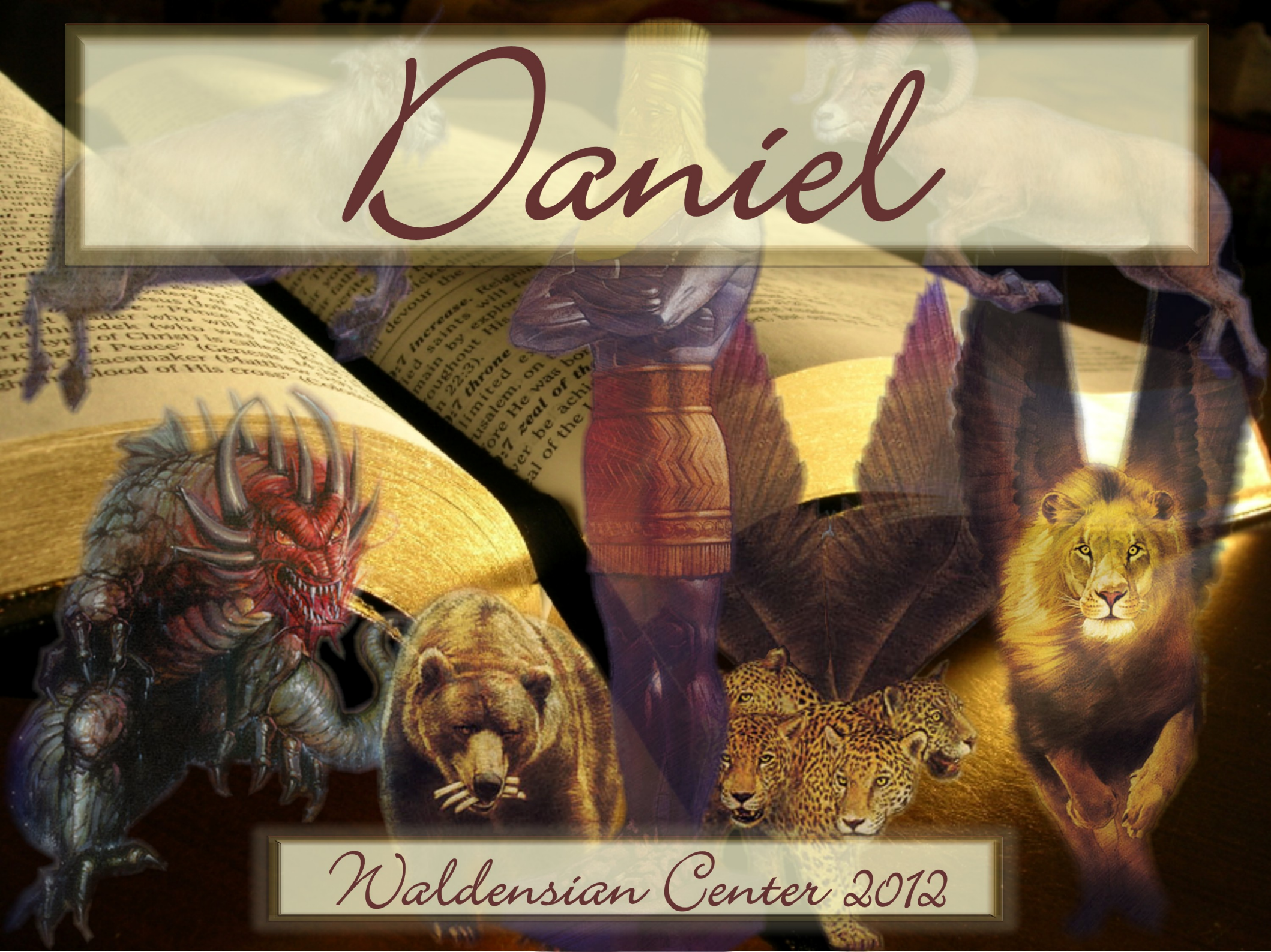


Daniel



Waldensian Center 2012

Bible Prophecy Class 2012

Lesson #2

The Book of **DANIEL**

year of the reign of Je-
of Judah, Nebuchad-
Babylon came to Jeru-
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den himself.

9

DANIEL'S DREAM

Part II - The Lion



BABYLON

The Lion



Daniel 7:4

The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings¹: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked², and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man³, and a man's heart⁴ was given to it.




The Lion



Jeremiah 50:17

Israel is a scattered sheep; the lions have driven him away: first the king of Assyria hath devoured him; and last this Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath broken his bones.

