

# Daniel 35 – Cheetah: World Hellenism-Satan's Core Faith

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Daniel 7:6

## Persia – Hidden Bear of History: Preparing the Ancient World

- Understanding Daniel's image of the Bear requires
  - Correlation of this image with Nebuchadnezzar's image – Chest-arms of silver
  - Persia's rejection of polytheism for monotheism – Not God of the Bible [see 1:19-26](#)
  - Persia's contributions to transmission of the Alphabet: Knowledge for the masses
  - Understand bears to understand Daniel's metaphor
- Persia (Japheth), despite its short empire history was used by God to bring Mesopotamian (Shemite) culture to a close
  - Readers should stop eisegetical interpretation of their current history into Daniel
  - Must understand how the original readers would have understood the message; requires historical, archeological, lingual and biblical studies to gain this perspective in some degree



## Loin/Thighs of Bronze: Green Patina; Alluring

- Alexander defeats Greece, Persia and Egypt; makes himself god (Ammon-Zeus)
- Single empire becomes two warring kingdoms with Judah torn by their conflicts
- Seeds world with Hellenism: Man – Measure of all truth
- Rationalism masks the flesh: Degradation & Violence [see 2:28-34](#)
- Used of God preparing for Christ & Modern World [see 1:19-26](#)

## Transformation of Idolatry of Gods to Idolatry of Man

- One of the most unique transformations wrought by the Greeks was the change from idolatry as religion to religion of man, secularism; remember, religion is the building of worldviews apart from god (Asebeia) (pt 1: 19-20)
  - Greek gods/goddesses were little different from Mesopotamian counterparts except for certain cultural variations, practices and names
  - Mesopotamian laws given by God(s) to control man's behavior but were interpreted by the god's representative, the ruler (Hammurabi and Moses)
  - Persian laws were irrevocable even by the ruler; they were a separate morality apart from gods and man (influenced Judea's traditions or Talmud above Bible)
  - Greeks began questioning existence of gods/goddesses developing philosophies based on their own thoughts; this was beginning of the fulfillment of Satan's promise: to be as God; i.e., replace God as source of morality (pt 2: 16-21)

## Simplified Synopsis of Progression of Philosophy

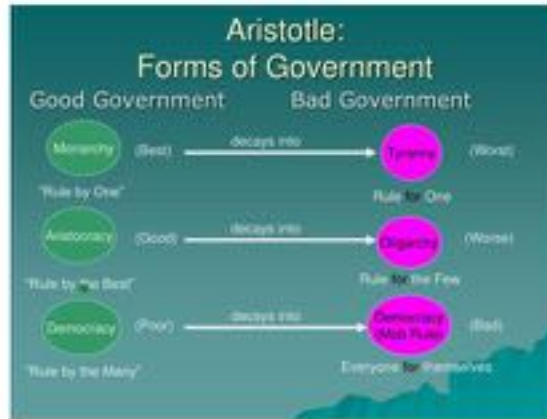
- Alexander did not burst onto the world's scene from a vacuum; he was the product of Greek religion and philosophy; returning to idolatry: Circular
  - Aristotle, Alexander's teacher, the product of those who preceded him including his changes on their so-called truths
  - Entire encyclopedias have been written on Greek philosophers and teachings; we must be brief to remain on point; Greek contributions to Satan's kingdom
  - Greek philosophy is the foundation of Western civilization and appears as the truth as taught in public education; replaces God's truth with man's ignorance
  - Christians oft teach the Gospel as an extension or completion of Greek wisdom when its roots predate all civilizations in Adam (Man) and Woman (Eve)
  - Alexander did not change the world; he was merely the blunt instrument used to facilitate the spread of Greek knowledge and culture that changed the world

## Philosophy: Love of Wisdom Marriage of East and West – Secularism

- Philosophy: love of man's wisdom which is not wisdom; Hellenism merged oriental Axial Age religious thought to develop gnosticism (pt 1: 19, 20, 11-12)
  - Pythagoras: First Greek to teach reincarnation, metempsychosis and taught this to Pythagoras; his cosmology was a battle of watery chaos against Zeus, god of sky and light, resulting in his creation; Notice elements similar to Bible, Gilgamesh
  - Pythagoreans: Much of his teaching centered on metempsychosis & vegetarianism to avoid eating reincarnated persons and was killed by disbelievers; his wisdom came from oriental cultures, even India, to begin Greek rationalism/гностицизм
  - Pythagoras's disciples: They expanded his work to develop math relationships in geometry, music, music scales, & heliocentric astronomy (Science) (Copernicus named his system, Astronomia Pythagorica; Kepler modeled his solar system model on Pythagorean math; Galileo plagiarized all by passing it off as fact)

