



# 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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ave Jehoiakim king.  
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drank; therefore he re-  
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9

# DANIEL'S DREAM

# Part III - The Bear

**MEDO-PERSIA**



# The Bear



Daniel 7:5

KJV

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



*Adam Clarke*

The symbol of the bear, as the largest species of these animals was found in Media, a mountainous, cold, and rough country, covered with woods.

– **Comments on Daniel 7:5**



**The Bear a Fit Symbol of the Medes & Persians**

# The Bear



George Rawlinson

Among the moral characteristics of the Medes the one most obvious is their bravery. . . . Originally equal, if not superior, to their close kindred, the Persians, they were throughout the whole period of Persian supremacy only second to them in courage and warlike qualities . . .

Her valor, undoubtedly, was of the merciless kind. There was no tenderness, no hesitancy about it. Not only did her armies “dash to piece” the fighting men of the nations opposed to her, allowing apparently no quarter, but the women and the children suffered indignities and cruelties at the hands of her savage warriors, which the pen unwillingly records. . . . Spoil, it would seem, was disregarded in comparison with insult and vengeance; and the brutal soldiery cared little either for silver or gold, provided they could indulge freely in that thirst for blood which man shares with the hyena and the tiger.



# The Bear



George Rawlinson

Among the moral qualities, we must assign to the Persians as their most marked characteristics, at any rate in the earlier times, courage, energy, and a regard for truth. . . . “in boldness and warlike spirit, the Persians were not a whit behind the Greeks,” . . . They had boldness, *élan*, dash, and considerable tenacity and stubbornness; no nation of Asia or Africa was able to stand against them; . . .

. . . Lying was then regarded as the most disgraceful act of which a man could possibly be guilty; truth was both admired and practiced; Persian kings, entrapped into a promise, stood to it firmly, however much they might wish it recalled; foreign powers had never to complain that the terms of a treaty were departed from; the Persians thus form an honorable exception to the ordinary Asiatic character, . . .

– **The Seven Great Monarchies, Vol. 2, pp. 37, 38, 317-319**



# The Bear



Daniel 6:8

KJV

Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.





