



BYKOTA
Verse by
Verse
Journey
Through
The Book
of Daniel

Week 18

Daniel 8: 2(NASB)

*I looked in the vision,
and while I was looking I
was in the citadel of Susa,
which is in the province of
Elam; and I looked in the
vision and I myself was
beside the Ulai Canal.*



Niniveh
ASSYRIA

Assur
Tigris

BABYLONIA

Sippar
Eshnunna
Babylon
Kish
Nippur

SUMER

Euphrates
Uruk
Lagash
Ur

Awan
Susa

ELAM

MEDES

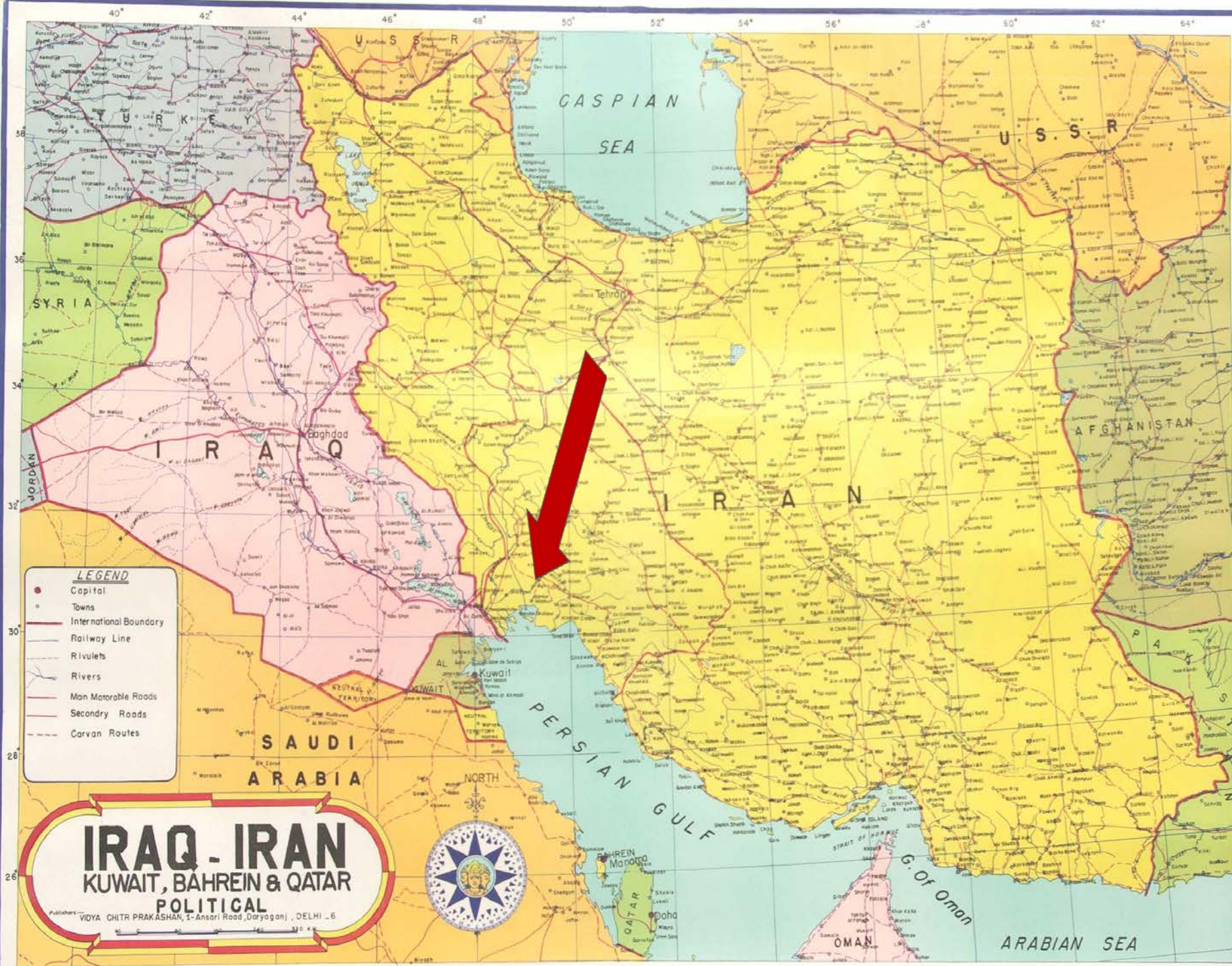
PARTHIAN

Anshan

PERSIANS

ARABS

Persian Gulf





Interesting Fact

So far from chapter 2 in verse 4 to the end of chapter 7, the language in Daniel has been Aramaic which is the language of Babylon. But in chapter 8, it changes back to Hebrew, which I believe demonstrates that Daniel will be speaking about the times of the Gentiles from a Jewish perspective.