Babylon's Speed of Conquest



The Lion



George Rawlinson

Nabopolassar . . . was probably an Assyrian nobleman of high rank and known capacity . . .

. . . The transfer appears to have been effected quietly, the Babylonian yoke being peacefully accepted in lieu of the Assyrian without the necessity arising for any application of force. Probably it appeared to the subjects of Assyria, who had been accustomed to a monarch holding his court alternately at Nineveh and at Babylon, that the new power was merely a continuation of the old, and the monarch a legitimate successor of the old line of Ninevite kings.

– **Seven Great Monarchies, Vol. II, chp. viii, pp. 238, 239**

A Lion the Symbol of Assyria or Babylon?



The Lion

1. Eagle's wings ☐




The Lion



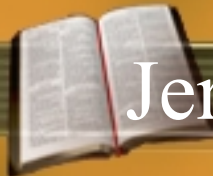
Jeremiah 4:13

Behold, he shall come up as clouds, and his chariots shall be as a whirlwind: his horses are swifter than eagles. Woe unto us! for we are spoiled.

Babylon's Speed of Conquest




The Lion



Jeremiah 48:40, 42

For thus saith the LORD; Behold, he shall fly as an eagle, and shall spread his wings over Moab. . . . And Moab shall be destroyed from being a people, . . .

Babylon's Speed of Conquest



The Lion



Lamentations 4:19

Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles of the heaven: . . .

Babylon's Speed of Conquest



The Lion



George Rawlinson

Nebuchadnezzar rapidly recovered the lost territory, received the submission of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, restored the old frontier line, and probably pressed on into Egypt itself, hoping to cripple or even to crush his presumptuous adversary.

– **Seven Great Monarchies, Vol. II, Fourth Monarchy, chp. viii, p. 240**

Nebuchadnezzar Conquers his Foes Speedily



The Lion



Uriah Smith

At first the lion had eagle's wings, denoting the rapidity with which Babylon extended its conquests under Nebuchadnezzar.

– **Daniel & the Revelation (1897), p. 127**



Babylon's Speed of Conquest

The Lion

1. Eagle's wings ☒
 - Babylon's rapid conquests
2. Wings plucked ☐



The Lion



George Rawlinson

Nebuchadnezzar is the great monarch of the Babylonian Empire which, lasting only 88 years – from B.C. 625 to B.C. 538 was for nearly half the time under his sway. Its military glory is due chiefly to him, while the constructive energy, which constitutes its especial characteristic, belongs to it still more markedly through his character and genius. It is scarcely too much to say that, but for Nebuchadnezzar the Babylonians would have had no place in history. At any rate, their actual place is owing almost entirely to this prince, who to the military talents of an able general added a grandeur of artistic conception and a skill in construction which place him on par with the greatest builders of antiquity.

– **Seven Great Monarchies, Fourth Monarchy, p. 242**

The Causes of its Fall



The Lion



Frank Moore Colby

With him [Nebuchadnezzar] perished the Babylonian kingdom, for his successors lacked the vigor to withstand the attacks of a new power that had appeared . . .

– **Outlines of General History (1916), p. 42**

The Causes of its Fall



The Lion



Albert Barnes

The clipping or plucking of these wings would denote the cessation of conquest – as if it would extend no farther; that is, we see a nation once distinguished for the invasion of other nations now ceasing its conquests. . . . All who are acquainted with history know that, after the conquests of that kingdom under Nebuchadnezzar, it ceased characteristically to be a kingdom distinguished for conquest, but that, though under his successors, it held a pre-eminence or headship among the nations, yet its victories were extended no further. The successors of Nebuchadnezzar were comparatively weak and indolent princes – as if the wings of the monster had been plucked.

– Notes on the Bible, Daniel 7:4

Babylon's Conquests End



The Lion

1. Eagle's wings ☒

- Babylon's rapid conquests

2. Wings plucked ☒

- Conquests cease after Nebuchadnezzar's death

3. Made to stand on feet as a man ☐

Made to Stand upon His Feet





A Picture of Instability & Weakness

The Lion



The American Educator

Nebuchadnezzar, ruling from about 604-561 B.C., was the most powerful monarch who ever sat on the Babylonian throne. . . . Nebuchadnezzar was succeeded by a line of weak kings, and the country was in a constant state of turmoil until 538 B.C., when Cyrus the Great captured Babylon.

– Article, “Babylon”

Babylon Becomes Unstable & Weak



The Lion

1. Eagle's wings ☒
 - Babylon's rapid conquests
2. Wings plucked ☒
 - Conquests cease after Nebuchadnezzar's death
3. Made to stand on feet as a man ☒
 - The Resulting instability of the kingdom
4. Man's heart is given it ☐

A Man's Heart



The Lion



2 Samuel 17:10

And he also that is **valiant**, whose heart is as the heart of a lion, shall utterly melt: for all Israel knoweth that thy father is a mighty man, and they which be with him are valiant men.

