

**Sunday, February 16, 2025**

**Title: “The Powers that Be”**

**Text: Daniel 8**

**Series: *The Book of Daniel***

## **Orienting Ourselves to Daniel 7–12**

- (1) Symbolic Pictures**
- (2) Glimpses into the Future (near and far)**
- (3) Clear and Unclear (e.g. Jesus’ Parables)**
- (4) Scripture Interprets Scripture**
- (5) Down the Spiral Staircase**

## Daniel 8

### The Vision in Dream

#### **#1. In the Third Year of King Belshazzar's reign, Daniel receives another dream, a vision from God (Daniel 8:1–2):**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Year of Belshazzar's Reign
- Another Vision
- *I was in Susa the citadel, which is in the province of Elam. And I saw in the vision, and I was at the Ulai canal (8:2)*

#### **#2. A Ram with 2 Horns (Daniel 8:3–4)**

- One horn longer than the other, but grew up later (v. 3)
- The Ram did “as it pleased and became great” (v. 4)

#### **#3. A Goad with a Prominent, Central Horn (Daniel 8:5–8)**

- Prominent horn between eyes; crossing the whole earth without touching the ground (v. 5)
- Attacked and destroyed the Ram (vv. 6–7)
- Lost its “large horn” at the height of its power; and four prominent horns covered the compass in its place (v. 8)

#### **#4. Another Little Horn (Daniel 8:9–12):**

- Of the 4 horns that replaced the Goat's central horn, 1 small one became powerful and encroached “the Beautiful Land” (v. 9)
- It trampled on some of the starry host (v. 10)
- It directly opposed the LORD and His Worship (vv. 11–12)

#### **#5. Q: When? A Question of Timing (Daniel 8:13–14):**

- How long? (v. 13)
- “2,300 evenings and mornings” (v. 14)

## The Interpretation of the Vision

### **#6. The Angel Gabriel explains the vision's meaning to Daniel (Daniel 8:15–19):**

- Looked like a man (v. 15)
- Gabriel is told to give Daniel the meaning (v. 16)
- Daniel was terrified, but Gabriel told him the “later time of wrath” because the “vision concerns the appointed time of the end” (vv. 17–19)

### **#7. The Ram is “the kings of Media and Persia” (Daniel 8:20). The Goat “is the king of Greece,” the great horn is “the first king” and the four little horns are the four next Greek kings (Daniel 8:21–22)**

- Medo-Persia
- Greece (Alexander and the subsequent 4 Kingdoms)

### **#8. A King shall succeed in deceiving and destroying God's People (Daniel 8:23–26)**

- Rises from the Greek kingdom, near the end (v. 23)
- Shall destroy with great power—but not his own power (v. 24)
- Shall deceive and destroy, even rising up “against the Prince of princes” (v. 25a)
- Shall be broken “but by no human hand” (v. 25b)
- The vision is true “it refers to many days from now” (v. 26)

### **#9. Daniel is overcome by this vision beyond his understanding (Daniel 8:27):**

- “I lay sick for some days” (v. 27a)
- “I was appalled by the vision and did not understand it” (v. 27b)