Interesting Fact

From chapter 7 to the end of Daniel he is discussing the final antichrist.

Do you ever wonder why there have been so many evil world leaders throughout history?

Mathew 24: 15-28(NASB)

Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. “Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house.

“Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. “But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! “But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. “For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.

“Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. “Then if anyone says to you, ‘Behold, here is the Christ,’ or ‘There He is,’ do not believe him. “For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.

“Behold, I have told you in advance. “So if they say to you, ‘Behold, He is in the wilderness,’ do not go out, or, ‘Behold, He is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe them. “For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be. “Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

Mathew 24: 36(NASB)

“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.

Question-Does satan know when the end will come?

What is the significance of this fact?

Interesting Fact

In chapter 8 of Daniel we are going to get a close look at two of Satan's men that he was grooming to take over the world.

Although they failed it is important that we study these men because the final antichrist will be modeled after them.

Daniel 8: 3(NASB)

Then I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns were long, but one was longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last.

Question

Do you remember the bear
with one side raised up
higher than the other in
the previous chapter?

This is the Medes and the
Persians.

Interesting Fact

Ammianus Marcellinus, a fourth century historian, said: "*On all the rulers of Persia or the Medo-Persian Empire...they bore a ram, or the head of a ram, on some part of their garments or some part of their armor.*"





Interesting Fact

The Persians were the dominant power and overshadowed the Medes, however the Persians had a relatively insignificant beginning and actually came to power after the Medes. After the Persian army was created the Medes joined the Persians under Darius and the Medo-Persian Empire began.

Daniel 8: 3(NASB)

Then I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns were long, but one was longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last.

Interesting Fact

When the Medo-Persian empire captured the world they originated in the east.

They then first pushed west, and took Syria, Asia Minor, and Babylon.

Interesting Fact

Their next move was north, and they captured Armenia and all the region around the Caspian Sea. Finally they pushed south, and took Egypt and Ethiopia.

They spread west, then north, then south.

Daniel 8: 4(NASB)

I saw the ram butting westward, northward, and southward, and no other beasts could stand before him nor was there anyone to rescue from his power, but he did as he pleased and magnified himself.

Daniel 8: 5(NASB)

While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes.

Daniel 8: 5(NASB)

While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes.

Question

Do you remember the world dominating kingdom that came up after the Medes and the Persians in Nebuchadnezzar's as well as Daniel's previous dream?

Interesting Fact

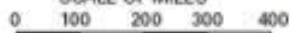
What direction do you think
the Greek empire came
from?

