal for us a key, benchmark event leading up to the events we just studied above from Daniel chapter 7 -- the release of the four winds, the rise of the "four beasts" of one-worldism, and finally, the arrival of the "little horn" or antichrist.

In other words, it will clarify for us exactly when to expect the four winds to begin to gush forth upon the earth and the four beasts of one-worldism to begin to arise, one after another. So let's continue...

Dan 8:2 And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.

We have some very specific geographical locations here, making this very easy to pin down. Shushan was a capital of Persia. The river Ulai was in Persia. So in terms of end-days prophesy, we are talking about Persia, which of course is modern-day Iran.

According to *Smith's Bible Dictionary*, the name "Ulai" from the verse above means *pure water*. So you can count on this vision from God that was given to Daniel the prophet.

Of course, as you know, almost all news out of the Middle East these days centers on Iran, in relation to them as a perceived nuclear threat against the nation of Israel.

Indeed, hardly a day goes by that pundits and politicians aren't arguing for massive air strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities. And Iran taunts back that the west is too weak to attack them.

The leader of Israel at this time, Benjamin Netanyahu, constantly agitates for a military attack on Iran. So, too, do leaders like our current Vice-President Mike Pence, former U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney, our current Secretaries of Defense and State, our current National Security Advisor and most of Congress.

The point being, Daniel's second vision, which we're studying in these verses, foretells that *Iran* will be in the center of events of the final days of this flesh earth age, leading up to the four winds being released. And based on the news media reports these days, it most certainly is.

Dan 8:3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.

Historically, the two horns represented the two main kings of the Medo-Persian empire, Astyages and his son, Cyrus. Cyrus actually rose to greater power and prominence than his father, Astyages.

Since the ram with two horns in the above verse “stood before the river” (i.e., the river Ulai, from the previous verse) this means these prophetic end-times events are taking place *in* Iran. You can’t pin them anywhere else in the world, because the geographical region has been specified down to the very river which runs through the land and the palace which once stood there.

Dan 8:4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.

Even today, Iran pushes its neighbors around with bellicose activities. It’s probably the most influential country in the Middle East (its Defense Ministry alone collaborates with some 3150 national firms). It fought an eight year long war with Iraq (before the Gulf War) costing about one million lives. It’s achieved self-sufficiency in producing military equipment, meaning it doesn’t need to buy military equipment from other countries. And as a result, it arms radicals in the Gaza strip, Syria, Sudan and even North Korea. It arms rebel factions in Iraq, too.

If you remember, Iran once even captured the U.S. embassy in that country and held our embassy staff hostage, resulting in the American president’s (i.e., Jimmy Carter) defeat in the U.S. elections following the event.

And perhaps more importantly, on a spiritual level, Iran spreads radical Islamic doctrine throughout the Middle East (and even around the world) in order to keep religious and political strife and trouble stirred up.

Dan 8:5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

Now we have some real trouble brewing. Keep firmly in mind that we have not yet seen the four winds begin to blow in these verses. As you’ll see, these are events which must take *before* the four winds are released and begin to usher in the four final events of this flesh earth age which we studied earlier in Daniel 7:1-8.

So if you have not yet seen the following events take place, then you know for a certainty that the four winds have not yet been released, *and thus the sealing of God’s servants in their foreheads with truth and knowledge of God’s Word is not over with.*

In history, the “he goat” in the verse above was Alexander the Great, of Grecia (i.e., modern-day Greece), who ultimately conquered the Medo-Persian empire. But as with most all Bible prophesy, there’s a double fulfillment. This means there’s an historical fulfillment, and a later *prophetic* end-days fulfillment.

Indeed, as we’ll see when we get to verse 9 below, the antichrist himself enters onto the scene, which clarifies for us that Daniel’s vision is a vision meant for us in these end days. (And, of course, in Daniel 8:17, which we won’t be going to in this study, the archangel Gabriel tells Daniel, “at the time of the end shall be the vision,” thus further clarifying for us that this is an end-times event.)

With that in mind, it’s important to note that in the above verse, this he-goat “*came from the west on the face of the whole earth.*” Now, most folks, including myself, believe Israel will turn out to be the “he goat” that attacks Iran. And Israel does indeed sit to the west of Iran.

But, for the sake of speculation, could a one-world coalition of western military powers be implied, in Daniel 8:5 above? Again, the Scripture tells us that the attack “*came from the west on the face of the whole earth,*” implying an international effort.

Note also that the above verse says the he goat “touched not the ground.” Could it be an *air attack* from the western military powers that’s being prophesied?

Indeed, after Iran seized several British oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz, in July 2019, the Associated Press tells us that British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt accused Iran of “an act of state piracy” that must be met with “*a coordinated international reaction.*” Hunt said he had already consulted with foreign ministers of Oman, the United States, France, Germany, Italy, Finland, Spain and Denmark.

An attack on Iran by western military powers is just speculation, of course. We simply do not yet know who will play the role of the attacking “he goat” of Daniel chapter 8. Israel? NATO? The U.S.? Again, we’ll know it when we see it.

But the point being, as of this date (July 2019) we have not yet witnessed *any* kind of attack on Iran, in spite of all of the calls for the necessity of one. And as you’ll see, until that attack takes place and the attacking “he goat” then loses its power, the four winds *will not be released*, and thus the sealing of God’s elect cannot yet be considered completed.

