

Daniel 7:28 AMPC

28 Here is the end of the matter. As for me, Daniel, my [waking] thoughts troubled and alarmed me much and my cheerfulness of countenance was changed in me; but I kept the matter [of the interpreting angel's information] in my heart and mind.

Note: _____

Luke 2:19 AMPC

*19 But Mary was keeping within herself **all these things** (sayings), weighing and pondering them in her heart.*

At the Manger (Luke 2:19): Mary reflects on the angelic visitation and the shepherds' testimony. She realizes her newborn has a divine, world-altering destiny.

Luke 2:51 AMPC

51 And He went down with them and came to Nazareth and was [habitually] obedient to them; and his mother kept and closely and persistently guarded all these things in her heart.

At the Temple (Luke 2:51): Years later, after 12-year-old Jesus is found teaching in the temple courts, Mary again ponders, guards treasured up His perplexing words and keeps them in her heart.

"Treasured up" (Greek: syntereo): Means to preserve or guard. Mary is collecting these memories like a mental scrapbook, holding onto them for safe-keeping and future reflection.

"Pondered" (Greek: symbollo): Literally means to "weigh" or "throw things together". It reflects Mary trying to make sense of the profound, confusing, and weighty reality of raising the Son of God.

Note: _____

From Daniel, Mary, you and I... we are taking information, revelation, things that we are seeing, experiencing it and just like Daniel and Mary - pondering these things for the revelation.

Matthew 24:33 AMPC

33 So also when you see these signs, all taken together, coming to pass, you may know of a surety that He is near, at the very doors.

Matthew 24:33 KJV

33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.

Daniel 8:1 AMPC

8 In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me, Daniel, after the one that appeared to me at the first.

This is another vision (not the same as the vision in chapter 7). This vision deals with Media, Persia, and Greece leading up to the end times. With chapter 8, the text begins again in Hebrew. This is appropriate since the rest of the book is concerned with God's program for Israel. The vision of chapter 8 came two years after that of chapter 7.

Daniel 8:2 AMPC

2 And I saw in the vision and it seemed that I was at Shushan the palace or fortress [in Susa, the capital of Persia], which is in the province of Elam, and I saw in the vision and I was by the river of Ulai.

Shushan was a chief city of the Medo-Persian Empire. It was the capitol of the land of Elam. Shushan or Susa was a Persian royal city about two hundred miles east of Babylon where Daniel was at the time. Elam was named for the first son of Shem. The history of this empire is briefly noted (in verse 4), as it is seen conquering for the East to the West, South and North under Cyrus, as predicted also by Isaiah 150 years earlier (Isa. 45:1-7).

The longer horn, which appeared last, represents Persia. The goat (verse 5), represents Greece with its great horn Alexander, who with his army of 35,000, moved with such speed that he is pictured as not even touching the ground.

The broken horn is Alexander in his death. The 4 horns are generals who became kings over 4 sectors of the Grecian empire after Alexander. The small horn is Antiochus Epiphanes, who rose from the third empire to rule the Syrian division (in 175-164 B.C.), where a similar “little horn” clearly represents the final Antichrist later in chapter 8. The reason both are described as “little horns” is because one prefigures or foreshadows the other.

Daniel 8:3 AMPC

3 And I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold, there stood before the river a [single] ram which had two horns [representing two kings of Medo-Persia: Darius the Mede, then Cyrus]; and the two horns were high, but one [Persia] was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last.

Verse 20 of this chapter tells us the two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. It appears that Persia was the more prominent of the two. The higher horn portrays the dominance of Persia over Media (as did the raised bear in 7:5). The fact there was just one animal, shows the unity of Media, and Persia. The two horns show they were of two peoples.

Daniel 8:4 AMPC

4 I looked and saw the ram [Medo-Persia] pushing and charging westward and northward and southward; no beast could stand before him, neither could anyone rescue from his power, but he did according to his [own] will and pleasure and magnified himself.

We do know from history, there was a great conquest of nations who surrounded them. They were so powerful they had conquered even the Babylonians.

Daniel 8:5 AMPC

5 As I was considering, behold, a he-goat [the king of Greece] came from the west across the face of the whole earth without touching the ground, and the goat had a conspicuous and remarkable horn between his eyes [symbolizing Alexander the Great].

This is speaking of Greece, and the horn (symbolizing power) is speaking of Alexander the great. The fact that the goat's feet did not touch the ground symbolizes the swiftness of Alexander's conquest, as did the wings on the leopard in the previous chapter.

