



Sealed Visions
&
Our Sovereign
God

Daniel 8

Daniel's dream of the four beasts

PROPHECIES IN THE BOOK OF DANIEL

606 B.C. ISAAH, JEREMIAH, NABOPOLASSAR, **NEBUCHADNEZZAR II**, DANIEL, EZEKIEL, 70 YEARS OF CAPTIVITY

626 B.C. BABYLONIA, KINGDOM OF GOLD

539 B.C. KINGDOM OF SILVER, MEDO-PERSIA

538 B.C. DARIUS THE MEDE, CYRUS THE GREAT, CAMBYSES II, DARIUS THE GREAT, XERXES THE GREAT / AHASUERUS, ARTAXERXES LONGIMANUS, XERXES II, SOCCIANUS, DARIUS II, ARTAXERXES II, ARTAXERXES III, ARSES, DARIUS III, BATTLE OF ARBELA

486 B.C. XERXES THE GREAT / AHASUERUS, ARTAXERXES LONGIMANUS, XERXES II, SOCCIANUS, DARIUS II, ARTAXERXES II, ARTAXERXES III, ARSES, DARIUS III, BATTLE OF ARBELA

331 B.C. ALEXANDER THE GREAT, 336-323 B.C.

168 B.C. ROME, KINGDOM OF IRON

4 B.C. CAESAR AUGUSTUS, TIBERIUS, CLAUDIUS, NERO, GALBA, OTHO, VITELLIUS, VESPASIAN, TITUS, DOMITIAN, TRAIAN, HAEDRIAN

A.D. 30 JESUS

A.D. 31 CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

A.D. 476 FALL OF WESTERN ROME

A.D. 508 CROWN OF FRANKS

A.D. 538 PAVIA SUPREMACY

A.D. 1798 TIME OF THE END

A.D. 1844 SECOND COMING

“one like a son of man”

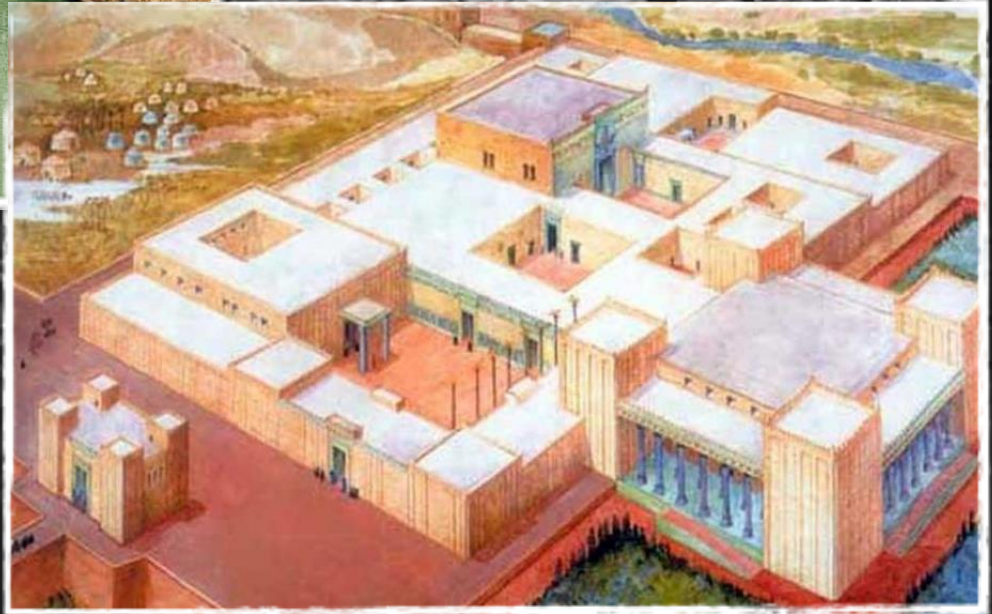


Daniel 8:1-2 (ESV)

1 In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me, Daniel, after that which appeared to me at the first. 2 And I saw in the vision; and when I saw, I was in Susa the citadel, which is in the province of Elam. And I saw in the vision, and I was at the Ulai canal.



*Citadel of Susa
on the Ulai Canal*



Daniel 8:3-4 (ESV)

3 I raised my eyes and saw, and see, a ram standing on the bank of the canal. It had two horns, and both horns were high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last. 4 I saw the ram charging westward and northward and southward. No beast could stand before him, and there was no one who could rescue from his power. He did as he pleased and became great.

Daniel 8:5-6 (ESV)

5 As I was considering, see, a male goat came from the west across the face of the whole earth, without touching the ground. And the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes.

6 He came to the ram with the two horns, which I had seen standing on the bank of the canal, and he ran at him in his powerful wrath.

