

Lesson 9

Daniel's Vision Of the Ram and the Goat

Daniel 8

Begin today's lesson asking the Holy Spirit to illumine your mind and to teach you His precepts.

Before you start the questions in this week's lesson, take some time to read through Daniel 8.

Daniel 8 contains the vision of The Ram and the Goat. This vision contains a detailed prophecy about the Medes-Persians and the Greeks, which has been exactly fulfilled. The incredible accuracy of Daniel's vision underscores the importance of his other visions. Daniel has a proven prophetic track record!

Remember that prophetic language and visions are very difficult to understand. Don't be discouraged; just get what you can. Even Daniel did not understand all he saw.

1. When did the vision of Daniel 8 come to Daniel? Mark it on your timeline on page 77. Approximately how old was Daniel at this time?
2. Briefly describe the vision of Daniel 8:1-14.
3. Only two godly angels, Gabriel and Michael, are specifically named in the entire Bible. Gabriel's name means "hero of God." From Daniel 8:16, Daniel 9:21-22, Luke 1:5-20, and Luke 1:26-38 what do we see Gabriel "do"?

*"You are from God,
little children, and have
overcome them;
because greater is He
who is in you than he
who is in the world."*

1 John 4:4

4. From Daniel 8:20-22, who does Gabriel say the animals of Daniel's vision represent?

5. This prophecy has been fulfilled exactly as Daniel's vision portrayed. To what ancient historical person do you think Daniel 8:8 refers? From secular history, how did his reign end and what happened to his kingdom? Remember, this prophecy was given over two hundred years before its fulfillment.

6. What is Daniel's response to Gabriel? Why do you think he has this response? See Revelation 22:8-9.

7. Focus on Daniel 8:8-14 and Daniel 8:23-25. List facts about the little horn.

Antiochus Epiphanes, a descendant of Seleucus who ruled over Syria and Babylon after Alexander the Great died, exactly fulfilled many of the prophecies about the little horn. Antiochus Epiphanes was king of Syria from 175-163 B.C. and was the archenemy of Israel. He committed many atrocities against the Jewish people, including ending all their religious practices, dedicating the temple to Zeus and sacrificing a pig on the altar in the temple.

During the egregious reign of Antiochus Epiphanes, the Lord raised up the family of Judas Maccabee to rally the Jewish people to overthrow the vile dictator and recapture Jerusalem. In 164 B.C. they were finally successful. The first thing they did was to cleanse and rededicate the Temple, instituting the annual Festival of Lights, also called Festival of Dedication or Hanukkah. At the original rededication, there was only enough oil to light the candle for one evening, but, miraculously it remained burning for eight nights. The menorah, which is the traditional Jewish candelabra, commemorates this event. John 10:23-24 tells us that Jesus attended the eight day Celebration of Lights while He was in Jerusalem.

8. Often Biblical prophecies have more than one literal fulfillment. Find phrases in Daniel 8 that lead one to believe these prophecies of the little horn may also have a yet future fulfillment.

9. To whom do you think "the host of heaven and some of the stars" in Daniel 8:10 refers? (No one knows for sure).

10. Paul talks about the “man of lawlessness” in II Thessalonians 2:3-9. John talks about him in Revelation 13:1-8. What do you learn about him from these passages?

11. According to Daniel 8:25 what will be his end?

12. What effect did this vision and its interpretation have upon Daniel?

13. What is Daniel told to do with the vision in Daniel 8:26? See Daniel 12:4, Daniel 12:9 and Revelation 22:10.

14. As you look back over this lesson about Daniel 8, what do you want to remember?

15. Consider the following scriptures and meditate on them using the prayer exercise that is explained on page 81.
 - ❖ Scriptures: **Psalm 37:10-11**
 - ❖ Word or phrase:

 - ❖ Amplification:

 - ❖ Invitation:

Thoughts From Martha:

The Conquerors

by Charles Ross Weede

Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three,
 One lived and died for self; One died for you and me.
 The Greek died on a throne; the Jew died on a cross;
 One's life a triumph seemed; the other but a loss.

 One led vast armies forth; the other walked alone,
 One shed a whole world's blood; the other gave His own.
 One won the world in life and lost it all in death;
 The other lost His life to win the whole world's faith.

Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three,
 One died in Babylon, and One on Calvary.
 One gained all for himself; and One himself He gave.
 One conquered every throne; the other every grave.

 The one made himself a god, Our God made himself less.
 The one lived but to blast, the other but to bless.
 When died the Greek, forever fell the throne of swords;
 But Jesus died to live, forever Lord of Lords.

Jesus and Alexander died at thirty-three,
 The Greek made men slaves, The Jew made men free.
 One built a throne on blood; the other built on love.
 The one was born of earth; the other from above.

 One won all of this earth, to lose all earth and heaven.
 The other gave up all, that all to Him be given.
 The Greek forever died; the Jew forever lives.
 He loses all who gets, and wins all things who gives.

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Lecture Notes: