

DANIEL

LIVING AS FAITHFUL STRANGERS

Light for Your Darkest Times Daniel 8

Point One: God's _____ will eventually break into the darkest of times like light

The Ram: Medo-Persia

The vision (verse 3): "I looked up, and there before me was a ram....⁴No animal could stand against it, and none could rescue from its power. It did as it pleased and became great."

The interpretation (verse 20): "The two-horned ram that you saw represents the kings of Media and Persia."

The Goat: Greece, Under Alexander and His Four Generals

The vision (verses 5-8): "...suddenly a goat with a prominent horn between its eyes came from the west, crossing the whole earth without touching the ground. ⁶It came toward the two-horned ram I had seen standing beside the canal and charged at it in great rage....⁸The goat became very great, but at the height of its power the large horn was broken off, and in its place four prominent horns grew up toward the four winds of heaven."

The interpretation (verse 21): "The shaggy goat is the king of Greece, and the large horn between its eyes is the first king. ²²The four horns that replaced the one that was broken off represent four kingdoms that will emerge from his nation but will not have the same power."

Antiochus IV (Antiochus Epiphanes)

The vision (verses 9-12): "Out of one of [the four horns of the goat] came another horn, which started small but grew in power to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land. ¹⁰It grew until it reached the host of the heavens, and it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them. ¹¹It set itself up to be as great as the commander of the army of the Lord; it took away the daily sacrifice from the Lord, and his sanctuary was thrown down. ¹²Because of rebellion, the Lord's people and the daily sacrifice were given over to it. It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground."

The interpretation (verses 23-25): "...a fierce-looking king, a master of intrigue, will arise. ²⁴He will become very strong, but not by his own power. He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy those who are mighty, the holy people. ²⁵He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. When they feel secure, he will destroy many and take his stand against the Prince of princes."

The Light of God's Rescue

The vision (verse 13-14): "Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to him, 'How long will it take for the vision to be fulfilled—the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, the rebellion that causes desolation, the surrender of the sanctuary and the trampling underfoot of the Lord's people?' ¹⁴He said to me, 'It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be reconsecrated.'"

The interpretation (verse 25): "...he will be destroyed, but not by human power."

Point Two: Stay faithful to the _____

Verse 27, "I, Daniel, was worn out. I lay exhausted for several days..."

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Colossians 4:23-24, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters. ...It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Psalms 27:1, "The Lord is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?"

The Lord is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?