

Bible Study – Daniel Chapter 8 - The Ram and the He-goat

Two years after the vision of the Four Wild Beasts, Daniel sees another vision of beasts. This time he saw himself by a river in the city of Susa. This vision included another 'Little Horn.'

It was the 4th beast and its little horn of the last vision that troubled and confused Daniel. God sends the angel Gabriel to interpret and help Daniel understand the vision. While the previous section



was written in Aramaic and mostly concerned the Gentiles, this new section of the Book of Daniel is in reference to Daniel's people, the Jews, and was written by Daniel in Hebrew.

The purpose, besides helping Daniel interpret the visions, is to show Daniel what happens to his people and their Sanctuary (temple) during the rest of the Times of the Gentiles-especially during the 'Time of the End.'

I. The Time and Place of the Vision

Daniel 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.

Daniel 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..

A. This Section of Daniel – Written In Hebrew

1. Daniel 1:1-Daniel 2:4 Written In Hebrew
 - a. Covers the fall of Jerusalem
 - b. Covers Juda's Captivity
2. Daniel 2:4 – Daniel 7:28 Written In Aramaic – Relates to Gentile Empires
3. Daniel 8:1 – Daniel 12:13 Written In Hebrew
 - a. In reference to the Jews
 - b. In reference to Jerusalem
 - c. In reference to the sanctuary – Millennial Temple
 - d. In reference to the antichrist who will desecrate the sanctuary
 - e. Purpose – Show Daniel what would happen to the Jews in latter days

B. The Time Of This Vision - The 3rd Year of Belshazzar's Reign – BC 538

1. The same year as the fall of Babylon – before Babylon's fall
2. 2 Years after the vision of the 4 wild beasts

C. The Purpose of This Vision

1. Show Daniel what empires followed Babylon
2. To further explain the little horn

D. The Place of This Vision

1. Susa or Shushan – The capitol of Elam – Later Capitol of Persia
2. By the river Ulai

II. The Vision of the Ram

Daniel 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.

Daniel 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.

A. The National Emblem of Persia Was a Ram

1. Coins have been discovered which display a "Ram's Head" on one side
2. on the other side a Ram recumbent on the other.

B. The Guardian spirit Of Persia Is A Ram

1. Has cloven feet
2. Has sharp-pointed horns

III. The Vision of the He-goat

Daniel 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.

A. The National Emblem of Macedonia or Greece Was A Goat - Is Found On Ancient Greek Coins

B. The Ancient Capital of Macedonia Was Called Aegae - Or the Goat City

1. The waters next to Greece was called the Aegean, or 'Goat Sea'
2. Alexander's son was Aegus – 'Son of a Goat'

IV. The Vision of War



Daniel 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.

Daniel 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.

A. The Great Horn Between The Eyes Of The He-Goat Is Its 1st King

1. We all know this is Alexander The Great – BC 356-323

- a. He Was the son of Philip of Macedonia
- b. Became King of Greece at 20 years old – BC 336

2. Two years later BC 334

- a. Acted in goat-like fashion
- b. Alexander leaped the Hellespont
- c. He defeated the Persian army – By the river Granicus
 - 1. He had an army of 30,000 infantry
 - 2. He had 5000 cavalry

3. The next year – BC 333 – At Issus

- a. Alexander advanced East
- b. Defeated Darius, The Persian King & 600,000 men

4. Alexander Had Minor Battles on the Persian Border 2 Years

5. The Battle of Arbel – BC 331

- a. In Syria
- b. Defeated Darius & a large army

B. Alexander Dies In Babylon At The Climax Of His Glory – BC 323

- 1. He died of high fever**
- 2. Too much alcohol**
- 3. Only 33 years old**

V. The Vision of the Four Horns

Daniel 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.

A. After Alexander's Death – Struggle to Be Successor – Lasted 20 Years

B. Four Of Alexander's Generals Split The Empire

- 1. Cassander – Greece – The Western Part
- 2. Lysimachus – Turkey – North Part
- 3. Seleucus – Syria – East Part
- 4. Ptolemy – Egypt – South Part

C. Eventually Taken Over By The Romans

- 1. Many wars between them
- 2. The last to loose identity was Egypt – BC 30

D. The Empires Did Not Succeed Each Other Without A Break

VI. Comparison of the Visions and Dreams

A. Daniel Could Correspond the Ram & He-Goat to the Bear & Leopard

B. Daniel Saw the Silver and the Brass Abdomen Were Medio-Persia & Greece

C. Daniel Saw Bear's Higher Shoulder – Corresponds To Actions Of The Ram

- 1. Correspond to the higher horn Persia**
- 2. The 3 ribs in the bear's mouth was 3 kingdoms – Eventually taken by Persia**
 - a. Lydia
 - b. Babylon c. Egypt
- 3. Corresponds to Ram that pushed**
 - a. West to Lydia
 - b. North to Babylon c. South to Egypt

VII. The Vision of the Little Horn

Daniel 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.