Daniel 8:6 AMPC

6 And he came to the ram that had the two horns which I had seen standing on the bank of the river and ran at him in the heat of his power.

This is just explaining that Alexander the great fought against the Medes and the Persians.

Daniel 8:7 AMPC

7 [In my vision] I saw him come close to the ram [Medo-Persia], and he was moved with anger against him and he [Alexander the Great] struck the ram and broke his two horns; and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but the goat threw him to the ground and trampled on him. And there was no one who could rescue the ram from his power.

This powerful ruler (Alexander the Great), fought with the Medes and Persians, and defeated them in battle. In a series of battles over the period (of 334-330 B.C.), Alexander the Great decisively destroyed Persian power and became the master of the ancient Near Eastern World.

Daniel 8:8 AMPC

8 And the he-goat [Alexander the Great] magnified himself exceedingly, and when he was [young and] strong, the [a]great horn [he] was [suddenly] broken; and instead of [him] there came up four notable horns [to whom the kingdom was divided, one] toward [each of] the four winds of the heavens.

Alexander was thought of as great. When he died, 4 of his generals took over in his place. Four notable ones (or horns), refer to the four generals who by (301 B.C.), ruled Alexander's empire (verse 22). Macedonia and most of Greece were under the rule of Cassander; Asia Minor and parts of Thrace were under the rule of Lysimachus; Syria, Israel and Mesopotamia were ruled by Seleucus; and Egypt and parts of southern Syria were under Ptolemy.

Daniel 8:9 AMPC

9 Out of littleness and small beginnings one of them came forth [Antiochus Epiphanes], a horn whose [impious presumption and pride] grew exceedingly great toward the south and toward the east and toward the ornament [the precious, blessed land of Israel].

A little horn came out of one of the four horns (the foreshadowing of what the antichrist will do - Daniel differentiates in the course of this vision). Most agree that this little horn can only refer to Antiochus IV Epiphanes, a Seleucid ruler over Syria and Israel (175-163 B.C.), and for a short time over Egypt. (In 167 B.C.), Antiochus outlawed the Jewish religion, burned Jerusalem, killed multitudes of Jews, and forbade circumcision and other Jewish observances. On December 16, 167 B.C., he offered a sow on the altar outside the temple, the ultimate sacrilege to a Jew. This began the period known as the Maccabean revolt. After three years of fighting, the Jews were able to restore temple worship (in late 164 B.C.).

This rededication of the temple is still commemorated today in the eight day Jewish holiday known as Hanukkah. Antiochus's atrocities are accurately predicted (in verses 10-14 and 23-25). The "pleasant land" was probably Palestine.

Daniel 8:10 AMPC

10 And [in my vision this horn] grew great, even against the host of heaven [God's true people, the saints], and some of the host and of the stars [priests] it cast down to the ground and trampled on them,

This picturesque language portrays Antiochus' persecution against Jewish people using the figure of stars. When defeated, the "stars" (Jewish people), will fall under the tyrant's domination.

This particular Scripture has two messages. One (many believe) to be at the time very near to when Daniel lived, and the other speaking of one revealing the End of Time or Latter Times which is used throughout the book of Daniel. Throughout the book of Daniel and in our previous chapter of study (chapter 7), his visions go to the end of time when the Stone Kingdom or when Jesus comes to rule. This time period gives us the picture of the antichrist and false prophet from the book of Revelation as well.

Daniel 8:11 AMPC

11 Yes, [this horn] magnified itself, even [matching itself] against the Prince of the host [of heaven]; and from Him the continual [burnt offering] was taken away and the place of [God's] sanctuary was cast down and profaned.

The "Prince of the host" would have been the Lord. In 70 A.D., the temple was destroyed and the sacrifice stopped. As a foreshadowing of things to come there was the desecration of the temple, Antiochus blasphemed Christ; to whom ultimately the host of Jewish people sacrifice, and to whom the sanctuary belongs.

In Daniel chapter 11 and 12 it is made clear to the reading that Daniel was speaking of the Time of the End and these events were related to show us the imagery of "things" to come.

Daniel 11:31 AMPC

31 And armed forces of his shall appear [in the holy land] and they shall pollute the sanctuary, the [spiritual] stronghold, and shall take away the continual [daily burnt offering]; and they shall set up [in the sanctuary] the abomination that astonishes and makes desolate [probably an altar to a pagan god].

