



# RESOLVED

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL



But Daniel **made up his mind**  
**[resolved in his heart]** that he  
would not defile himself with the  
king's choice food or with the wine  
which he drank; so he sought  
permission from the commander of  
the officials that he might not defile  
himself. Daniel 1:8



# Daniel 7



In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon (553 BC) Daniel saw a dream and visions in his mind as he lay on his bed; then he wrote the dream down and related the following summary of it. Daniel said, “I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds [spirits] of heaven were stirring up the great [Mediterranean] sea. And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another.” Daniel 7:1-3





**Daniel 7:4**

**1**

- Like a Lion
- With eagle's wings
- Wings plucked later
- Lifted up from earth
- Man's heart given

**Babylon**

The lion and eagle were both symbols of Babylon

Jeremiah 4:7

Jeremiah 4:13

Ezekiel 17:3



## Daniel 7:5

2

- Like a Bear
- Raised up on its side
- Had 3 ribs in its mouth
- Was told to arise and devour much flesh

## Medo-Persian

The bear is an animal of formidable strength  
1 Samuel 17:34, Amos 5:19, Hosea 13:8  
The Medo-Persian army was strong and fierce  
Isaiah 13:15–18





## Daniel 7:6

3

- Like a Leopard
- With 4 fowl's wings
- Had 4 heads
- Given dominion

**Greece**

The leopard is an animal noted for its swiftness, cunning, and agility

Habakkuk 1:8

Jeremiah 5:6

Hosea 13:7



## Daniel 7:7-8

4

- Exceedingly dreadful, terrible beast
- Iron teeth, brass nails
- Had 10 horns
- A little horn, which plucked 3 horns

**Rome**

Instead of likening it to some known animal Daniel simply called it a beast. Apparently it was a mongrel composed of parts of a lion, bear, and leopard (cf. the beast in Revelation 13:2). – Bible Knowledge Commentary





“I kept looking until thrones were set up, and the Ancient of Days took His seat; His vesture [garment] was like white snow and the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne was ablaze with flames, its wheels were a burning fire.” Daniel 7:9







“And to Him [Son of Man] was given dominion, glory and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which will not pass away; and His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed.” Daniel 7:14



“He [the beast, Antichrist] will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time [3.5 years]. But the court [of God the Father] will sit for judgment, and his dominion [the beast] will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever.” Daniel 7:25-26





“Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One [Israel]; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.” Daniel 7:27



# Daniel 8



# THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

A historical-chronological look at the book of Daniel illustrates that chapters 5-6 are flip-flopped with chapters 7-8.

602 B.C.

## Daniel 2

King Nebuchadnezzar's forgotten dream—a great statue – revealed & interpreted by Daniel.

## Daniel 3

Daniel's three friends refuse to worship the Great Image the King had built, are thrown into the fiery furnace & delivered by God.

## Daniel 4

King Nebuchadnezzar's vision of a Great Tree, Daniel gives the interpretation, & the King is given over to judgment & then delivered.

551 B.C.

## Daniel 8

Daniel has a vision of a Ram, a Goat, and a Little Horn with the interpretation.

605 B.C.

## Daniel 1

Daniel and his three friends taken captive to Babylon.

553 B.C.

## Daniel 7

Daniel is given a dream about Four Great Beasts & God's Greater and Final Kingdom.



539 B.C.

## Daniel 5

King Belshazzar's Great Feast, vision of Man's Hand writing on the wall, Daniel's interpretation & King Belshazzar is conquered that very night by Darius the Mede.

## Daniel 6

King Darius appoints Daniel as one of three commissioners over his kingdom. Daniel is "entrapped" and refuses order for worship of the King. Daniel is thrown into the Lion's Den but is delivered by God.

538 B.C.

## Daniel 9

Daniel reads Jeremiah's prophecy regarding Israel's captivity and confesses in prayer and supplication before God. Gabriel reveals to him Seventy Weeks for God's people.

536 B.C.

## Daniel 10

Daniel hears a word and has a "trembling" vision of a Great Man. A Man/Angel comes to him and comforts him, reassuring him of things regarding God's people for still future days.

