



GRACE  
COMMUNITYCHURCH

MAY 7, 2017

TYRANTS, TIMELINES AND TRUST

PREACHED BY JAY MESSENGER

DANIEL 8

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**PRESENT FAITHFULNESS AND FUTURE HOPE**

GOD CAN BE (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (WITH THE BIG PICTURE AND THE "DETAILS")

THE END (2) \_\_\_\_\_

GO ABOUT (3) \_\_\_\_\_

LOVE (4) \_\_\_\_\_

LOVE AND SERVE YOUR (5) \_\_\_\_\_ AND YOUR (6) \_\_\_\_\_

SHARE THE (7) \_\_\_\_\_

**SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT**

1. AS YOU CONSIDER DANIEL 8, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE PROPHETIC (NOW HISTORICAL) DETAILS THAT SHOW GOD'S INTERVENTION AND INVOLVEMENT IN HUMAN HISTORY? HOW CAN THAT "BIG PICTURE" PERSPECTIVE HELP US TRUST THE LORD "IN THE DETAILS" OF OUR LIVES? HOW DOES THAT PROVIDE ASSURANCE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR CULTURE AND COUNTRY TODAY?
2. IMAGINE HOW THE AVERAGE JEW FELT ABOUT LIVING IN EXILE IN BABYLON. THEY HAD LOST THEIR COUNTRY, THEIR LAND, THEIR FAMILY, AND (TO SOME OF THEM) THEIR GOD. HOW WOULD THE PROPHECY AND PROMISES OF DANIEL 8 ENCOURAGE AND HELP THEM?
3. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO A (RECENT) MARVEL MOVIE (AVENGERS, CAPTAIN AMERICA, ETC.)? EXPLAIN THE IDEA OF MULTIPLE ENDINGS AND HOW THAT IMPACTS YOUR EXPECTATIONS, BEHAVIOR, ETC. AT THE "END" OF EACH MOVIE. WHAT DOES THAT DO FOR YOUR SENSE OF ANTICIPATION? HOW DO THE MULTIPLE "ENDINGS" IN SCRIPTURE GIVE US HOPE AND BUILD ANTICIPATION? HOW DOES THAT PRACTICALLY HELP WHEN WE ARE STRUGGLING OR EVEN SUFFERING?
4. READ 1 PETER 5:10 AND 2 PETER 3:8-9 AND RESPOND TO THE STATEMENT "THERE ARE SEASONS FOR EVERYTHING" HOW DOES THAT RELATE TO SUFFERING, PERSECUTION, ETC.
5. ARE WE IN "THE LAST DAYS"? WHAT DOES THE NEW TESTAMENT HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THAT? (EX: ACTS 2:17; HEBREWS 1:2; 1<sup>ST</sup> PETER 1:20; ETC.)
6. EXPLAIN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF DANIEL SAYING "I GOT UP AND WENT ABOUT THE KING'S BUSINESS" (DANIEL 8:27). HOW DOES "GOING ABOUT THE KING'S BUSINESS" REALLY MEAN "GOING ABOUT THE KING'S (THE LORD'S) BUSINESS" WHEN IT'S DONE WITH FAITHFULNESS, EXCELLENCE, AND AS A DISCIPLE OF HIM?
7. HOW CAN YOU "GO ABOUT THE KING'S BUSINESS" IN YOUR DAILY LIFE? WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU TO LOVE GOD, LOVE AND SERVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AND PEOPLE, AND LIVE THE HOPEFUL GOSPEL?
8. HOW CAN YOU LIVE "PRESENT FAITHFULNESS WITH FUTURE HOPE" IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME OR STRUGGLE IN YOUR LIFE?
9. THANK THE LORD FOR HIS FAITHFULNESS, HIS PROMISES, AND HIS WORK IN YOUR LIFE. WHO CAN YOU PRAY FOR TO KNOW AND RECEIVE HIM AS THEIR LORD THE WAY YOU HAVE? HOW CAN YOU SERVE AND LOVE THEM?

FILL IN THE BLANK KEY

1. TRUSTED 2. IS COMING 3. THE KING'S BUSINESS 4. GOD  
5. NEIGHBOR 6. ENEMY 7. HOPEFUL GOSPEL



THE BOOK OF  
*Daniel*

PRESENT FAITHFULNESS | FUTURE PROMISE

**Extinct/ Predictive/ Symbolic**

**Symbolic Animals**

**Hope in Suffering**

**The best interpreter of the Bible is...  
the Bible**

**DANIEL 8 “PRIMER” APOCALYPTIC**

<sup>20</sup> The **two-horned ram** that you saw represents the **kings of Media and Persia**. <sup>21</sup> The **shaggy goat** is the **king of Greece**, and **the large horn** between its eyes is **the first king**.