THE PERSIAN EMPIRE

490 B.C.



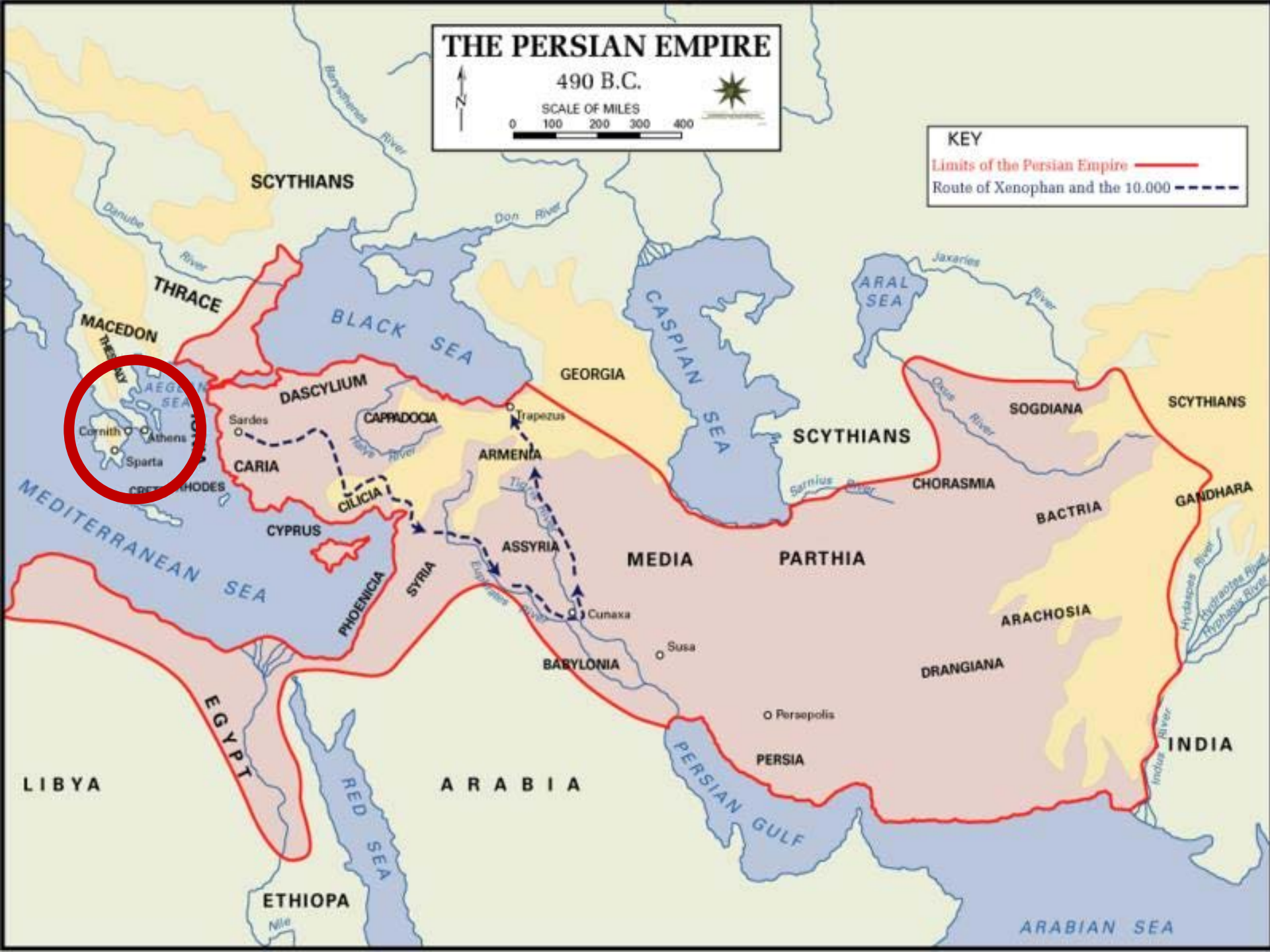
SCALE OF MILES



KEY

Limits of the Persian Empire ———

Route of Xenophon and the 10,000 - - - - -



Daniel 8: 5(NASB)

While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes.

