

EXILE

The Gentiles in Prophecy

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream (Daniel 2)	Daniel's Dream (Daniel 7)	The Kingdoms Progressed
Gold (Head)	Lion	Babylonian
Silver (Breast & Arms)	Bear	Medo-Persian
Brass (Belly & Thighs)	Leopard	Greek
Iron (Legs)	Beast with Iron Teeth	Roman
PROPHETIC GAP		
Iron & Clay (Feet)	Ten Horns	Antichrist
Stone	Son of Man	Jesus Christ




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Daniel 8

The Ram, He-Goat and The Little Horn

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Ram Medo-Persian empire

He-Goat Alexander the Great of the empire of Greece

Little
Horn Antiochus IV, Epiphanes

What is Daniel 8 about?

We have already seen

The 2nd Empire

– **Medo-Persian Empire**

The 3rd Empire

– **Greece**

now in chapter 2 and well laid out in chapter 7,

The 4th Great Empire is hardly even mentioned.

So why chapter 8?

Is it just a repeat of things we have already studied?

No!

And understanding chapter 8 is crucial to understanding History of Israel.

Chapter 8 reveals the rise of one of the rulers who arises out of one of the empires of the **FOUR EMPIRES OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT**; four empires presented as *four conspicuous horns* of verse 8

This ruler will be further identified as the **LITTLE HORN**—verse 9, not to be confused with the **Little Horn** of 7:8. This confusion is the trouble many have in the study of Daniel 8.

	Question: Why so much time on this second LITTLE HORN?
1	The little horn of 7:8 refers to the dictator of REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE of the Fourth Empire. The Anti-Christ, who will do so many horrible and vicious atrocities to Israel, in the last days of the Tribulation. All this is yet to occur in history.

2	<p>The little horn of 8:9 will do horrible, vicious atrocities to Israel in a few hundred years from Daniels vision in chapter 8. While we do not yet know the name of the Little Horn of the Tribulation, we now do know the name of this LITTLE HORN of Daniel 8. His name was Antiochus IV, Epiphanes.</p>
3	<p>The reason for chapter 8: you will recall that Daniel is in the wisdom section of the Hebrew Old Testament. Chapter 8 is to give the Jews wisdom as to obeying God. They were taken to Babylonian captivity for 70 years for not observing the Sabbatical year for 490 years. After God graciously brought them back to Palestine, they will continue to transgress against Him, and this little horn will be allowed by God to come in and discipline them.</p> <p>So, chapter 8 is to give the Jews warnings and WISDOM and HOPE AND COURAGE when these atrocities happen to them. In the middle of the 2nd century bc or in the middle of the 20th century AD or in the middle of the Tribulation, any time in history.</p> <p>To any degree as at the beginning of the 21 century AD. Throughout the some 2000 years of the Church Age they (JEWS) are in diaspora for rejecting and crucifying their Messiah-King.</p>

	They are not unlike the Church Age believers who fail to learn from Scripture and from God.
4	Chapter 8 is given so we might remember that God Is In Control Of All History and has a Plan for History, which of course centers on His Plan for Israel .
5	Chapter 8 as part of prophetic literature in the Bible and is designed as a warning for Israel and warning to us in the Church Age to explain “Why Suffering?” It is designed to give hope after the warning.
6	So Daniel 8 presents Antiochus IV as a model of the future Anti-Christ of the Tribulation. What we will see in this little horn of chapter 8 is only a glimpse of the horror of the little horn who will rule in the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation.

LANGUAGE

From 8:1 to the end of the book was written in Hebrew; you will recall that 1:1 - 2:4 were also written in Hebrew, primarily for the benefit of the Jews. But 2:5-7 was written in Aramaic to get the attention of the Gentiles in this ancient area of The Fertile Crescent

What is interesting is that the Aramaic section written to the

Gentiles begins and ends with two different presentations of the four great kingdoms of the time of the Gentiles. (verse 2 and verse 7)

DATE

This third year is 551 bc two years after the beast vision of chapter 7; King Nabonidus ran off to Arabia leaving his inadequate son Belshazzar to rule Babylon. Daniel was about 70 years old.

A vision

while chapter 7 was a dream, this chapter is a vision and Danis awakens and he is supernaturally caused to see these things, just as John was in Revelation

subsequent to the one which appeared to me
previously

while separated by some two years. They are directly related with this vision, which builds on the vision of chapter 7

² I looked in the vision, and while I was looking
I was in the citadel of Susa, which is in the

province of Elam; and I looked in the vision and I myself was beside the Ulai Canal.

