

The Prophets & Kings

From Rehoboam To Zedekiah

Book 1

A Daily Devotional Study Guide

Week 75

“Like An Animal”

Study: Daniel 4:19-37

Reading: 2 Chronicles 33:10-13, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Memory: Psalm 119:11

Ever since my dad died of a heart attack shortly before his 52nd birthday, I have made it one of my goals in life to try to maintain a healthy weight and stay in descent physical condition. Though this is helpful, it does not mean that I will live a long life. Every year there are news stories of highly trained athletes who die in the middle of an athletic event, even though they had trained and were well prepared. The simple reality is that we don't have full control of our lives.

What Does the Bible Say?

Nebuchadnezzar could tell Daniel was clearly taken back by the dream and the meaning of it. Nebuchadnezzar told Daniel not to let the meaning of the dream keep him from telling the truth. Daniel revealed that the only ones who would like the meaning of the dream were the enemies of Nebuchadnezzar (vs 19).

Daniel began explaining how the great tree in the dream was Nebuchadnezzar. Nebuchadnezzar had reached a greatness that no ruler had ever seen before and many people were relying on him and the Babylonian kingdom for their wealth and existence. The angel the king saw was sent from the Most High God and carried out the decree of God for Nebuchadnezzar to be humbled for seven periods. This was going to be done to humble the king and to help him realize that he was not responsible for his greatness. God wanted Nebuchadnezzar to know that the God of Israel, the one true God, was truly the rule of the world (vs 20-26).

Daniel's counsel to Nebuchadnezzar was to choose to stop his sinful ways and to start practicing righteousness. The king began by showing mercy to those who were oppressed. This could help lengthen the prosperous times that Nebuchadnezzar was currently experiencing (vs 27).

The instructions that Daniel gave Nebuchadnezzar were not heeded. Twelve months later the king was walking on the roof of his palace. It

appears he was not alone but had others with him. He started talking about how great his kingdom was and how he was great for building it. While the words were coming out of his mouth, a voice came from heaven declaring that the kingdom was going to be taken away from Nebuchadnezzar. The king would be forced to act like a wild animal, eating grass while crawling around on all fours. This was going to happen for seven periods of time so that it would be clear who was the One truly responsible for this kingdom. From that point, Nebuchadnezzar began to act like an animal and lived like one, allowing his hair to grow long and not cutting his fingernails. In our day and age, we would describe this as some type of mental illness that came over him causing him not to think properly for this period of time (vs 28-33).

After the seven periods of time were over, God allowed the mental faculties of Nebuchadnezzar to return. He had been completely humbled by this experience and he chose to give glory to God. Nebuchadnezzar declared that God is the One who was responsible for the rise and the fall of all kingdoms. Though men think they are in charge, it is God who will always have His way. No human has the ability to stop the plan of God or even question God when He chooses to do something (vs 34-35).

After this humbling took place, God allowed Nebuchadnezzar to regain the rule of his kingdom and his greatness was even more than it had been before the seven periods of time. Nebuchadnezzar made sure that he did not attribute this return of greatness to his own power. He exalted God, recognizing that God was the One responsible for his ability to be ruler and declared that those who choose to walk in pride would be humbled (vs 36-37).

How Does this Apply to Me?

There had never been a ruler like Nebuchadnezzar. He had built the greatest and most powerful kingdom the world had known and he knew it. He believed that he was responsible for all at his success. Though he was warned by God through Daniel, he didn't really believe that he could be humbled like he was. Once it happened, it was a shock to him and all those who knew him. The clear lesson that stands out in today's reading is that of humility. You must regularly acknowledge that you are not the one responsible for any successes you have in life. It is God who gives you the mind to think, the body to work and the air to breathe. It could be taken away in an instant. Choose to give glory to God each and every day for all that He allows you to do.

Why was Daniel dismayed (vs 19)?

Who did Daniel say the tree represented (vs 20)?

How did the kingdom become great like the tree (vs 21-22)?