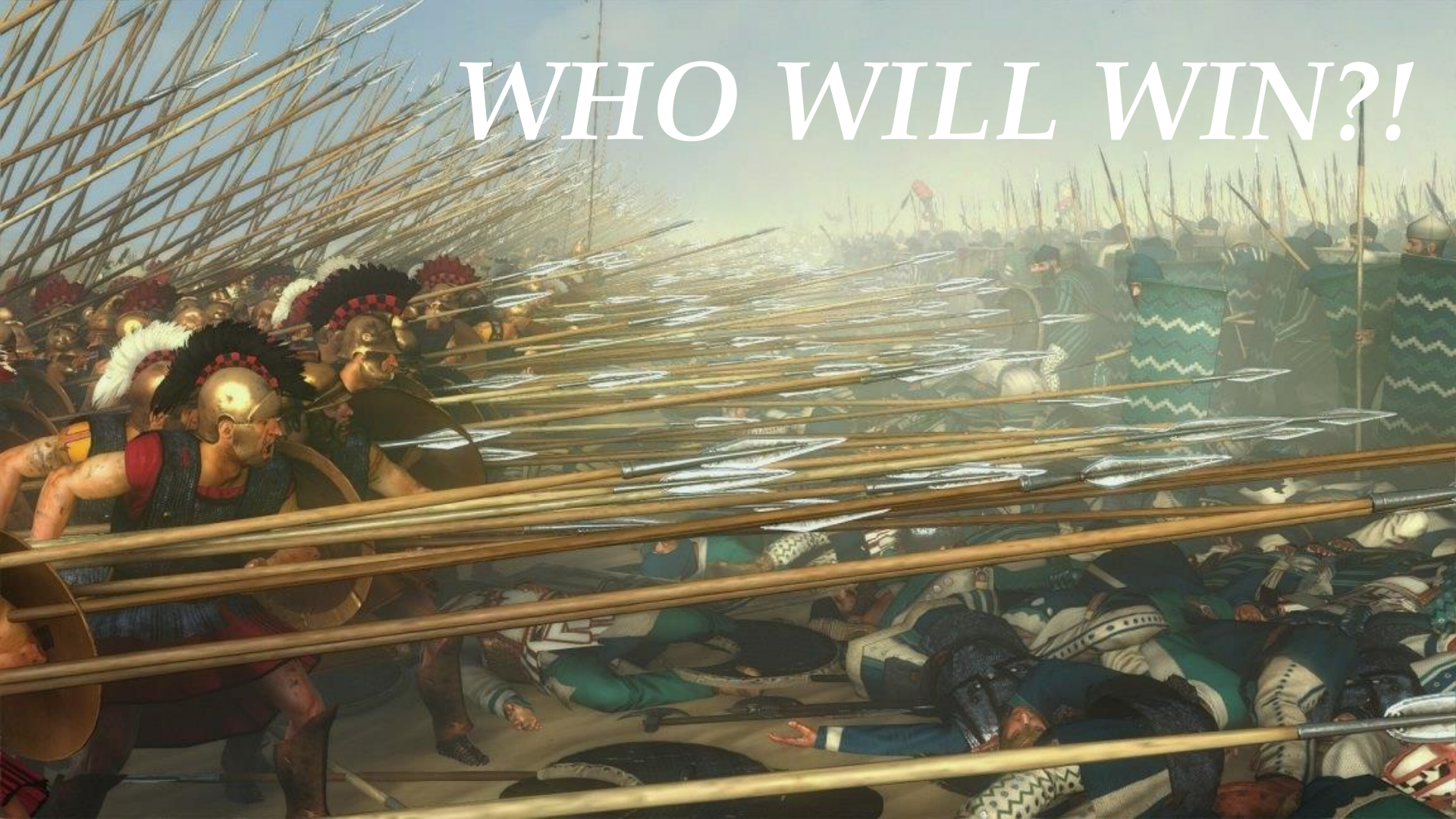
Daniel 8:7-8 (ESV)

7 I saw him come close to the ram, and he was enraged against him and struck the ram and broke his two horns. And the ram had no power to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled on him. And there was no one who could rescue the ram from his power. 8 Then the goat became exceedingly great, but when he was strong, the great horn was broken, and instead of it there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven.

WHO WILL WIN?!



WHO WILL WIN?!





WHO WILL WIN?!

Why send a vision of a future Daniel
will never live to see?

Daniel 8:9-10 (ESV)

9 Out of one of them came a little horn, which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the glorious land. 10 It grew great, even to the host of heaven. And some of the host and some of the stars it threw down to the ground and trampled on them.

Daniel 8:11-12 (ESV)

11 It became great, even as great as the Prince of the host. And the regular burnt offering was taken away from him, and the place of his sanctuary was overthrown. 12 And a host will be given over to it together with the regular burnt offering because of transgression, and it will throw truth to the ground, and it will act and prosper.

Daniel 8:13-14 (ESV)

13 Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to the one who spoke, “For how long is the vision concerning the regular burnt offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of the sanctuary and host to be trampled underfoot?” 14 And he said to me, “For 2,300 evenings and mornings. Then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state.”



Antiochus IV Epiphanes
"God Manifest"

God's Purposes

1. God seeks to steady His people as they walk through what lies ahead.
2. God wants to equip and forearm His people to face the coming crises.

