



# STANDING TALL

Studies in Daniel

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*Growing in Spirit & Truth*

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## From Here to Eternity

### Introduction to Daniel 7-8

The 1953 movie, *From Here to Eternity*, depicted the lives of those affected by the World War II, but the study this week literally lays out the scope of human events in Daniel's time from "here to eternity". This is the second time in the book that an outline of world kingdoms has been laid out and underscores the certainty of these events. Significantly, the final two kingdoms, Greece and Rome, were not powerful players on the world stage, but the prediction of their future dominance nonetheless was accurately fulfilled. In Daniel 7:1-14 a depiction of the future was given to Daniel in a vision. Four beasts arose from the sea, stirred up by the four winds, meaning that four kingdoms would arise as a result of God's Spirit moving them along. The first three, a

lion (Babylon), a bear (Persia), and a leopard (Greece) would be strong, but the last (Rome) would be unlike the rest; it would also have a future aspect to it that would boast against God. As this occurred the Ancient of Days would pass judgment and the last beast would be killed, ushering in the unending reign of the Son of Man. In the next section, 7:15-28 Daniel was given the vision's meaning and further disclosure. There would be a final kingdom which would have ten parts in the last days, out of which would arise a final king, or horn. He would boastfully war against God's people, but after three and a half years the Ancient of Days would judge him, annihilate him and destroy his kingdom forever. In the final section Daniel has another



**If we will trust in the faithfulness of God we will stand tall in the face of adversity .**

vision that reveals the destruction of personified evil. After showing the rise of Medo-Persia and Greece in the latter days a king would arise that would desecrate the Temple for 2300 days. Historically we know this to be Antiochus Epiphanes, whose defeat on Dec 25, 165BC led to the institution of Hanukah. He would be the forerunner of the Antichrist, and his destruction would foreshadow the Antichrist's defeat at Christ's return. These visions were indeed a picture of "from here to eternity".

#### The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God's pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God's family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

## Daily Study Questions for Daniel 7-8

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to [www.celebrationnet.com](http://www.celebrationnet.com), small groups, abf)

1. Read Dan 7:1-6. Describe the first 3 elements of Daniel's vision (v3, 4, 5, 6). What caused the action in the vision (v2) and what do you think this means?	
2. Looking at 7:7-8 how did the fourth element in the vision look (v7), what did it do (v7-8), and what was unique about it (v8)? Describe the actions of the little horn (v8).	
3. From 7:9-12 who took care of the little horn (v9) and how did He do it (v9, 10b, 11)? What was He like (v9-10) and what else did He do (v12)?	

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## Daniel 7-8 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. Using Daniel 7:13-14 what was the final “act” in the vision (v13-14) and to what do you think this refers (v14)?	
5. In 7:15-18 how had the vision affected Daniel (v15) and what was its overall meaning (v17, 18)? Who did Daniel ask to find this	
6. Looking at 7:19-25 what new elements of the fourth beast are revealed (v21, 22)? Specifically what would the last king do (v24-25), and for how long (v25)?	
7. According to 7:26-28 how would the last king’s reign end (v26) and what would be the final outcome (v27)? What effect did this have on Daniel (v28)? Why?	
8. From 8:1-4 what was the first part of Daniel’s vision at Susa (v3, 4)? The ram’s 2 horns stand for Medo-Persia—how successful would they be (v4)?	
9. Using 8:5-8 what would the male goat be like (v5, 6-7, 8) and what would he do (v7)? What would be the end of the large horn (v8)?	
10. Looking at 8:9-14 what grew out of one of the four horns (v9)? Describe him (v11), his rule (v12) and how long it would be (v13-14)?	
11. Based on 8:15-22 who explained the vision to Daniel (v15-17)? To what time did the vision pertain (v17, 19) and what was its meaning (v20-22)?	
12. In 8:23-27 how is the final king described (v23, 24, 25), what would he do (v24-25), and when would he rule (v26)? How did this affect Daniel (v27)?	

### Scripture to Remember

*“But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come.”*

**Daniel 7:18 (NASV)**

### Celebration Fellowship

*Help—Hope—Healing*

**We're on the web**

**[www.thehospitalchurch.com](http://www.thehospitalchurch.com)**

### Life Group Questions—Man Up & Give It Up (Daniel 3)

*(Using questions based on today’s message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)*

1. Each one finish this sentence and share it with the group: “One of the greatest sacrifices I have ever made is \_\_\_\_\_.” Why did you do it?
2. Read Daniel 3:1-6. Why did the king make this statue and what did he expect? What kind of monuments to ourselves do we create today and what do we expect? Why?
3. Why does standing on your convictions always bring conflict? How is this different than having conflict just because you are a [Christian] jerk?
4. What are some of the tests of faithfulness we have today? Discuss what the benefits are to us when we pass those tests.
5. Why does true faith 1) not mean God is now obligated 2) not mean that our will must be His will and 3) not mean that it is based on whether or not God delivers us?
6. In this story how was the confidence of the three friends confirmed, and what confidence did the king now have? How do these two aspects apply to us today?
7. Share anything else meaningful from the message if you have time.