What did God declare be done with the tree (vs 23)?

How was Nebuchadnezzar going to act (vs 25)?

What did God want Nebuchadnezzar to know (vs 26)?

What did Daniel counsel Nebuchadnezzar to do (vs 27)?

What did Nebuchadnezzar declare (vs 29-30)?

How quick was the fall of Nebuchadnezzar (vs 31-33)?

What does this reveal about how quickly things can change in life?

How did Nebuchadnezzar change (vs 33)?

What did God allow to happen (vs 34)?

What did Nebuchadnezzar do in response (vs 34)?

What did Nebuchadnezzar declare about the inhabitants of the earth (vs 35)?

What did Nebuchadnezzar declare about God doing His will (vs 35)?

What can no man say to God (vs 35)? What do you think this meant?

What did God allow Nebuchadnezzar to experience (vs 36)?

What did Nebuchadnezzar do in response (vs 37)?

What did Nebuchadnezzar say God was able to do (vs 37)?

“The Coming Kingdoms”

Study: 2 Kings 25:27-29, Jeremiah 52:31-34, Daniel 7:1-6

Reading: Jeremiah 50:17-32, Revelation 13:1-8

Memory: Psalm 119:11

What Does the Bible Say?

We move ahead on our time line to around 560 B.C. which was 37 years after the 597 B.C. attack on Jerusalem. King Nebuchadnezzar has died and his son, Evil-Merodach is now on the throne. Jehoiachin, who had been king of Judah during the 597 B.C. invasion was freed from prison in Babylon. This appears to have been a move to help Evil-Merodach earn favor with the Jewish people. Jehoiachin was given a spot above the other kings who had been conquered by Babylon. He was able to live out the rest of his life in relative luxury, being allowed to eat at the king's table and was given an allowance from the Babylonian government (2 Kin 25:27-29, Jer 52:31-34).

Evil-Merodach only reigned over Babylon for two years and he was succeeded by two other rulers who reigned for a short time before Nabonidus took the throne around 556 B.C. Nabonidus was most likely the son-in-law of Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar was the son of Nabonidus. Belshazzar co-reigned with his father beginning around 553 B.C. It is at this time that Daniel had a dream from God that revealed the future of the nations that were to come (Dan 7:1).

In this vision, Daniel saw waters being stirred up as a great wind was blowing from every direction. He saw four beasts rise up out of the sea with each beast being very unique. The first beast looked like a lion with the wings of an eagle, but as he watched that beast, the wings were removed and the lion was made to stand on the ground like a man. This beast no longer acted like wild since it was given the mind of a man and thought like a man. Verse 17 reveals that these four beasts represented the four great kingdoms that would rise up. Though there is no direct interpretation given of the lion, it seems pretty obvious that this was a reference to the Babylonian kingdom. The lion with wings was a symbol used by the Babylonians to represent power and swiftness. The removal of the wings appears to be a reference to the transformation that took place during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar. He went from a fierce killer of men to a civilized ruler as he started caring more about people after his

seven year stint as an animal. This compassion was carried on by Evil-Merodach as seen by his actions towards Jehoiachin (Dan 7:2-4).

The second beast that Daniel observed was like a bear. One of the sides of this bear was higher than the other and the bear had three ribs in its teeth. The bear was instructed to get up and devour a great amount of flesh. We are not given an interpretation of this, but most likely this bear represented the Medo-Persian empire. The fact that one side was higher seems to indicate that the Persians would be stronger. History often just refers to this empire as the Persian empire. The meaning of the ribs is unclear, but it is probably a picture of the Assyrians, Egyptians and the Babylonians who had preceded them as world powers. The eating of flesh was most likely a picture of the ferocious approach the nation would take in conquering its enemies and expanding its kingdom (Dan 7:5).