## Daniel 11

The Angel conveys to Daniel the coming reigns and conflicts in regards to the Medo-Persian Empire and the Greek Empire. Then verse 36 shifts to a final self-exalting king.

FUTURE

## Daniel 12

Daniel is given a message/vision concerning the end of the world and a coming eternal kingdom for God's people.

By David Sheldon  
4truthministry.org





# Why not in chronological order?

Daniel 1:1-2:4a and chapters 8-12 are in Hebrew, and 2:4b-7:28 is in Aramaic. It may be that both chapters 7 and 8 were relocated beyond chapter 6 so as to maintain the Aramaic section undivided.

Chapters 7 and 8 both concern revelation primarily given to Daniel. By positioning this material following chapter 6, the emphasis of the first part of the book on historical narration and the second part of the book on visions is maintained without fragmentation.





In the third year of the reign of Belshazzar the king (551 BC, 2 years after the vision of chapter 7) a vision appeared to me, Daniel, subsequent to the one which appeared to me previously. I looked in the vision, and while I was looking I was in the citadel of Susa, which is in the province of Elam; and I looked in the vision and I myself was beside the Ulai Canal. Daniel 8:1-2



**Susa  
or  
Shushan**

- Ulai was the Hebrew name for a river near the Persian city of Susa / Shushan (in modern Iran).
- A century after Daniel's life the Persian king Xerxes built a magnificent palace there, which was where the events recorded in the Book of Esther took place (Esther 1:2).
- About 30 years after Esther, Nehemiah was King Artaxerxes' cupbearer in Susa's palace (Neh. 1:1).

Then I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns were long, but one was longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last. I saw the ram butting westward, northward, and southward, and no other beasts could stand before him nor was there anyone to rescue from his power, but he did as he pleased and magnified himself. Daniel 8:3-4

\*Though Persia rose later than Media (559 BC for Persia compared with centuries earlier for Media) the Persians overshadowed the Medes. So the second horn on the ram was larger than the first horn. Persia extended its empire to the west, north, and south with a vast army of more than 2 million soldiers.





While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west [Europe] over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground [great speed]; and the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes. He came up to the ram that had the two horns, which I had seen standing in front of the canal, and rushed at him in his mighty wrath.

Daniel 8:5-6

male goat from the west

ram with two horns



[americaslastdays.blogspot.com](http://americaslastdays.blogspot.com)

Daniel's vision Daniel chapter 8





# Drawing of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream

Daniel chapter 2





	Babylon (605–538 B.C.)	Medo-Persia (538–331 B.C.)	Greece (331–146 B.C.)	Rome (146 B.C.–A.D. 476)
Daniel 2:31–45 Dream image (603 B.C.)	Head of gold (2:32, 37–38)	Breast, arms of silver (2:32, 39)	Belly, thighs of brass (2:32, 39)	Legs of iron Feet of iron and clay (2:33, 40–41)
Daniel 7 First Vision:Four Beasts (553 B.C.)	Lion (7:4)	Bear (7:5)	Leopard (7:6)	Strong Beast (7:7, 11, 19, 23)
Daniel 8 Second vision:Ram and goat (551 B.C.)		Ram (8:3–4, 20)  <b>ram with two horns</b>	Goat with one horn (8:5–8, 21) Four horns (8:8, 22) Little Horn (8:9–14)	



I saw him come beside the ram, and he was enraged at him; and he struck the ram and shattered his two horns, and the ram had no strength to withstand him. So he hurled him to the ground and trampled on him, and there was none to rescue the ram from his power. Then the male goat magnified himself exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty [elevated to power], the large horn was broken [leader killed]; and in its place there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven [in all directions]. Daniel 8:7-8



Out of one of them came forth a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Beautiful Land [Israel]. It grew up to the host of heaven [people of Israel] and caused some of the host and some of the stars [Jewish leaders] to fall to the earth, and it trampled them down. Daniel 8:9-10





It even magnified itself to be equal with the Commander of the host [God the Father]; and it removed the regular sacrifice [religious practices of the Jews] from Him, and the place of His sanctuary was thrown down. And on account of transgression the host will be given over to the horn along with the regular sacrifice; and it will fling truth [God's Word] to the ground and perform its will and prosper.