Weak & Effeminate



The Lion



Albert Barnes

The giving of a man's heart to it would not be inapplicable to the change produced in the empire after the time of Nebuchadnezzar, and under a succession of comparatively weak and inefficient princes. . . . It is not the character of the lion changed to that of the bear, or the panther, or the leopard; nor is it man considered as a warrior or conqueror, but man as he is distinguished from the wild and ferocious beast of the desert.

– Notes on the Bible, Daniel 7:4

Weak & Effeminate



The Lion

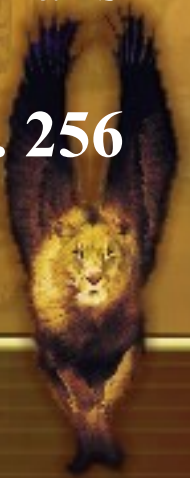


George Rawlinson

If we seek the causes of its fall, we shall find them part in its essential military inferiority to the kingdom that had recently grown up upon its borders, partly in the accidental circumstance that its ruler at the time of the Persian attack was a man of no great capacity. Had Nebuchadnezzar himself, or a prince of his mental calibre, been the contemporary of Cyrus, the issue of the contest might have been doubtful. Babylonia possessed naturally vast powers of resistance – powers which, had they been made use of to the utmost, might have tired out the patience of the Persians. That lively, active, but not over-persevering people would scarcely have maintained a siege with the pertinacity of the Babylonians themselves or of the Egyptians.

– Ibid, p. 256

The Causes of its Fall



The Lion



Uriah Smith

The boldness and spirit of the lion were gone. A man's heart, weak, timorous, and faint, had taken its place. Such was emphatically the case with the nation during the closing years of its history, when it had become enfeebled and effeminate through wealth and luxury.