The third beast was like a leopard with four wings and four heads. It was given great dominion. As with the other kingdoms, no direct interpretation is given, but this appears to be a picture of the Greek empire that was to come. The rise of Alexander the great was fast and furious as represented by the speed of a leopard and the four wings. History records the great speed at which Alexander conquered the known world and also records how once Alexander died, the kingdom was divided into four parts with four different rulers. This seems to be the meaning of the four heads of the leopard (Dan 7:6).

How Does this Apply to Me?

The personal application today is rather simple, but greatly profound. These visions revealed that God was the ruler of the world and in charge of the kingdoms which had been and which would be. He knew what was coming and how it would come. You will read tomorrow how this even pictures the final kingdom that is yet to come when Jesus Christ comes back to rule and reign on the earth. No matter what you are experiencing today, you can rest assured that you have a God who knows what will happen tomorrow. Nothing takes Him by surprise which means that you will always be safe as His follower.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God because He knows what will happen tomorrow.*
- * *Ask God to help you to trust Him today.*
- * *Praise God because He is greater than any earthly power.*

When does 2 Kings 25:27 take place?

What happened to Jehoiachin (vs 27)?

What did the king of Babylon do for Jehoiachin (vs 28)?

How was Jehoiachin able to live out the rest of his life (vs 29-30)?

Why do you think the mention of Jehoiachin is included at the end of Jeremiah and 2 kings?

****Jehoiachin was a descendant of David. This reveals that the kingly line was still alive. Though they no longer ruled, the Davidic line would continue and eventually give birth to the King of Kings.*

Daniel 7

When did Daniel see the vision (vs 1)?

What did Daniel first see (vs 2)?

What do you think the four winds are referring to (vs 2)?

What did Daniel see come out of the sea (vs 3)?

What did the first beast look like (vs 4)?

How was this a picture of the Babylonian empire (vs 4)?

What did the second beast look like (vs 5)?

How do you think this was a picture of the Medo-Persian empire?

What did the third beast look like (vs 6)?

How do you think this was a picture of the Greek empire?

What do these visions reveal about God?

Why do you think God gave these visions to Daniel?

“The Ancient of Days”

Study: Daniel 7:7-18

Reading: Revelation 1:9-20, 13:1-10

Memory: Psalm 119:11

Several years ago I was tasked with doing some research for our church’s 100th anniversary celebration. I was the assistant pastor of the church at the time and had learned a great deal about the community and the founding of the church. One of the invaluable opportunities I had was to visit a couple from the area who were over 100 years old. The man’s father had been a pastor and he had written a few books about the history of the area. He was able to answer many of the questions that I had. For a twenty something year old man, this couple was “ancient” and I was amazed of all their knowledge.

Today, we are going to read how God was referred to as the “Ancient of Days” indicating that He had been around a long time. God isn’t like that couple who had only been around for 100 years, but He has been around from before time began.

What Does the Bible Say?

The fourth beast that Daniel saw in his vision was more terrifying and dreadful than the first three beasts. This beast had iron teeth which were used to break apart anything in its path. With its powerful feet, it was able to crush whatever remained in tact. One of the unique features about this beast was that it had 10 horns. While Daniel was trying to figure out what the ten horns were for, he saw another horn rising up. The first three horns were torn out to make room for this horn. This horn was unlike the others in that it had eyes and a mouth. The mouth was boasting about all the great things it had accomplished (vs 7-8).

Daniel’s attention was drawn from the beasts towards some thrones where he saw “The Ancient of Days” sit down. Chapter 7 of Daniel is the only time that God is referred to by this phrase. This pictures how God is an everlasting God who transcended all of time. He was dressed in clothing that was white like snow and his hair was white like pure wool. His throne was full of fiery flames with steam coming from all around. There were an innumerable number of servants who stood around Him

as He sat in court with the books of judgment open (vs 9-10).

The sound of the boasting horns drew Daniel's attention back to the beast where he witnessed the beast being killed. The other three beasts lost their dominion even though they were allowed to live for a little while longer (vs 11-12).