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”

(Ephesians 6:12; ESV)

“The little horn grew great, even to the host of heaven. And some of the host and some of the stars it threw down to the ground and trampled on them. It became great, even as great as the Prince of the host.”

(Daniel 8:10-11; ESV)

Daniel 8:15-17 (ESV)

15 When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it. And see, there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. 16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, and it called, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision." 17 So he came near where I stood. And when he came, I was frightened and fell on my face. But he said to me, "Understand, O son of man, that the vision is for the time of the end."

Daniel 8:18-19 (ESV)

18 And when he had spoken to me, I fell into a deep sleep with my face to the ground. But he touched me and made me stand up. 19 He said, “See, I will make known to you what shall be at the latter end of the indignation, for it refers to the appointed time of the end.”

Daniel 8:20-22 (ESV)

20 As for the ram that you saw with the two horns, these are the kings of Media and Persia. 21 And the goat is the king of Greece. And the great horn between his eyes is the first king. 22 As for the horn that was broken, in place of which four others arose, four kingdoms shall arise from his nation, but not with his power.

Daniel 8:23-24 (ESV)

23 And at the latter end of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their limit, a king of bold face, one who understands riddles, shall arise. 24 His power shall be great—but not by his own power; and he shall cause fearful destruction and shall succeed in what he does, and destroy mighty men and the people who are the saints.

Daniel 8:25-26 (ESV)

25 By his cunning he shall make deceit prosper under his hand, and in his own mind he shall become great. Without warning he shall destroy many. And he shall even rise up against the Prince of princes, and he shall be broken—but by no human hand. 26 The vision of the evenings and the mornings that has been told is true, but seal up the vision, for it refers to many days from now.”

Daniel 8:27 (ESV)

27 And I, Daniel, was overcome and lay sick for some days. Then I rose and went about the king's business, but I was appalled by the vision and did not understand it.

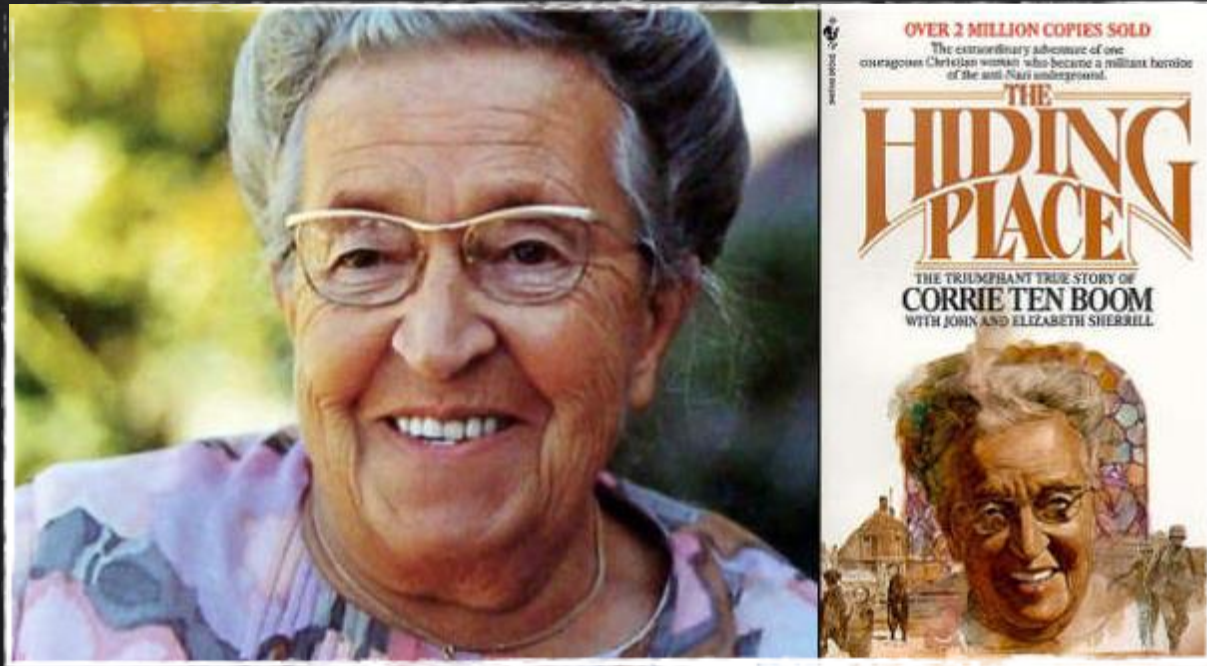
Why seal the
vision?



We often demand God give us all the answers and reveal to us exactly how our future will unfold.

When Daniel gets to see life and history from God's perspective, he realizes he cannot begin to fully process it. The experience proves utterly overwhelming.

Corrie ten Boom



The Hiding Place (1971)

“The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this instruction.”

(Deuteronomy 29:29)

“Some knowledge is too heavy for children. When you are older and stronger you can bear it. For now you must trust me to carry it for you.’ And I was satisfied. More than satisfied—wonderfully at peace. There were answers to this and all my hard questions—for now I was content to leave them in father’s keeping.”

(The Hiding Place, p. 42)