



Chapter Eight

(Daniel's vision of the RAM and the He-GOAT)



Daniel received this vision twelve years before the fall of Babylon. Since Babylon was about to be overthrown, the vision of this chapter begins with Medo-Persia. This chapter is a repeat of chapter 7 with more emphasis on the judgment scene.

Daniel 8:1-27 (NASB), ¹In 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. ²And 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 [*Iran*]; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.

v1-2, The Palace of Shushan is in the modern day city of Susa in Iran

³Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram [*Persia*] which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. ⁴I saw the ram pushing westward, and Northward, and southward; [*Babylon, Syria, Thrace and Macedonia, Libya and Egypt*] also 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.

v3-4, The "two horns" represent the two parts of the empire of the Persians, the younger of the two nations, becoming dominant over the second (Medes).

⁵And as I was considering, behold, a he goat came from the west [*Greece*] on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. ⁶And 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. ⁷And 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

v5-8, In verses 21 and 22 identify the "goat" as Greece the "notable horn between his eyes" was Alexander the Great, who came from the west and defeated the armies of Persia. Alexander died without an heir at the height of his power. His generals fought each other until there were only four left, represented by the "four horns."



hand. 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.

Note: The four notable ones were the four generals of Alexander's army. Alexander did not divide the empire among his four generals himself. His four leading generals divided it among themselves by force after his death. The four generals were:

- **General Cassander** (circa 358-297 BC), ruling over Macedonia. Most of Greece and parts of Thrace.
- **General Lysimachus** (circa 361-281 BC), ruling over Lydia, Lonia, Phrygia and other parts of present day Turkey.
- **General Seleucus** (died 281 BC became the Seleucus Empire), ruling over present day Iran, Iraq, Syria, parts of Central Asia and Israel.
- **General Ptolemy** (died 283 BC), ruling over Egypt and neighboring regions.

(These four are known as the Diadochi or 'successors')

History shows us that the modern day nation of Turkey grew up out of the Lysimachus Kingdom. It is this area of the world that we look for the rise of the Antichrist ... only time will tell.



⁹ And out of one of them came forth a little horn [Antichrist], which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. 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. 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 the sanctuary was cast down. ¹² And a host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.

¹³ Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spoke, 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? ¹⁴ And he said unto me, unto two thousand and three hundred days [3 ½ yrs.]; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

v9-10, Here we are told that out of one of the four powers that was the four generals of Alexander, there would come a little horn. Within this little horn we can see the rise of the Antichrist. v11, Daniel is telling us of the character of the Antichrist and the Abomination of Desolation

Ref. Dan.9:27. The daily sacrifice was about the temple which Antichrist defiles. Ref. Rev. 13