



THE BOOK OF  
**DANIEL**

# ***THE RAM, GOAT, AND LITTLE HORN***

## ***DANIEL 8:1-14***

The chronological order of the chapters of the book of Daniel is 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 5, 9, 6, 10, 11, and 12. **Chapters 5 & 6** were future, and **7 & 8** are a flashback, so . . .

- The time of the vision in this chapter was the third year of the reign of Belshazzar, **551 B.C.**—*twelve years before the fall of Babylon.*
- Daniel was about seventy years old that year.
- *In 539 B.C., Daniel could interpret the handwriting on the wall because he already knew the future course of the world empires.*

This chapter begins with the complete switch from Aramaic back to Hebrew.

- Indicating that Israel is back in the prophetic picture now.

***Israel is the primary intended audience for the last five chapters of this book.***

# ***DANIEL THE TIME TRAVELER***

Daniel is projected a couple hundred years into the future and to a different location, somewhat like the prophet Ezekiel and the apostle John.

## ***THE VISION OF THE RAM v. 1-4***

- “I, Daniel, had a vision after that one that had already appeared to me” indicates that the previously recorded visions of the four beasts (**Chapter 7**) were recorded before this vision in **Chapter 8**.

The prophet Ezekiel had a similar experience in which he was transported in a vision to Jerusalem. **Ezekiel 8-10**

- The ram symbolizes the Medo-Persian alliance under ***Cyrus the Great***.
- The smaller horned ram is Media, the longer and later horn is Persia.

The Greek historian Herodotus—the father of Western history—gives us the history of this time, *Histories, Book I, 113-130*.