Daniel 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.

Daniel 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.

Daniel 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.

A. Daniel Saw 4 Leopard Heads Corresponded to 4 Horns of the He-Goat

B. The Little Horn Was A Mystery To Daniel

1. Nothing corresponded to Little Horn on the Leopard
2. No Beast in this vision to correspond to the 4th Wild Beast
 - a. It had 10 horns
 - b. Also had a little Horn

VIII. Daniel Talks With the Angel

Daniel 8:13 Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?

Daniel 8:14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

A. The Sanctuary Cleansed in 2,300 Days

1. 2300 evening-morning sacrifices
2. The abomination of desolation happens in middle of the week – Daniel 9:27
3. Would run 2 years, 10 months, and 20 days
 - a. 3 ½ years are 1260 days
 - b. 2300 days – 1260 days = 1040 days
4. This would be Ezekiel's temple – Ezekiel 41:1 – 43:7

B. Ezekiel's Millennial Temple Finished Almost 3 Years After Tribulation

IX. The Interpreter

Daniel 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.

Daniel 8:16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision.

A. Daniel Heard a Man's Voice over the River

1. Probably Out of a cloud
2. Commanded Gabriel to Interpret the vision

B. Daniel's Troubling with the Vision of the 4 Beasts Was the Little Horn

C. There Was Now another Little Horn

1. Are They The Same?
2. Are They Different
3. Was This Vision To Give More Light On The Little Horn?

X. The Key to the Time of the Vision

Daniel 8:17 So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.

Daniel 8:18 Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright.

Daniel 8:19 And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.

A. The Time Of The End

1. Did not refer to Daniel's time
2. Referred to the end time of the Times of the Gentiles

B. What Shall Be In The Last End Of The Indignation – End Of The Visions

XI. The Interpretation of the Ram and the He-Goat

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

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

Daniel 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.

A. Nebuchadnezzar's Dream Was In BC 603

1. Would Be 4 World Empires succeeding Each Other
2. Daniel not told who they were – Except gold was Babylon
3. At the end of the dream the Stone Kingdom broke the others to pieces

B. Daniel's Vision of the 4 Wild Beasts Was In BC 541

1. Given 62 years later
2. Still did not specifically tell who the successors were

C. In This Vision Two of the Empire Names Are Given

1. The Names of the Silver & Brass Given
2. Also corresponds to the bear and the leopard

D. Names Were Withheld Until the End Time of the Babylonians

1. So that Daniel could know that the Medes & Persians were next
2. Undoubtedly helped him interpret the handwriting on the wall

XII. Interpretation of the Little Horn

Daniel 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.

Daniel 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.

Daniel 8:25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft 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.

A. With No Interpretation – We Would Suppose Was a Future King of Grecia

1. Like Antiochus Epiphanies – He fits in some respects

- a. But Gabriel tells us he comes at the Latter Time of their Kingdom
- b. But Gabriel says he comes when the transgressors are come to the full

2. Tells us that there is a 1st Stage & 2nd Stage of the 4 kings after Alexander

- a. The 4 Kingdoms will be 4 of the 10 end time kingdoms
- b. All 4 are independent today

3. This latter time of the 2nd Stage is not the latter time of the 4 kingdoms

- a. They were all taken over by the Romans
- b. They were not all taken over at the same time
- c. Ptolomies & Seleucids fought for years
- d. Egypt was the last to be taken over – BC 30

B. The Little Horn does not mean Antiochus Epiphanes

1. Antiochus did not live in the latter times of the 4 kingdoms

2. He was 8th out of 26 kings that ruled over Syria

3. He died in BC 164 - 134 years before the last of the 4 kingdoms were gone

4. Antiochus could not be the horn and the little horn that sprang out of it

5. The Little Horn waxed exceedingly great - Antiochus never did

6. While it is true he desecrated the Temple

- a. But the Maccabees rebelled
- b. Restored the Temple Worship - BC 165

7. Jesus spoke of the Abomination of Desolation in Daniel – Matthew 24:15

- a. He did not refer to it as a thing of the past
- b. He did refer to something still in the future – Antiochus dead 200 years

8. Antiochus never stood up against the Prince of Princes

- a. The Prince of Princes is Christ
- b. Antiochus died 160 years before Christ was born

9. It can't be said of Antiochus that he was 'broken without hand'

- a. He died a natural death
- b. His death was at Tabae - Persia) in BC 164.

