

Chapter 8 – The Interpretation of the Vision

DANIEL'S DIVINE DISCLOSURE FROM GOD

Introduction

We are back to our study of Daniel's prophecy.

Before we begin, let me share some programming news with you. As many of you already know, we are resuming our morning worship service this coming Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Our prayer is to continue live streaming that service each

Sunday from here on out. As for the evening service, we will be adding it back on June 28. On that Sunday though, my wife and I will be out of town. June 26 is our 26th wedding anniversary. Thus, we are planning some time away and will be traveling back on June 28. Bro. Jerry will be preaching in both services that Sunday. And our hope is that the evening service will be live streamed as well. I tell you this because I have asked Bro. Jerry to continue preaching on Sunday evenings throughout July. I asked to do this for two reasons. First, it gives you a chance to hear some messages that God has laid upon his heart giving the chance to preach those messages. Second, July is VBS month. There is a lot of work that goes into preparing and running VBS. With him preaching on Sunday evenings through July, it allows me to focus more completely on VBS and reaching out to families our area. Therefore, we will put on hold our study of Daniel starting June 28 and will continue with it in August. Additionally, I have invited Ken Overby, our missionary who serves with Jewish Awareness Ministries to be with us on our church Anniversary. We are going to hold a Bible Prophecy Conference that Sunday with him as our guest speaker. Bro. Ken has the unique ability to bring together current Jewish events and Bible prophecy showing how things are moving towards the Rapture and the impending Tribulation Period.



So, back to our study, last week we covered the first part of chapter 8 showing the difference between the “**little horn**” of chapter 7 and the “**little horn**” of chapter 8.

We also talked about the significance of the visions in which Daniel saw the Ram with 2 horns, the He Goat, and then the **“little horn.”**

Tonight, we get into second half of chapter 8. Let us begin by reading that half and then we discuss several things revealed to Daniel and to us.

*Read verses 15-27.

Body



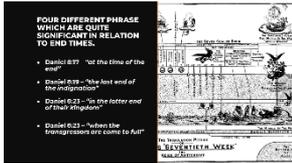
The Interpretation

So, we come now to verse 15 and we find Daniel seeking the interpretation of all that he saw. It here we find for

the first time the appearance of Gabriel, the archangel. Verse 16 tells us that a man's voice speaks to Gabriel instructing him to **“make this man to understand the vision.”** Gabriel then comes to Daniel and says, **“Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.”** (v.17) Gabriel then helps Daniel to upright position and proceeds to give him the interpretation of the ram with two horns along with the he goat with a great horn.

Now, for sake of time and since we already have covered that material last week, we will skip past verse 20-21. Instead, we are going to devote most of our time to understanding the last five verses of this chapter. However, before we get into

those verses, there some significant phrases found in the latter part of this chapter need to be addressed.

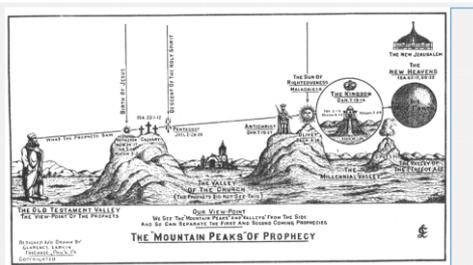


There are four different phrase which are quite significant in relation to end times.

- **Daniel 8:17 – “at the time of the end”**

- **Daniel 8:19 – “the last end of the indignation”**
- **Daniel 8:23 – “in the latter end of their kingdom”**
- **Daniel 8:23 – “when the transgressors are come to full”**

Each of these terms speak to the same time that we know today as **“the great tribulation.”** Verse 23 goes on to tell us that when that time comes that **“a king of fierce countenance...shall stand up.”** Then, he will do some many wicked things before he is ultimately **“broken without hand.”** (v. 25)



Now, before we go any further, I am compelled to remind you that you will not find anywhere in Daniel's prophecy references to the current age we live in. We often

refer to the current age as the Dispensation of Grace. The reason for this is simple. These revelations to Daniel were solely focused upon God's relation with Israel, His chosen people. Much of the O.T. prophecies were concerned only with God's fulfillment of His promises to Abraham, Moses,

fierce countenance” will make his appearance upon the world stage. The first phrase is...

“The Last End of Indignation”

Read with me again verse 19.

And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be. Daniel 8:19

A good way to understand this verse is that ***“last end of indignation”*** belongs (***“appointed”***) to the end of times. For us to understand its importance, we must turn to several verses found in other prophetic books such as Isaiah, Jeremiah, and others. The key word being ***“indignation.”*** And as we will see, this word ***“indignation”*** depicts God’s indignation against Israel (both the people and the land) for their continued disobedience and apostasy.