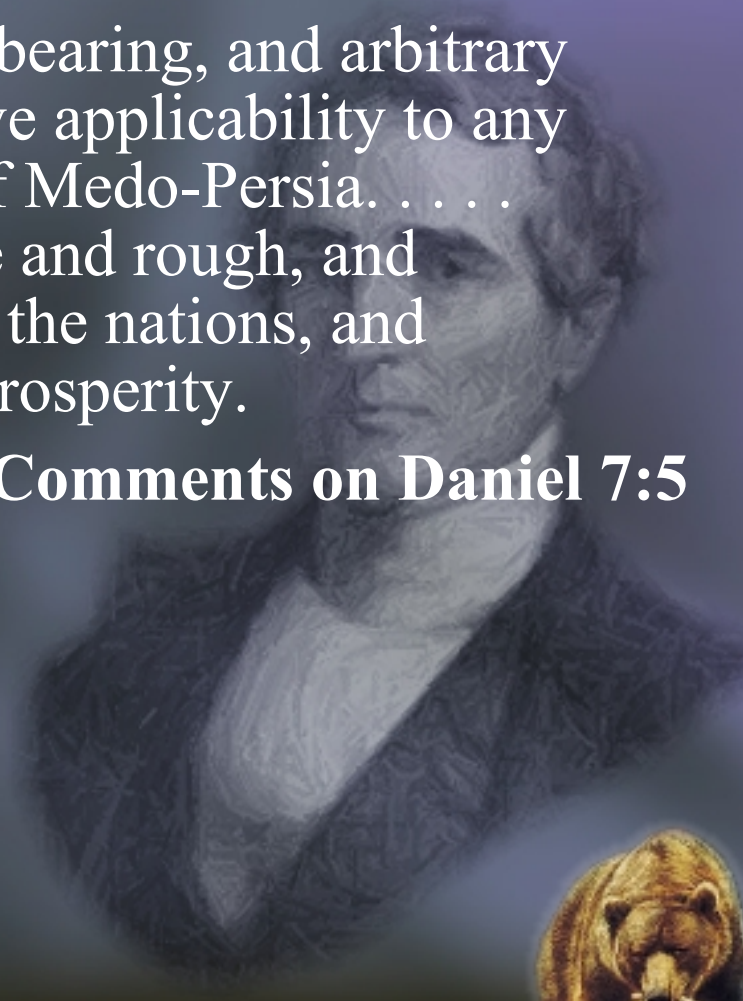
# The Bear



*Albert Barnes*

The bear would denote any fierce, rough, overbearing, and arbitrary kingdom, and it is clear that while it might have applicability to any such kingdom, it would better represent that of Medo-Persia. . . . Taking the whole nation together, it was fierce and rough, and unpolished, little disposed to friendliness with the nations, and dissatisfied while any around it had peace or prosperity.

– **Comments on Daniel 7:5**



**The Bear a Fit Symbol of the Medes & Persians**

# The Bear

1. Lifts itself up on one side □



# The Bear



## The American Educator

When the Assyrians were overcome by the Medes, the allegiance of Persia was transferred to Media.

About 550 B.C. Cyrus the Great conquered the king of Media, and Persia became the mistress, instead of the vassal, of Media. From this time on they are spoken of as one people.

– Article, “Persia”

The Rise of Persia to Dominance



# The Bear



*Sir Isaac Newton*

This Beast raised itself up on one side; the Persians being under the Medes at the fall of Babylon, but presently rising up above them.

– **Observations upon Daniel & the Apocalypse, chp. 4, p. 29**




HOLY  
BIBLE

**The Rise of Persia to Dominance**



# The Bear



*Uriah Smith*

This kingdom was composed of two nationalities, the Medes and Persians. . . . it is said . . . of the bear that it raised itself up on one side; and this was fulfilled by the Persian division of the kingdom, which came up last, but attained the higher eminence, becoming the controlling influence in the nation.

– **Daniel & the Revelation, p. 128**



**The Rise of Persia to Dominance**

# The Bear

1. Lifts itself up on one side
2. Three ribs in its mouth



# The Bear



## Encarta Encyclopedia


The Persians were dominated by the Medes until the accession to the Persian throne in 550 B.C. of Cyrus the Great. He overthrew the Median rulers, conquered the kingdom of Lydia in about 546 B.C. and that of Babylonia in 539 B.C. and established the Persian Empire as the preeminent power of the world. His son and successor, Cambyses II, extended the Persian realm even further by conquering the Egyptians in 525 B.C.

– Article, “Persian Empire”