Daniel 12 AMPC

1 And at that time [of the end] Michael shall arise, the great [angelic] prince who defends and has charge of your [Daniel's] people. And there shall be a time of trouble, straitness, and distress such as never was since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the Book [of God's plan for His own].

2 And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake: some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt and abhorrence.

3 And the teachers and those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness (to uprightness and right standing with God) [shall give forth light] like the stars forever and ever.

4 But you, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the Book until the time of the end. [Then] many shall run to and fro and search anxiously [through the Book], and knowledge [of God's purposes as revealed by His prophets] shall be increased and become great.

5 Then I, Daniel, looked, and behold, there stood two others, the one on the brink of the river on this side and the other on the brink of the river on that side.

6 And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?

7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right and his left hand toward the heavens and swore by Him Who lives forever that it shall be for a time, times, and a half a time [or three and one-half years]; and when they have made an end of shattering and crushing the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

8 And I heard, but I did not understand. Then I said, O my lord, what shall be the issue and final end of these things?

9 And he [the angel] said, Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed till the time of the end.

11 And from the time that the continual burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days.

13 But you [Daniel, who was now over ninety years of age], **go your way until the end; for you shall rest and shall stand [fast] in your allotted place at the end of the days.**

Daniel 12:13 GNT

13 “And you, Daniel, be faithful to the end. **Then you will die, but you will rise to receive your reward at the end of time.**”

Daniel 8:12 AMPC

12 And the host [the chosen people] was given [to the wicked horn] together with the continual burnt offering because of the transgression [of God's people—their abounding irreverence, ungodliness, and lack of piety]. And righteousness and truth were cast down to the ground, and it [the wicked horn] accomplished this [by divine permission] and prospered.

The transgressions would have made the sacrifice unacceptable to God. There was no truth prevailing. They seemed to prosper, even though they were evil.

Daniel 8:13-14 AMPC

13 Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to the one that spoke, For how long is the vision concerning the continual offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of both the sanctuary and the host [of the people] to be trampled underfoot?

14 And he said to him and to me, For 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed and restored.

Holy ones or angels.. This is referring to evenings and mornings which the period runs to about 6-1/2 years of sacrificing a lamb twice a day, morning and evening. The prophecy was precise in identifying the time as that of Antiochus' persecution (Sept 6, 171 B.C. to Dec 25th, 165/164 B.C.). It is interesting to note that Judas Maccabeus cleansed the temple on December 25th 165 B.C. After his death, Jews celebrated the cleansing of their holy place in the Feast of Lights, or Hanukkah, in celebration of the restoration led by Judas Maccabeus.

Daniel 8:15 AMPC

15 When I, even I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it; then behold, there stood before me one [Gabriel] with the appearance of a man.

Notice, this was not a man, but, head had and appearance of a man. Daniel was seeking an interpretation of this dream, or vision, from God.

Daniel 8:16 AMPC

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

The word "Ulai" is speaking of a river in Persia. The man's voice was the voice of God who spoke with a human voice to Gabriel and he is to explain the vision to Daniel.

Daniel 8:17 AMPC

*17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came, I was frightened and fell on my face. But he said to me, Understand, O son of man, **for the [fulfillment of the] vision belongs to [events that shall occur in] the time of the end.***

“Time of the end”: Gabriel is giving clarity to all that Daniel has heard, pondered, seen up to this point and is now telling him that this has to do with the Time of the End or Latter days. That “Time of the End” is the period defined by the empires in these verses, Persia (Ram), and Greece (Goat), when the Grecian sector will be divided into 4 parts (verse 8).

One of these, the Syrian under Seleucus will eventually lead to Antiochus Epiphanes (175 to 164 B.C.), as the “little horn” meant (in verse 9, which persecutes the people of Israel (verse 10), and defies God (verse 11).

Secondly, the “little horn” (in verse 9, the Antichrist in the last days at the time of the eschatological fulfillment, sees Antiochus as a pattern of the Antichrist, who in many ways will be like him, though far greater in power, and will exercise his career in the end of the age just before Christ’s return.

Gabriel is giving Daniel understanding to the vision.

Daniel 8:18 AMPC

18 Now as he [Gabriel] was speaking with me, I fell stunned and in deep unconsciousness with my face to the ground; but he touched me and set me upright [where I had stood].

Daniel was overtaken by the relation of the information.

