

# Daniel 8

## Study Guide

Read Daniel chapter 8 in its entirety, and then reread it answering the following questions.

Remember to incorporate the 3 C's & 5 W's

(Content, Context, Cross-reference)

Who, What, Where, When, Why)

Additionally, as you read, note where God's influence is evident.

The book of Daniel in chapter one begins in the Hebrew language chapter one. Then from chapters two-seven it is written in Aramaic. From chapter 8-12 it goes back to being written in Hebrew. Why do you think Daniel does this?

Read verses 1-2: Where and when does this vision take place?

Read verses 3-14: Describe the vision in your own words. Are there any similarities or dissimilarities to the previous visions in chapters 2 & 7?

Reread verses 13-14: Have you heard anything about this vision, and if so, what do you think it is pointing to? How long does it take? Why does God share this vision with Daniel?

Read verses 15-27: What new characters pop up, and what importance do they bring to the story? Who are the kingdoms that the ram and the goat represent? What does the vision of the time of the end potentially mean? When does the time of the shaggy goat end?

There are four horns that pop up, and a smaller one that eventually takes over. Over the years, scholars have concluded with several explanations about this passage.

1. The first scenario many scholars believe the big horn of Greece represents Alexander the great, then the four subsequent horns are the four kings that replace him, eventually Antiochus IV Epiphanies (175)
2. Antiochus IV Epiphanies believed he was a deity. He removed the scrolls from the temple and turned it into a shrine for Greek-Canaanite worship. The Jewish believers could not continue their regular worship practices such as

observing Sabbath, worship, circumcision, etc... He essentially forbid worship to Yahweh.

3. Eventually Antiochus IV Epiphanies ordered officials to set up an altar to Zeus in the Jerusalem temple in (Nov.–Dec.) 167 B.C. and offered swine on it (cf. 1 Macc 1:37, 39, 44–47, 54, 59; 1 Macc. 1:54; 2 Macc 6:2–5).
4. Judas Maccabeus rebelled and cleansed and rededicated the temple on December 14, 164 B.C. (cf. 1 Macc 4:52). This is also where the Feast of Hanukkah (“dedication”) was introduced to recognize this event.
5. Additional explanations include the Roman empire and its execution to and the destruction of the temple in AD 70. Others argue that it will be a future fulfillment when Jesus returns.
6. The Seventh Day Adventist church has traditionally taught based on the date of this vision (457AD), 2300 years later in 1844AD (based on the day/year principle) of Jesus ministry in the heavenly Sanctuary. The Millerite movement mistakenly believed that Jesus would return on October 22, 1844. This day is popularly called the Great Disappointment.

<b>Dan 2</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>Brass</b>	<b>Iron &amp; Clay</b>	<b>Iron &amp; Clay</b>	<b>Super Rock</b>
<b>Dan 7</b>	<b>Lion</b>	<b>Bear</b>	<b>Leopard</b>	<b>Monster</b>	<b>Horns</b>	<b>Ancient of Days</b>
<b>Dan 8</b>		<b>Ram</b>	<b>Goat</b>			
<b>Kingdoms</b>	<b>Babylon</b>	<b>Medo-Persia</b>	<b>Greece</b>	<b>Rome</b>	<b>Mixed</b>	<b>God’s Kingdom</b>

### **Food for thought**

1. How much can we really know about the future?
2. Will my faith come into question if I can’t predict and know every single thing about the future?
3. There are many who live with great uncertainty. What can I offer to share with them that might bring them hope?