The Three Ribs



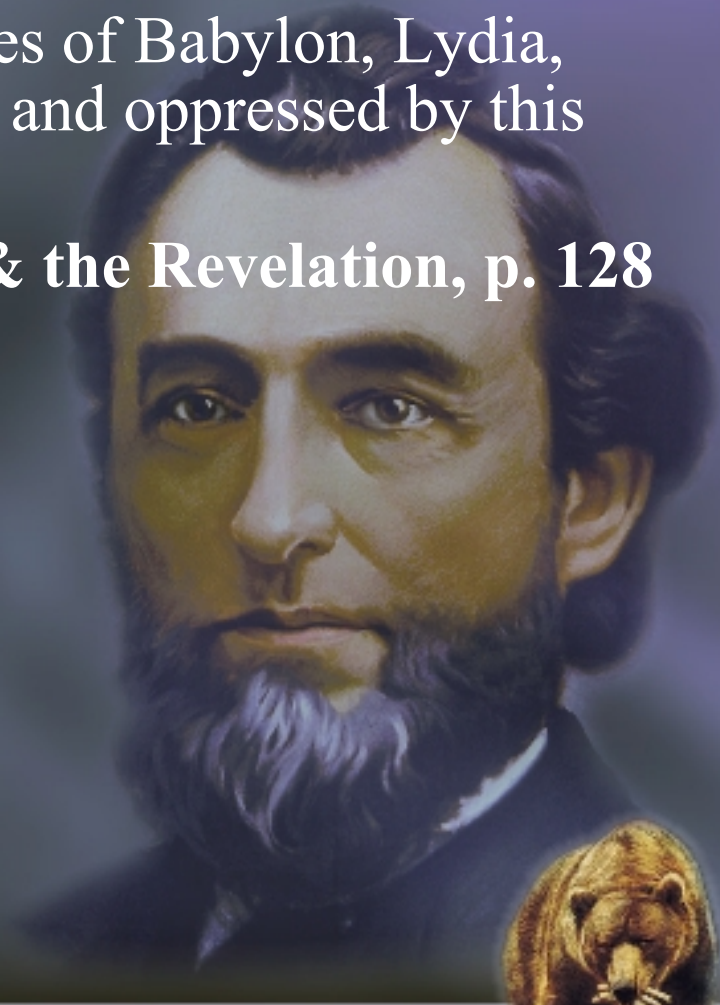
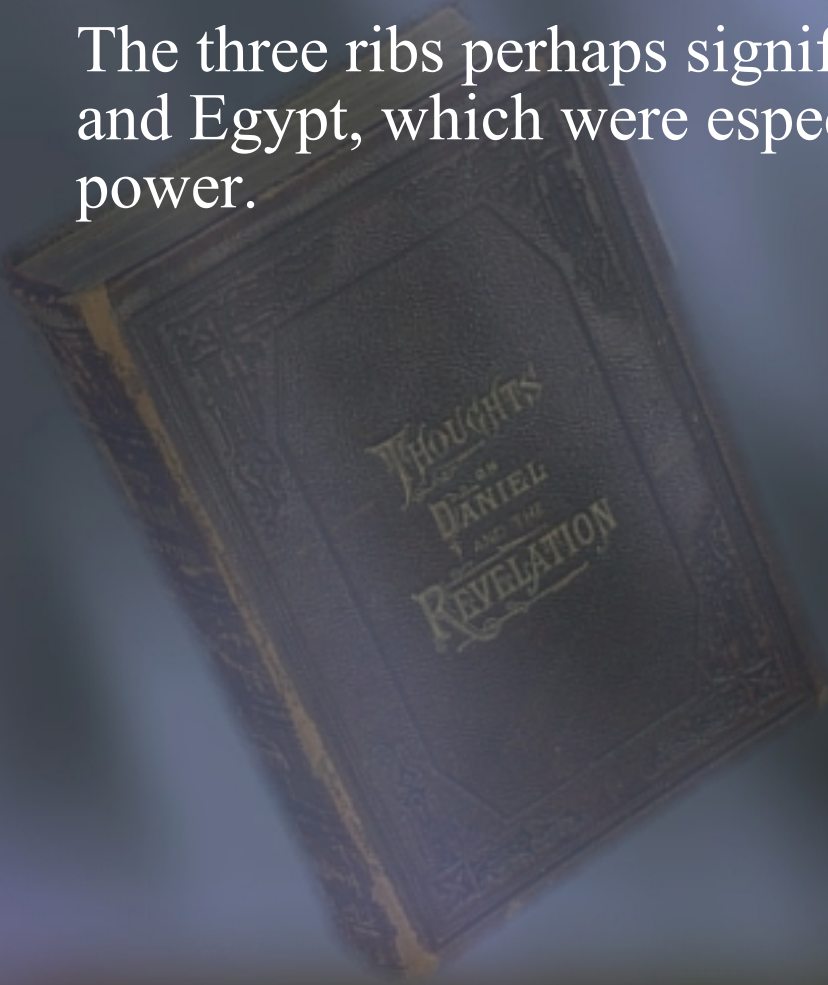
# The Bear



*Uriah Smith*

The three ribs perhaps signify the three provinces of Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt, which were especially ground down and oppressed by this power.

