

# POWER HOUR

9/29/2024

Lesson Text:  
Daniel 8:19-26

Background Scripture:  
Daniel 8:2-14 & 12:1-4

Devotional Reading:  
Revelation 10:1-4

“DANIEL SEES FUTURE KINGDOMS”

NLT TRANSLATION

**Golden Text:** *“This vision about the 2,300 evenings and mornings is true. But none of these things will happen for a long time, so keep this vision a secret.” Daniel 8:26 NLT*

**Time:** 551 B.C.

**Place:** Babylon

## Daniel 8:19-26 NLT

**19** Then he said, “I am here to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath. What you have seen pertains to the very end of time. **20** The two-horned ram represents the kings of Media and Persia. **21** The shaggy male goat represents the king of Greece, and the large horn between his eyes represents the first king of the Greek Empire. **22** The four prominent horns that replaced the one large horn show that the Greek Empire will break into four kingdoms, but none as great as the first.

**23** “At the end of their rule, when their sin is at its height, a fierce king, a master of intrigue, will rise to power. **24** He will become very strong, but not by his own power. He will cause a shocking amount of destruction and succeed in everything he does. He will destroy powerful leaders and devastate the holy people. **25** He will be a master of deception and will become arrogant; he will destroy many without warning. He will even take on the Prince of princes in battle, but he will be broken, though not by human power.

**26** “This vision about the 2,300 evenings and mornings is true. But none of these things will happen for a long time, so keep this vision a secret.”

## POINTS TO PONDER

1. Without authoritative interpretation, visions may provide little insight (Daniel 8:19).
2. Kingdoms do not rise and fall on their own accord but are subject to God's purposes (Daniel 8:20-22).
3. We should not be surprised or alarmed at the prosperity of wicked rulers (Daniel 8:23-24).
4. Evil is given a time to strut, but it will be destroyed in due course (Daniel 8:25).
5. Even with revelation, we will not understand all that will take place in God's plan and purpose (Daniel 8:26).

## CONCLUSION

**Direct fulfillment (Daniel 8:19-22).** The book of Daniel is filled with dreams and visions about the future. Several of these visions, including Daniel's vision in chapter 8:1-12, are presented in the form of unusual animals. In his vision, Daniel saw a two-horned ram being attacked by a goat with a single horn between its eyes. Gabriel identified these animals as future kingdoms and their horns as future kings. The two-horned ram represented the kings of Media and Persia. He was attacked by the one-horned goat, whose horn represented the fourth century B.C. Greek king Alexander the Great. The vision went on to picture a time when the single horn was broken off and replaced by four other horns. While this was the future to Daniel, it is all ancient history to us today. The vision foretold the four kings who divided Alexander's empire when he died rather young and unexpectedly.

Gabriel went on to tell Daniel about a "king of fierce countenance" (Daniel 8:23) who would arise in the future. The angel described a variety of actions carried out by this king. He would be intelligent and persuasive. He would achieve great power by subduing others and by promising false security. He would subjugate the nation of Israel, but his rule would be terminated by divine judgment. This prophecy has a double fulfillment. The first fulfillment is found in history. The king described by Gabriel was Antiochus IV Epiphanes. He was a ruthless leader who ruled over the Holy Land in the middle of the second century B.C. Because of his cruel treatment of Jews, Antiochus is considered one of their worst enemies of all

time. However, the prophecy does not stop there. It will also find fulfillment in the future antichrist, who will arise in the end times to torment the world. We can be assured that all this will happen because of what has already been fulfilled.

### **QUESTION(S)**

- Should we always read the Bible literally?
- What are some characteristics of apocalyptic literature? Why is this important when studying certain biblical books?
- What kinds of connections are there between Daniel and Revelation?
- Who is the Ancient of Days?
- What is the significance of the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven?

### **ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON**

Next week's lesson is "*Daniel Intercedes for Israel*"

Lesson Text: Daniel 9:4-14

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