

DANIEL

BUILDING FAITHFULLY IN BROKEN KINGDOMS



TODAY'S NOTES



**Where is your future
uncertain or scary?**



**Why is this book organized
theologically rather than chronologically?**

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theologically rather than chronologically?**

Daniel is telling MORE than a story.

DANIEL'S TIMELINE AND THE PATTERN OF EARTHLY RULERS

CHRONOLOGICAL What happened when

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605 BC	Daniel 1	Teens	Taken into Babylonian exile
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After 539	Daniel 6	Around 80	The lions' den
536 BC	Dan. 10-12	Early 80s	Daniel's final recorded vision

* Ages are estimates.

THEOLOGICAL What the rulers reveal

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- DANIEL 2 A KING LEARNS**
God reveals mysteries.
 - DANIEL 3 A KING LEARNS**
God delivers his servants.
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God humbles kings and restores those who acknowledge him.
 - DANIEL 5 A KING REFUSES**
Belshazzar ignores Nebuchadnezzar's humiliation and is destroyed.
 - DANIEL 8 THE PATTERN CONTINUES**
Rulers become great, exalt themselves, and are eventually broken.

EARTHLY RULERS RISE AND FALL THE SON OF MAN REIGNS FOREVER

"His dominion is an everlasting dominion." Daniel 7:14

1 In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me, Daniel, after that which appeared to me at the first. 2 And I saw in the vision; and when I saw, I was in Susa the citadel, which is in the province of Elam. And I saw in the vision, and I was at the Ulai canal. 3 I raised my eyes and saw, and behold, a ram standing on the bank of the canal. It had two horns, and both horns were high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last. 4 I saw the ram charging westward and northward and southward. No beast could stand before him, and there was no one who could rescue from his power. He did as he pleased and became great.

5 As I was considering, behold...

Daniel 8

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Daniel 8

5 As I was considering, behold, a male goat came from the west across the face of the whole earth, without touching the ground. And the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes. 6 He came to the ram with the two horns, which I had seen standing on the bank of the canal, and he ran at him in his powerful wrath. 7 I saw him come close to the ram, and he was enraged against him and struck the ram and broke his two horns. And the ram had no power to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled on him. And there was no one who could rescue the ram from his power. 8 Then the goat became exceedingly great, but when he was strong, the great horn was broken, and instead of it there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven.

Daniel 8



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Daniel 8



“GREATNESS”

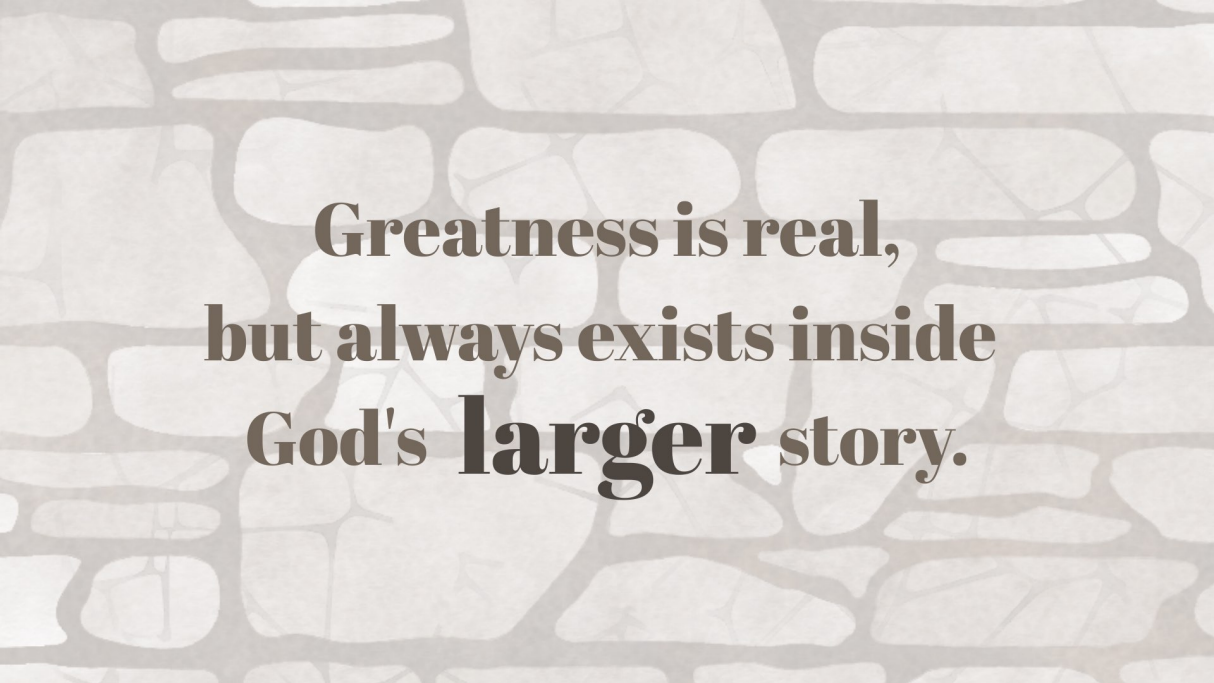
THE RAM...