Interesting Fact

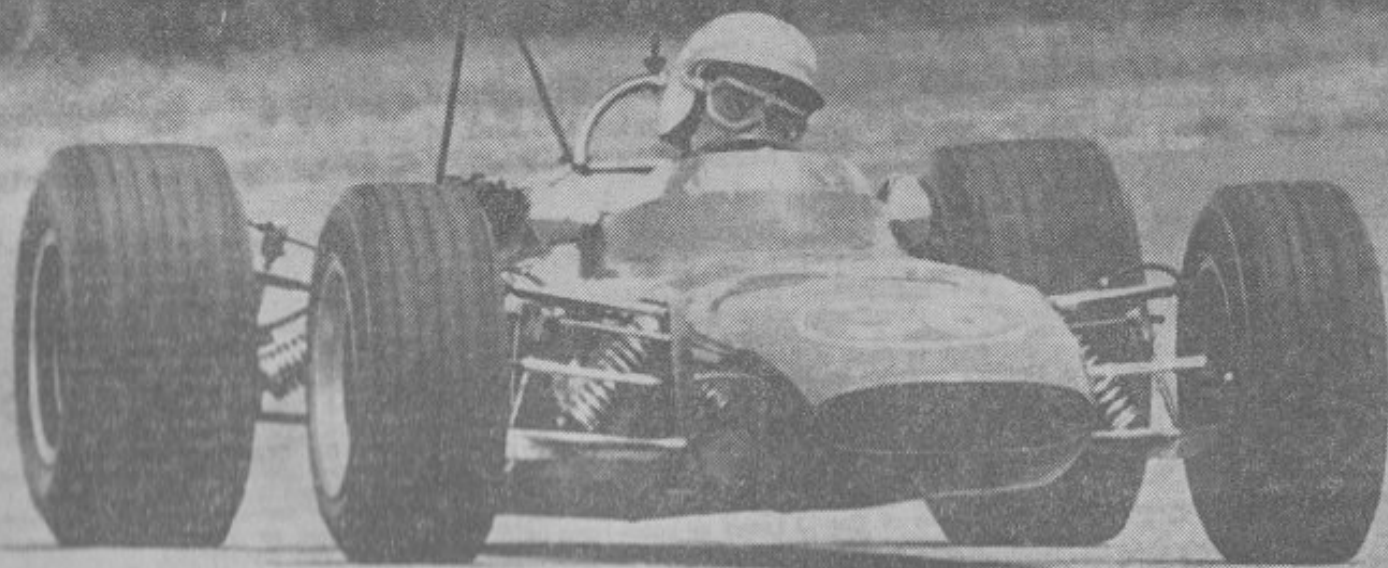
Note the reference to not touching the ground. This references the speed of which the Greek Empire under the rule of a single mighty King Alexander overtook the world.

Interesting Fact

If you think about it this phrase has carried over into our English language.

What term do we use when someone is moving very rapidly?

FLEW AROUND THE TRACK



A fantastic display of driving by Graham McRae of Wellington in his self-designed McRae Ford with revolutionary canefoil at the Levin motor race. McRae won the feature event, the Rothman's Trophy Race.

Also, remember Daniel's
first dream in chapter 7

Daniel 7: 6(NASB)

"After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird; the beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

Daniel 8: 5(NASB)

While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes.

Daniel 8: 6(NASB)

He came up to the ram that had the two horns, which I had seen standing in front of the canal, and rushed at him in his mighty wrath.

Daniel 8: 7(NASB)

I saw him come beside the ram, and he was enraged at him; and he struck the ram and shattered his two horns,

Daniel 8: 7(NASB)

and the ram had no strength to withstand him. So he hurled him to the ground and trampled on him, and there was none to rescue the ram from his power.

Question

What is happening now?

The Medes and the Persians just fell to the Greek empire under Alexander the great.

What Daniel saw in his vision hundreds of years before it happened is now confirmed as fact in historical records.

Alexander the Great was born in 356 BC. Alexander was 21 years old when he became king. Alexander was educated under Aristotle and was well-known for his intelligence.

In 334 BC, just two years after he became king, he put together an army and began heading west on a ruthless march where he was known to have wiped out entire cities.

When he began his rule

Thebes resisted and

Alexander ordered the
inhabitants to be either
slaughtered or sold into
slavery and he ordered the
city itself destroyed.

Alexander thus wiped Thebes,
one the major cities of Greece,
out of existence.

Alexander and his troops crossed into the Medo-Persian Empire and found a much larger Persian army waiting for them. But when the fighting began they literally devastated the Persian army with abnormal speed and strength, and the ram was crushed and never rose again.

Daniel 8: 8(NASB)

Then the male goat magnified himself exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven.

When Alexander the Great reached the peak of his power he returned to the city of Babylon to rest and to plan his next conquest.

On May 29, 323 BC he attended a dinner given by a close friend.

Alexander joined in the heavy drinking during the day-long event.

Complaining that he did not feel well, he went to bed. Alexander's health steadily deteriorated as fever wracked his body.

Finally, too weak to leave
his bed, the conqueror of
the world died ten days
later.

The great horn was broken
just as soon as he became
mighty.

Daniel 8: 8(NASB)

Then the male goat magnified himself exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven.

The exact cause of Alexander's death is unknown. Historians have debated the issue for centuries, attributing it to poison, malaria, typhoid fever or other maladies.

What is agreed upon is that the Macedonian king died in early June 323 BC while suffering a high fever that had lasted ten days. His empire was then divided up under his four generals as rulers.

