

CHAPTER FIVE

THE LAW OF DOUBLE (SECOND) REFERENCE

One thing we must know and understand about Bible Prophecy is that there is often an immediate partial fulfillment, but the complete fulfillment is some time in the future. God uses an event in the near future and by that event demonstrates the reliability of the prophecy. This is the first reference. The second event that God wants us to know about is much farther in the future, however, it is just as certain to happen and the first reference will demonstrate the nature of the second. God does not leave us to guess when Scripture uses this technique. When we look at the first reference we will notice that it is not a complete fulfillment of prophecy. There will be other indications in the prophecy that will direct us to the much later time. We are going to see this principle very well demonstrated as we study Daniel 8 "The ram and rough goat vision."

THE VISION

(Dan 8:2-14 NNAS)

I looked in the vision, and while I was looking I was in the citadel of Susa, which is in the province of Elam; and I looked in the vision and I myself was beside the Ulai Canal. {3} Then I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns *were* long, but one *was* longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last. {4} I saw the ram butting westward, northward, and southward, and no *other* beasts could stand before him nor was there anyone to rescue from his power, but he did as he pleased and magnified *himself*. {5} While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the goat *had* a conspicuous horn between his eyes. {6} He came up to the ram that had the two horns, which I had seen standing in front of the canal, and rushed at him in his mighty wrath. {7} I saw him come beside the ram, and he was enraged at him; and he struck the ram and shattered his two horns, and the ram had no strength to withstand him. So he hurled him to the ground and trampled on him, and there was none to rescue the ram from his power. {8} Then the male goat magnified *himself* exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous *horns* toward the four winds of heaven. {9} Out of one of them came forth a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Beautiful *Land*. {10} It grew up to the host of heaven and caused some of the host and some of the stars to fall to the earth, and it trampled them down. {11} It even magnified *itself* to be equal with the Commander of the host; and it removed the regular sacrifice from Him, and the place of His sanctuary was thrown down. {12} And on account of transgression the host will be given over *to the horn* along with the regular sacrifice; and it will fling truth to the ground and perform *its will* and prosper. {13} Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to that particular one who was speaking, "How long will the vision *about* the regular sacrifice apply, while the transgression causes horror, so as to allow both the holy place and the host to be trampled?" {14} He said to me, "For 2,300 evenings *and* mornings; then the holy place will be properly restored."

Lets enumerate the elements of this vision:

1. The ram with two horns
2. The rough he goat with one horn
3. The ram defeated
4. The great horn broken off
5. Four horns grow in the place of the one great horn
6. The little horn

7. 2300 morning and evening sacrifices until the cleansing of the temple

As God continues to make known to Daniel His plan of world history, He continues to build layer upon layer, giving more and more detail vision after vision. If we are to understand we must avail ourselves of this instruction. The Word of God is self teaching but if we choose not to receive all the teaching we cannot expect to understand. God begins simply, and explains as He goes, and progresses from the simple to the more difficult. God has given us all Scripture and instructed us to study all Scripture. There are no shortcuts to understanding. If we are to understand we must follow God's plan and study the entirety of God's Word.

This vision comes to Daniel in the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar. This is toward the end of the Babylonian empire. Belshazzar was the last king of that kingdom. In fact if you notice in verse one of chapter nine:

(Dan 9:1 NNAS)

In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans--

as this vision unfolds you will see that we are dealing with future events, some to happen very quickly and others further and further away.

THE INTERPRETATION

(Dan 8:15-19 NNAS)

When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it; and behold, standing before me was one who looked like a man. {16} And I heard the voice of a man between *the banks of Uлай*, and he called out and said, "Gabriel, give this *man* an understanding of the vision." {17} So he came near to where I was standing, and when he came I was frightened and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Son of man, understand that the vision pertains to the time of the end." {18} Now while he was talking with me, I sank into a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me and made me stand upright. {19} He said, "Behold, I am going to let you know what will occur at the final period of the indignation, for *it* pertains to the appointed time of the end.

It is wonderful to note that God wanted us as well as Daniel to understand this prophecy. God commands Gabriel to instruct Daniel in its interpretation. At this point I want you to take note of two phrases . . . " at the final period of the indignation " (later in the time of wrath) . . . and . . . "because the vision concerns the appointed time of the end". Here is the double reference. Here is why God wanted us to understand. There would be a time of wrath but that did not conclude all that Daniel saw. There was a time appointed, a time to end all things, and both are pictured in this prophecy.

THE RAM

(Dan 8:20 NNAS)

"The ram which you saw with the two horns represents the kings of Media and Persia.

The Scripture specifically identifies this beast as representing the Medo-Persian empire. The Meds were the first to begin the conflict and were later joined by Persia. Thus the two horns and their development. This kingdom is not the object of God's interest here, God's has much bigger fish to fry and moves very quickly to the next event.

