Daniel Chapter 8:2-27

Sources: Chuck Smith NKJV Bible

Daniel Chapter 8 9/5/2022

Now two years later After the vision of the four beasts which came up from the sea .

Daniel 7:1
'In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters. '

Daniel 8:1
'In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me—to me, Daniel—after the one that appeared to me the first time. '
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.1

This was similar type of a vision.

Daniel 8:2
'I saw in the vision, and it so happened while I was looking, that I was in Shushan, the citadel, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in the vision that I was by the River Ulai. '
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.2

Shushan or Susa:

One of Persian capital cities. It was about 200 miles northeast of Babylon.

Which has mention in:
Nehemiah 1:1
The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. It came to pass in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the citadel,
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/NEH.1.1
And also in:
Esther 1:2
in those days when King Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the citadel,
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/EST.1.2

Citadel:

A fortress, or any strongly fortified place; stronghold.

Province of Elam:
An ancient kingdom that is east of Babylonia and North of the Persian gulf.

River Ulai:
Ulai was the Hebrew name for a river near the city of Susa.

Daniel 8:3
'Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and there, standing beside the river, was a ram which had two horns, and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last. '
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.3

Two horns
Meaning the Mido-Persian Empire
Medo: 1st horn
Persian: Higher horn
The Persian empire being the higher of the two, coming up last and was more powerful than the Median empire.

Daniel 8:4
'I saw the ram pushing westward, northward, and southward,

The Ram:
being the Meno-Persian Empire.

so that no animal could withstand him; nor was there any that could deliver from his hand, but he did according to his will and became great.'
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.4

Reference Daniel 5:19
'And because of the majesty that He gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. Whomever he wished, he executed; whomever he wished, he kept alive; whomever he wished, he set up; and whomever he wished, he put down. '
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.5.19

Daniel 8:5
'And as I was considering, suddenly a male goat came from the west,

Greece

across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground;

Conquering so rapidly that the feet weren't touching the ground.

and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. '

with a notable horn, Alexander the Great.

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.5

Reference Daniel 11:3
'Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will. '

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.11.3

You can read of the conquests of Alexander the Great, and it's amazing how rapidly he was able to conquer the known world at that time.

Daniel 8:6
'Then he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing beside the river, and ran at him with furious power. '
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.6

Daniel 8:7
'And I saw him confronting the ram; he was moved with rage against him, attacked the ram, and broke his two horns. There was no power in the ram to withstand him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled him; and there was no one that could deliver the ram from his hand.'
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.7

Daniel 8:8
'Therefore the male goat grew very great; but when he became strong, the large horn was broken, and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven. '
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.8

Reference Daniel 11:4
And when he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken up and divided toward the four winds of heaven, but not among his posterity nor according to his dominion with which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be uprooted, even for others besides these.'
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.11.4

This is a graphic prophecy, fabulous, interesting prophecy.
How could Daniel know this except by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that the great horn, Alexander would be broken in his youth.
He was Thirty-two years old when he died.

And the Grecian Empire passed on to the four generals, Syria, Antiochus Epiphanes, and then of course out of Egypt, Asia Minor, and Greece.

Daniel 8:9
'And out of one of them came a little horn **[Antiochus Epiphanes]** which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious Land. '
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.9

Antiochus Epiphanes is remembered inhibitory as one of the cruelest and most deadly rulers ever to rise to power in the history of man kind.

He took over his fathers throne by murdering his own brother and then he grew in power.

“which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious Land. ”
He basically bribed and murdered his way into greatness. And gave himself the title of Antiochus Epiphanes
Epiphanes meaning:
Highly distinguished: renowned; famous
Which hints he may have had the idea he was god like.
Although the jews referred to him as crazy / mad man.

He has also been referred to as the The Bible’s Most Notoriously Forgotten Villain.

Daniel 8:10
And it grew up to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and some of the stars to the ground, and trampled them.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.10

We have heard this before in Isaiah 14:13
With The Fall of Lucifer.

Reference Isaiah 14:13
'For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north;'
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/ISA.14.13

Reference Revelation 12:4
His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/REV.12.4
This reminds me of an antichrist, not necessarily the devil of Lucifer himself.

Daniel 8:11
He even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.11

“exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host:”

Reference II Kings 19:22

‘Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? Against whom have you raised your voice, And lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/2KI.19.22

“Prince of the host”
Jehovah Himself

Reference Daniel 8:25

“Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; But he shall be broken without human means.

