"Prophecies Of Daniel Revealed" Part 9

Pastor Grant Williams December 9, 2015

The third vision that we are going to be dealing with in the book of Daniel (remember there are five of them) is a vision of animals.

We are going to go to chapter 8 of the book of Daniel.

Daniel 8:3-9 Amplified Bible

- 3 And I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold, there stood before the river a [single] ram which had two horns [representing two kings of Medo-Persia: Darius the Mede, then Cyrus]; and the two horns were high, but one [Persia] was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last.
- 4 I looked and saw the ram [Medo-Persia] pushing and charging westward and northward and southward; no beast could stand before him, neither could anyone rescue from his power, but he did according to his [own] will and pleasure and magnified himself.
- 5 As I was considering, behold, a he-goat [the king of Greece] came from the west across the face of the whole earth without touching the ground, and the goat had a conspicuous and remarkable horn between his eyes [symbolizing Alexander the Great].

- 6 And he came to the ram that had the two horns which I had seen standing on the bank of the river and ran at him in the heat of his power.
- 7 [In my vision] I saw him come close to the ram [Medo-Persia], and he was moved with anger against him and he [Alexander the Great] struck the ram and broke his two horns; and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but the goat threw him to the ground and trampled on him. And there was no one who could rescue the ram from his power.
- 8 And the he-goat [Alexander the Great] magnified himself exceedingly, and when he was [young and] strong, the [a]great horn [he] was [suddenly] broken; and instead of [him] there came up four notable horns [to whom the kingdom was divided, one] toward [each of] the four winds of the heavens.
- 9 Out of littleness and small beginnings one of them came forth [Antiochus Epiphanes], a horn whose [impious presumption and pride] grew exceedingly great toward the south and toward the east and toward the ornament [the precious, blessed land of Israel].

Daniel 8:3-9 King James Version

- 3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.
- 4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.

- 5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.
- 6 And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.
- 7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.
- 8 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.
- 9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

The ram in the book of Daniel represents Media-Persia Empire. That is the reason for the two horns, Media and Persia. They were two different groups that united together as one front. They had different sets of kings and governments but they did conquer Babylon.

Daniel 8:20 Amplified Bible

20 The ram you saw having two horns, they are the kings of Media and Persia.

Daniel 8:20 King James Version

20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.



Notice, he has two horns on his head, the Bible says that one of these horns, the latter, even though both were big, one was more powerful or stronger.

Daniel 8:3 Amplified Bible

3 And I lifted up my eyes and saw, and behold, there stood before the river a [single] ram which had two horns [representing two kings of Medo-Persia: Darius the Mede, then Cyrus]; and the two horns were high, but one [Persia] was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last.

Daniel 8:3 King James Version

3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.

This was because Persia was stronger than Media. The Persian Empire became the latter part of this empire, they had a stronger military. And even though the Media Kings started, this prophecy tells us that the Persian Kings come out stronger at the end.

According to scripture we also have a goat with four horns in the back and one in the front center. These horns represent authority and they represent power. This represents Alexander the Great. He (front and center) had four generals that worked with him and he was the chief of the generals. He is the big horn that is on the head of the goat representing one king who has great authority but four smaller kings or rulers working with him. This is all found in history.

Now, according to the Bible...

Daniel 8:20 Amplified Bible

20 The ram you saw having two horns, they are the kings of Media and Persia.

Daniel 8:20 King James Version

20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.

So what happens is this, the ram is at a river, and according to history, it's the Euphrates River. The Persians came into the city and they overthrew the Babylonians secretly. But what happened was the Medes and Persians who were ruling from Babylon, all of a sudden this goat comes, and that is Alexander the Great.

Daniel 8:21 Amplified Bible

21 And the shaggy and rough he-goat is the king of Greece, and the great horn between his eyes is the first king [who consolidated the whole realm, Alexander the Great].

Daniel 8:21 King James Version

21 And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

Why did God use a goat to represent *the kingdom* of Alexander the Great or the Grecian Empire? Because this area was known as Macedonia and there is a history behind it.



The first Macedonians took goats seeking a sign as to where they should build their cities and their communities. So they went to a place called Edessa in Macedonia.

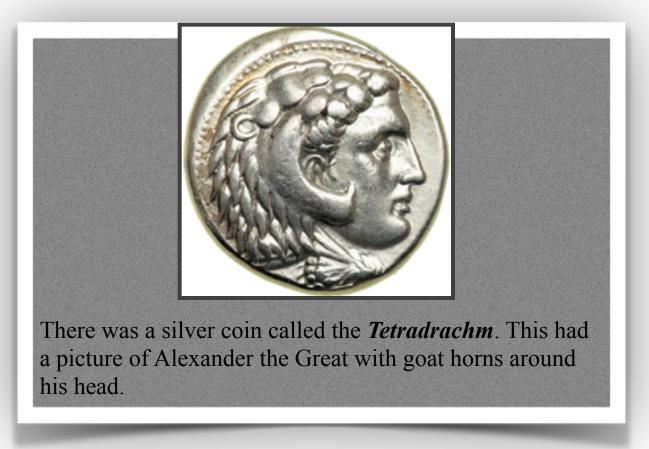
They saw the goats running, sensing a storm was coming. As they were watching where the goats were running for protection, they decided this is where they should build. So they called this place Agio which means the goat's people.

