

#1209 America as Media-Persia – Media-Persia in Daniel chapter 8

Key Understanding: *Media-Persia in Daniel chapter 8.* Media-Persia is also seen in Daniel chapter 8, as a ram with two horns, one higher than the other. The higher horn represents Persia, while the other horn represents Media, Daniel 8:3. Then, a he goat arises and runs into the ram “*in the fury of his power,*” Daniel 8:6. This is describing the defeat of Media-Persia by Alexander the Great, representing the Grecian Empire.

Daniel 8:1-8 (KJV) *In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar [in Babylon, about 551 B.C.] a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. [The events of Daniel chapter 8 actually precede those of the “handwriting on the wall” in Daniel chapter 5. Also note that the Lord apparently gave Daniel this vision shortly before Cyrus the Great rose against the Medes and defeated them, in 550-549 B.C.]*

2 And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan [Susa, a winter capital of Media-Persia; Persepolis, located in the mountains, was a summer capital] in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.

*3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river **A RAM WHICH HAD TWO HORNS:** and the two horns were high; but **ONE** [Persia] **WAS HIGHER THAN THE OTHER***

[Media], and the higher came up last [reflecting the rise of the Persian Empire after the Median Empire]. {the other: Heb. the second}

4 I saw the ram pushing westward [defeating Babylon in 539 B.C.], and northward [defeating Lydia in 547-546 B.C.], and southward [defeating Egypt in 525 B.C.; note how this would match up with the vision in Daniel 7:5 in the first year of Belshazzar, about 553 B.C., in which Media-Persia is the bear with three ribs in its mouth (reference Unsealing #1206)]; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great [reflected through the name Cyrus the Great].

5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west [Greece] on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn [Alexander the Great] between his eyes. {touched...: or, none touched him in the earth} {a notable...: Heb. a horn of sight}

6 And he [Alexander the Great and Greece] came to the ram that had two horns [Media-Persia], which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.

7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two



horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. [Alexander the Great defeated Media-Persia in 331 B.C., capturing the cities of Babylon, Susa, and Persepolis. The city of Persepolis was burned to some extent, possibly in revenge for the Persian burning of Athens in 480 B.C. The Greeks had major conflicts with the Persian Empire in the years around 500 B.C.]

8 Therefore the he goat waxed very great [reflected through the name Alexander the Great]: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken [Alexander the Great died young, on June 10, 323 B.C., having taken seriously ill with malaria at Babylon]; and for it [from it] came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven. [No single leader emerged after the death of Alexander the Great, and the Greek Empire soon split into independent states or monarchies.]



(above) Alexander's troops burning and looting the main palace in Persepolis, the capital of the Persian Empire.
(below) The Empire of Alexander the Great.



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