

The Book of Daniel Syllabus

Chapter 8

Dan. 8:1 ¶ *In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.*

Dan. 8:2 *And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai. (KJV)*

Though still the Babylonian time, Daniel was not in the capital city, but in Shushan, the capital of Persia.

Two Horned Ram
Medea and Persia

Dan. 8:3 *Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.*

Dan. 8:4 *I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.*

Of course, the horn that was higher and came up last was Persia. Persia was dominant. But Darius the Mede was the first ruler, followed by Cyrus the Persian.

The Swift He Goat
Alexandar the Great

Dan. 8:5 *And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.*

Dan. 8:6 *And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.*

Dan. 8:7 *And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and*

there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.

Dan. 8:8 *Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.*

Another picture of Alexandar as “a notable horn.”
He moved swiftly to conquer the Persian Empire.
Once broken (he died at 33 in Babylon) four generals divided the territory he conquered. (See chapter 7.)

Another Look at the Little Horn

Dan. 8:9 *And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.*

Dan. 8:10 *And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.*

Dan. 8:11 *Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.*

Dan. 8:12 *And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.*

verse 9: “out of one of them”

If this refers to the origin of the antichrist, it indicates an area where one of “the four notable ones,” Alexandar’s generals ruled.

Ptolemy – Egypt
Seleucas – Assyria and Babylon
Antigonas – Persia and Asia Minor
Phillip – Macedonia

Many prophecy teachers think he will come from the Seleucids. At various times, the Seleucids rule included Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Israel, etc.

When I was editing a book for Lester Sumrall, we talked about this. Since I knew that Dr. Sumrall thought the Revised Roman Empire, headed up in Europe, would be the platform off which the antichrist would rule, I asked him, “Then how could he be middle-eastern?”

In his own inimitable way, he answered, "Don't you know that men of destiny always gravitate to the center of power in their times? People may not even know that he is of middle-eastern origin."

Verse 9: "and toward the pleasant land"

The Land of Israel. The antichrist will set his sights on Jerusalem where he will seat himself in the Temple and proclaim that he is god.

See the Appendix: Seat of Satan

See the Appendix: The Antichrist in Scripture

A Conversation Overheard

The *ArtScrolls* translation from the Hebrew is a more accurate translation of the conversation Daniel overheard. None of the comments I've read unlock its meaning to me.

ArtScrolls, Daniel 8:13, 14

13 I heard a holy one speaking. And the holy one said to the anonymous one who was speaking, 'For how long, this vision concerning the daily sacrifice and the mute abomination, permitting the trampling of the holy and the host?'

14 And he said to me, 'Till nightfall, morning two thousand and three hundred, and the holy will be rectified.'

Gabriel Interprets The Vision

Dan. 8:15 ¶ *And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man.*

Dan. 8:16 *And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulaï, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision. (KJV)*

Now I'll switch to the *ArtScrolls* for the more accurate translation of verse 19.

ArtScrolls, Daniel 8:17-19

*18 As he spoke to me, I fell asleep with my face earthward; but he touched me and stood me up in my place. 19 he said, 'I am ready to inform you what will be **after the wrath**, for at the appointed time [moed] is the End.*

End of the times of the Gentiles and the arrival of The King Messiah.

"after the wrath" (See Revelation 6:17; Romans 5:9; 1 Thess 1:10; 5:9.)

Divine Revelation of History
Before It Happens

Dan. 8:20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.

Dan. 8:21 And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

Dan. 8:22 Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power. (KJV)

Media and Persia identified by name.
King of Greece identified by name.

Alexandar took the “untakeable” city of Tyre, which stood like an island within a rock fortress, unreachable.

Ezekiel 28 prophesied its fall. And illustrated the working of the double kingdom system where the evil heavenly prince called “the King of Tyre” (Lucifer) ruled down through “the prince of Tyre,” the earthly ruler.

The taking of Tyre was no little accomplishment. Tyre was located off the coast of Phoenicia, now Lebanon. The news reached Israel. Josephus, the historian, gives an amazing historical account.

Josephus. *The Antiquities of the Jews*. Book XI. page 244

4. ...when the 7 months of the siege of Tyre were over...Alexander, when he had taken Gaza, made haste to go up to Jerusalem;

...Jaddua, the high priest, when he heard that, was in an agony, and under terror, as not knowing how he should meet the Macedonians...

He therefore ordained that the people should make supplications, and...sacrifices to God, whom he sought to protect that nation, and to deliver them from the perils that were coming upon them;

whereupon God warned him in a dream, which came upon him after he had offered sacrifice that he should take courage, and adorn the city, and open the gates; that the rest should appear in white garments, but that he and the priests should meet the king in the habits proper to their order, without the dread of any ill consequences, which the providence of God would prevent.