Dan 8:6 And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.

This he-goat with the “notable horn” between his eyes came swiftly “from the west” (vs. 5) to the very geographical region where the ram with two horns stood, and smashed

into him. In other words, this represents an attack directly on Iran. And it's a very crippling attack, as we're about to see:

Dan 8:7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.

That's a pretty decisive victory for the "he goat" over the ram (Iran), I think you'll have to agree. But have we seen this event take place yet in the final days of this flesh earth age? No, we have *not*.

Dan 8:8 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

There's your "four winds." They're the same "four winds" that strove upon the great sea in Daniel 7:2, and began ushering in the "four beasts" of one-worldism, and ultimately, the rise of the "little horn" from among the "ten horns" on that fourth beast.

These four winds begin to blow *after* the crippling attack on Iran. And *after* the "he goat" has his power structure broken (i.e., "when he was strong, the great horn was broken").

Note very carefully that once these events take place, then and *only* then do "four notable ones" rise onto the scene (see Daniel 8:8 above). And they rise "toward the four winds of heaven," which takes us back to Daniel chapter 7 where the four winds begin to blow as they usher in "four great beasts."

So the "four notable ones" of Daniel 8:8 above, are the "four great beasts" of one-worldism, which we've already studied in Daniel chapter 7 – i.e., the winged lion, the militant bear, the spotted leopard and the non-descript "fourth beast" with ten horns (i.e., ten kings) from among which the "little horn"/antichrist himself arises.

So we can't even begin to look for the events of Daniel chapter 7 to take place (i.e., the four stages of one-worldism unfolding, ultimately resulting in the rise of the "little horn"/antichrist), until we see the crippling attack on Iran take place, *first*. Does that make sense?

Dan 8:9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

So there you have it. This is the same "little horn" of Daniel 7:8, which, as we've seen, rises from up among the "ten horns" (i.e., ten kings) of the fourth beast. So the fourth beast of Daniel 7 is the "one of them" from Daniel 8:9 above.

This is the very *last* of the four major events ushered in by the four winds once they're released – i.e., the rise to world power of the antichrist himself.

Dan 8:10 And it [i.e., the “little horn”] waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

Dan 8:11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.

This “little horn” (i.e., the antichrist) in essence calls himself the Christ. Pretending to be God, he'll deceptively claim there's no longer any need for the daily sacrifice (i.e., Holy Communion) because he has now returned. But of course, he is the *fake* and not the true Christ. And the fallen angels he brings to this earth with him, to assist him in his deception, will most likely be pretending to be angels of the Lord.

As it's written in II Corinthians 11:14-15, “*And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into [i.e., disguised as; Strong's G-3345] an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as [i.e., disguised as] the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*”

But what kind of works? Works of deception:

Dan 8:12 And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.

So here we see the deception of the antichrist going forth into all of the earth. Only the elect are prepared for it, mentally and spiritually, *because they're sealed in their foreheads with the truth of God's Word* (Rev. chapter 7).

Antichrist's deception therefore cannot overtake God's elect. But with the exception of God's elect, he will indeed, as it's written in Revelation 12:9, “deceive the whole world.”

What We've Learned...

What we've learned here is that the four winds cannot be released until the long-prophesied crippling attack on Iran takes place, and the “he goat” attacker loses its power structure (or perhaps loses a powerful leader, instead, much as the power of Greece was broken, historically, when Alexander the Great died).

And only then can the four stages of one-worldism (i.e., the “four beasts”) of Daniel chapter 7, which we examined in the beginning of this study, begin taking place, with the antichrist arising from the final stage -- the fourth beast of one-worldism.

So, at this point in time (July 2019), the period of the sealing of God's elect is *not* over. It can *only* be over once the four winds begin to blow. And as we've documented from the Scriptures, those four winds cannot and *will not* blow until the attack on Iran takes place, and afterwards, the horn (i.e., "power structure" or ruling leader) of the attacking "he goat" is also broken.

While we may not know in fullness what kind of attack this will be, or how it will be carried out, or even *who* will carry it out, we *do* know it must happen. And we know *where* it must happen (Iran).

So in regards to the four winds, and the sealing of God's elect, let's not get carried away or allow ourselves to be sidetracked with our own thoughts, but instead, stick firmly with the Word of God.

Indeed, let's continue to *be about our Father's business*, and do our job of planting seeds of Bible truth into the minds of men, which, after all, is our entire purpose here.

And of course, where possible, support a good Bible teaching ministry as well, particularly if it's focused on helping seal the elect of God in their foreheads (i.e., minds) with the knowledge needed to stand against the antichrist when he finally arrives.

If we get too far ahead of ourselves, and start thinking the sealing of God's elect with truth is over, we could miss some very good opportunities to help others come to our heavenly Father's Word – which would be *exactly* what our old adversary would want at this critical juncture in time.

The sealing of God's Word into the foreheads of the elect does not center on any single individual. It centers on a *body* – i.e., the many-membered body of Jesus Christ, with Christ at the head and the entire body *moving forward as one*, holding high a banner known as the Word of God, and bringing it forth in truth and in Spirit as the events of these end days unfold before our very eyes.

Let's keep that banner held high through our own personal seed-planting efforts, as well as by supporting a good broadcast Bible ministry that keeps the truth coming day and night.

-- End --

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