**Aristotle: Disciple of Plato and Teacher of Alexander**

- Disputed Plato's perfect forms concept; perfection can be attained in the Now
- Natural philosopher seeks absolute truth in nature (Science: failure to find truth)
- Believed rule of one over, rule of the few: Alexander Megees
- Democracy worst form of government: Mob Rule
- Embarrassed by Alexander's conquests and excesses



**Greek Philosophy Leads to Allegory: Think Plato's Forms to Yield Gnosticism**

- Allegory:** Greek approach to interpreting their gods' tales, our mythologies, to find the truth amongst the fantasy (Jefferson's approach to Bible truths)
  - Pherecydes:** Father of allegory as he wrote his cosmology in prose, factual, rather than poetical form; reader to understand true meaning from the written form
  - Theophrastus:** Developed allegorical understanding of Homer's epics influencing subsequent readers who sought the true forms hidden in the poems' imageries
  - Plato:** His approach to knowledge, forms, elevated the invisible, perfect, above the visible, imperfect; only the philosopher could apprehend the perfect while most were trapped in the cave, content with the imperfect and trivial
  - Allegory assigns meanings to concrete terms based on whatever system the author defines, often arbitrary and broken when convenient
  - Alexandrian Hebrews used allegory to explain why they were not masters of the world as they believed Scripture taught (Poor Eschatology) (Eisegesis)

**Failure of Greek Government: Constant War and Skulduggery**

- How did Greek government-philosophy work in practice with all this man-centered knowledge? "You shall know them by their fruit" Matthew 7:16-20
  - Greece composed primarily of city-states that wared continually amongst themselves until conquered by the Greek redneck, Alexander
  - When Athens gained ascendancy over others it ruled tyrannically without regard to higher truths or good of the people; it ruled for wealth and power
  - Greeks did manage to defeat Persia but more due to Persian weaknesses than Greece superiority; this led Alexander to exploit Persia's vulnerabilities
  - Greek government failed, even after Alexander; Greek culture was amazingly resilient and survived to form a common language of commerce and culture to rapidly spread the Gospel even more so than Persia
  - Seeding of Hellenism sprang from allegory and gnosticism; Plato and Aristotle

## Hellenism: Cheetah of the Kingdoms

- Aramaic, and Hebrew word, translated as leopard only means painted or spotted rather than a specific species; thus, leopard is a modern speculation as to the specific animal
  - Leopards usually spring, or drop, from ambush; they can run short sprints
  - Cheetahs are known specifically for their speed and agility; yes, they have spots
  - Cheetahs would have lived in the Mesopotamian and Persian plains region; today they are largely confined to the African savannahs
- Hellenism principally known due to its famous conqueror, Alexander Megos, without which it would have remained localized, smothered by Rome
  - Wings to cat denote speed; rather, the body of Hellenism was spread to the four winds or around the world which continues today

## Cheetah: Body of Hellenism It's not About Alexander Megos

- This metaphor is not about Alexander who, as mentioned, was only a tool to spread Hellenism preparing the world for Christ and later for Satan
  - Alexander revealed the rationalism's madness without eusebeia; substitutes self as god evidenced by dissolution and degradation ending in spiritual death
  - Cheetah represents the speed at which Hellenism inoculated the ancient world
  - Four wings represent the divergent spread of Hellenism which percolated and spread throughout all cultures it touched; completeness of its manifestation
  - Four heads represent four kingdoms that arose from Alexander's one kingdom
  - Repeated four's emphasizes all-encompassing Hellenizing influence which continues today; Unity via Diversity without God - Secular idolatry of self
  - Hellenized societies did not tolerate diversity or bring peace

## Hellenism: Rationalism Overcoming the Church

- Rome never overcame Hellenism; it was as much influenced by Hellenism as it participated in its spread ever further; Rome took Hellenism into Europe
  - During the Crusades, Hellenism was taken to Islam
  - During the Age of Exploration, Hellenism was taken to the Orient and isolated regions of the globe: Americas, Africa and Pacifica
- Hellenism, with Romanism, became the basis for Western culture which abandoned eusebeia for asebeia: Man - Measure of All; Satan (Jk 1:1-19:28)
  - Alexander abandoned his early teaching (Aristotle) by embracing degrading idolatry declaring himself as god then dying ignominiously in his drunken vomit
  - False or immature Christianity (Christendom) has left its first love to embrace that which it left; as a dog that returns to its vomit: Seven Church Letters-Revelation (Jk 2:17-22; Rv 2:7-3:14-22)
  - Hellenism is the core of Satan's lie and Daniel will go into detail educating believers on its pervasive, corrosive influence: Philosopher-King of Socialism (Jk 2:14-16)