

Oxford Baptist Church - April 8, 2018 - Pastor Robin W. Pifer
Daniel Series – Message 8 - "Earthly Kings and the Anti-Christ."
Scripture: Daniel 8

Two years have happened since Daniel's first vision in Chapter 7. Like the first, this vision involved animals. Unlike the first, this vision provides greater detail about one of the most famous men in history, about one of the least known men in history, and about one who will appear in the future. To Daniel, it was all future. To us its history and future but it prepares us for the future.

1. The Vision (Daniel 8:1-14)

- Put yourself in the shoes of Daniel – Future Eyes.
- Citadel of Susa – near the Ulai Canal (Iran)
- King Cyrus – (8:3-4,20 – Is 41:2; 25; 44:28-45:4)

2. The Interpretation (Daniel 8:15-26)

- Two Horned Ram – Media/Persia
- Shaggy Goat – Alexander the Great (8:5-8, 21-22)
- Four Horns – Ptolemy (Egypt, Cyrene, Cyprus, Palestine); Seleucus (Syria, Babylonia, Asia Minor); Cassander (Macedonia Greece); Lysimachus (Thrace, Asia Minor)

Daniel was unable to understand the vision, but Gabriel (Daniel 8,9 Luke 1 and 2) explained to him the rise of Alexander the Great and Antiochus Epiphanes (8:9-14) (171-165 BC. 2300 days) The Law of Double Fulfillment – Historic Person Antiochus – Future Person the Anti-Christ (8:23-27) (Isaiah 14:12-14; Daniel 7:24-25; 2Thess 2:3-4; 1John 2:18-22; Rev 13)

The Vision and the interpretation left Daniel exhausted, sick and perplexed. (Daniel 8:27) – What did he do?

3. Life Applications

- Confidence to do work King Jesus wants us to do. v.27
 - Daniel had every excuse not to move forward.
 - **Keep Moving Forward and Follow the Lord.**
- Confidence in my security in Jesus Christ – Ephesians 1
- Confidence to minister to Others.
- Confidence to follow the Commands of the N.T. – Spiritual Commands – 10%; Personal Commands – 37%; Relationship Commands -53%. One Another -59 times.
Love One Another - 13 Times – Love related to another one another – 32 times. True love is action, and the feelings come.
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Life Group Questions

- Why is it important to understand the prophesy and vision of Daniel?
- What is your reaction to Daniel Chapter 8? How is it different or similar to Daniel's response (v. 27)?
- How does the message and response of Daniel give you confidence? Take time to discuss the personal applications of the message.
- How is prophesy to impact our lives personally?
- In what ways has history repeated itself with our present earthly leaders?
- Take time to study the passages on the Anti-Christ. What are the differences between the Anti-Christ and the Lord Jesus Christ?
- Discuss the Life Applications presented in this message and how they apply to your life personally.
- What is the greatest take away from the message of Daniel 8?