– Daniel & the Revelation, p. 128



The Three Ribs



# The Bear

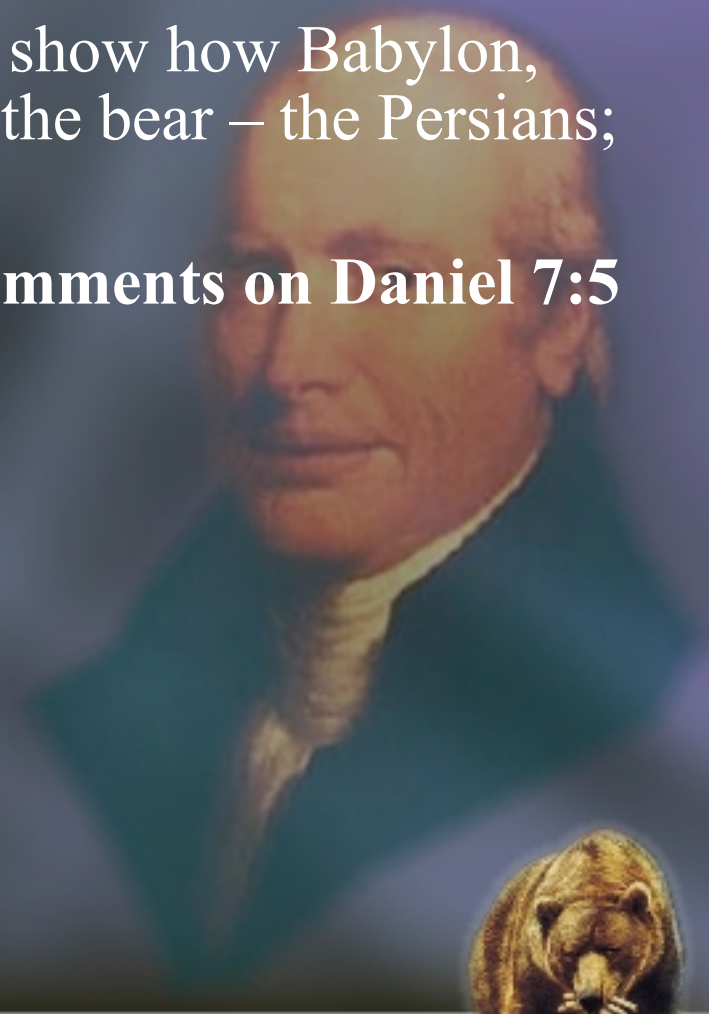


*Adam Clarke*

The ribs being between the teeth of the bear may show how Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt were ground and oppressed by the bear – the Persians;

...

– **Comments on Daniel 7:5**



**The Three Ribs**

# The Bear



*Sir Isaac Newton*

*And it had three ribs in the mouth of it, between the teeth of it, to signify the kingdoms of Sardes (Lydia), Babylon, and Egypt, which were conquered by it, but did not belong to its proper body.*

– **Observations upon Daniel & the Apocalypse, chp. 4, p. 29**



**The Three Ribs**



# The Bear

1. Lifts itself up on one side
2. Three ribs in its mouth
3. Told to “devour much flesh”



# The Bear



George Rawlinson


Until failure checked the military aspirations of the nation, a Persian prince was almost under the necessity of undertaking some great conquest; . . .