Over in Isaiah 10, we find God describing a great Assyrian invasion by Sennacherib. God allowed them to invade as judgment for their sin and for turning away from Him. In Isaiah

10:5-6, we read these words...

**O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger,
and the staff in their hand is mine
indignation. I will send him against
an hypocritical nation, and against
the people of my wrath will I give
him a charge, to take the spoil, and**

**to take the prey, and to tread them
down like the mire of the streets.
Isaiah 10:5-6**

Obviously, God's use of the Assyrian was as an instrument that performed His indignation. Later in that same chapter and in verse 25 we read...



**For yet a very little
while, and the indignation shall
cease, and mine anger in their
destruction. Isaiah 10:25**

This was a promise to those who remained faithful to God that He would bring His indignation to a close. Over in Isaiah 13:5 we find the words...



**They come from a far
country, from the end of heaven,
even the LORD, and the weapons of
his indignation, to destroy the
whole land. Isaiah 13:5**

Note that the invading country is the ***“weapons of his indignation, to destroy the whole land.”***



In Isaiah 26:20, God says...

**Come, my people, enter
thou into thy chambers,
and shut thy doors about thee: hide
thyself as it were for a little
moment, until the indignation be
overpast. Isaiah 26:20**



Isaiah 30:30-31 tell us...

**And the LORD shall
cause his glorious voice
to be heard, and shall shew the
lighting down of his arm, with the
indignation of his anger, and with
the flame of a devouring fire, with
scattering, and tempest, and
hailstones. For through the voice of
the LORD shall the Assyrian be
beaten down, which smote with a
rod. Isaiah 30:30-31**

Again, we see a connection of God's indignation with that of Assyria.

When you read the book of Jeremiah, there is no doubt about God pouring out His indignation as He uses Babylon in

judging Judah. Later in Zechariah 1:12, we find the angel of the LORD asking...



Then the angel of the LORD answered and said, O LORD of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these threescore and ten years? Zechariah 1:12

Then in Ezekiel 21:31, we read...



And I will pour out mine indignation upon thee, I will blow against thee in the fire of my wrath, and deliver thee into the hand of brutish men, and skilful to destroy. Ezekiel 21:31

Another great passage that helps us understand God's indignation is the Messianic psalm of Psalm 69. This is the psalm that prophesies about Christ as Messiah saying...



Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and

Two Significant Phrases

"When the Transgressors are Come to the Full"

And in the latter time of their kingdom, **when the transgressors are come to the full**, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.

Daniel 8:23



"When the Transgressors are Come to the Full"

This term is used in verse 23.

And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.
Daniel 8:23

Again, this is a phrase that shows the time when this prophecy will be fulfilled. There are those who will say that

this phrase is a simple statement of universal apostasy marking the end of times. The fact that there will be great apostasy before the Rapture and the beginning the Great Tribulation is true.

However, Daniel 8:23 must be realized in the context of God dealing strictly with Israel. Thus, the apostates or

"transgressors" will come from the Jewish people. In fact, if you know anything about society in Israel today, you will know that most Jews are about as far from God's Word as they can get. Their transgressions are increasing to the point of being full. Ultimately, a false Messiah will completely deceive them. Christ himself said...

Two Significant Phrases

"When the Transgressors are Come to the Full"

And in the latter time of their kingdom, **when the transgressors are come to the full**, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.

Daniel 8:23



When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation. Matthew 12:43-45

Two Significant Phrases

"When the Transgressors are Come to the Full"

When the transgressors are come to the full, and the kingdom of the Father shall be revealed, then shall the Son of Man come in his glory.

John 5:43



He also told them...

I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive. John 5:43

You see there is coming a day soon that a false Christ aka a false King will appear on the scene in Israel. Using the devil's power, he will deceive them. The stage is already set. Israel is back in the land. They are climbing the ladder of political and financial status quickly on the world scene. They are approaching the time ***"when the transgressors are come to***

a full.” For this reason, we, as Christians, must be carefully watching for soon the trumpet may sound.

Conclusion

Let me conclude by saying this. Folks, the stage is pretty much set. There are just a finishing touches left to be made. I am convinced even more than ever as I do this study of Daniel that Christ return is imminent. I have always said that I would rather Christ return than to see death. I want to be counted as one who simply was **“translated”** much like Enoch and Elijah. There is a very real possibility that I might just see that day. The sad reality is that day will usher in a time of judgment and wrath upon this earth that no one has ever seen or could even imagine. For those left behind, there will be no place for them to hide. I hope that is not you. If it is, then let me say right now that you can escape that horrific time on earth. You can do so by simply acknowledging your sin, repenting, believing what Christ did for you, and by accepting Him as your personal Savior. And, may I say, that I would be extremely happy to help point the way to salvation. All you need to do is contact me. Let me help you escape what is just around the corner of time.