

A stone relief carving depicting a ram and a goat, likely representing the biblical story of Daniel 8. The ram is on the left, facing right, and the goat is on the right, facing left. They are both shown in a dynamic, almost dancing pose. The carving is set against a dark, textured background.

The Ram, the Goat, and the Little Horn (Pt. 2)

Daniel 8

An Outline of Daniel

- I. The 1st Hebrew section: Introduction (1:1 — 2:4a)
- II. The Aramaic section: YHWH's message to and plan for pagan nations (2:4b—7:28)
- III. The 2nd Hebrew section: YHWH's message to and plan for Israel (8-12)

The Ram, the Goat, and the Little Horn (Pt. 2)

Daniel 8

- I. The Vision of the Ram, the Goat, and the Little Horn
(1-14)
 - A. The Vision's Setting (1-2)

Location of Susa



The Ram, the Goat, and the Little Horn (Pt. 2)

Daniel 8

- I. The Vision of the Ram, the Goat, and the Little Horn (1-14)
 - A. The Vision's Setting (1-2)
 - B. The Vision's Content (3-14)
 - 1. The Ram (3-4) - Cyrus & the Empire of Medo-Persia

Medo-Persian Empire



The Ram, the Goat, and the Little Horn (Pt. 2)

Daniel 8

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 - A. The Vision's Setting (1-2)
 - B. The Vision's Content (3-14)
 - 1. The Ram (3-4) - Cyrus & the Empire of Medo-Persia
 - 2. The Goat (5-8) - Alexander the Great & the Empire of Greece

Alexander's Empire



Division of Alexander's Kingdom

1. Antipater (later Cassander) ruled Greece and Macedonia.
2. Lysimachus ruled Thrace and much of Asia Minor.
3. Ptolemy I ruled Egypt and Palestine.
4. Seleucus ruled Syria, Babylon, and much of the Middle East.

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 - A. The Vision's Setting (1-2)
 - B. The Vision's Content (3-14)
 - 1. The Ram (3-4) - Cyrus & the Empire of Medo-Persia
 - 2. The Goat (5-8) - Alexander the Great & the Empire of Greece
 - 3. The Little Horn (9-14) - Antiochus (IV) Epiphanes



Antiochus's Reign of Terror

- By **175 BC**, he had schemed his way to power.
- His persecution of the Jews began in earnest in **170 BC**, when he assassinated the Jewish high priest, Onias III.
- In **169 BC**, he invaded Egypt.
 - As he returned home to Syria, he stopped in Jerusalem, murdered many, and plundered the temple.

1 Maccabees 1:20-24

“He arrogantly entered the sanctuary and took the golden altar, the lampstand for the light, and all its utensils. He took also the table for the bread of the Presence, the cups for drink offerings, the bowls, the golden censers, the curtain, the crowns, and the gold decoration on the front of the temple; he stripped it all off. He took the silver and the gold, and the costly vessels; he took also the hidden treasures that he found. Taking them all, he went into his own land. He shed much blood, and spoke with great arrogance.”

2 Maccabees 5:11-14

“Raging inwardly, he left Egypt and took the city by storm. He commanded his soldiers to cut down relentlessly everyone they met and to kill those who went into their houses. Then there was massacre of young and old, destruction of boys, women, and children, and slaughter of young girls and infants. Within the total of three days eighty thousand were destroyed, forty thousand in hand-to-hand fighting, and as many were sold into slavery as were killed. “

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- In 168 BC, he invaded Egypt again.
 - He was confronted by the Roman general Laenas.
- After his humiliation in Egypt, in 167 BC he sent his chief tax collector, Apollonius, to Jerusalem.

1 Maccabees 1:29-32

“Two years later the king sent to the cities of Judah a chief collector of tribute, and he came to Jerusalem with a large force [more than 20,000 soldiers] Deceitfully he spoke peaceable words to them, and they believed him; but he suddenly fell upon the city [on the Sabbath Day], dealt it a severe blow, and destroyed many people of Israel. He plundered the city, burned it with fire, and tore down its houses and its surrounding walls. They took captive the women and children, and seized the livestock. “

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- After his humiliation in Egypt, in 167 BC he sent his chief tax collector, Apollonius, to Jerusalem.
- In **167 BC**, he issued the order to stop all temple worship (1 Mac. 1:41-50).
- In **Dec. 167 BC**, he erected an altar to Zeus at the temple!

1 Maccabees 1:54

“Now on the fifteenth day of Chislev, in the one hundred forty-fifth year, they erected a desolating sacrilege on the altar of burnt offering.”

2 Maccabees 6:2-5

“[He caused them] to pollute the temple in Jerusalem and to call it the temple of Olympian Zeus.... Harsh and utterly grievous was the onslaught of evil. For the temple was filled with debauchery and reveling by the Gentiles, who dallied with prostitutes and had intercourse with women within the sacred precincts, and besides brought in things for sacrifice that were unfit. The altar was covered with abominable offerings that were forbidden by the laws. People could neither keep the sabbath, nor observe the festivals of their ancestors, nor so much as confess themselves to be Jews.

1 Maccabees 1:56-57

“The books of the law that they found they tore to pieces and burned with fire. Anyone found possessing the book of the covenant, or anyone who adhered to the law, was condemned to death by decree of the king.”

“2300 Evenings & Mornings”

❑ 2300 Sacrifices

- Since there were two a day, this totals 1150 days, or three years and two months.

❑ 2300 Days

- There are several reasons to accept this view...
 1. Literally, the Hebrew reads: “Until evening morning, 2300.”
 - In the OT, the phrase “evening and morning” describes a day.
 2. In Hebrew, to distinguish between two parts of a day, you include the number with both parts.
 - E.g., “40 days and 40 nights” (Gen. 7:4)
 3. To appeal to 7:25 and 9:27 to argue for 3 1/2 years here is invalid, since those passages are describing the Antichrist, not Antiochus.