– **Ancient History, bk. II, p. 85**

**It Devoured the Riches of these Kingdoms**



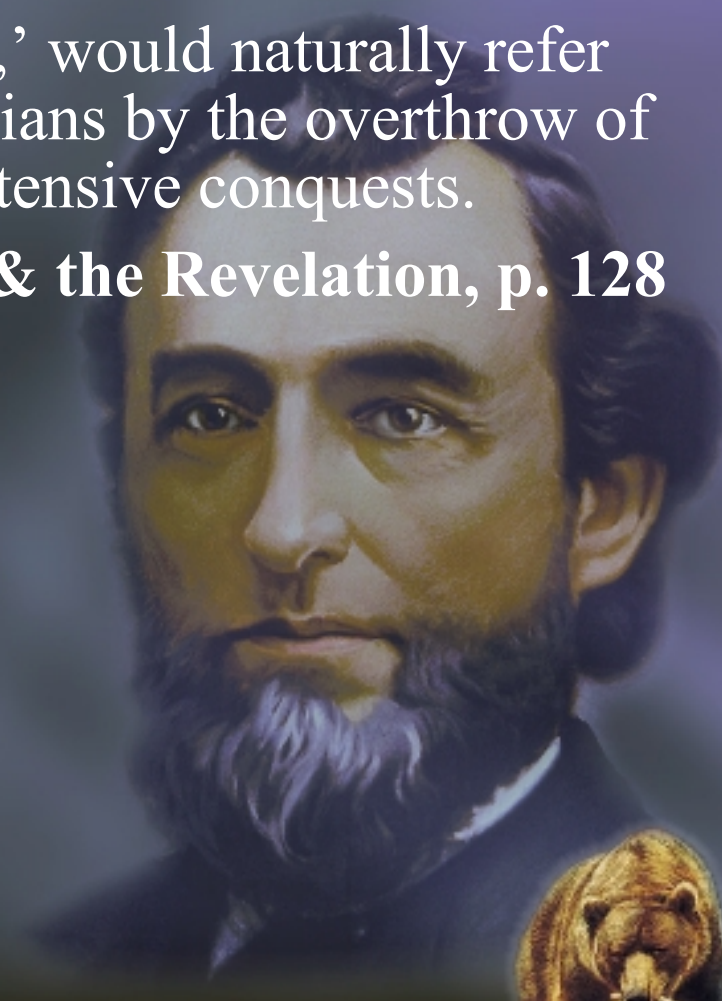
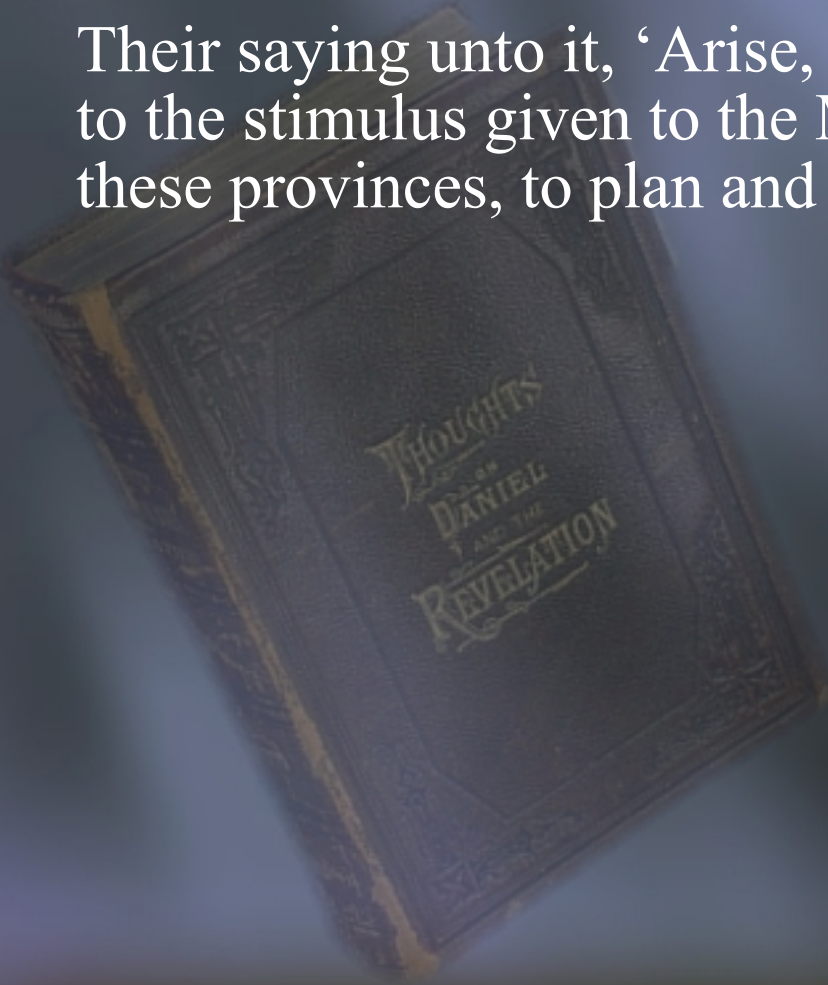
# The Bear



*Uriah Smith*

Their saying unto it, ‘Arise, devour much flesh,’ would naturally refer to the stimulus given to the Medes and the Persians by the overthrow of these provinces, to plan and undertake more extensive conquests.