**DANIEL 8:20-21**

<sup>1</sup> In the third year of King Belshazzar's reign, I, Daniel, had a vision, after the one that had already appeared to me. <sup>2</sup> In my vision I saw myself in the citadel of Susa in the province of Elam; in the vision I was beside **the Ulai Canal.**

**DANIEL 8:1-12**

<sup>3</sup> I looked up, and there before me was a ram with two horns, standing beside the canal, and the horns were long. **One of the horns was longer than the other** but grew up later. <sup>4</sup> I watched the ram as it charged toward the west and the north and the south.

**DANIEL 8:1-12**

No animal could stand against it, and none could rescue from its power. It did as it pleased and became great. <sup>5</sup> As I was thinking about this, suddenly a **goat** with a prominent horn between its eyes came from the west, crossing the whole earth **without touching the ground.**

**DANIEL 8:1-12**

<sup>6</sup> It came toward the two-horned ram I had seen standing beside the canal and charged at it in great rage. <sup>7</sup> I saw it attack the ram **furiously**, striking the ram and shattering its two horns. The ram was powerless to stand against it; the goat knocked it to the ground and trampled on it,

**DANIEL 8:1-12**



and none could rescue the ram from its power.  
⁸ The goat became *very great*, but **at the height of its power the large horn was broken off**, and in its place **four prominent horns grew up toward the four winds of heaven**.

**DANIEL 8:1-12**

<sup>9</sup> Out of one of them came **another horn,** **which started small** but grew in power to the south and to the east and toward the **Beautiful Land.** <sup>10</sup> It grew until it reached the host of the heavens, and it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them.

**DANIEL 8:1-12**

**<sup>11</sup> It set itself up to be as great as the commander of the army of the LORD; it took away the daily sacrifice from the LORD, and his sanctuary was thrown down.<sup>12</sup> Because of rebellion, the LORD's people and the daily sacrifice were given over to it.**

**DANIEL 8:1-12**

The background features a dark, textured surface with a prominent, irregular, torn-paper-like edge at the bottom. The texture is composed of dark purple and brown tones, resembling a stone or a rough, aged surface. The lighting is dramatic, with some areas appearing brighter than others, creating a sense of depth and shadow.

**It prospered in everything it did, and truth was  
thrown to the ground.**

**DANIEL 8:1-12**

23b “...a fierce-looking king, **a master of intrigue**, will arise. <sup>24</sup> **He will become very strong, but not by his own power.** He will cause **astounding devastation** and will succeed in whatever he does.

**DANIEL 8:23B-24A**

He will destroy those who are mighty, the holy people. <sup>25</sup> He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. When they feel secure, he will destroy many and take his stand against the Prince of princes.

**DANIEL 8:24B-25A**



Yet he will be **destroyed, but not by human power.**”

**DANIEL 8:25B**

God can be trusted

(with the big picture and the “details”)

**TYRANTS, TIMELINES AND TRUST**



**<sup>15</sup> While I, Daniel, was watching the vision and trying to understand it, there before me stood one who looked like a man. <sup>16</sup> And I heard a man's voice from the Ulai calling, "Gabriel, tell this man the meaning of the vision."**

**DANIEL 8:15-17**

<sup>17</sup> As he came near the place where I was standing, I was terrified and fell prostrate. “Son of man,” he said to me, “understand that the vision concerns the **time of the end.**”

**DANIEL 8:15-17**

<sup>19</sup> He said: “I am going to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath, because the vision concerns **the appointed time of the end.**”

**DANIEL 8:19**



God can be trusted

The end is coming...

**TYRANTS, TIMELINES AND TRUST**

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, **after you have suffered a little while**, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

**1 PETER 5:10**

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends:  
With the Lord a day is like a thousand years,  
and a thousand years are like a day. **The Lord  
is not slow in keeping his promise**, as some  
understand slowness. Instead he is patient  
with you, **not wanting anyone to perish, but  
everyone to come to repentance.**

**2 PETER 5:10**

<sup>27</sup> I, Daniel, was worn out. I lay exhausted for several days. Then **I got up and went about the king's business.** I was appalled by the vision; it was beyond understanding.

**DANIEL 8:27**



God can be trusted

The end is coming

Go about the King's business

**TYRANTS, TIMELINES AND TRUST**



God can be trusted

The end is coming

Go about the King's business

Love God

Love and serve your neighbor and enemy

Share the hopeful Gospel

**TYRANTS, TIMELINES AND TRUST**



THE BOOK OF  
*Daniel*

PRESENT FAITHFULNESS | FUTURE PROMISE