So very early in history a goat became the emblem of the Grecian Empire or the Greek people.

Once again, the horns on the goat represent Alexander the Great's empire. The big horn in the middle is him and the four horns behind it are his generals.

So, here is what happened, King Alexander met King Darius at a river and beat the Persians. There were 200,000 Persians and only 35,000 Greeks and they defeated the Medes and Persians.

Here's something very interesting. The early Greeks worshiped a god named Amun and built temples to him. He had a man's face, but also the horns of a ram. Alexander the Great who was the noted horn on the goat in Daniel's imagery in this vision/dream was called the "Son Of Amun" in Egypt and therefore considered himself a type of god.



This is so interesting how God used the emblem of a goat and the Greeks got into this idea of the goat being their symbol and the goat's symbol representing authority and leadership.

Remember, from week one and week two of this study I said that God uses symbols that the people were familiar with. One of the other things, the ram with two horns, if God used the goat with the horns to represent Alexander the Great, why did God choose rams for Media Persia?

Here's the reason. In the mountains of Persia, there are mountain rams. This animal has been around since this empire and it was a strong and ruling animal. It had great power and great authority. So God used these animal symbols that they would be familiar with and at times, these animals were part of the kingdom. The



ram represent the Media Persia Empire is an example. The goat being in Greece and goats are known all throughout the world.

Now, lets focus on the 4 horns on the back of the head of the goat and the one in front or the notable one. This is very important.

Alexander the Great after 12 years of fighting, conquered the known world. The Empire was established all the way to the edge of India, to northern Africa, to the upper Middle East etc.

After conquering the world, he (Alexander the Great) sat on a rock in Babylon and wept for there were no more worlds to conquer. He thought to rebuild Babylon. A second century Greek historian recorded the ill-fated venture. He was told by wise men (the priest of Baal) not to rebuild Babylon. Soon he became sick from drinking and he died (some think he was poisoned). He was buried on June 13th, 323 B.C. in Siwa, Egypt where he had consulted oracles of an idol god who told him he would conquer the world.

So, three empires, Babylon, Media-Persian and the Greeks all ruled from Babylon. Remember, that tree stump is Babylon in Daniel Chapter 4 and 3. Of the four empires mentioned in this book, all ruled from the same headquarters - ancient Babylon. Using the modern maps of today, that is the country of Iraq.

Another point I want to bring out that is very interesting is about the four horns that are on the backside of that goat. The notable

Cassander

He took: Greece and Macedonia Modern day: Romania, Greece and Bulgaria

Ptolemy

He took: Egypt and Northern Africa Modern day: Egypt, Libya and Northern Africa

Seleucus

He took: Assyria and Babylon Modern day: Iraq, Syria and Lebanon

Lysimachus

He took: Turkey Modern day: Turkey and Southern Russia

horn in the front, Alexander the Great dies, so what happened to

his kingdom is this:

His kingdom is divided up amongst his four generals. I wrote out the ancient land that they took over and the modern day land. I didn't include all nations, just the basic ones for a general boundary line.

What I'm about to tell you is something very important prophetically. Many people will say, well, I think that the antichrist is going to live in Washington D.C., or I think mystery Babylon is New York, or I think the United States will have the antichrist.

The Bible plainly gives you clues in this Daniel cypher of where the antichrist is coming from and I'm going to give you one of those clues.

When Alexander the Great's kingdom was divided up amongst his four generals, they divided the world or his empire into four sections. The Bible plainly tells us a clue in the Book of Daniel.

Daniel 8:9 King James Version

9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

Daniel 7:8 King James Version

8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

Out of one of the 4 divisions that Alexander the Great's generals took over comes the antichrist. He becomes great among the small people, he has a mouth that speaks great things. He defies the true God by exalting himself and saying he is the true god.

When the antichrist comes to power, and he will, he will not be coming from Canada, he won't even come from the western hemisphere. He will come from the Middle Eastern area of Alexander the Great's old empire.

So, lets go back to the stump in Daniel Chapter 4. Why is there a ring on that stump?...One of them is iron and that represents Rome and one of them is brass representing Greece. So why is it on this tree of Babylon? Because the antichrist comes out of one of the 4 divisions of the Grecian Empire (Daniel Chapter 7).

Using the 4 divisions where the generals took over and where the nations are the strongest, the antichrist either has to come out of *Egypt, Turkey, Greece and Macedonia or Syria and Iraq*.

The reason for *Egypt*, is that it used to be an empire but it is no longer an empire, it's just a country. *Turkey* was the head of the Ottoman/Turkish Empire (we studied that) which ruled from 1517 to 1917 over the Middle East and Palestine and it's power was broken, but they (Muslims) are trying to reestablish this. They wanted a caliph, they want one religion and one government.

Then you have *Greece and Macedonia*, which is part of the ancient Grecian Empire, which we are talking about right now. Then the next location would be *Syria*, *Iraq and Lebanon*, which is the headquarters of the old Babylonian Empire, the tree stump of Daniel Chapter 4.