10. Verses 9-12 can't refer to Antiochus and 23-25 refer to Antichrist

- a. Verses 23-25 make up the interpretation of 9-12
- b. They must refer to the same person

11. There is a Gap between the former and latter time of the 4 kingdoms – Corresponds to the Gap between the 69th & 70th weeks of the next chapter

XIII. Progressive Revelation of the Little Horn– Each Description Adds New Information – Until the Portrait Is Complete

A. In Chapter 7

- 1. The Little Horn plucks up 3 of the ten horns**
 - 2. He has eyes like a man's eyes**
 - 3. He has a mouth speaking great things**
 - 4. The interpreter says he will subdue 3 kings**
 - a. He will speak great words against the Most High
 - b. He will wear out the saints of the Most High
 - c. He will think to change Times & Laws – 3 ½ years
- (Times, Time, & the Dividing of Time)**

B. In Chapter 8

- 1. The Little Horn Waxes Great toward the South, East, & Israel**
- 2. Waxed great even toward the Host of Heaven**
 1. Cast down some of the Host
 2. Cast down some of the stars
- 3. He magnified himself to the Prince of the Host**
- 4. He took away the daily sacrifice**
- 5. Christ's sanctuary cast down**
- 6. He cast the truth to the ground**
- 7. He practiced & prospered**
- 8. The angel Gabriel Interpreted**
 - a. King of fierce countenance will stand up
 - b. He will understand dark sentences – Reveal Secrets
 - c. He will have mighty power

- d. He won't be under his own power
- e. He will destroy wonderfully
- f. He will practice and prosper
- g. He will destroy the mighty and holy people - the Jews
- h. He will prosper in business
- i. In his heart he will magnify himself
- j. He will by peace destroy many
- k. He will stand against the Prince of Princes
- l. He will be broken without hand

C. In Chapter 11 – The Willful King

- 1. He will do according to his will**
- 2. He will exalt himself above every god**
- 3. He will speak things against God**
- 4. He will prosper until the end of the Tribulation**
- 5. He will not regard the God of his fathers**
- 6. He will not have regard for women**
- 7. He will honor the god of forces – god his fathers did not know**
 - a. With gold and silver
 - b. With precious stones
 - c. With pleasant things
- 9. He will have religious power over the most strong holds**
 - a. He will acknowledge them
 - b. He will increase in glory
 - c. He will have them to rule over many
- 10. He will divide the land for gain**

D. To Summarize – The Little Horn Will

- 1. Rise among the 10 horns of the 4th wild beast – Roman Empire**
- 2. 4 of the 10 horns will be the 4 kingdoms of Alexander's division**
 - a. Greece
 - b. Turkey
 - c. Syria – (includes Iran & Iraq)
 - d. Egypt
- 3. Out of one of these Antichrist will come**
- 4. Willful king reveals him as Syria – king of the north – Daniel 11:40**
- 5. The king of fierce countenance will reveal secrets – (dark sentences)**
- 6. He will stand up against the Prince of Princes**
- 7. He will bring his transgression to the full**
- 8. He will be broken without hand**

E. Paul's Revelation of the Antichrist Broken without Hand

II Thessalonians 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

F. John Revealed This in his scene of the Battle of Armageddon

Revelation 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Revelation 19:12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

Revelation 19:13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

Revelation 19:14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

Revelation 19:15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Revelation 19:16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

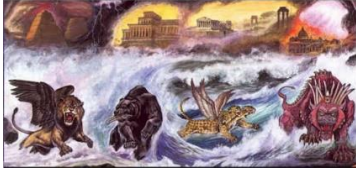


Revelation 19:17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

Revelation 19:18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

Revelation 19:19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

The Progressive Revelation Of The Little Horn Of Daniel

		
<h3 style="text-align: center;">Four Wild Beasts</h3>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Ram And The He-Goat</h3>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">The Willful King</h3>
<p>Daniel 7:17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.</p> <p>Daniel 7:18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever....</p> <p>Daniel 7:20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.</p> <p>Daniel 7:21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;</p> <p>Daniel 7:22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.</p> <p>Daniel 7:23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.</p> <p>Daniel 7:24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.</p> <p>Daniel 7:25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.</p>	<p>Daniel 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.</p> <p>Daniel 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.</p> <p>Daniel 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.</p> <p>Daniel 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.</p> <p>also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.</p> <p>Daniel 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.</p> <p>Daniel 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.</p> <p>Daniel 8:25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft 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.</p>	<p>Revelation 11:36 And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.</p> <p>Revelation 11:37 Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.</p> <p>Revelation 11:38 But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things.</p> <p>Revelation 11:39 Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.</p> <p>Revelation 11:40 And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.</p> <p>Revelation 11:41 He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.</p> <p>Revelation 11:42 He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.</p>

XIII. Shut up The Vision

Daniel 8:26 And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days.