Daniel 8:11-12



Then I heard a holy one [angel] speaking, and another holy one [angel] said to that particular one who was speaking, “How long will the vision about the regular sacrifice apply, while the transgression causes horror, so as to allow both the holy place and the host to be trampled?” He said to me, “For 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the holy place [sanctuary, temple] will be properly restored.”

Daniel 8:13-14



## Remember what Daniel was told in 8:14?

He said to me, “For 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the holy place [sanctuary, temple] will be properly restored.” Daniel 8:14

With two sacrifices made daily, the 2,300 offerings would cover 1,150 days or three years (of 360 days each) plus 70 days. This is the time from Antiochus’ desecration of the temple (December 16, 167 BC) to the refurbishing and restoring of the temple by Judas Maccabeus in late 164 BC and on into 163 BC when all the Jewish sacrifices were fully restored and religious independence gained for Judah (Hanukkah story).

Source: Bible Knowledge Commentary





When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it; and behold, standing before me was one who looked like a man. And I heard the voice of a man between the banks of Ulai [river] , and he called out and said, “Gabriel, give this man an understanding of the vision.”

Daniel 8:15-16



The emphasis on Daniel understanding this vision is noteworthy. This illumination is not only a matter of foreknowledge of the events of history but also of insight into the nature and working of evil in its destruction of life, its opposition to godliness (8:24; with a focus on destroying the worship of the people of God), its falsehood and its pride (8:25).

- New Bible Commentary



# Angel Gabriel

- Zacharias said to the angel, “How will I know this for certain? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years.” The angel answered and said to him, “I am **Gabriel**, who stands in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.” Luke 1:18-19 (about the upcoming birth of John the Baptizer)
- Now in the sixth month the angel **Gabriel** was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. Luke 1:26-27
- Daniel = God is my judge      Gabriel = God is my strong man





So he [Gabriel] came near to where I was standing, and when he came I was frightened and fell on my face; but he said to me, “Son of man [not the Messiah], understand that the vision pertains to the time of the end.” Now while he was talking with me, I sank into a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me and made me stand upright. He said, “Behold, I am going to let you know what will occur at the final period of the indignation, for it pertains to the appointed time of the end.” Daniel 8:17-19



Angel Gabriel said to Daniel, “The ram which you saw with the two horns represents the kings of Media and Persia. The shaggy goat [from the west] represents the kingdom of Greece, and the large horn that is between his eyes is the first king. The broken horn and the four horns that arose in its place represent four kingdoms which will arise from his nation, although not with his power.” Daniel 8:20-22



# Who do these animals represent?

Alexander the Great (the prominent horn, Daniel 8:5) came from the west with a small but fast army. He was enraged (8:6) at the Persians for having defeated the Greeks at the Battle of Marathon (490 BC) and the Battle of Salamis (481 BC), Greek cities near Athens. He quickly conquered Asia Minor, Syria, Egypt, and Mesopotamia in a few years, beginning in 336 BC. The Persians were helpless to resist him (8:7). Alexander died of malaria and complications from alcoholism in June 323 BC at the age of 32 in Babylon. At the height of his power he was cut off (8:8).



**Greek Empire under Alexander the Great ("first king" in Daniel 8:21)**

**336-323BC**



Alexander the Great became a world conqueror between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-six, overwhelming the Persian forces in a series of decisive battles between 334 and 331 BC.



Alexander the Great took the throne in 336 BC. After his death in 323 BC, his generals took territories:

- **Ptolemy** was given Egypt and parts of Asia Minor.
- **Cassander** was given the territory of Macedonia and Greece.
- **Lysimachus** was given Thrace and parts of Asia Minor.
- **Seleucus** was given Syria, Israel, and Mesopotamia.

Phrase “four winds of heaven” in Daniel 8:8 refers to the four directions... Cassander to the west, Lysimachus to the north, Seleucus to the east, and Ptolemy to the south.