As the vision continued, Daniel saw someone who looked like a man coming in the clouds, approaching the Ancient of Days. This man was given the charge over all the nations of the world so that the whole world would obey Him. This man was not given temporal reign, like the beasts he had seen, but he was given the ability to rule eternally. His kingdom would never end and He would never be destroyed (vs 13-14).

This vision was terribly confusing to Daniel and he approached one of the servants near the throne of God and asked this man to explain the vision to him. The man began to tell Daniel how the four beasts represented four earthly kings, but the last part of the vision represented how those who were servants of God would be a part of an eternal kingdom that would last forever and ever (vs 15-18).

We will finish looking at the rest of the meaning of this dream in tomorrow's reading.

How Does this Apply to Me?

Though there are some things in this vision that are confusing and we are not given a clear interpretation about some of the meanings, one thing that is clear is that God reigns over this earth and He will establish a kingdom that will last forever. Just the term, "Ancient of Days," pictures the fact that God has been around forever, even before the beginning of time. The vision revealed that the "son of man" would be given a kingdom that will last forever and ever. Many places in Scripture we are told that God is an eternal God and this vision emphasizes that fact. It also reveals how kingdoms of this world will come and go, but nothing will outlast God. Those who will be a part of this eternal kingdom are those from every tongue, tribe and nation who choose to serve Him. Those who have chosen to make the Son of God their master on this earth will be those who get to spend eternity with Him. Rejoice in the fact today that you live for and daily serve an eternal God.

Suggestions for Prayer

* *Praise God for being an everlasting God.*

What appeared after Daniel had seen three beasts in his vision (vs 7)?

What did he state about the appearance of this beast (vs 7)?

What did he state about the strength of the beast (vs 7)?

What do you think the iron teeth were an illustration of (vs 7)?

****Iron would have been one of the strongest substances of that day.*

How was the beast different (vs 7)?

What happened to the first three horns (vs 8)?

Why was this little horn so unique (vs 8)?

Who did Daniel see (vs 9)?

How is He described (vs 9)?

How many people were around the throne (vs 10)?

What do you think those numbers were an indication of?

What was open (vs 10)? What do you think that was a reference to?

What happened to the fourth beast (vs 11)?

What was the fate of the other four beasts (vs 12)?

Who did Daniel see coming to the Ancient of Days (vs 13)?

What was He given (vs 14)?

What was Daniel's response to this vision (vs 15)?

What did the four beast represent (vs 17)?

What was said about the kingdom of the Son of Man (vs 18)?

“The Little Horn”

Study: Daniel 7:19-28

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Memory: Psalm 119:11

One winter, I seldom used my truck. Because it was just sitting there in the woods, the mice thought that it would be a good spot to make a home. When I started needing to drive the truck again, I found that the smell was sometimes overwhelming. The mice had obviously built a nest in my duct work because every time I turned the heat on the smell became much worse. Though I didn't have to use the truck much, when I did, I had to decide whether to freeze or to make myself sick with the smell.

Today, we will read how Daniel became somewhat pale and sick. This was not the result of an awful smell, but an overwhelming vision.

What Does the Bible Say?

Though the whole vision must have been intriguing to Daniel, he strongly desired to know the truth about the fourth beast since it was so different from all of the rest. The other beasts were a bit more natural, while he didn't even give a comparison to what animal the fourth beast looked like. This was because it had iron teeth, bronze claws and ten horns. He was even more intrigued when he saw an eleventh horn that came up with eyes and a mouth. This horn waged war against the saints and prevailed over them. Obviously the saints are those who are on God's side, though it is unclear if this is a reference just to Israel or a reference to all those who believe. This horn seemed to be winning until the Ancient of Days came on the scene and judged the little horn. Following that, the kingdom which was no longer ruled by the horn was given to the saints (vs 19-22).

