



# DANIEL

FAITH UNDER FIRE

DANIEL 8:15-27

“A Ram and A Goat -  
Preview of Coming Things” Part 2





Daniel 2



**Head of Gold**

**Babylon**

**Breast and arms of Silver**

**Medo-Persia**

**Belly and thighs of Brass**

**Greece**

**Legs of Iron**

**Rome**

**Feet and Toes of Iron/Clay**

**Post-Rome**

Image by Decca Art







# Daniel 8:8

Therefore, the male goat grew very great; but when he became strong, the large horn was broken. And in place of it, four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven.



# Daniel 8:9

And out of one of them came a little horn, which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the glorious land.



# Daniel 8:10

And it grew up to the host of heaven  
and it cast some of the host and some  
of the stars to the ground and  
trampled them.



# Daniel 8:11

He even exalted himself as high, as the prince of the host. And by him, the daily sacrifices were taken away. And the place of his sanctuary was cast down.



# Daniel 8:12

Because of transgression, an army was given over to the horn to oppose the daily sacrifices. And he cast truth down to the ground. He did all this. And he prospered.



# Daniel 8:13

Then I heard a Holy One speaking. And another Holy One said to that certain one who was speaking, "how long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifice and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled underfoot?"



# **Daniel 8:14**

**And he said to me for 2,300 days;  
then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.**

**“The first person in history to persecute a people exclusively for their religious faith. Religious persecution was previously unknown in the history of civilization.”**

**-Solomon Zeitlin**



# **1 Maccabees 1:41-42**

**41 Then the king wrote to his whole kingdom that all should be one people,  
42 and abandon their particular customs. All the Gentiles conformed to the command of the king,**

# **1 Maccabees 1:43-44**

**43 and many Israelites delighted in his religion; they sacrificed to idols and profaned the sabbath. 44 The king sent letters by messenger to Jerusalem and to the cities of Judah, ordering them to follow customs foreign to their land;**



# **1 Maccabees 1:45-47**

**45 to prohibit burnt offerings, sacrifices, and libations in the sanctuary, to profane the sabbaths and feast days, 46 to desecrate the sanctuary and the sacred ministers, 47 to build pagan altars and temples and shrines, to sacrifice swine and unclean animals,**

# **1 Maccabees 1:48-50**

**48 to leave their sons uncircumcised, and to defile themselves with every kind of impurity and abomination; 49 so that they might forget the law and change all its ordinances. 50 Whoever refused to act according to the command of the king was to be put to death.**



# Daniel 8:10

And it grew up to the host of heaven  
and it cast some of the host and some  
of the stars to the ground and  
trampled them.

**“The host of heaven or stars refers to the people of God (Daniel 12:3, Gen 15:5, 22:17, Ex 12:41) and the symbolism is that Antiochus would oppress God’s people, the Jews, in their land.”**

**-Leon Wood**



# Daniel 12:3

Those who are wise shall shine  
Like the brightness of the firmament,  
And those who turn many to  
righteousness  
Like **the stars** forever and ever.

# Genesis 15:5

Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count **the stars** if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

# Genesis 22:17

blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as **the stars** of the heaven and as the sand which *is* on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.



# **2 Maccabees 7:1-2**

**1 It also happened that seven brothers with their mother were arrested and tortured with whips and scourges by the king to force them to eat pork in violation of God's law. 2 One of the brothers, speaking for the others, said: "What do you expect to learn by questioning us? We are ready to die rather than transgress the laws of our ancestors."**

## **2 Maccabees 7:3-4**

**3 At that the king, in a fury, gave orders to have pans and caldrons heated. 4 These were quickly heated, and he gave the order to cut out the tongue of the one who had spoken for the others, to scalp him and cut off his hands and feet, while the rest of his brothers and his mother looked on.**

# 2 Maccabees 7:5-6

5 When he was completely maimed but still breathing, the king ordered them to carry him to the fire and fry him. As a cloud of smoke spread from the pan, the brothers and their mother encouraged one another to die nobly, with these words: 6 "The Lord God is looking on and truly has compassion on us, as Moses declared in his song, when he openly bore witness, saying, 'And God will have compassion on his servants.'



# Daniel 8:11

He even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down.

