

**“Difficult Days Ahead - Prelude to the Antichrist!”
(Daniel 8)**

After giving a prophetic overview of the Gentile empires leading up to God’s Kingdom in Daniel 2 and 7, God now gives Daniel a vision which focuses on two of these empires. Though the final outcome for the Jews is good, the road to glory will include much suffering.

Record of the Vision (1-14)

- **Setting** of the Vision (1-2)
- **Scenes** of the Vision (3-14)
 - *The Ram and Goat (3-7)
 - *The Little Horn (8-14)

Revelation of the Vision (15-25)

- **Messenger** of the Vision (15-18)
- **Meaning** of the Vision (19-25)
 - *The Ram and Goat (19-21)
 - *The Little Horn (22-25)

Response of the Vision (26-27)

- **Sealing** of the Prophecy (26)
- **Sickness** of the Prophet (27)

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Small Group/Family Discussion Guide

Icebreaker: Share about an experience you’ve had with goats, sheep or other farm animals. ☺

Discussion Questions

1. What could be some reasons that this “second vision” of Daniel zeroes in on the kingdoms of Media-Persia and Greece (Bear and Leopard of Daniel 7 = Ram and Goat of Daniel 8)
2. The angel asks “how long” the little horn will oppress God’s people, and then the answer gives a specific number of days. How does this give us hope in difficult times?
3. What are some characteristics of the coming Antichrist (yet future) we can see from his forerunner, the “little horn” of Daniel 8?
4. How can we be fortified against the “spirit of Antichrist” (1 John 2:18; 4:3) in our day, prior to the rapture and coming of the Antichrist?
5. How is Daniel’s passion to know the meaning of his vision (v 15) an example to us? (Consider 1 Peter 2:2 and 2 Timothy 2:15)
6. How should Daniel’s response to his vision (v 27) challenge and inform us as to how we should respond to Bible prophecy?

Small Group Prayer:

Ask God to help you be like Daniel in your diligence to understand God’s Word and in your tender heart for your brethren.