The man who Daniel spoke to clarified that the fourth beast represented a fourth kingdom, but it would be different than the previous kingdoms. This kingdom would conquer the whole earth and trample over any enemies. Out of this kingdom, ten kings would rise and then be followed by one king who will be far different than the others. He would destroy three of the kings and speak blasphemies against the Most

High God. He will persecute the saints and attempt to disrupt their laws and celebrations. For a “time, times and half a time” (probably 3½ years) he would be allowed to reign and have constant victory (vs 23-25).

God will then choose to enact His judgement and will take away the control the little horn will have. He and his kingdom will be destroyed. All the kingdoms of the world will then be handed over to the people of God, “the saints of the Most High.” (vs 26-27)

Though Daniel had been given some interpretation of the dream, the meaning and understanding of it was still rather vague. The vision greatly alarmed Daniel and caused him to physically be affected. Though he had seen all of this, he chose not to reveal it to anyone at the time and chose to keep it to himself (vs 28).

How Does this Apply to Me?

The vision of Daniel left him troubled and though he was able to get some answers about the vision, there are many things that he didn't understand. Through piecing together other prophecies with this one, we can have a greater understanding than Daniel did, though the full meaning of this prophecy is not completely clear. Similar imagery is given in Revelation 13, though it is not exactly the same. Most commentators believe that the horn that arose is a picture of the Antichrist who will be allowed to reign and cause havoc for the first 3½ years of the tribulation period. It is assumed that the fourth beast represents the Roman empire which was the last of the great empires of the world. It should also be noted that the little horn will have reign over the whole world which corresponds with other information given about the Antichrist. Though many of the details are not clear, one thing that is clear is that God will be victorious and that those who follow Him will share in this victory. The new kingdom that will be established by God will last forever and the whole world will be subject to His power.

Suggestions for Prayer

* Thank God for making His children victorious.

* Ask God to help you trust Him now and for future events.

Thought for the day

What did Daniel want to know (vs 19)? Why?

How did he describe the beast (vs 19)?

How was this beast so different than the others?

What happened to three of the horns (vs 20)?

What was unique about the horn that rose up (vs 20)?

What did this horn do (vs 21)?

What stopped the horn from being victorious (vs 22)?

What time had come when the horn was conquered (vs 22)?

What will the fourth kingdom do (vs 23)?

What will come out of the fourth beast (vs 24)?

What will the final horn do (vs 25)?

How long will the final horn have power over the saints (vs 25)?

What will happen to the final horn (vs 27)?

Who will be given the kingdom of the world (vs 27)?

What will be unique about this kingdom (vs 27)?

What will all dominions do after this point (vs 27)?

What did Daniel's thoughts do (vs 28)? Why?

How terrifying was this vision (vs 28)?

What did Daniel choose to do with this vision (vs 28)?

Why do you think God gave a vision like this?

“Betting On The Future”

Study: Daniel 8:1-8, 19-22

Reading: Isaiah 40:9-31

Memory: Psalm 119:11

The idea of betting on sporting events is not a new concept, but has been around since ancient times. It has exploded in popularity over the last few years because of the internet, and professional sports has attempted to do all it can to keep the athletes who play in the sports from betting on their own games. The whole integrity of a sport can come into question when a player bets on himself because he has the ability to rig a game. The whole premise of fair betting has always been educated guessing and a little “luck.”

One of the reasons I am not a proponent of gambling is because of the financial loss and harm it causes to many people. Though there are sometimes where a person comes out on top, most people end up losing because they simply don't have the ability to predict the future with accuracy. This is one of the things that sets God apart from men. We will read today how God predicted the future with amazing accuracy.

What Does the Bible Say?

Two years after the vision recorded in chapter 7, Daniel received another vision that is recorded in chapter 8. It was around 551 B.C. when Daniel saw the citadel that was in Susa (Shushan). This was the head city of the rising Medo-Persian empire and was located around 250 miles east of Babylon. Daniel found himself standing by the Ulai canal which was the main source of water for the city of Susa. He noticed that there was a ram on the bank of the river with two horns and one of them was higher than the other. The one that was higher, appeared last. He saw this ram move to the west, north and south, knocking over any other animal that attempted to stand in his way. This ram was very powerful and did whatever he desired (vs 1-4).

