

THE VISION OF THE RAM AND THE GOAT, PART 1
(Daniel 8:1-14)

- I. The Vision at SUSAN (Dan. 8:1-2)
 - A. Occurred during the THIRD year of Belshazzar (551 B.C.)
 - 1. After vision of BEASTS in Daniel 7
 - 2. Before fall of BABYLON in Daniel 5 (539 B.C.)
 - B. Probably occurred while Daniel was in BABYLON (cf. 8:27)
 - 1. Language implies TRANSPORT to Susa via VISION
 - 2. Palace in Susa was PERSIAN, not Babylonian (Esther 1:2)

- II. The RAM with Two HORNS (Dan. 8:3-4)
 - A. Ram represents empire of MEDES and PERSIANS (cf. 8:20)
 - 1. Persians rose LATER and DOMINATED
 - 2. Combined empire lasted 200 years before falling to Alexander
 - B. Lying to the EAST, expansion was to its WEST, NORTH, and SOUTH

- III. The MALE GOAT from the WEST (Dan. 8:5-7)
 - A. Goat represents empire of GREECE (cf. 8:21)
 - B. Single HORN represents ALEXANDER, “the first king”
 - 1. SPEED implied by not TOUCHING the ground
 - 2. REVENGE implied by FURY of attack on the ram

- IV. The Large Horn BROKEN (Dan. 8:8)
 - A. Happens at HEIGHT of its POWER
 - B. Replaced by FOUR other PROMINENT horns
 - 1. Cassander ruled Macedonia and Greece
 - 2. Lysimachus ruled Thrace, Bithynia, and most of Asia Minor
 - 3. Seleucus ruled Syria and eastern lands including Babylon
 - 4. Ptolemy ruled Egypt, Palestine, and Arabia

- V. Emergence of the SMALL Horn (Dan. 8:9-10)

- A. Grows from one of the HORNS, not the GOAT itself
 - B. Becomes very STRONG toward Egypt, Medo-Persia, and Palestine
 - C. Casts down some of the “HOST” and/even the “STARS”
 - 1. Persecution and destruction of God’s PEOPLE (cf. Gen. 15:5; 22:17; Dan. 12:3)
 - 2. Defiance of ANGELIC host that PROTECTS them
- VI. The Desolation of the SANCTUARY (Dan. 8:11-14)
- A. The “SMALL HORN” that rose up still in view
 - 1. Claims DIVINE honor
 - 2. Stops daily SACRIFICES
 - 3. Flings TRUTH to the GROUND
 - B. Confirmed in history of SYRIA under Antiochus IV
 - 1. Conquered EGYPT (and other territory)
 - 2. Conquered JERUSALEM on a SABBATH
 - 3. Forbade all traditional WORSHIP
 - 4. Called himself *Theos Epiphanes*, “The Manifest GOD”
 - 5. Desecrated the TEMPLE
 - a. Erected statue of ZEUS
 - b. Offered SWINE as sacrifices
 - c. Required continued monthly sacrifices to HIMSELF
 - 6. Incited the Maccabean rebellion
 - a. Successful under Judas Maccabeus after THREE years
 - b. Victory commemorated at Festival of LIGHTS
 - C. Desecration would last 2300 DAYS
 - 1. Seventh-Day Adventists counted as YEARS, predicting Christ’s return in 1844 (“The Great DISAPPOINTMENT”)
 - 2. Others count as literal DAYS
 - a. Count from 171-164 BC?
 - 1) Ended Aaronic high-priesthood in 171 B.C.
 - 2) Established Zeus worship in 167 B.C.
 - 3) Lost to Judas Maccabeus in 164 B.C.
 - b. A two-STAGE fulfillment?
 - 1) 3-years’ desecration under Antiochus
 - 2) 3½-years’ desecration under ANTI-CHRIST