

**DANIEL CHAPTER 8:1-27****1. Historical Background**—v. 1-2

- Third year of Belshazzar—551 B.C. (therefore before ch. 6)
- Hebrew begins here again
- Shushan the Palace in Elam
  - later capital of Persian Empire cf. Esther 1:2
  - river Ulai—probably a canal

**2. Details of the Vision**—v. 3-14

- v. 3—Ram with 2 horns—Medo-Persia
  - one horn higher-Persian ascendancy
  - pushed West, North, South
- v. 5—a Male Goat
  - from the West
  - notable horn—Alexander the Great
  - v. 7—came against Medo-Persia
    - Granicus R. 334 BC-May
    - Issus-333 BC-Nov.
    - Gaugemela—331 BC-near Ninevah—the power of Persia was broken
- v. 8—Great Horn broken—Alexander died in 323 BC, age 30
- Four notable ones
  - Ptolemy—Egypt
  - Seleucis—Syria
  - Lysimachus—Thrace; Asia Minor
  - Cassander—Macedonia

**3. Emergence of the Little Horn**—v. 9-10

- Out of one of four horns—exceeding great
  - South-east and “pleasant” land (Israel) from Syria
  - Antiochus Epiphanes—8<sup>th</sup> king of Syrian dynasty; 175-164 BC
  - Israel: battleground between Syria and Egypt
    - the setting of Antiochus’ blasphemous acts vs. God
- v. 10—refers to Jewish leaders and people (stars); persecution
- v. 11-12—Magnificent himself vs. God
  - claimed divine honour “Epiphanes”
  - desolation of sanctuary
  - took away sacrifices
  - ordered sacrifices of swine and unclean animals
- v. 14—How Long?—2300 days
  - 171 BC—legitimate high priest murdered
  - 164 BC—death Antiochus Epiphanes

} 2300 days

4. **Interpretation**—v. 15-27

- v. 16—Son of God commands Gabriel
- v. 17—Time of End
- v. 19—Time of Indignation

Probably end of God's chastening of Israel. Why?

- v. 23-26—Antichrist or Antiochus Epiphanes: a type of the Antichrist
  - did "destroy" temple: repaired
  - very clear in description of Antichrist
  - v. 25—His destruction