Daniel 8:27 And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

A. Daniel Told To Shut Up the Vision

1. Its fulfillment would not be for many days
2. Its fulfillment would not be until the latter time of the 4 kingdoms

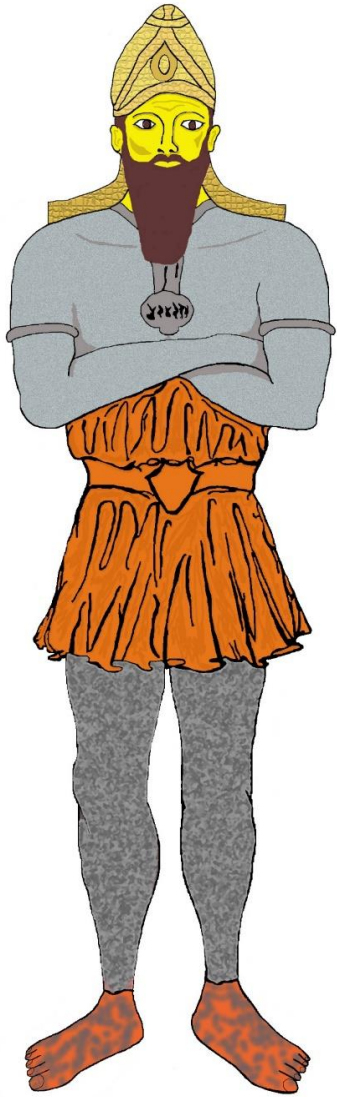
B. Then Daniel Fainted and Was Sick Certain Days

1. This new revelation about his people was too much for Daniel
2. This new revelation about his people made his heart sick.
3. None understood why he was sick – He shut up the vision

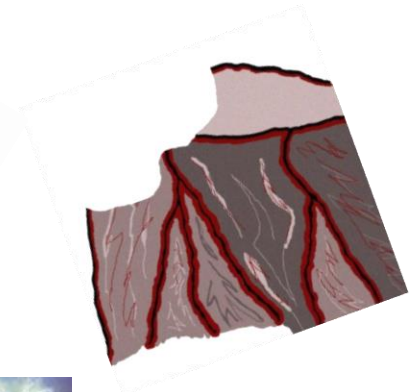
C. Daniel's Astonishment Did Not Prevent Him from the Affairs of State

"...I rose up, and did the King's business." Verse 27

Times of the Gentiles			
Nebuchadnezzar's Dream <i>Daniel 2:19-45</i>	Daniel's Vision 4 Beasts <i>Daniel 7</i>	Daniel's Vision Ram and He Goat <i>Daniel 8:1-14</i>	Fulfillment World Empires
Head of Gold <i>Daniel 2:37- 38</i>	Lion <i>Daniel 7:4</i>		Babylon
Breasts & arms of silver <i>Daniel 2:39</i>	Bear <i>Daniel 7:5</i>	Ram Daniel 8:3-4, 20	Medio-Persia
Belly & Thighs of Brass <i>Daniel 2:39</i>	Leopard Daniel 7:6	He-goat Daniel 8:5, 21	Greece
Legs of Iron <i>Daniel 2:40</i>	Diverse Beast Great, Strong w/ Iron Teeth Daniel 7:7,19		Rome
Feet of Iron & Clay <i>Daniel 2:41-43</i>		Four Horns <i>Daniel 8:9-14</i>	Greece, Turkey, Syria, Egypt (Alexander's Generals)
	10 Horns And The Little Horn Daniel 7:8,24-28		Last Empire Ten Kings Including the Antichrist
	Little Horn Daniel 7:11-12	Little Horn Daniel 8:9-14,22-25	Antiochus – Type Of Coming Antichrist
The Stone <i>Daniel 2:44-45</i>	Ancient of Days - Judgment Son of Man Receiving Kingdom Daniel 7:9,13-14	Prince of Princes <i>Daniel 8:8:25</i>	Jesus Christ Second Advent & Millennial Reign



Zechariah 1:18 - 21



Daniel 2:34-35 *Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole eart*