Sources: Bible Knowledge Commentary, Teacher's Commentary





“In the latter period of their rule, when the transgressors have run their course, a king will arise, insolent and skilled in intrigue. His power will be mighty, but not by his own power, and he will destroy to an extraordinary degree and prosper and perform his will; he will destroy mighty men and the holy people.”  
Daniel 8:23-24





“And through his shrewdness he will cause deceit to succeed by his influence; and he will magnify himself in his heart, and he will destroy many while they are at ease. He will even oppose the Prince of princes [Messiah Jesus], but he will be broken without human agency. The vision of the evenings and mornings which has been told is true; but keep the vision secret [preserve it] , for it pertains to many days in the future.”

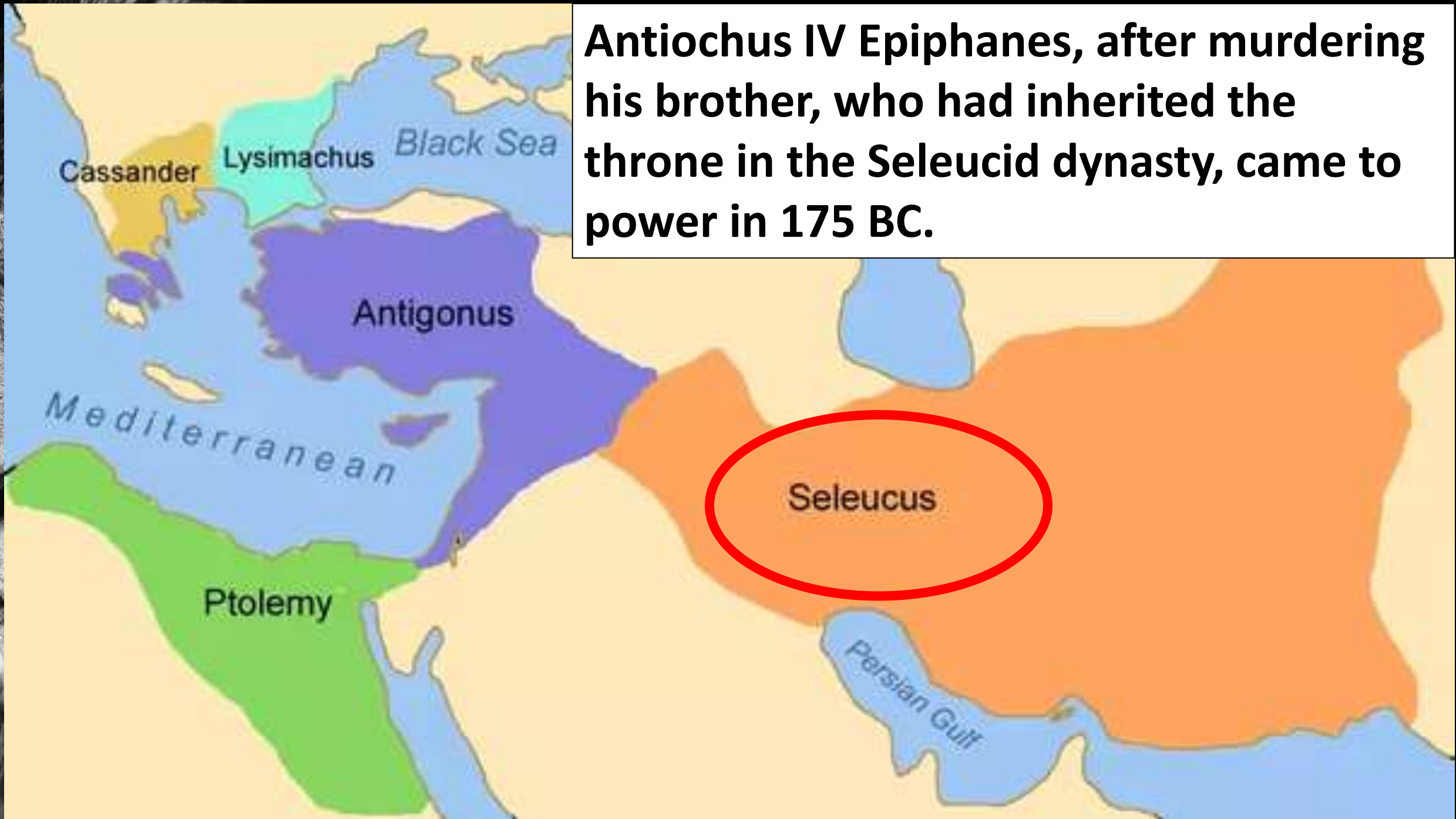
Daniel 8:25-26



**Near-term  
fulfillment of  
prophecy**

**Antiochus IV  
Epiphanes**

**Antiochus IV Epiphanes, after murdering his brother, who had inherited the throne in the Seleucid dynasty, came to power in 175 BC.**