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.25

Reference Isaiah 37:23

'“Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? Against whom have you raised your voice, And lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.'

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/ISA.37.23

Reference Daniel 11:36

“Then the king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done.

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.11.36

“Daily sacrifices”

Reference Exodus 29:38

“Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs of the first year, day by day continually.

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/EXO.29.38

Daniel 8:12

Because of transgression, an army was given over to the horn to oppose the daily sacrifices; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered.

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.12

Here is where it starts really reflecting the antichrist.

Reference Daniel 11:31

And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.11.31

“he cast truth down to the ground”
Reference Isaiah 59:14
Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar off; For truth is fallen in the street, And equity cannot enter.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/ISA.59.14

Daniel 8:13
Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to that certain one who was speaking, “How long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifices and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled underfoot?”
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.13

Remember in Daniel 4:13
“I saw in the visions of my head while on my bed, and there was a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.4.13
And also in Daniel 4:23 we see the holy one.
“And inasmuch as the king saw a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, ‘Chop down the tree and destroy it, but leave its stump and roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze in the tender grass of the field; let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let him graze with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him’;
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.4.23

a holy one - An angel
Daniel 8:14
And he said to me, “For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.”
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.14

About the 2,300 Days
(The defilement of Israel would only last 2,300 days , until the temple was rededicated by Judas Maccabeus in 164 B.C.)
Which is still celebrated by jewish people today during the Feast of Hanukkah.

(Quote by Chuck Smith)
Now this, of course, is a prophecy concerning Antiochus Epiphanes.
It does have a dual aspect in the fulfillment. But he's talking about this profaning of the temple by Antiochus Epiphanes. When he came to Jerusalem to show his utter disregard for God and for their beliefs, he sacrificed a pig upon the holy altar there in Jerusalem.

And he sought to turn the temple into a pagan temple. This created such a feeling of incense in the Jewish zealots, that Judas Maccabaeus gathered together a group of men and against insurmountable odds came to Jerusalem and defeated the Syrian army that was there.

They wanted to re-establish the true worship, and interestingly enough, it was 2,300 days after Antiochus Epiphanes had profaned the temple, exactly as Daniel said. Twenty-three hundred days later, Judas Maccabaeus and these faithful zealots had come and they were wanting to re-institute the proper sacrifices and the temple worship again.

But it was found that they had, of course, only enough holy anointing oil to last for one day, there in the candle set.
And it took a period of about seven or eight days to prepare this oil.

And so by divine miracle the one-day supply lasted until they were able to get the new supply of oil compounded and made for the lights there in the temple, and hence the Feast of Dedication, or Hanukkah, and even to the present day the lighting of the nine candles to symbolize the miraculous preservation of the oil in the lamps during the period that they were preparing new oil for them.

Jesus was in Jerusalem for Hanukkah, in John, chapter 10.

It was, notice, in the middle of the winter.
and so the Jews will be celebrating Hanukkah at the time that we are celebrating Christmas.

The Feast of Dedication it was called. And it relates to, actually, the period of history of Judas Maccabaeus, but it is prophesied and predicted here the profaning of the temple by Antiochus Epiphanes and the resultant cleansing 2,300 days later by Judas Maccabaeus. And so the sanctuary was trodden down for the 2,300 days.

Now, there was a fellow by the name of Miller. He was a minister in the United States back in the 1800's and he took and said, 2,300 days is actually 2,300 years.

And he took the day that the temple was profaned and he added to that 2,300 years and he said Jesus is coming in the 2,300 years after the profaning of the temple and so he picked a date in 1844 that he had determined Christ was coming. And they got white robes and they went out in the hills there in Illinois and waited for Jesus to come.

After a couple of weeks, they had sold everything, sold their houses, farms, everything else, so certain the Lord would come. And, of course, when the Lord didn't come, the group that were known as the Millerites sort of disbanded.

But then a lady came along, Ellen G. White, and said, "Oh Jesus at this point cleansed the sanctuary in the heavens. He entered into the sanctuary and cleansed it in the heavens."

And so she developed the Seventh Day Adventists and they follow her writings and so forth, which it turns out aren't necessarily her writing. She was a plagiarist and has copied from other books and so forth, which some of their own scholars are discovering nowadays and exposing and getting kicked out of the Seventh Day Adventist. It's quite a stir that's going on in that particular denomination right now.