PLACE

Both Ezekiel and John had been transported in their visions so now Daniel is transported some 230 miles east of Babylon to Susa, or Shushan –

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | one of the most beautiful places in the ancient world where it was the winter capital of the Persian Kings. |
| 2 | The name means lily – bright colored – white, red, purple, colorful, bright, delightful. |
| 3 | Destroyed by the Assyrians in 645 bc and rebuilt by Darius I (522-486 bc). The famous code of Hammurabi was discovered here. |
| 4 | It is no surprise that Susa will served as headquarters of Cyrus... and ... |
| 5 | Susa is the area where the Medo-Persian empire began and the location of the palace of the king of the Persian-Media empire, decades after Daniel. |
| 6 | It was here that the story of Esther took place; (483-473); where some early anti-Semitism took place. |

7 Nehemiah began his ministry here.

8 Daniel is taken here in his Vision.

The Ulai River is an artificial canal that flowed close by Susa on the North and North-East and connected the Kerkha and Abdizul Rivers in modern Iran. Archeologist do not know exactly where this is or much about it.

The Ram (verses) 3-4 with two horns (Media –Persia empire, 539-331 bc

³ Then I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns *were* long, but one *was* longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last.

Ram is a male sheep. The difference between the ram and a He-Goat; The reason for a male goat is simply power. A male goat is stronger than a male sheep.

In verse 20 the interpreting angel, Gabriel explains that the ram with the two horns represent the kings of Media and Persia. The silver arms of Nebuchadnezzar statue and the lop-sided bear and now ram with two horns all confirm this is the Medo-

Persian Empire.

Why the symbols of the ram and the male goat?

We can understand the lion, bear, leopard...

BUT WHY RAM AND GOAT?

While they do not mean much to us, they meant a great deal in ancient history. In the training of Daniel (in chapter 1,) he was schooled in the wisdom of Babylonian astrology. In astrology the ram is one of the signs of Aries and the He-Goat is the sign of Capricorn.

These two animals are used as the symbolism in Daniel's vision because Persia was associated with Aries and the Persian kings carried a Rams head into battle, according to a fourth century historian, Ammianus Marcellinus.

Later on the Greeks and Alexander will be associated with Capricorn.

In the ancient world when the Persians held a military review marching at the head of the parade they would always carry in front of them a ram's head.

The symbol of the ram and the He-Goat would have been easily understood by a person living in that day, it was common knowledge who the ram and the He-Goat was associated with.

Maybe change it to read as this...

would have been easily understood by a person living in that day. it would have been common knowledge with whom the ram and the He-Goat were associated.

This is not that much unlike today. where most people know who the eagle is associated, who the bear is associated.

Now the two horns *were* long, but one *was* longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last.

The first horn represents the Medes—the first kingdom; when Cyrus came to power he gained control over Media and made Persia the greater of the two. 8:20

⁴ I saw the ram butting westward, northward, and southward, and no *other* beasts could stand before him nor was there anyone to rescue from his power, but he did as he pleased and magnified *himself*.

First Note Which <u>Direction</u> Is Left Out?	
Eastward	he advanced around the Great Sea, the Mediterranean.
Butting westward	Conquered Lydia.
Butting northward	Ekbatana in 550 bc, which was the capital of the Medes.

Butting southward

This is a refer. to the conquering of
Babylon in 539 bc

So all this took place after Daniels Vision, in 551 bc.

⁵ While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the He-Goat *had* a conspicuous horn between his eyes.

Gabriel interprets the He-Goat as the kingdom of Greece; The Macedonian Greece in it's quick conquest under Alexander the Great (8:21)

Where did Alexander come from? ***THE WEST !***
so precise is Daniel's prophesy

The Coming from the **WEST** is referring to **Alexander's Conquest of the Persian Empire'** is prophetically symbolized.

Verses 6-7 in his first victory over the Persians **BATTLE OF GRANICUS** (334 bc)

Defeated army of Darius III in No. Syria at the battle of Issus (333 bc) He conquered the island fortress of Tyre after a 7 month siege. (332 bc) He then moved past Jerusalem without a battle and then he conquered Egypt without a battle in 332 bc and founded the great city of Alexandria.