**“When the vision recorded here was given to Daniel, all of it had to do with prophetic events, whereas we today can look back and see that everything in verses 1 through 22 refers to men and empires that have come and gone. We read about them in the pages of Secular history.**

**-Louis T Talbot**

**“But verses 23-27 of the chapter before us have to do with a “A king of fierce countenance”, who shall appear in “in the latter time” (Verse 23) and he is none other than the Antichrist who is to come. Again, while verses 1-22 have to do with history, yet the men of whom they speak were shadows of that coming man of sin who is more fully described in the closing verses of the chapter.”**

**-Louis T Talbot**





**“There are more than 100 passages of Scripture that describe the Antichrist. God doesn't want us to be preoccupied with this individual and an unhealthy, unbalanced way, but clearly God wants us to know some things about this coming Prince of Darkness.”**

**-Mark Hitchcock**



In Daniel 8, God gives us an introduction to the Antichrist **describing eight (8) characteristics that define this man of evil** who will appear on the world stage during the coming tribulation period.

# **1. HE WILL BE DYNAMIC IN HIS PERSONALITY**

**Daniel 8:23**

**A king shall arise, having fierce features, who understands sinister schemes.**



**“The world will go delirious with delight at his manifestation. He will be seeming to answer to all of its needs. He will be filled with all the fullness of Satan. Handsome, with a charming rakish, devil may care personality, a genius, superbly at home in all the scientific disciplines, brave as a lion and with an air of mystery about him, to tease the imagination or to chill the blood, as occasion may serve, a brilliant conversationalist and a score of tongues. He will be the idol of all mankind.”**

**-John Phillips**

## **2. HE WILL BE DEMONIC IN HIS PROGRAM**

**Daniel 8:23**

**A king shall arise, having fierce features, who understands sinister schemes.**

# **3. HE WILL BE DEVILISH IN HIS POWER**

**Daniel 8:24**

**His power shall be mighty, but not by  
his own power;**

# 2 THESSALONIANS 2:9

The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,



# REVELATION 13:2

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

## **4. HE WILL BE DESTRUCTIVE IN HIS PERSECUTION**

**Daniel 8:24**

**He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.**

# REVELATION 13:7

**“It was granted to him to make war with the Saints and to overcome them.”**

# **MATTHEW 24:22**

**And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.**



# **5. HE WILL BE DECEITFUL IN HIS PRACTICES**

**Daniel 8:25**

**Through his cunning He shall cause  
deceit to prosper under his rule;**

# DANIEL 9:27

**“He shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes it desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.”**

## **6. HE WILL BE DEFIANT IN HIS PROFESSION**

**Daniel 8:25**

**And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes;**

# **2 THESSALONIANS 2:3-4**

**...the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.**



# 7. HE WILL BE DEFEATED IN HIS PURPOSE

Daniel 8:25

And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; **but he shall be broken without *human* means.**

# **8. HE WILL BE DESTINED TO PUNISHMENT**

**Daniel 7:11**

**11 I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame.**

# **8. HE WILL BE DESTINED TO PUNISHMENT**

**Daniel 8:25**

**Shall be broken without human  
means.**

# **REVELATION 19:20**

**...these two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.**



# **MATTHEW 25:41**

**...These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.**

# DANIEL 8:26

**“And the vision of the evenings and mornings which was told is true; therefore seal up the vision, for it refers to many days in the future.”**

**“Daniel was to take such precautions about the preservation and manifolding of the manuscript as might be necessary so that the document could be preserved for a long time to come. Nothing about it was intended to be kept secret.”**

**-Lehman Strauss**

# **DANIEL 8:27**

**27 And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it.**



**Knowing what you know about the future, how should you feel?**

**Knowing that every person around you will one day die and go into eternity, how should you feel?**

There are **four things** that the study of prophecy should produce in you.

**NUMBER ONE**

**Confidence in God**

**Be confident in God's promises**

## NUMBER TWO

It should produce in you a cleanness of lifestyle, also known as holiness.

# NUMBER THREE

Comfort in sorrow

Knowing prophecy brings a comfort  
in sorrow.

# NUMBER FOUR

**A conviction for service**

**Studying prophecy should produce  
in all of us a conviction for service.**



**"We all reach the future at the same  
rate—sixty minutes per hour."**

**-C.S. Lewis**

**GET EXCITED!**

**Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.**

**-Luke 21:28**

**GET BUSY!**

**“Blessed *is* that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.”**

**-Matthew 24:46**

**GET READY!**

**“Behold, I am coming as a thief.  
Blessed *is* he who watches, and keeps  
his garments, lest he walk naked and  
they see his shame.”**

**-Revelation 16:15**



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