But at any rate, they took the prophecy from here in Daniel, but there is no basis whatsoever to make the 2,300 days 2,300 years. That's not good Biblical interpretation or exegesis, or whatever.
Now the Lord interprets the whole thing for Daniel.

Daniel 8:15
Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.15

Daniel 8:16
And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision."
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.16

Gabriel Interprets the Vision

Daniel 8:17
So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end."
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.17

(Quote by Chuck Smith)

Gabriel is a very interesting angel, and He's going to be a fun one to meet too.

He's the one that came to Mary and told her that she was to have a child. He came to Zacharias the priest and let him know that his wife Elizabeth would have the child, John the Baptist.

Daniel 8:18-19
'Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright.
And he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.18-19

Reference Habakkuk 2:3
For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/HAB.2.3

Reference Hebrews 10:37-38
"For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him."
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/HEB.10.37-38

Daniel 8:20-21
The ram which you saw, having the two horns— they are the kings of Media and Persia. And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece. The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.20-21
Or Alexander the Great. That is the first king during the time of its conquering. Philip, Alexander's father did not conquer or begin any kind of a world conquest. That would be the first king in its conquering efforts.

Daniel 8:22
As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its power.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.22

Reference Daniel 11:3
Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.11.3

Reference Daniel 11:4
And when he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken up and divided toward the four winds of heaven, but not among his posterity nor according to his dominion with which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be uprooted, even for others besides these.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.11.4

Daniel 8:23-24
“And in the latter time of their kingdom, When the transgressors have reached their fullness, A king shall arise, Having fierce features, Who understands sinister schemes.
His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.23-24

Reference Deuteronomy 28:50
a nation of fierce countenance, which does not respect the elderly nor show favor to the young.
'
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DEU.28.50

but not by his own power
And this, of course, is referring now to the antichrist.

His power shall be mighty
Revelation 17:13
These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/REV.17.13

He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.

Daniel 7:25
He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.7.25

We read in **Revelation 13** that this beast that rises out of the sea that Satan gives unto him his authority and his power. So this man of sin is going to arise; he's going to be tremendously powerful, but not his own power. It will be Satan's power that will be vested in him. All of the power of Satan will be given unto man, this man. "His power will be mighty, but not by his own power."
and he shall destroy awesomely, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/REV.13.1-18

Daniel 8:25
“Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; But he shall be broken without human means.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.25

He shall even rise against the Prince of princes

Reference Revelation 19:19
And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/REV.19.19

But he shall be broken without human means.

Reference Job 34:20
In a moment they die, in the middle of the night; The people are shaken and pass away; The mighty are taken away without a hand.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/JOB.34.20

We must understand that He's gonna come on with a program of peace. And be hailed, really, as the savior of the world.

The brightness of the coming of Jesus Christ with the word that goes forth out of the mouth of Christ, the antichrist will be broken and destroyed without a hand touching him.

Daniel 8:26
“And the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true; Therefore seal up the vision, For it refers to many days in the future. ”
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.26

Reference Ezekiel 12:27
“Son of man, look, the house of Israel is saying, ‘The vision that he sees is for many days from now, and he prophesies of times far off.’
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/EZK.12.27

Daniel 8:27
And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king’s business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it.
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.27

Reference Daniel 7:28
“This is the end of the account. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed; but I kept the matter in my heart.”
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.7.28

(Quote by Chuck Smith)

It was all before the fact. No one understood it, he just wrote it. And, of course, that's an interesting thing. "Man, I don't understand it. This is weird you know, but this is what it was, you know." Now we look at it, we say, "Wow, that's so clear! Man, that's interesting how he could write with such clarity things that had not happened, you know."

But that's because we're looking at it from this standpoint and we can see where it was fulfilled. Whereas Daniel, "Who, Grecia? Man, that little area of Grecia? Well, it's over there, you know. How can they ever destroy the Persian Empire?" And yet, in time it all was fulfilled.

As we get into the ninth chapter of the book of Daniel, I think that it does posses, really, the key to the understanding of all of prophecy.

If you understand the ninth chapter of the book of Daniel, the whole subject of prophecy will become very clear to you. If you're garbled on the ninth chapter of the book of prophecy, your whole prophetic picture will be garbled.

The ninth chapter is the key to the understanding of the subject of prophecy. And so we'll be spending a lot of time in the ninth chapter because I want you to get the key.