The interpretation of this dream was revealed in verse 19 as an angel told Daniel that the ram represented the coming Medo-Persian empire. Though it started with the Medes, the horn that would come up later and was taller was a picture of the Persians. This empire would have power

over all the other empires of the world and would crush anyone in its path (vs 19-20).

Back in verse 5, we are told that Daniel was pondering what he had just seen, when he noticed a male goat come charging from the west. It had traveled a great distance without putting his feet on the ground. This goat had a very unique horn between its eyes that was clearly visible. That goat charged at the ram and struck him with great power. This caused the two horns of the ram to break off. The ram was powerless against the goat and the goat defeated the ram, trampling him to death. The goat was now the most powerful animal, but shortly after it gained its great power, its horn broke off. This horn was replaced by four smaller horns that pointed in four different directions (vs 5-8).

Verse 21 reveals that the goat represented the Greek empire and the great king who would attack swiftly. History records that the king was Alexander the Great. The Persian empire was no match for the Greeks and they were destroyed. Alexander the Great died at age 32 and had conquered massive amounts of land in his short reign. When he died, he did not have an heir so the conquered land was divided among four of Alexander's generals (vs 21-22).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Many people have questioned the authenticity of this passage because they can't believe how Daniel recorded the future events with such accuracy. They want to say that this was written after the event happened, but that view takes away from what Scripture says about God. God knows exactly what will happen in the future and he chose to give this vision for Daniel to record. Though these events were recorded while the Medo-Persian empire was on the rise and far before anyone thought about a Greek empire, they picture exactly what was going to happen. One of the reasons that God wants you to know that He knows the future is so that you can choose to trust Him today. Choosing to place your life in His hands and trust that He is in control will result in great peace and security. You don't have to fear or fret when things come into your life that are unexpected or difficult because you can trust that He is in control. You have not been called to figure everything out and to make things happen, but you have been called to trust God and obey what He tells you to do. Life becomes much simpler when you choose to trust God and depend on Him for fullness in life.

When did God give this vision (vs 1)?

What city did Daniel see in the vision (vs 2)?

Where was this city located (vs 2)? Why was this significant?

What did Daniel see (vs 3)?

What was different about the horns (vs 3)?

What did the ram have the power to do (vs 4)?

What directions did the lamb go in (vs 4)?

Why do you think it didn't go to the east (vs 4)?

What did the ram represent (vs 20)?

Why was the one bigger than the other?

What did Daniel see coming from the west (vs 4)?

Why was it coming from the west?

What did the ram not touch (vs 5)?

How was the goat's horn described (vs 6)?

What did the goat do to the ram (vs 6)?

What was the result (vs 7)?

What happened when the goat was victorious (vs 8)?

What happened to the horn (vs 8)?

What did the goat represent (vs 21)? What did the horn represent?

What did the four horns represent (vs 22)?

“The Presence of Greatness”

Study: Daniel 8:9-19, 23-27

Reading: Isaiah 6:1-7, Revelation 1:17-20, Judges 13:1-25

Memory: Psalm 119:11

From childhood all the way up until my college years, I experienced an issue every time I would have to go talk to a principle or a high profile leader. Even if I went to talk to them because of a simple little question, I would find myself tearing up and would start to cry. I hated that this happened and no matter how hard I would try to talk myself out of doing this, it was an uncontrolled reaction.

Today, we are going to be reminded how humans can't help but react with fear and terror when they truly experience the presence of God.

What Does the Bible Say?

Verse 9 described how another horn started to form out of one of the four horns. This started out small, but grew very large and extended towards the east, in the direction of the land of Israel. This horn grew towards the sky and caused some of the stars of heaven to fall to the ground to be trampled on. This horn became so great that He compared himself to a son of God. This horn defiled the temple in Jerusalem and challenged God Himself by removing the regular sacrifices and offering his own sacrifices instead. This horn appeared to be successful in everything that he attempted to do (vs 9-13).