He then advanced to Mesopotamia where he made his final victory over Darius III at Gaugamela (331 bc)

Without touching the ground

refers to the swiftness of his conquering the Medo-Persian empire in an incredibly short time. And remember all this was centuries after Daniel had his dreams and visions.

conspicuous horn between his eyes.

Is a reference to Alexander.

⁶ He [Alexander] came up to the ram that had the two horns, [Medo-Persian Empire] which had seen standing in front of the canal, and

rushed at him in his mighty wrath.

⁷ I saw him come beside the ram, and he was enraged at him; and he struck the ram and shattered his two horns, and the ram had no strength to withstand him. So he hurled him to the ground and trampled on him, and there was none to rescue the ram from his power.

When we began the study of Daniel we studied how and why this book is one of the most challenged books in the bible. And the primary reason for this is the issue of prophecy. They claim the book of Daniel could not have been written in 6th century bc but had to be written in the 2nd century bc. Otherwise God is the true God and can tell what is going to occur in the future with unbelievable accuracy.

This prophecy was written ca between 551 and 539 bc; some 200 years before its fulfillment – it is a remarkable prophecy of a war between two world powers that were not even an issue, when Daniel wrote.

Alexander's untimely death in Babylon (323 bc) and the division of

his world empire among his four generals are prefigured, verse 8.

This resulted in three great Hellenistic empires by 275 bc;
Macedonia, (Cassander)
Egypt (Ptolemies) and
Syria (Seleucids)

Note how precise is Daniel's prophecy

rushed at him in his mighty wrath and he was enraged
at him

Alexander's movement against the Persians was not a normal military invasion. There was great resentment between the Persians and the Greeks. This wrath and enragement of The Greeks against the Persians began when Xerxes invaded Greece in 480 bc.

Alexander's Father, **Philip**, was set on moving against the Persian when he was assassinated. Alexander became more enraged against Persia and set out to destroy it.

8 Then the male goat [Alexander] magnified *himself* exceedingly. [Conquered every empire over to India.] But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn [Alexander] was broken; [death of Alexander the Great] and in its place there came up four conspicuous *horns* toward the four winds of heaven.

[the four horns are the 4 heads of Daniel 7:6 and refers to 4 generals of Alexander who divided and ruled 4 different parts of Alexander's Empire.]

1 Ptolemy –Egypt. and began the rule of the Ptolemies ending with Cleopatra.

2 Selucas—Syria and Babylon and began a line of hereditary rulers from which will come “The little horn” of 8:9 who is Antiochus IV known as Antiochus Epiphanes who is one of the most vicious Anti-Semitic leaders in history, so that he is compared with the “little horn” ... Daniel 7:8, the dictator of the REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE and who is known as the Anti-Christ. this is the primary lesson in Daniel 8.

3	Cassander—controlled Macedonian—Greece of Alexander’s empire.
4	Lysimachus—Turkey and Asia Minor.

The Little Horn

The History of Antiochus Epiphanes (175-163) is prophetically outlined in 9-14. In 167 bc he conquered Palestine, defiled the sanctuary and dedicated it to Zeus Olympus. In 164 bc the temple was purified. This is the period of the “2300 evenings and mornings.”—verse 14

9 Out of one of them came forth a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the *Beautiful Land*. R[eference to land of Israel, namely Judah] Out of one of them [that is one came out of the 4 conspicuous horns of verse 8; and we know this is out of Selucus \ came forth a rather small horn

This little horn, here, must not be confused with the little horn of

Daniel 7:8 and 7:24-26 who is the Anti-Christ of the end of the Tribulation. This confusion is one that causes a lot of misunderstanding in chapter 8. The Little horn of Daniel 7:8 comes up from 10 horns in the fourth beast (*still future to us today*) but the little horn of chapter 8 comes up from one of the four horns of the third beast, that is he comes up from one of the dynasties of Alexander's empire.

While they are different, this little horn will act much like the little horn at the end of Tribulation. This little horn refers to

Antiochus IV, Epiphanes

Antiochus IV Epiphanes He took on himself the name Epiphanes after gaining control and it means of all things: "God Manifest"; c. 215 – 164 bc) was a Greek king of the Seleucid Empire from 175 bc until his death in 164 BC. He was a son of King Antiochus III the Great.

Although Antiochus Epiphanes foreshadowed the final little horn, that is of the Anti-Christ, 8:24-25 Both are similar in their Idolatry and desecration of the temple.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 and Revelation 13:1-18 but are distinct as the context proves and as the Book of Revelation attest.