Upon which, when he rose from his sleep, he greatly rejoiced; and declared to all the warning he had received from God. According to which dream he acted entirely, and so waited for the coming of the king.

5. And when he understood that he was not far from the city, he went out in procession with the priests, and the multitude of citizens. The procession was venerable, and the manner of it different from that of other nations. It reached to a place called Sapha... which signifies a *prospect*, for you have thence a prospect both of Jerusalem and of the temple; and when the Phoenicians and the Chaldeans that followed him, thought they should have liberty to plunder the city, and torment the high priest to death, which the king's displeasure fairly promised them, the very reverse of it happened; for Alexander, when he saw the multitude at a distance, in white garments, while the priests stood clothed with fine linen, and the high priest in purple and scarlet clothing, with his mitre on his head, having

the golden plate whereon the name of God was engraved, he approached by himself, and adored that name, and first saluted the high priest.

The Jews also did all together, with one voice, salute Alexander, and encompass him about; whereupon the kings of Syria and the rest were surprised at what Alexander had done and supposed him disordered in his mind. However, Parmenio alone went up to him, and asked him how it came to pass that, when all others adored him, he should adore the high priest of the Jews?

To whom he replied, "I did not adore him, but that God who hath honoured him with his high priesthood; for I saw this very person in a dream, in this very habit, when I was at Dios in Macedonia, who, when I was considering with myself how I might obtain the dominion of Asia, exhorted me to make no delay, but boldly to pass over the sea thither, for that he would conduct my army, and would give me the dominion over the Persians; whence it is,...remembering that vision, and the exhortation which I had in my dream, I believe that I bring this army under the divine conduct, and shall therewith conquer Darius and destroy the power of the Persians, and that all things will succeed according to what is in my own mind.

And when he had said this...and had given the high priest his right hand, the priests ran along by him, and he came into the city; and when he went into the temple, he offered sacrifice to God, according to the high priest's direction, and magnificently treated both the high priest and the priests.

And when the book of Daniel was showed him, wherein Daniel* declared that one of the Greeks would destroy the empire of the Persians, he supposed that himself was the person intended...

Josephus' own note:

*The place showed Alexander might be Dan. vii. 6; viii 3-8, 20, 21, 22; xi 3; some or all of them very plain predictions of Alexander's conquests and successors.

The Dark King

Dan. 8:23 *And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.*

Dan. 8:24 *And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.*

Dan. 8:25 *And through his policy also he shall cause craft [deceit] to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.*

(KJV)

Verse 23 "and in the latter time of their kingdom..."

This verse puzzled me. For it speaks of the latter time of the kingdom of the Greeks. Why did it say the latter time of the Greek kingdom.

I believe that the kingdom upon which the antichrist will reign is the Old Roman Empire revived. I found an answer that satisfied me in a series of *Time Life* books on the empires. The book is lost to me in several moves since then.

The book stated that the empire which most affected us, is the one of the Greeks. Rome spread throughout the world what the Greeks originated.

From the Greeks we have: Democracy. Drama. Sports. Design. Beauty of form. Architecture. Mathematics. Etc.

I found this simplistic short synopsis on line.

BBC Primary History

Where Western civilisation began Ancient Greece is called 'the birthplace of Western civilisation'. About 2500 years ago, the Greeks created a way of life that other people admired and copied. The *Romans* copied Greek art and Greek gods, for example. The Ancient Greeks tried out *democracy*, started the *Olympic Games*, and left new ideas in science, art and philosophy..

Verse 24 "his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power..."

"and the dragon gave him his power (dunamis) and his seat (throne), and great authority (exousia)" (Revelation 13:2).

Once I was in a very religious yeshiva near Hebron. The rabbi had said to me, for it was during one of the intifadas and he realized we were standing for the same thing, "We are very strange bedfellows."

At the opening he'd thus offered, I dared ask him, "Do you know there is a very evil person coming upon the scene?" I wanted to know that Israel knew not to trust The European Union.

"Yes," he replied. "Do you know who he is?" Then he told me about their ancient prophecy, which I have now located in the Talmud.

Babylonian Talmud: Tractate Sanhedrin, Folio 97b

... the Holy One, blessed be He, will set up a king over them, whose decrees shall be as cruel as Haman's, whereby Israel shall engage in repentance, and he will thus bring them back to the right path.

Dan. 8:26 And the vision of the evenings and mornings which hath been told is true: but shut thou up the vision; for it belongeth to many days to come.

Dan. 8:27 And I, Daniel, fainted, and was sick certain days; then I rose up, and did the king's business: and I wondered at the vision, but none understood it. (ASV)