The little horn that become great was explained in verse 23 as Daniel was told how one of the Greek rulers would become more powerful than the others. He would be known for his ability to deceive and would devastate others to expand his property. The holy people was a reference to the Jews and how the ruler would take on God when he would attack the Jewish people. History reveals that this was a reference to the Greek ruler Antiochus Epiphanes who reigned from 175 B.C.-164 B.C. He went to Jerusalem and offered a pig as a sacrifice on the temple altar. He would end up dying, but not by human hands. He would be killed after a bout with insanity and a disease of the bowels. This is also a picture of what will happen in the middle of the tribulation when the Antichrist acts in a similar fashion (vs 23-25).

When Daniel first saw the vision, he heard two angels talking to each other. One of them asked the other how long the events in the vision would last. This was specifically in regard to the sacrifices on the altar being stopped. The other angel told him that this would last for 2,300 days and after that time period the Temple would be restored. No specific interpretation is given of this time in verse 26, but one additional detail is stated. The angel declared to Daniel that none of these things would happen for a long time so he was told to keep this vision a secret. History does record that the temple was first defiled in 171 B.C. and was restored in 164 B.C. around 2,300 days (vs 13-14, 26).

In verse 15, between the vision and the interpretation, Daniel related how when he was trying to understand the vision he saw an angel called Gabriel. He heard a voice telling Gabriel to explain the vision to him. When Gabriel approached Daniel, it overwhelmed him and caused him to fall on the ground in terror. Gabriel told Daniel that it was important he understand what he saw, but Daniel was so overwhelmed that he fainted. Gabriel gently roused Daniel and helped him to his feet so he could give him the meaning of the vision. Gabriel told Daniel these events would happen in the distant future and were a reference to the end times when the wrath of God would be poured out. Though there was not a clear distinction made by the angel, it is assumed that he was referring to the now historical events of Antiochus and the future action of the Antichrist (vs 15-19).

After this vision was over, the affects of it on Daniel lasted several days. It caused him to be sick in his bed not allowing him to carry out his duties. Though Gabriel had explained some of it, Daniel just couldn't come to terms with what the vision meant (vs 27).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Throughout Scripture, when people came into the presence of God or the angels, their response was one of fear and dread. The power of God and the holiness of His presence is something that is far greater than most humans will ever witness. This should remind you of your position in life compared to the greatness and holiness of God. It is easy to think of yourself as important, strong and powerful, but if you experience the presence of God, no matter how great you are, you will respond in fear and trembling. This greatness should encourage you and remind you that you serve a God that is far greater than any earthly greatness. Rejoice in the fact that this great God has called you to be His child.

What came out of one of the horns (vs 9)?

Where did this extend to (vs 9)?

What did this power attack (vs 9)?

What do you think this is a reference to (vs 10)?

****This verse describes how Antiochus attacked God's people, but seems to be a reference to the spiritual battle that the Antichrist will be involved in.*

What did this horn do to the temple (vs 11)?

What was heaven's army restrained from doing (vs 12)?

How long would this last (vs 13-14)?

What would happen at the end (vs 14)?

How did Gabriel appear (vs 15)?

How do we know it was Gabriel (vs 16)?

How did Daniel respond to the approaching presence of Gabriel (vs 17-18)?

How did Gabriel treat Daniel (vs 18)?

What was Gabriel going to describe (vs 19)?

How is the little horn described (vs 23)?

What will this horn cause (vs 24)?

When did the angel say this would take place (Vs 26)?

How did Daniel respond to this vision (vs 27)?

Memory Verse:

Psalms 119:1 Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! 2 Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, 3 who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways! 4 You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. 5 Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! 6 Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. 7 I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules. 8 I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me! 9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. 10 With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! 11 I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.