So, could the antichrist come out of the area of the tree stump and try to grow that which was dead? We know that tree represented King Nebuchadnezzar's break down (Daniel 4:19-37). The tree was left in the earth so after 7 years King Nebuchadnezzar would come back again and he would be king.

But remember, these 2 bands on the tree stump of iron and brass are there for a reason. They are prophetically pointing back to the metallic empires to show you what will be happening. The book of Daniel is a book of prophecy.

So here's the question, which one of these empires will the antichrist come from?

1. Will he come from Egypt? This is According to Daniel Chapter 11...

Daniel 11:42-43 King James Version

- 42 He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.
- 43 But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.

Daniel 11:42-43 Amplified Bible

- 42 He shall stretch out his hand also against the [other] countries, but the land of Egypt shall not be among the escaped ones.
- 43 But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver and over all the precious things of Egypt, and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall accompany him [compelled to follow his steps].

The antichrist will take over Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia - he, the antichrist, will conquer these areas. He takes over Egypt and it says that Libya and Ethiopia are at his footsteps or follow him.

So, that is not his headquarters. If he invades it and takes it over in the middle of the Tribulation he's not living there. So we can take that and eliminate it as the place he rules from for the first 42 months of the Tribulation.

2. So, what about Turkey? Let's look at Daniel 11:40

Daniel 11:40 King James Version

40 <u>And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind</u>, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

Daniel 11:40 Amplified Bible

40 And at the time of the end the king of the South shall push at and attack him, and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots and horsemen and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries and shall overflow and pass through.

The King of the North here is not Russia, but, it is Turkey. Turkey is already (almost) at war with Syria. There is a lot of animosity with the Turks and the Kurds, Syrians and Iraqi's.

So, if Turkey pushes against him (Daniel 11:40) during a war - he doesn't come out of Turkey, they are pushing at him because he (the antichrist) is coming out of somewhere else.

3. What about Greece?

Greece is now part of the E.U., but Greece economically is not a super power. Greece has had economic problems, rioting, can't make payments to the EU or their own people etc.

This leaves only one area...it goes back to the stump. Most people don't realize just how important Daniel Chapter 4 is. So the 4th choice and only choice I see in Scripture is the stump...

4. Iraq, Syria and Lebanon

The more you get into it... it all goes back to the stump which is the area of Iraq, Syria and Lebanon which is the old Babylonian territory.

In the book of Daniel it says that the antichrist is great to the East and great to the South and great towards the pleasant land.

Daniel 8:9 King James Version

9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the <u>pleasant land</u>.

The pleasant land is Israel, the south is the northern part of Africa which we talked about which is Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia (Daniel 11). The Bible says that this is the area that the antichrist will come in and take over.

It also says he will be great to the East. Now, anytime you read a measurement in the Bible where it talks about north, south, east and west...don't think about it from where the United States is located, but in relation to where Israel is located.

So when you look at this prophecy it says that the antichrist will be great to the east which includes: Jordan, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan. All of these are definitely Islamic countries.

So keep in mind, that in the prophetic history of empires, Babylon, Media-Persia and Greece, their kings and leaders all ruled from Babylon.

Also, keep in mind that the tree stump in Daniel Chapter 4 is Babylon or the Babylonian Empire in King Nebuchadnezzar's day. It gets cut down, meaning it doesn't exist now (it's just a stump). But the stump is still in the earth and the reason you have Rome and you have Greece is because the antichrist is going to take over all the territory from the ancient Roman Empire.

When it comes to Greece, it is the four divisions that reveal where the antichrist is going to come from. So, if you just go to Daniel you will discover that the antichrist will come out of the territory that we're talking about.

Now let's look at what Daniel 2 has to say about this fourth kingdom.

Daniel 2:40 King James Version

40 And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

Daniel 7:7 King James Version

7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

This is what scholars call the non-descriptive beast, meaning it doesn't tell you what it looks like in great detail. But, John tells us in Revelation what the beast looks like. (Remember Daniel 12:4 - he was instructed to seal up the book of prophecy for a period of time.)

Revelation 13:1-2 King James Version

I And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

Now, back to Daniel.....

Daniel 7:19 King James Version

19 Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

Daniel 7:23 King James Version

23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

Now, we know that part of this fourth beast or fourth empire from the book of Daniel was the Roman Empire. It was a prophecy concerning the Roman Empire.

In 200-196 B.C. were some of Rome's first military victories. In 148 B.C. in Macedonia which we know now as the area of Greece, this area became a Roman providence at that time

The city of Corinth was taken over and destroyed by the Romans in 146 B.C. and later in 86 B.C., the city of Athens was taken over and destroyed by the Romans. That is when Rome took over all the area of Greece and not just Macedonia which was part of it.

Now, the iron of the Roman Empire. They began to expand to Britain, Spain, France, Greece and the Middle East. They took over Judea, which we now know that is part of Israel and all the coast of northern Africa. That included Morocco, Libya and Egypt and all the coast line for importing and exporting all through the Mediterranean.

We will pick this up next week as we finish our study of Daniel.