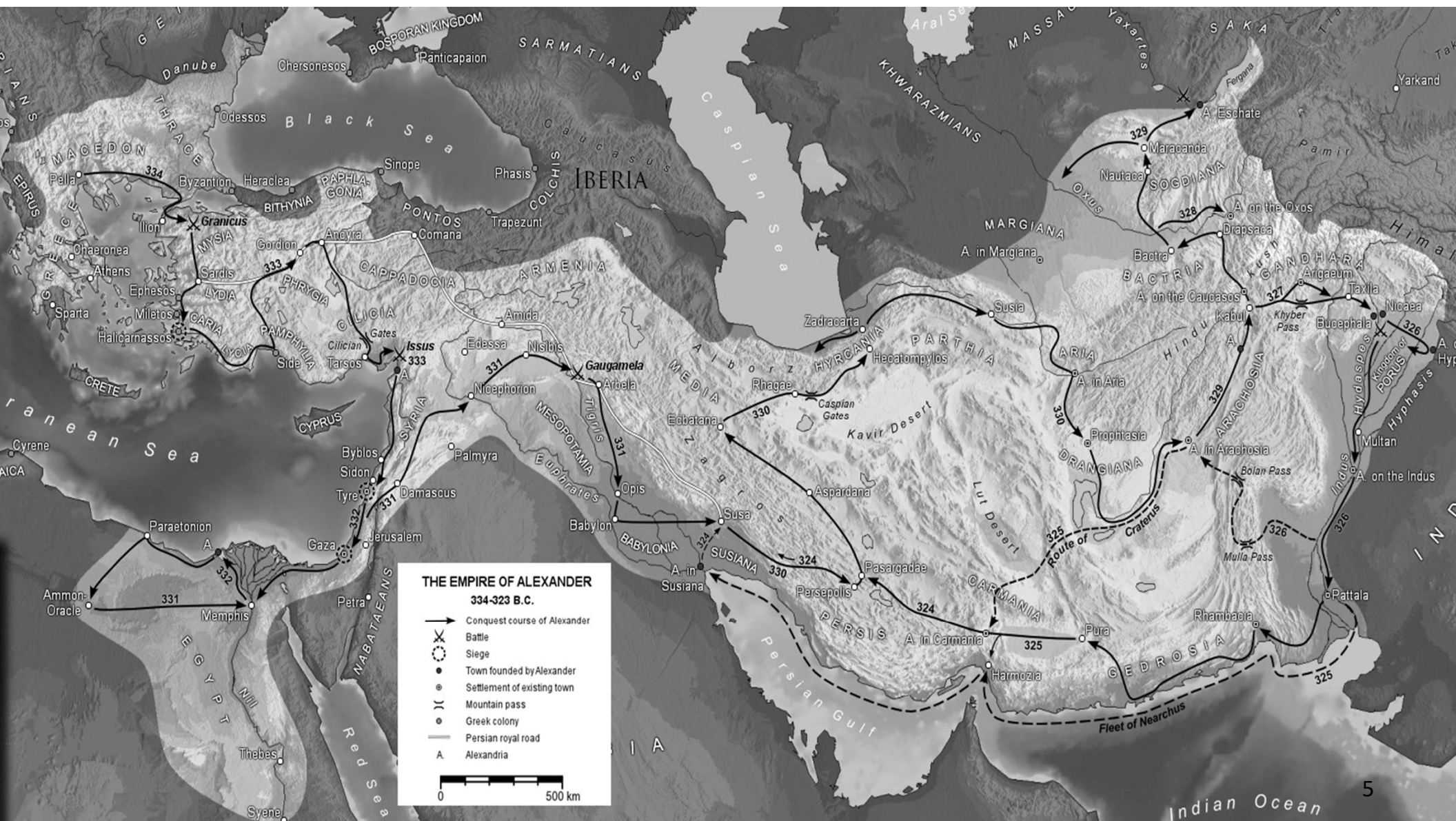
## ***THE VISION OF THE GOAT v. 5-8***

Another conqueror would be given the title “*the Great*,” which Cyrus had previously held.

- This conqueror was depicted by a prominent horn between the eyes of a male goat.

***The goat is Greece and this horn is Alexander the Great.***

- The national emblem of Macedonia/Greece was a “goat,” and the goat is found on many of their coins in antiquity.
- Its ancient capital was called ***Aegae***, or the “Goat City,” while the adjacent waters were called the ***Aegean*** or “Goat Sea.”
- Hence, the son of Alexander the Great by Roxana was called Aegus, the **“Son of a Goat.”** Nice name!



## ***SOME PROPHETIC PRECISION***

At the height of Alexander the Great's power in 323 B.C., the goat's (Greece) prominent horn (Alexander) was broken off; at age 33, the world conqueror died at Babylon.

***“Four prominent horns grew up towards the four winds of heaven.” Dan. 8:8***

Back in **7:1-8**, the four heads of the third beast—Alexander's four generals—divided the empire into four parts:

- Lysimachus ruled Thrace and Bithynia
- Cassander ruled Macedonia and Greece
- Seleucus ruled Syria, Babylonia, and eastward to India
- Ptolemy, ruled Egypt, Palestine, and Arabia Petraea

***Some wonderful historical confirmation:*** Antigonus II Gonatus was a fifth general who was defeated and shoved out—he never took control!

## ***WHICH LITTLE HORN IS THIS? v. 9-12***

This “*little horn*” of the goat is not to be confused with the “*little horn*” of the fourth beast in the last chapter—**7:8**.

- The little horn of the goat rises out of the Greek Empire, while the other little horn rises from the Revived Roman Empire.
- Horn 2: Out of one of Alexander’s generals—Seleucus—came another horn, Antiochus IV Epiphanes.
- Antiochus was a tyrant, a ruthless dictator who suppressed the biblical faith and the worship of the one true God during the time of the Maccabees.
- He expelled Israel’s godly high priest Onias III from his office at the beginning of his reign in 175 B.C., and he assassinated him in 171 B.C.

***Antiochus is certainly a type of the Antichrist, but not the Antichrist.***

# The Little Horns of Daniel 7 and 8

Antichrist is the final enemy of Israel and the Church  
(Daniel 11:36-45)



**Comes 4th Empire**

4th Empire began with Rome



**Eleventh Horn**

Roots up three horns



**Persecutes God's People**

Power to Persecute for 42 months, or 3½ years

Little Horn of Daniel Chapter Seven

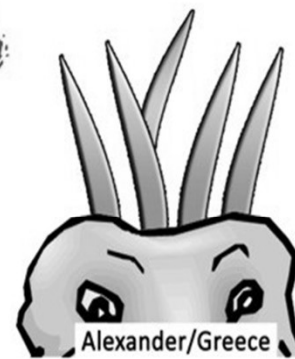
**THE ANTICHRIST**

Antiochus Epiphanes is a TYPE of Antichrist  
(Daniel 11:1-35)



**Comes from Greece**

Greece is the 3rd Kingdom



**Fifth Horn**

Coming out of one of four horns of Alexander's Kingdom



**Persecutes God's People**

Power to Persecute for 2,300 days or 6 years

Little Horn of Daniel Chapter Eight

**ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES**

Similar Attitudes and Actions though Two Different People



## ***TRAMPLING THE SANCTUARY v. 13-14***

How do we know this was not the abomination of desolation Jesus referred to as being spoken of by Daniel the prophet? **Matt. 24:15-17**

- Since “*evenings and mornings*” are associated with the daily sacrifices at the Temple, this number is an actual 2,300 solar days.
- According to **1 Maccabees 4:52-59** and Wentzel’s “A Chronology of Biblical Christianity,” the Holy Place was properly restored on Kislev, December 25, 165 B.C. On this date, the first Hanukkah was celebrated.
- Working backwards, 2,300 days from this restoration date, we arrive at September 6, 171 B.C. Around this time, Onias III was assassinated by Antiochus.
- In mid-September 171 B.C., Lysimachus, brother of the corrupt High Priest Menelaus, desecrated the Temple by stealing its sacred vessels (**2 Maccabees 4:31-59**). **Amazing history lesson . . . all told in advance!**