4 I saw the ram charging westward and northward and southward. No beast could stand before him, and there was no one who could rescue from his power. He did as he pleased and became **great**.

THE GOAT...

8 Then the goat became **exceedingly great...**





**Greatness is real,
but always exists inside
God's **larger** story.**

9 Out of one of them came a little horn, which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the glorious land. 10 It grew great, even to the host of heaven. And some of the host and some of the stars it threw down to the ground and trampled on them. 11 It became great, even as great as the Prince of the host. And the regular burnt offering was taken away from him, and the place of his sanctuary was overthrown. 12 And a host will be given over to it together with the regular burnt offering because of transgression, and it will throw truth to the ground, and it will act and prosper.

Daniel 8



13 Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to the one who spoke, **“For how long** is the vision concerning the regular burnt offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of the sanctuary and host to be trampled underfoot?” 14 And he said to me, “For 2,300 evenings and mornings. Then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state.”

Daniel 8



"How Long, O Lord"

Psalm 13:1-2: "How long, O LORD? Will you forget me

Psalm 79:5: "How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever?

Psalm 89:46: "How long, O LORD? Will you hide yourself forever?

Revelation 6:10: "They cried out with a loud voice, 'O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?'"

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Daniel 8

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Daniel 8

**I sought to understand it
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15 When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, **I sought to understand it.** And behold, there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. 16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, and it called, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision."

Daniel 8

17 So he came near where I stood. And when he came, I was frightened and fell on my face. But he said to me, "Understand, O son of man, that the vision is for the time of the end."

18 And when he had spoken to me, I fell into a deep sleep with my face to the ground. But he touched me and made me stand up.

Daniel 8

PSALM 46

1 God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
3 though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains
tremble at its swelling. Selah

6 The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice,
the earth melts.

PSALM 46

7 The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the
chariots with fire.

10 “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among
the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

11 The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

19 He said, "Behold, I will make known to you what shall be at the latter end of the indignation, for it refers to the appointed time of the end.

20 **As for the ram** that you saw with the two horns, these are **the kings of Media and Persia.**

21 And **the goat is the king of Greece.** And the great horn between his eyes is the first king.

22 As for the horn that was broken, in place of which **four others arose, four kingdoms shall arise from his nation,** but not with his power.

Daniel 8

23 And at the latter end of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their limit, **a king of bold face**, one who understands riddles, shall arise. 24 **His power shall be great**—but not by his own power; and he shall cause fearful destruction and shall succeed in what he does, and destroy mighty men and the people who are the saints. 25 By his cunning he shall make deceit prosper under his hand, and in his own mind he shall become great. Without warning he shall destroy many. And he shall even rise up against the Prince of princes, and he shall be broken—but by no human hand.

Daniel 8

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ΘΕΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ
(Theou Epiphanous),
"God Made Visible."

Daniel 8

**Greatness is real,
but always exists inside
God's larger story.**

Earthly greatness ALWAYS expires.

13 Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to the one who spoke, “**For how long** is the vision concerning the regular burnt offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of the sanctuary and host to be trampled underfoot?” 14 And he said to me, “For 2,300 evenings and mornings. Then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state.”