2 Thessalonians 2:

³ Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,

⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

Revelation 13:

The Beast from the Sea

¹ And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore.

Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns *were* ten diadems, and on his heads *were* blasphemous names.

² And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like *those* of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.

³ /saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed *and followed* after the beast;

⁴ they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?"

⁵ There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.

⁶ And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name

and His tabernacle, *that is*, those who dwell in heaven.

⁷ It was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him.

⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him, *everyone* whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.

⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

¹⁰ If anyone *is destined* for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.

The Beast from the Earth

¹¹ Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon.

¹² He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed.

¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.

¹⁴ And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who **had the wound of the sword and*

has come to life.

¹⁵ And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

¹⁶ And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead,

¹⁷ and *he provides* that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, *either* the name of the beast or the number of his name.

¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six

Antiochus Epiphanes rose out of the Syrian branch of old Greek Empire, who was determined to stamp out the Jewish religion and all Jews. (11:21-35) He is the

despicable person

of Daniel 11:21

grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Beautiful *Land*.

Hebrew word means desired *land*

South-Egypt,

east Medo-Persia

The beautiful land he viciously moved his military against Israel that is the land of Judah.

The LITTLE HORN is Antiochus IV. He gained control after the murder of his brother (Seleucus Philoator) Antiochus used bribery and flattery to gain control of the throne and was not the rightful heir. To promote himself he took the name Epiphanes to promote himself. it means '**God Manifest**'. What is interesting behind his back they called him Epimanes which meant 'idiot'.

Now if we are thinking carefully, we can see a hidden prophesy in this verse. For at the time Daniel wrote this vision (551 bc) the Jews were in "diaspora," namely in Babylon and throughout the Persian area. So he is here saying that they will be invaded by this Antiochus IV later in history (168 bc); which means they will have been restored to their land by 168 bc.

Remember that one of the primary messages of Daniel 8 is the likeness between Antiochus IV and the dictator of REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE at the end of the Tribulation. So if this Anti-

Christ is going to invade Israel to destroy Jerusalem, what do we know? we know that Israel must be restored as a Jewish nation and occupy Jerusalem. Here is just another reason for studying prophesy like Daniel and Revelation to know with all certainty what the future holds for Israel. Remember that God's view of history is the history of Israel.

MACCABEAN REVOLT AGAINST ANTIOCHUS IV

IN THE 2ND CENTURY BC, JUDEA LAY BETWEEN
THE PTOLEMAIC KINGDOM OF EGYPT, AND THE SELEUCID EMPIRE OF SYRIA

JUDEA HAD BEEN UNDER PTOLEMAIC RULE,
BUT FELL TO THE SELEUCID AROUND 200 BC

209	ANTIOCHUS III RULER OF PERSIA
215	BIRTH OF ANTIOCHUS IV DEATH 164 BC (175 - 164 KING OF THE SELEUCID EMPIRE)
203	JUDEA SUBMITS TO ANTIOCHUS III, THE GREAT
198	ANTIOCHUS III OF SYRIA TAKES PALESTINE FROM EGYPT WITH THE HELP OF THE JEWS
171	INVADES JERUSALEM AND PERSECUTES THE JEWS AND PLUNDERS THE TEMPLE
168	ANTIOCHUS WAS 'RETREATING' FROM EGYPT AFTER THE ORIGINAL 'LINE IN THE SAND' TOOK PLACE, AND WHILE RETREATING HE TOOK HIS ANGER OUT OF JERUSALEM PERSECUTING JEWS AND DESECRATING THE TEMPLE AND SUPPRESSING THE LAW, AND FORBIDDING THE OWNERSHIP OF THE TORAH MATTATHIAS –THE HASMONEAN AND THE PRIEST, REFUSES TO OFFER SACRIFICES TO THE GREEK GODS AND INSTEAD KILLED THE SYRIAN WHO ORDERED HIM TO DO SO AND THEN MADE HIS WAY TO THE WILDERNESS, STARTING THE REBELLION AGAINST ANTIOCHUS
166	ANTIOCHUS LEFT LYSAIS IN CHARGE OF DESTROYING JERUSALEM BUT EVENTUALLY LOSSES TO JUDAS MACCABEUS THE FOLLOWING YEAR
165	JUDAS MACCABEUS, SON OF MATTATHIAS LEADS REBELLION; DEFEATS THE SYRIANS, PURIFIES THE TEMPLE AND 25 DECEMBER REDEDICATION OF TEMPLE