

# Daniel 8

## “When Evil Appears to Win ”

January 23/24, 2010

### STUDY QUESTIONS

When you look at your life (past or present) and this world, where do you have examples of evil seemingly winning? What’s your typical reaction? How do those situations affect you? In what ways?

Daniel and his friends have seen evil winning in their day and Daniel’s vision in chapter 8 predicts more to come. Read about it in verses 1-14 and list out the evils of the Persian and Greek empires. Pay special attention to the little horn in verses 9-14.

The second half of chapter 8 gives Daniel an explanation of the vision which concerns the time of the end (probably referring to the end of the period which this vision | concerns). After learning the two horned ram is the Medo-Persian empire, we are told about the goat and Greece. Look at verses 23-26 and list out the details and your observations about the stern-faced king (little horn of verse 9). This helps us understand why Daniel reacts as he does in verse 27.

Look again at verse 16. Who helped Daniel understand the meaning of what he saw? Look at Luke 1:19 for more.

Did you notice the repeated idea in verses 24-25 of the king’s ascent to power and his destruction not being by his own or human power? What do you make of it? Read Ephesians 6:10-18 for more on this. Why is it easy for us to forget about these things?

What part of the message had to be the best news for Daniel and his people (cf verse 25) and in light of that, why does Daniel react as he does?

How should this chapter help us “stand firm in our faith ‘til the end”? List out two or three principles from this text.

What is the significance of Daniel getting up and doing the king’s business? How would you paraphrase that phrase in your own words? What does that mean for you today? What is the King’s business that God wants you to do?

Share where you are facing evil and pray the Lord’s prayer together.  
(Matthew 5:9-13) Pray for those who suffer persecution for being a Christ follower.  
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