

# DANIEL 8: A RAM & A GOAT





As mentioned in our last study on Daniel 7, God reveals prophetic events in Scripture by repeating & enlarging as you progress throughout the prophecies. Bible prophecy tends to run in cycles as it were.

As we look briefly into Daniel 8, we will notice some similarities between the prophecies of Daniel 2 & Daniel 7, therefore, I suggest you go back over our last studies on Daniel 2 & 7, before you go onto Daniel 8.

As we read in the Book of Job, "God speaks once, yea twice, yet men perceive it not", Job 33:14.



“I lifted my eyes and saw, and there, standing beside the river, was a ram which had two horns, and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last... as I was considering, suddenly a male goat came from the west, across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes... The ram which you saw, having the two horns—they are the kings of Media and Persia. And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece.”

Daniel 8: 3,5, 20-21



Medo-Persian Empire  
Ram with two horns  
539-331 BC

The Kingdom of the Medes and the Persians, rather than being represented by the chest and arms of silver or a bear, with 3 ribs in its mouth and raised up on one side, is now seen as a Ram with 2 horns, with one higher than the next. The fact that one horn was higher than the next represents the fact that out of the 2 nations, the Persians were the dominant nation and most of the kings from this Empire came from the Persian line and not the Medes. We are told that the higher nation "came up last", which is indeed confirmed in history as the Persians did indeed rise up over time to be more powerful than the Medes.



Greek Empire  
Goat with a notable horn  
331-168 BC

The Grecian kingdom, rather than being expressed as the belly and thighs of bronze or as a leopard with 4 heads and 4 wings, is now shown to Daniel as a Goat with a great horn. This large horn is eventually broken at its height and breaks into 4 smaller horns.

See next slide.



Greek Empire  
Goat with a notable horn  
331-168 BC

“The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king. As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its power.” Daniel 8:21-22

History further confirms the validity of the Bible as we see that the first king of the Ancient Greek Empire was indeed Alexander the Great. As we also saw in our previous study on Daniel 7, his kingdom was further split amongst his 4 generals after his death but it did not possess the might that it had during Alexander’s reign.



Rome: Both Imperial & Papal

The little horn

168 BC-476 AD/ 538AD-1798 AD

"...the large horn was broken, and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven. And out of one of them came a little horn which grew exceedingly great."

As we saw in our last study on Daniel 7, after the Greek Empire fell, came the Roman Empire, the iron kingdom. It was through the Roman Empire which arose in 168 BC and fell in 476 AD, that the Roman Catholic Papal power came to rise from 538 AD to 1798 AD. Here in the prophecy we see that Rome in both its stages is represented as the "little horn".



Rome: Both Imperial & Papal  
The little horn  
168 BC-1798 AD

Why is this you may ask? Well as we saw in Daniel 7:7-8, there was no other beast (kingdom) after Rome. First there was a Lion, then a Bear, then a Leopard, then finally came the fourth beast, The Roman Empire. We see no other beasts after this but rather the horns, both the 10 horns and the little horn, were a part of the fourth beast, *a continuation of Rome as it were.*

What Scripture is showing us is that the 10 horns and the little horn were just stages of Rome after it fell. This is why in Daniel 8, the little horn, is representative of both Imperial and Papal Rome.





I encourage you Reader, to read all of **Daniel 8**, especially through the lens of **Daniel 2&7**, it is truly a remarkable chapter. As you go through the prophecies of Daniel you will realise that they all repeat themselves with each successive prophecy giving more detail than the previous one.

It is with this foundation that the prophecies of Revelation are then able to be understood for Daniel and Revelation work in harmony with each other.

*"God speaks once, yea twice, yet men perceive it not", Job 33:14.*



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