### Daniel

## Chapter 8

1It was in the 3rd year of the reign of King BelShazzar that I, DaniEl, had a vision that was like the previous one. 2In the vision, I found myself at the palace in Sushan (in the region of ElAm), and I was standing by the Ulai River.  
  
3Then, when I looked up, I saw a ram standing at the river bank that had two long horns. One horn was taller than the other and it grew from behind it.  
  
4Then I saw the ram butting towards the west, north, and south, so that none of the other wild animals could stand before him and none could be saved from his hands. So, he did whatever he wished and he became very powerful.  
  
5Well, as I was watching, {Look!} a male goat came across the land from the southwest and [his feet] weren’t touching the ground!  
  
This goat’s horn was very conspicuous, because it grew out from between his eyes. 6Then he rushed towards the ram that I saw (the one with the two horns), and butted him as hard as he could! 7Because he was furious with him, he ran as fast as possible and he hit the ram and broke off both of his horns, which left [the ram] weak and unable to oppose him. Then [the male goat] threw the ram to the ground and trampled him, and no one came to his aid.  
  
8Thereafter, the male goat became extremely famous for his strength. But then, his large horn was broken and four horns grew up from beneath it. Each pointed towards one of the four winds of the skies.  
  
9However, one of them became extremely powerful… It grew rapidly towards the south and east 10until it reached to the powers of the heavens! Then he threw [the other three horns] to the ground, and he also started trampling on the stars.  
  
11For he became more powerful towards the commander-in-chief, so that through him, the sacrifices were to be disturbed and the Holy Place was to be destroyed. 12Yes, he was prepared as a sin-offering sacrifice that resulted in righteousness being tossed to the ground. And after he did that, he prospered.  
  
13Then I heard the Holy One speaking. He asked:  
  
 ‘How long will this vision stand…  
 When the sacrifices are taken away,  
 And the sin of destruction is allowed,  
 As the Holy Place and its power,  
 Will thereafter be trampled upon?’  
  
14And he said:  
  
 ‘After 2,300 mornings and evenings,  
 The Holy Place will be cleansed.’  
  
  
15Well, as I was seeing this vision, I (DaniEl) wanted to understand more. Then I saw what looked like a man standing before me, 16and I heard a man’s voice speaking from the midst of the Ulai [River].  
  
He called out and said:  
  
 ‘GabriEl! Let him understand the vision!’  
  
17So he came over to where I was standing. As he was approaching, I became very disturbed and fell to my face. Then he said to me:  
  
 ‘Pay attention, O son of man.  
  
 ‘For this vision is of the time of the end!’  
  
18Well, as he was speaking to me, I stayed there with my face to the ground. But then, he touched me, and stood me up on my feet.  
  
19And he said:  
  
 ‘{Look!} I’ll explain what will bring the end to [God’s] rage.  
 For, these are the things that will happen  
 In the time of the end:  
  
 20‘The ram that you saw with [two] horns,  
 Is the kingdom of the Medes and the Persians,  
 21And the male goat is the king of the Greeks.  
  
 ‘The great horn that stands between its [two] eyes  
 Will be their greatest of kings.  
 22And after he’s broken, the four horns that arise  
 Will be four kings who succeed him;  
 But, none will be as mighty as he.  
  
 23‘Now, in the last days of their kingdom,  
 They’ll be filled with sins.  
 Then a king will arise that has a proud face…  
 One who understands riddles.  
  
 24‘Even though he’ll have great power, the strength won’t be his.  
 Then he will prosper and corrupt in wondrous ways…  
 He’ll take action and he will bring ruin  
 To a people who are mighty and holy.  
  
 25‘He will prosper by putting [others in] yokes,  
 And in his hands, there’ll be treachery;  
 For in his heart, he’ll think himself great.  
  
 ‘His treachery will bring ruin to many,  
 And he will destroy many to establish himself…  
 He’ll break them like eggs in his hands.  
  
 26‘As for the vision of the evenings and mornings...  
 The things that you saw are all true!  
 But, you must now seal up this vision,  
 For it’ll all happen in some future time!’  
  
27Then I (DaniEl) went to bed and I was sick for several days after that. But I [finally] got up and did my work for the king, and I wondered about the vision… But I was the only one who knew about it.