– **Daniel & the Revelation (1897), p. 127**

Weak & Effeminate



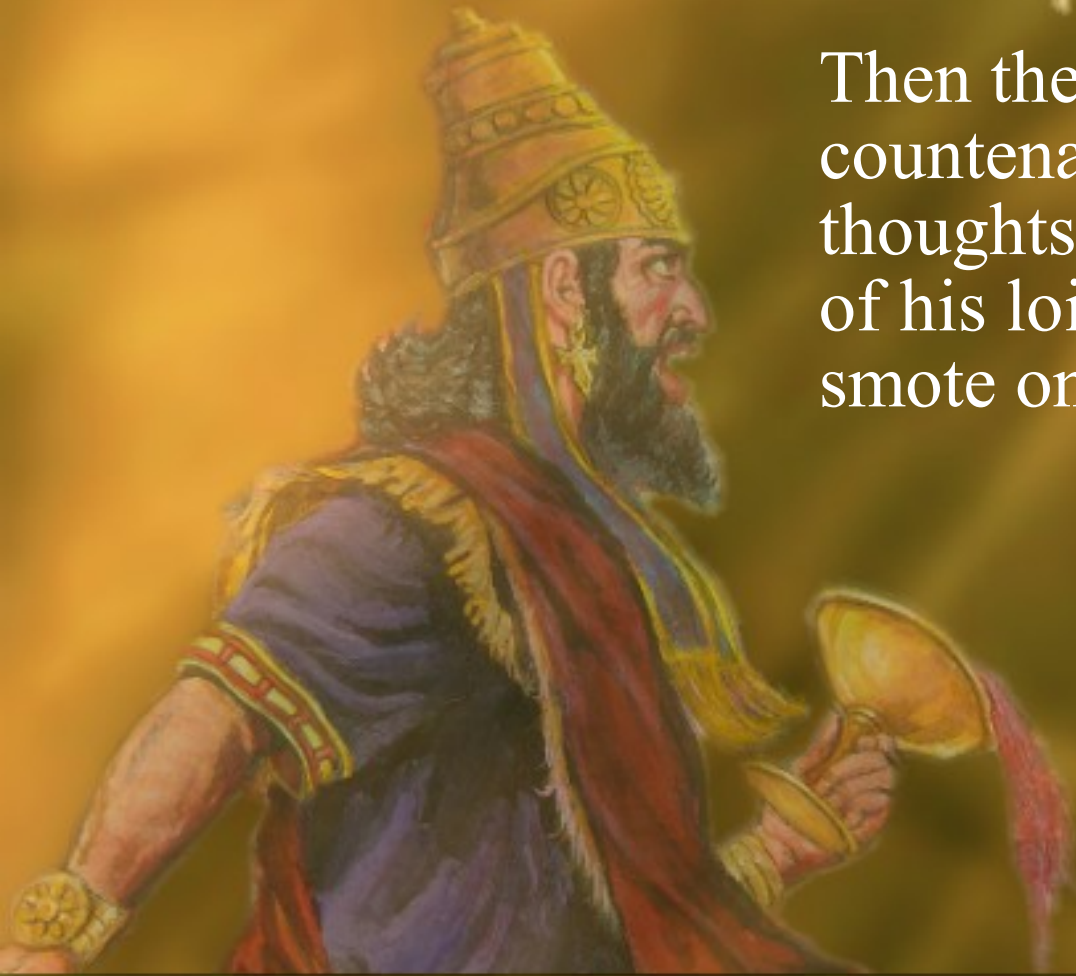
The Lion



Daniel 5:6

סנא סנא חקל ופרסך

Then the king's [Belshazzar's] countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.



A Weak & Effeminate King

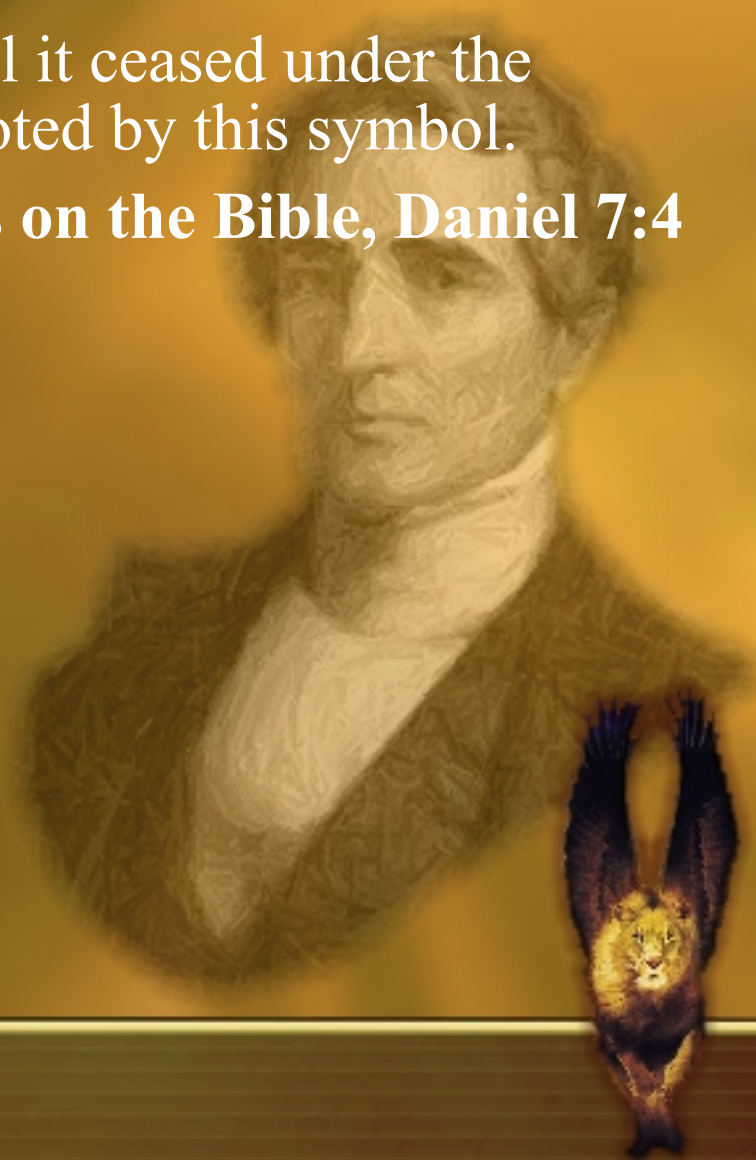
The Lion



Albert Barnes

The change in the character of the empire, until it ceased under the feeble reign of Belshazzar; would be well denoted by this symbol.

– **Notes on the Bible, Daniel 7:4**



Weak & Effeminate

The Lion

1. Eagle's wings ✓
 - Babylon's rapid conquests
2. Wings plucked ✓
 - Conquests cease after Nebuchadnezzar's death
3. Made to stand on feet as a man ✓
 - The Resulting instability of the kingdom
4. Man's heart is given it ✓
 - Weak and effeminate kings

The Symbols Explained





The Kingdom of Babylon - 606-538 B.C.



The Book of
DANIEL

The End

Next

The Bear