THE ROUGH HE GOAT

(Dan 8:21 NNAS)

"The shaggy goat *represents* the kingdom of Greece, and the large horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

God does not leave us in doubt about the second beast. Even though God uses other figures to depict these same kingdoms we understand who they are and their order in God's time line. God moves very quickly to tell us what or who the great horn represents. We know from history that the first king was Alexander the Great. Alexander died in Babylon in 323 B.C. at the age of thirty-three, at the height of his career, "When he was strong."

(Dan 8:8 NNAS)

Then the male goat magnified *himself* exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous *horns* toward the four winds of heaven.

Alexander's throne was nominally left to his son, but his kingdom was eventually divided among four of his military chieftains; therefore, the four horns.

Under Ptolemy: Egypt, Cyrene, Coele-Syria, and southern parts of Asia Minor.

Under Lysimachus: Thrace, parts of Bithynia and Phrygia, Lydia and Mysia.

Under Cassander: Macedon and Greece.

Under Seleucus: The remainder of Alexander's kingdom, from the Euphrates to the Indus and including at one time the whole of Asia Minor.

(Dan 8:9-11 NNAS)

Out of one of them came forth a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Beautiful *Land*.

{10} It grew up to the host of heaven and caused some of the host and some of the stars to fall to the earth, and it trampled them down. {11} It even magnified *itself* to be equal with the Commander of the host; and it removed the regular sacrifice from Him, and the place of His sanctuary was thrown down.

(Dan 8:23-25 NNAS)

"In the latter period of their rule, When the transgressors have run *their course*, A king will arise, Insolent and skilled in intrigue. {24} "His power will be mighty, but not by his *own* power, And he will destroy to an extraordinary degree And prosper and perform *his will*; He will destroy mighty men and the holy people. {25} "And through his shrewdness He will cause deceit to succeed by his influence; And he will magnify *himself* in his heart, And he will destroy many while *they are* at ease. He will even oppose the Prince of princes, But he will be broken without human agency.

Out of one of these four nations or horns comes a small horn. This small horn turns his attention toward the pleasant land. As we consider this pleasant land, we find that the "*Plesant Land*" contains that place of the daily sacrifices. The sacrifices mentioned were the morning and evening sacrifices. These sacrifices were offered in the temple of Jerusalem.

It will be helpful to list those things that this small horn who becomes great will do:

1. It grew until it reached Heaven casting down some of the starry host.
2. It set itself up to be as great as the Prince of the host (Israel).
3. It brought low the sanctuary
4. The host (Israel) and the daily sacrifice were given over to it.
5. It prospered in everything it did.
6. Truth was thrown to the ground.
7. By peace he shall destroy many.
8. He shall be destroyed but not by human power.

These eight points describe the history of the little horn. It is at this point that we come to the point of double reference.

Daniel tells us that out of one of the four divisions of the decaying Grecian empire will rise this small horn, and that this small horn will set itself against the nation of Israel and that this ruler will cause the evening and morning sacrifices to cease. History tells us that out of the Seleucid dynasty there arose a ruler named Antiochus Epiphanes; he was the eighth king of this dynasty. He was born in 221 B.C. and by craft and cunning usurped the Syrian throne in 175 B.C. Antiochus was the infamous brother of the one and only Cleopatra. He was the evil tyrant and oppressor of the Jews whose desecration of the temple altar at Jerusalem is recorded in detail in I Maccabees. Antiochus was the first of those world leaders that set out to exterminate the Jewish people. As a part of his campaign against Israel he defiled the Temple. He sacrificed a sow on the brazen altar. He boiled the pig and mixed the broth with its blood and sprinkled it throughout the temple. Over the brazen altar he erected a pagan altar and put a statue of Jupiter in the Holy of Holies. With this desecration he caused the evening and morning sacrifices to cease.

As we follow the revelation of this vision we are party to a conversation between two of the heavenly messengers:

(Dan 8:13-14 NNAS)

Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to that particular one who was speaking, "How long will the vision *about* the regular sacrifice apply, while the transgression causes horror, so as to allow both the holy place and the host to be trampled?" {14} He said to me, "For 2,300 evenings *and* mornings; then the holy place will be properly restored."

(Dan 8:26 NNAS)

"The vision of the evenings and mornings Which has been told is true; But keep the vision secret, For *it* pertains to many days *in the future*."

This desecration took place in 168 B.C. according to the book of I Macabees as well as from other history. Scripture very plainly tells us that period of time will be 2,300 mornings and evenings or a period of 1,150 days or slightly over three years. This would be the time of the Maccabean tribulation, 168-165 B.C. at the end of which the sanctuary was "cleansed by Judas Macabeus (II Macc 10:1-5). The feast of lights, or dedication, as reinstated by the Maccabees, is seen in John 10:22 as proof of this "cleansing" of the sanctuary.