Daniel 8:19 AMPC

19 And he said, Behold, I will make you know what will be in the latter time of the indignation [of God upon the ungodly], for it has to do with the time of the end.

The time for the end of the world has been set since the foundation of the earth. The angel said “I will make you know or understanding this”

Daniel 8:20-21 AMPC

20 The ram you saw having two horns, they are the kings of Media and Persia.

21 And the shaggy and rough he-goat is the king of Greece, and the great horn between his eyes is the first king [who consolidated the whole realm, Alexander the Great].

The angels is giving a recap just like chapter seven of Daniel. The two horns are because Media and Persia are two. The rough goat is Alexander the great of Greece who is the third world power.

Daniel 8:22 AMPC

22 And as for the horn which was shattered, in whose place four others arose, four kingdoms shall arise out of his nation but not having his [Alexander's] power.

“Broken ... four”: Alexander died at age 33 (in 323 B.C.), leaving no heir ready to reign.

So four men, after 22 years of fighting, assumed rule over 4 Grecian sectors:

- (1) Cassander, Macedonia;
- (2) Lysimachus, Thrace and Asia Minor;
- (3) Seleucus, Syria and Babylonia;
- (4) Ptolemy, Egypt and Arabia. These are the four referred to in “toward the four winds” (verse 8).

The phrase “not in his power” indicates they did not have Alexander’s power or direct family lineage.

Daniel 8:23 AMPC

23 And at the latter end of their kingdom, when the transgressors [the apostate Jews] have reached the fullness [of their wickedness, taxing the limits of God's mercy], a king of fierce countenance and understanding dark trickery and craftiness shall stand up.

This has jumped to an entirely different time element. Notice, it does not say in their later time, it says in the latter day of their kingdom. It is the kingdom's latter day. He is using things of Satan to make him understand. Dark sentences have no light of God in them. Chpter 7 says these kingdoms remained...

Daniel 8:24 AMPC

24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; and he shall corrupt and destroy astonishingly and shall prosper and do his own pleasure, and he shall corrupt and destroy the mighty men and the holy people (the people of the saints).

His strength is not his own. He is operating under the influence of Satan and he is totally opposed to God's people. God has allowed this, because of the unfaithfulness of His people.

Daniel 8:25 AMPC

25 And through his policy he shall cause trickery to prosper in his hand; he shall magnify himself in his heart and mind, and in their security he will corrupt and destroy many. He shall also stand up against the Prince of princes, but he shall be broken and that by no [human] hand.

“He shall also stand up against the Prince of princes”: The description here transcends that of Antiochus alone, and uses him as a type of the Antichrist who will oppose Christ during the Great Tribulation.

“Broken and that by no human hand”: Jesus crushes all the kingdom of this earth and His Kingdom is not made by man.

Daniel 2:34-35 AMPC

*34 As you looked, **a Stone was cut out without human hands,** which smote the image on its feet of iron and [baked] clay [of the potter] and broke them to pieces.*

*35 Then the iron, the [baked] clay [of the potter], the bronze, the silver, and the gold were broken and crushed together and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors, and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them could be found. **And the Stone that smote the image became a great mountain or rock and filled the whole earth.***

Daniel 8:26 AMPC

*26 The vision of the evenings and the mornings which has been told you is true. **But seal up the vision, for it has to do with and belongs to the [now] distant future.***

This did not mean to shut it up to secrecy but to preserve it as truth and this belongs (as of now) to the distant future where these things will be fulfilled. In upcoming chapters of Daniel, we see where God has told him to shut up the words until the time of the end.

Daniel 12:4 AMPC

4 But you, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the Book until the time of the end. [Then] many shall run to and fro and search anxiously [through the Book], and knowledge [of God's purposes as revealed by His prophets] shall be increased and become great.

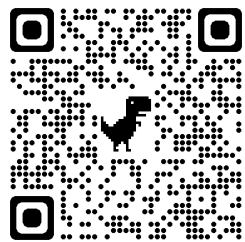
Daniel 12:9 AMPC

9 And he [the angel] said, Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed till the time of the end.

Daniel 8:27 AMPC

27 And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick [for several] days. Afterward I rose up and did the king's business; and I wondered at the vision, but there was no one who understood it or could make it understood.

The vision has caused Daniel to be sick. God did not reveal the entirety of the meaning to Daniel at that time... it was for the latter days. There are some things not intended to be understood at that present time because they couldn't be comprehended.



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