Daniel 8



27 And I, Daniel, was overcome and lay sick for some days.



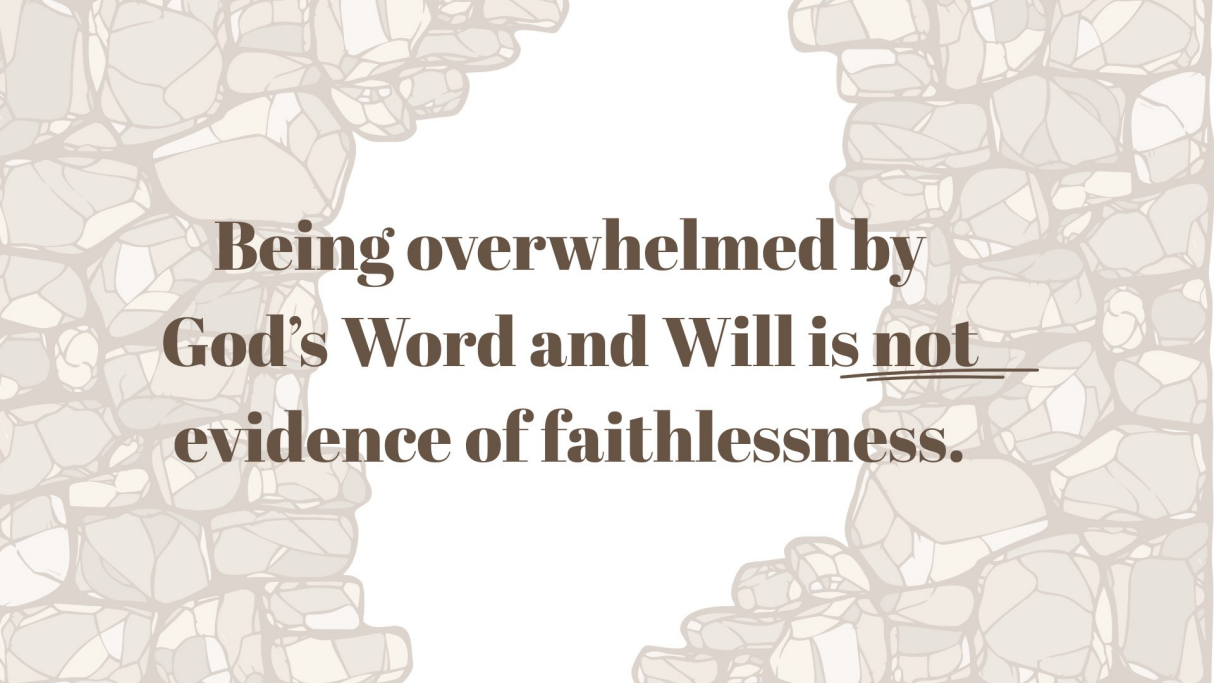
Daniel 8

27 And I, Daniel, was overcome and lay sick for some days.

Then I rose and went about the king's business, but I was appalled by the vision and did not understand it.



Daniel 8

The background of the image is a complex, abstract pattern resembling stained glass or mosaic. It consists of numerous irregular, overlapping shapes in various shades of beige, tan, and light brown, outlined in a darker brown. This pattern covers the entire frame. In the center of the image, there is a large, solid white rectangular area. Overlaid on this white area is the text in a bold, black, serif font. The text is arranged in four lines, with the word 'not' underlined in the second line.

**Being overwhelmed by
God's Word and Will is not
evidence of faithlessness.**

Daniel 4:19

“Daniel... was **dismayed** for a while, and his thoughts **alarmed** him.

Daniel 7:15

“My spirit within me was **anxious**, and the visions of my head **alarmed** me.”

Daniel 7:28

“My thoughts **greatly alarmed** me, and my **color changed...**”

Daniel 8:27

“I, Daniel, was **overcome** and lay **sick** for some **days...** I was **appalled...**”

Daniel 10:2–3

“I, Daniel, was **mourning for three weeks**. I ate no delicacies...”

Daniel 10:8–10

“**No strength** was left in me... a hand touched me and set me **trembling.**”

Daniel 10:15–17

“I turned my face toward the ground and was **mute...**”

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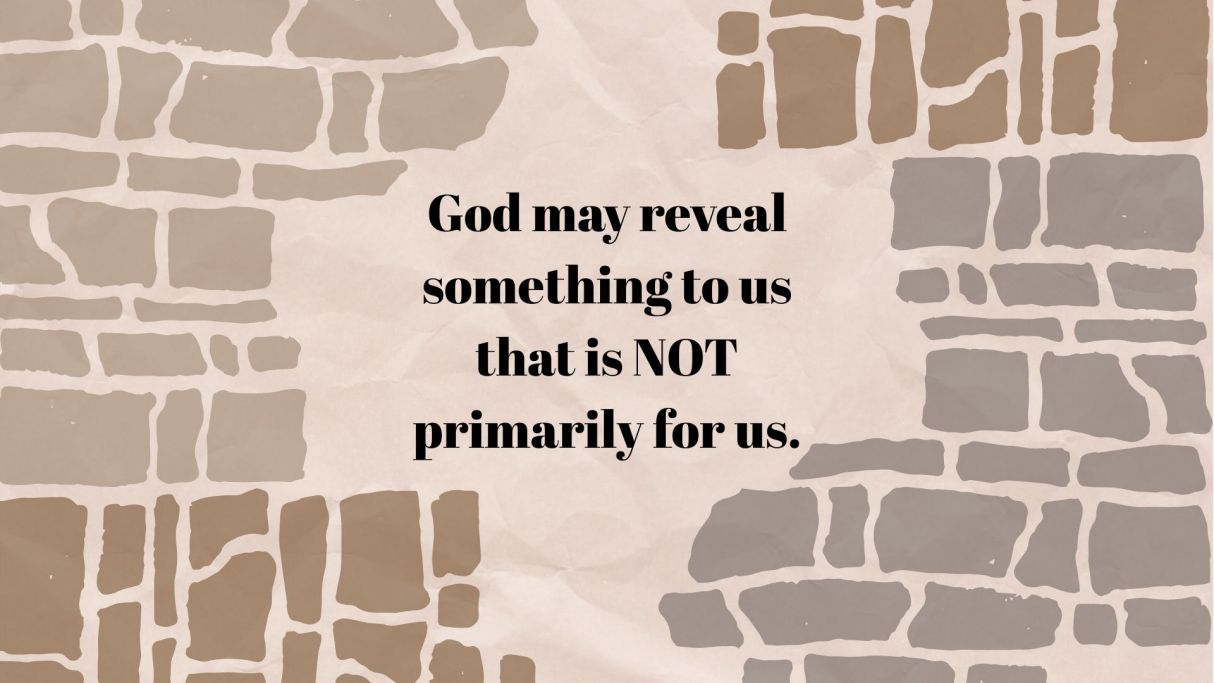
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EARTHLY RULERS RISE AND FALL