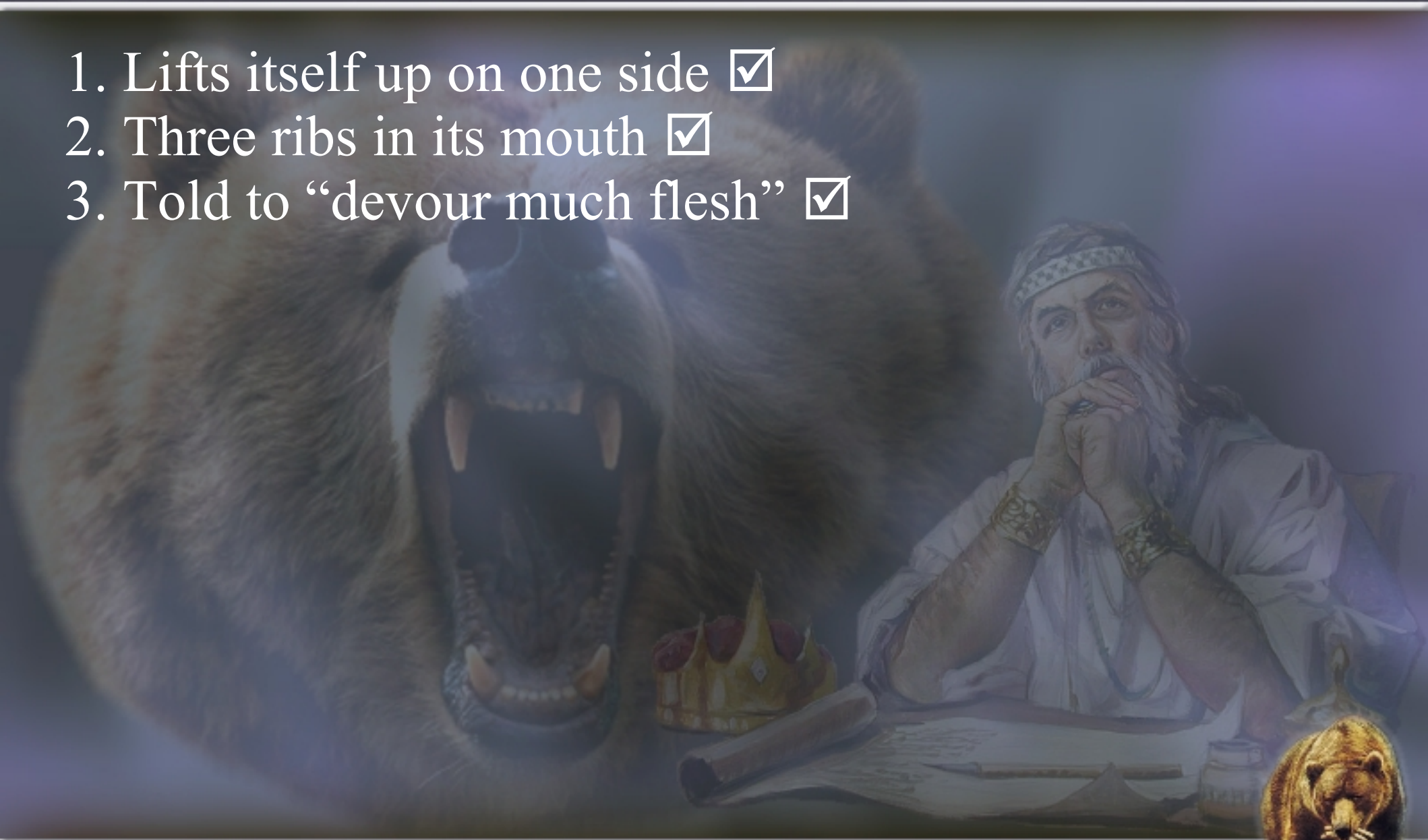
– Daniel & the Revelation, p. 128



Persia Extends its Conquests

# The Bear

1. Lifts itself up on one side
2. Three ribs in its mouth
3. Told to “devour much flesh”



# The Bear

1. Cyrus becomes sole monarch of Medo-Persia, and reigns for seven years – 536-29 B.C.
  - Lydia conquered – 547-546
  - Babylon conquered – 539-538
1. Cambyses, Cyrus' son, takes the throne for seven years – 529-22 B.C.
  - Egypt conquered – 527 B.C.
  - Invades Ethiopia & Ammon unsuccessfully – 524 B.C.

Conquest of the Three Ribs





The kingdom of Medo-Persia - 538-331 B.C.





The Book of  
**DANIEL**

# The End

...the reign of Je...  
...of Judah, Nebuchad...  
...Babylon came to Jeru...  
...ged it.  
...ave Jehoiakim king...  
...with some of...  
...which

# Next

## The Leopard