We look at these events as history but we must remember that Daniel saw them as yet in the future. In fact these truths were revealed to Daniel nearly 400 years before they took place. All that God revealed took place as is recorded in history but Daniel was instructed to seal up the prophecy because it concerned the distant future:

(Dan 8:26 NNAS)

"The vision of the evenings and mornings Which has been told is true; But keep the vision secret, For *it* pertains to many days *in the future*."

As we look at the interpretation of this vision we need to take note of these verses:

(Dan 8:17 NNAS)

So he came near to where I was standing, and when he came I was frightened and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Son of man, understand that the vision pertains to the time of the end."

(Dan 8:19 NNAS)

He said, "Behold, I am going to let you know what will occur at the final period of the indignation, for *it* pertains to the appointed time of the end.

(Dan 8:23 NNAS)

"In the latter period of their rule, When the transgressors have run *their course*, A king will arise, Insolent and skilled in intrigue.

(Dan 8:25 NNAS)

"And through his shrewdness He will cause deceit to succeed by his influence; And he will magnify *himself* in his heart, And he will destroy many while *they are* at ease. He will even oppose the Prince of princes, But he will be broken without human agency.

(Dan 8:26 NNAS)

"The vision of the evenings and mornings Which has been told is true; But keep the vision secret, For *it* pertains to many days *in the future*."

Time after time in each verse there is that pointing toward another day a more distant day, a day of wrath, a day when that one pictured as the little horn sets himself against the Prince of Princes. This one who will become so great does so but, "not by his own power." This time is described by the phrase . . .

“ when rebels have become completely wicked,”
at this time of complete wickedness Scripture tells us of another king...
“a stern-faced king, a master of intrigue, will arise.”

Before we consider this new king, let's consider this time of complete wickedness.
Jesus tells us of the conditions that will exist at that time . . .

(Mat 24:37 NNAS)
"For the coming of the Son of Man will
be just like the days of Noah.

(Gen 6:5 NNAS)
Then the LORD saw that the wickedness
of man was great on the earth, and that
every intent of the thoughts of his heart
was only evil continually.

The phrase shouted by those at Jesus' crucifixion is being shouted loud and clear once again...."We will not have this man to rule over us." Man is removing God from every vestige of his life and in His place erecting images of his own choosing. We can see from these verses that the end time or this time of great wickedness is still a future event, and we are to look further for the complete fulfillment of the vision of this Little Horn.

The Word is more specific as to the details of this end time:

(Luke 21:24 NNAS)
and they will fall by the edge of the sword,
and will be led captive into all the nations;
and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot
by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

This end time is for Israel and the world a time of Great Tribulation. It refers to the "times of the Gentiles being fulfilled." We realize from what we have studied elsewhere that the end of the Gentile influence will come at the return of Christ to this earth.

Who is this stern-faced king, this one who comes at this time of great wickedness? We are warned and instructed about this wicked one: (2 Th 2:9 NNAS) *that is, the one whose coming (the lawless one) is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, He will with peace destroy many; He will be the master of intrigue. He will be the great deceiver because he does not reign by his own power but by the power of Satan, the father of lies. Mankind has chosen not to know God and not to have Jesus as Lord of their lives, and would rather believe a lie than believe the truth. The whole world will be ready to embrace this wicked power. This man will set himself against God. He will not only oppose God but will claim to be God. Satan has been at work preparing for that day since his doom was sealed at Calvary. (2 Cor 4:4 NNAS) in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

Now man trapped in all those subtle delusions, such as Christian Science, Unity, Theosophy, Adventism, Mormonism, Catholicism, Jehovah's Witnesses and the New Age movement, are ready and anxious to believe another lie. This one who with peace will cause Israel to dwell in an unprotected land will turn and call all nations to destroy Israel, and, at that time, the time appointed will have arrived. He will, like his predecessor, cause the sacrifices to cease and set himself up to be god and defile the temple. This man like all those who set themselves against God will be destroyed. Supernatural, divine judgment will overtake him and the false prophet .
"These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone."

(2 Th 2:8 NNAS)
Then that lawless one will be revealed
whom the Lord will slay with the breath

of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

(Rev 19:20 NNAS)

And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.

(Dan 12:4-7 NNAS)

"But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase."

{5} Then I, Daniel, looked and behold, two others were standing, one on this bank of the river and the other on that bank of the river.

{6} And one said to the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, "How long *will it be* until the end of *these* wonders?"

{7} I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be for a time, times, and half *a time*; and as soon as they finish shattering the power of the holy people, all these *events* will be completed.