



The Ram, the Goat, and the Little Horn

Daniel Chapter 8

Some of What I've Learned

- God is present, living and active
- Nothing can thwart God's plans
- God is good and faithful
- God works through a surrendered believer
- Behind every sin is a false God
- Faithfully abiding leads to no compromise
- Jesus will establish his perfect kingdom on a future day



Daniel 8

- Back to Hebrew

Daniel 2:4

Then the Chaldeans said to the king in Aramaic...

Jeremiah 10:11

Thus shall you say to (the nations): 'The gods who did not make the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens.'



Daniel 8

- God Sovereign over the nations
- What are “gods”?

Anything we place our hope in outside of the power and love and grace of God

Jeremiah 17:5:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in man
and makes flesh his strength,
whose heart turns away from the Lord.



Daniel 8:1-4,20

The Ram (Media/Persia)

- Two years after the dream in Chapter 7
- 11 years before Darius' Invasion
- Susa is capital of the Persian Empire (setting for book of Esther)
- Medes were located to the North-East of Babylon
- Persians were to the South-East of Babylon



Daniel 8:5-8,21-22

The Goat (Greece)

- Alexander the Great (reigned 336 BC to 323 BC – 13 years)
- Lead an alliance of Greeks
- Carved out a massive empire and eradicated Persian rule
- Death in Babylon
- Division of the Macedonian Empire
- Ptolemy (Egypt)
 - Cassander (Macedon/Greece)
 - Lysimachus (Asia Minor)
 - Seleucus (Babylon)





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Daniel 8:9-14, 23-26

Little Horn

(Antiochus Epiphanes)

- Epiphanes: “God Manifest”
- Crafty and successful
- Death in Babylon



The Little Horn – Duel Fulfillment

Daniel 8:17

***Understand, O son of man, that the vision is for
the time of the end.***

Matthew 24:15-22

- Abomination of Desolation to come
- Time of great tribulation



The Great Disappointment

- Jesus returning October 22, 1844
- William Miller's study of the 2,300 days

Matthew 24:27 (ESV)

For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew 24:36 (ESV)

But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.



Daniel 8:9-14, 23-26

Little Horn

(Antiochus Epiphanes)

- Commanded the Jews accept a blend of Jewish/Greek religion
- Desecrated the temple with pig's blood
- Set up statue of Zeus in the temple (see Daniel 11:31) Abomination of Desolation



Maccabean Revolt (Faithful Mother)

- Refused compromise
- Believed in God's Sovereignty
- Believed God would resurrect them

Are you obedient to Jesus
to the point of the loss of all you love?

Are you ready?



Sectarianism

(Pharisees)

- Hellenization
- Nation of priests
- Application to everyday life
- Resurrection from the dead
- Predestination vs. Freewill



Pharisees

So caught up in not compromising that they missed the point...

How often do we get caught up in our causes and fail to have a humble ongoing reliance on Christ?

How much of what we do is about how we are perceived – not simple obedience?



They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others. Matthew 23:5-7 (ESV)



Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and
cumin, and have neglected the weightier
matters of the law: justice and mercy and
faithfulness. These you ought to have
done, without neglecting the others.

Matthew 23:23 (ESV)



But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Philippians 3:20-21 (ESV)



Children, it is the last hour, and as you
have heard that antichrist is coming, so
now many antichrists have come.
Therefore we know that it is the last hour.

1 John 2:18 (ESV)



For everyone who has been born of God
overcomes the world. And this is the
victory that has overcome the world—our
faith. Who is it that overcomes the world
except the one who believes that Jesus is
the Son of God?

1 John 5:4-5 (ESV)