THE SON OF MAN REIGNS FOREVER

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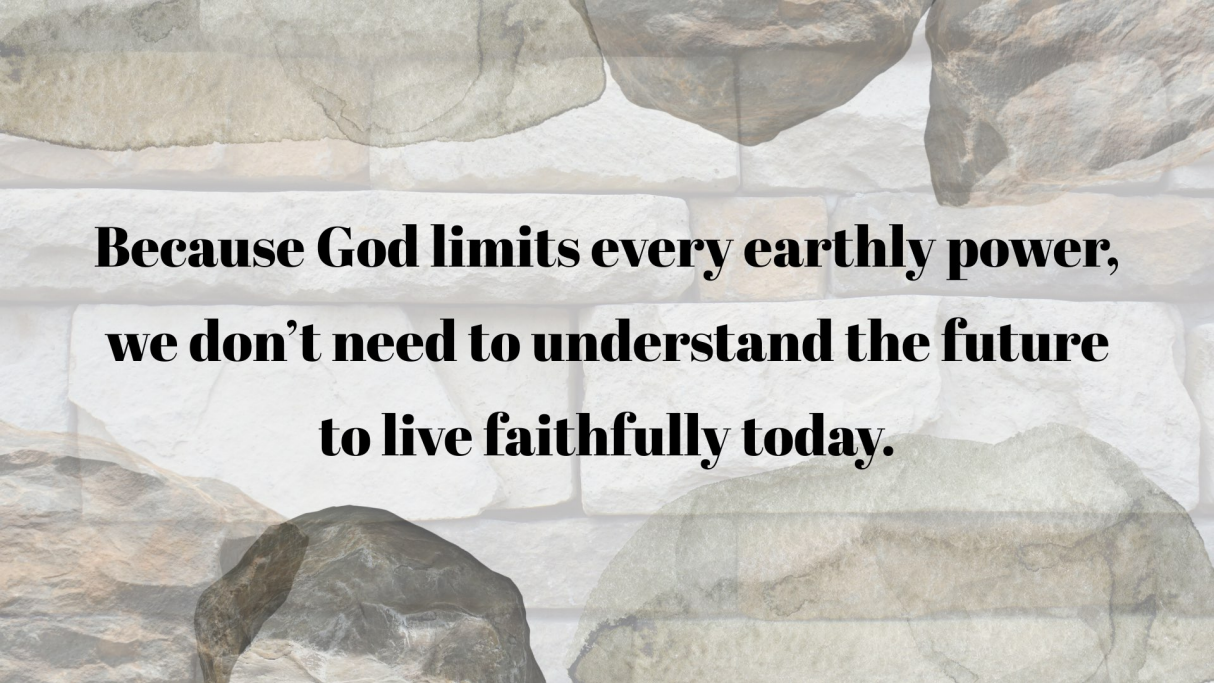
**God may reveal
something to us
that is NOT
primarily for us.**

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27 - I was appalled by the vision and **did not understand it.**

Daniel 8





**Because God limits every earthly power,
we don't need to understand the future
to live faithfully today.**

We end the service by...RESPONDING



WE SING, WE GIVE, WE PRAY, WE REFLECT.

1. EVERY KINGDOM THAT BECOMES GREAT WILL BE BROKEN (VV. 1-8).

Has success made you grateful and humble—or secure and self-important?

2. EVIL MAY PROSPER, BUT ONLY WITH BORROWED POWER FOR A LIMITED TIME (VV. 9-26).

Where has evil's apparent success caused you to question God's control?

3. GOD PROVIDES ENOUGH LIGHT TO TRUST HIM WITHOUT REVEALING EVERYTHING. (VV. 15-26).

What are you demanding to understand before you will trust God?

What has God already revealed that is sufficient for your next faithful step?

4. WHEN THE FUTURE OVERWHELMS YOU, GET UP AND GO ABOUT THE KING'S BUSINESS (V. 27).

What present responsibility are you neglecting because you are consumed with the future?