

## THE 4 WORLD EMPIRES

### Empire #4 (Pagan Rome)

**Website:** [Healthy Christian Living - Living by the Blueprint](#)

**“...LIKEWISE ASSYRIA, BABYLON, GREECE, AND ROME; WHATEVER THE NATION AND WHATEVER ITS PLACE IN TIME, ITS HISTORY IS NOTED BY THE DIVINE HISTORIAN ONLY DURING THE TIME WHEN IT HAS BEEN AN INSTRUMENT IN GOD'S HAND TO SPREAD HIS TRUTH, OR TO PROTECT HIS PEOPLE.” {1901 SNH, SDP 161.1}**

#### ROME:

- Mentioned 9 x as “Rome” in the Bible
- “Roman” mentioned 5 x in the Bible
- **From 161/158 B.C. to 476/483 A. D., when it wound up being divided into 10**
- **Represented as the “Legs of Iron”** in Nebuchadnezzar’s dream (Daniel 2:33,40)
- **Represented as a “Dreadful” and “Terrible Beast” with “great iron teeth** in Daniel’s Dream (Dan 7:1-7)
- **Represented as “a little horn that waxed exceeding great”** in (Daniel 8:9)
- Came out of Macedonia, which is in the West (Daniel 8:9-10)
- Magnifies himself to the Prince of host (Jesus) – (crucifies Jesus) (Daniel 8:11)
- **First mentioned in verse 14 of Daniel 11** known as “robbers of thy people”
- Then **comes to power in Daniel 11:16**
- **In power from Daniel 11:16-31**
- Went through 6 forms of Government (**Ask for →** The 7 Heads document)  
(1) kingly; (2) consular; (3) decemvirate; (4) dictatorial; (5) triumvirate; (6) imperial

#### **Caesars Who Ruled Rome, mentioned in the Bible:**

- **Julius**  
Mentioned in Daniel 11:19  
Kingdom of Rome became great during his reign  
Became guardian over Cleopatra and her brother when Pompey was murdered  
Had a son by Cleopatra  
He was murdered by 2 “supposed” friends (Brutus and )
- **Augustus**(formerly known as Octavian)  
Nephew of Julius Caesar; adopted by his uncle as his son  
Formed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Triumvirate composed of himself, Marc Antony, and Lepidus, to revenge the murder of his uncle, Julius Caesar  
Fought in the “Battle of Actium” in 31 B.C., against Marc Antony and Cleopatra when Marc Antony chose Cleopatra and Egypt over Marc Antony’s wife (Octavian’s sister), and Rome. This is the beginning point of the time prophecy (360 yrs) that extends to 330 A.D., when Constantine was to move the headquarters of Rome (Dan 11:24-25)  
31 B.C. is when Rome became known as “mistress of the world” after this battle  
Augustus Caesar is mentioned in Luke 2:1  
Known as the “raiser of taxes” mentioned in → Daniel 11:20  
Rome was in its peaceful days during this Caesar; Rome became well-known  
**See →** {1833 WiM, ESH 22.3}

- **Tiberius**

Mentioned in Luke 3:1

Known as “a vile person” who crucified Christ (Daniel 11:21-22)

Was suffocated to death with pillows

**The 5 major persecutions under 8 Roman emperor leaders are as follows:**

- **1<sup>st</sup> persecution: NERO** – 64 AD – June 9, 68 AD  
 4<sup>th</sup> Caesar after Augustus; 3<sup>rd</sup> Caesar after Tiberius; 2<sup>nd</sup> Caesar after Caligula; 1<sup>st</sup> after Claudius  
 Nero had both Peter and Paul killed  
**1<sup>st</sup> persecution period ceased under Vespasian**(father of Titus and Domitian)  
**Vespasian ruled from Dec. 21 69 AD – June 24, 79 AD**  
**-It was under Vespasian and Titus(Vespasian’s son) that Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD**  
 -Christ prophesied about the destruction of Jerusalem  
 (Matt 24:15-18; Luke 21:20-21; Luke 19:41-44)
- **2<sup>nd</sup> persecution: DOMITIAN**(brother of Titus) – September 14, 81 AD – September 18, 96 AD  
 John the Beloved and writer of Revelation was exiled to Patmos by him  
 After Domitian’s death, John was released to Ephesus in 97 AD  
 -Christian’s killed in Roman Coliseum under Domitian
- **3<sup>rd</sup> persecution: TRAJAN** (January 28, 98 AD – August 7, 117 AD)
- **4<sup>th</sup> persecution: MARCUS AURELIUS** (March 7, 161 AD – Mar 17, 180 AD)
- **5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> persecutions: NUMEROUS EMPERORS** (181-283 A.D.)
- **10<sup>th</sup> persecution: DIOCLETIAN** – (November 20, 284 AD – May 1, 305 AD)  
**MAXIMIAN** – (April 1, 286 AD – May 1, 305 AD)  
**GALERIUS** – (May 1, 305 AD – May 312 AD)