In 170 BC Ptolemy VI of Egypt sought to recover territory then ruled over by Antiochus. Antiochus invaded Egypt and defeated Ptolemy VI and proclaimed himself king in Egypt. This was his growth “in power to the south” (v. 9). On his return from this conquest, trouble broke out in Jerusalem so he decided to subdue Jerusalem (“the Beautiful Land,” v. 9). The people were subjugated, the temple desecrated, and the temple treasury plundered. Antiochus returned to Egypt in 168 BC but was forced by Rome to evacuate Egypt. On his return he determined to make the land of Israel a buffer state between himself and Egypt. He attacked and burned Jerusalem, killing multitudes (v. 10). The Jews were forbidden to follow the Mosaic Law in observing the Sabbath, their annual feasts, traditional sacrifices, and circumcision of children (v. 11). Altars to idols were set up in Jerusalem and on December 16, 167 BC the Jews were ordered to offer unclean sacrifices and to eat swine’s flesh or be penalized by death. He died insane in Persia in 163 BC (v. 25).



## Daniel 8:23-25 gives hints about the coming antichrist

From the life of Antiochus, certain facts can be learned about the forthcoming desecrator:

1. He will achieve great power by subduing others (v. 24).
2. He will rise to power by promising false security (v. 25).
3. He will be intelligent and persuasive (v. 23).
4. He will be controlled by another (v. 24), that is, Satan.
5. He will be an adversary of Israel and subjugate Israel to his authority (v. 24-25).
6. He will rise up in opposition to the Prince of princes, the Lord Jesus Christ (v. 25).
7. His rule will be terminated by divine judgment (v. 25).



# The Antichrist will be empowered by Satan

- “He will become very strong, but not by his own power.”  
Daniel 8:24
- “This evil man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles. He will use every kind of wicked deception to fool those who are on their way to destruction because they refuse to believe the truth that would save them.” 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10
- “And the dragon gave him his own power and throne and great authority.” Revelation 13:2
- Following the Devil’s banishment from heaven (Revelation 12:9), he will indwell the Antichrist, making this man of lawlessness the literal embodiment of Satan.





# Biblical titles for antichrist

- Antichrist – 1 John 2:18
- The Little Horn – Daniel 7:8
- The Fierce King – Daniel 8:23
- A Master of Intrigue – Daniel 8:23
- The Prince Who is to Come – Daniel 9:26
- The Worthless Shepherd – Zechariah 11:17
- The Man of Lawlessness – 2 Thessalonians 2:3
- The One Who Brings Destruction – 2 Thessalonians 2:3
- The Beast – Revelation 13:11



Then I, Daniel, was exhausted and sick for days. Then I got up again and carried on the king's business; but I was astounded at the vision, and there was none to explain it. Daniel 8:27

\*When you resolve to serve God in the PRESENT, He will begin to show you His plans for the FUTURE

\*Sometimes serving God will cause struggle or exhaustion and people who are RESOLVED will get up again and carry on the king's business



## Lessons from Daniel 8

1. Our omniscient God knows the past, present, and future. Biblical prophecy should be studied and can be trusted.
2. God is sovereign over all of His creation all of the time.
3. There are forces of evil that seek to destroy God's plan and God's people.
4. We may be called to believe difficult truths or live difficult truths.
5. No one should allow themselves to be lulled into a false sense of security.
6. God will ultimately destroy all opposition to Himself.
7. The ultimate significance of empires and their rulers is determined by their treatment of the people of God.
8. We can be confident that God's power is victorious over all evil and His will always prevails.