**A LIST OF ALL THE ROMAN EMPERORS:**

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Roman\\_emperors](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_emperors)

**THE LAST MAIN PERSECUTING EMPEROR, DIOCLETIAN:**

- **DIOCLETIAN PERSECUTED THE CHURCH x 10 YEARS** – This was the Church of Smyrna (Rev 2:8-10)
- **He made a Decree against the Christians, titled “The Edict of Persecution” in 302/303 that would last for 10 Years**

“...**THE EDICT OF PERSECUTION, BY THE EMPEROR DIOCLETIAN, AND HIS ASSISTANT, GALERIUS. THE EDICT WAS UNIVERSAL IN ITS SPIRIT, AND WAS ENFORCED WITH MORE OR LESS STRENUOUSNESS FOR TEN YEARS.**” {1905 SNH, SSP 51.2}

“**THE NEXT ADDRESS IS TO THE CHURCH OF SMYRNA, which signifies myrrh, and seems to be a fit appellation for THE CHURCH OF GOD AS IT WAS ABOUT TO PASS THROUGH THE FIERY FURNACE OF PERSECUTION and prove itself a "sweet smelling savor" unto God. THIS CHURCH WAS TO HAVE TRIBULATION TEN DAYS. IF THIS ADDRESS TO THE CHURCH IS PROPHETIC, THOSE DAYS ARE PROPHETIC AND SIGNIFY TEN YEARS. WE HAVE THEN A NOTABLE PERSECUTION OF TEN YEARS DURATION HERE BROUGHT TO VIEW. And it is an undisputable fact that THE LAST AND MOST BLOODY OF THE TEN PERSECUTIONS UNDER DIOCLETIAN CONTINUED JUST TEN YEARS FROM A.D. 302 TO A.D. 312.** Buck's Theological Dictionary, pp. 332,333.” {1878 UrS, TBI 245.3}

- **CONSTANTINE I** (known as CONSTANTINE THE GREAT) – (306-337 AD)  
 He Stopped persecution of the Christians when he saw the sign of a cross in the Sun during battle  
 He marched all his troops through the River, declaring them to be all Christian  
 He brings paganism into the church  
 Watch the First 6 minutes of the Following Video →  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TY1\\_sYnrOgE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TY1_sYnrOgE)

DO NOT FORGET ABOUT CONSTANTINE I BECAUSE WE WILL BE COVERING SOME THINGS,  
VERY LIFE CHANGING EVENTS THAT HE DID AND WHAT HE INTRODUCED INTO CHRISTIANITY

**ONE LAST THING ABOUT ROME:**

**"THERE WAS A TIME WHEN THE ROMAN EMPIRE HAD A MOST WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO ACCEPT THE TRUE GOD. ROME WAS THE UNIVERSAL KINGDOM DURING THE LIFE OF CHRIST. TO BABYLON GOD SENT HIS PEOPLE, THE JEWS, TO SCATTER THE TRUTHS OF HIS KINGDOM AND LEAD MEN TO REPENTANCE. THE MEDES AND THE PERSIANS RECEIVED THE GOSPEL FROM THIS SAME PEOPLE, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM GREECE**(Alexander himself we are told in other books)**CAME TO JERUSALEM, INTO THE VERY TEMPLE, IN TOUCH WITH THE PRIESTS, IN ORDER THAT THERE MIGHT BE NO EXCUSE FOR THEIR REFUSING CHRIST. BUT TO THE ROMAN KINGDOM, HEAVEN ITSELF WAS Poured OUT IN THE PERSON OF THE SAVIOUR, AND IT WAS ROME THAT NAILED HIM TO THE CROSS. IT WAS A ROMAN SEAL ON HIS TOMB, AND A ROMAN GUARD AT HIS GRAVE. THE EARLY CHURCH SUFFERED PERSECUTION AT THE HANDS OF THIS SAME POWER. JUDGMENT CAME TO ROME WHEN THESE BARBARIANS OVERRAN THE EMPIRE WITH FIRE AND SWORD, AND THE KINGDOM WAS DIVIDED INTO TEN PARTS."** {1901 SNH, SDP 94.1}

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ROME, READ THE FOLLOWING:**

- 'Story of Daniel the Prophet' pages 200-234
- 'Daniel and the Revelation' (1897 Edition) pp. 69.1-.2; 131-136;