Daniel 8: 8(NASB)

Then the male goat magnified himself exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven.

Cassander ruled Macedonia and Greece which was west. Lysimachus ruled Thrace, Bithynia, and Asia Minor-which was north. Seleucus ruled Syria and Babylon-which was east. And Ptolemy ruled, Egypt, Israel, Arabia-which was south.

Daniel 8: 8(NASB)

Then the male goat magnified himself exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven.

Daniel 8: 9(NASB)

Out of one of them came forth a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Beautiful Land.

Who is “them” referring to?

Please note that his little horn is not to be confused with the small horn in Daniel 7, which we know to be the final antichrist.

The small horn in Daniel 8 is coming out of one of the four kings in the Greek empire and the little horn in Daniel 7 is coming out of the revived Roman empire.

History tells us who this little horn is. His name is Antiochus from the Seleucus dynasty.

Cassander ruled Macedonia and Greece which was west.

Lysimachus ruled Thrace, Bithynia, and Asia Minor-which was north. Seleucus

ruled Syria and Babylon-which was east. And Ptolemy ruled, Egypt, Israel, Arabia-which was south.

Antiochus had absolutely no claim to the throne. So he rose out of insignificance, indicated by Daniel when he says he was a small horn. Let's look at how he ascended the throne in Daniel 11: 21.

Daniel 11: 21(NLT)

The next to come to power will be a despicable man who is not in line for royal succession. He will slip in when least expected and take over the kingdom by flattery and intrigue.

Question

Who else takes control of the world without firing a shot?

The antichrist.

Revelation 6: 1-2

I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.

Daniel 8: 9(NASB)

*Out of one of them came forth a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the **Beautiful Land.***

Question

Where is the Beautiful
Land?

Jerusalem.

Daniel 8: 9(NASB)

Out of one of them came forth a rather small horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Beautiful Land (west).

History tells us that
Antiochus controlled the
east, the west and the
south with little impact on
the north.

Daniel 8: 10(NASB)

It grew up to the host of heaven and caused some of the host and some of the stars to fall to the earth, and it trampled them down.

Before we go any further
let's look at what Daniel
considers a star to be.

Daniel 12: 3

Daniel 12: 3(NASB)

Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

In Daniel's mind stars, or
the hosts of heaven,
represent the obedient,
faithful people of God.
Daniel sees this king doing
everything he can to
mislead or massacre the
people of God.

Daniel 8: 11(NASB)

*It even magnified itself to
be equal with the
Commander of the host;
and it removed the regular
sacrifice from Him, and the
place of His sanctuary was
thrown down.*

Daniel 8: 12(NASB)

And on account of transgression the host will be given over to the horn along with the regular sacrifice; and it will fling truth to the ground and perform its will and prosper.

Listen to some of the recorded facts about this evil king. (Much of this information comes from historical documents written by the Macabees)

He made them follow strange laws. For example, he started out with the worship of Zeus and Apollo at the stadium at the foot of the temple. And, pretty soon, he brought it in to God's temple.

He set up Zeus in the Holy
of Holies and issued a
decree that any Jew
participated in any Jewish
ceremony the penalty was
death.

If he found a mother who circumcised a child, he slew the baby and tied the baby around the mother's neck, marched her through the middle of town and threw her over a cliff to her death.

Daniel 8: 11(NASB)

*It even magnified itself to
be equal with the
Commander of the host;
and it removed the regular
sacrifice from Him, and the
place of His sanctuary was
thrown down.*

Question

Who is the host?

God's people.

Who is the Commander of
the host?

God

Listen to the following
quoted from the
Maccabees.

"And the King Antiochus wrote to his whole kingdom that all should be as one people, and everyone should abandon his customs. And all the heathen agreed to the commandment of the king. Yea, many of the Israelites found pleasure in his religion and sacrificed unto idols and profaned the Sabbath.

And the king sent letters by messengers to Jerusalem and the cities of Judah that they should follow the foreign customs of the land and keep burnt offerings and sacrifices and drink offerings out of the sanctuary, and that they should profane Sabbaths and festival days and pollute the sanctuary and the priests.

They should build altars in groves and idol temples and sacrifice pigs' flesh and unclean animals, and that they should leave their sons uncircumcised, make their souls abominable with all manner of uncleanness and profanation to the end that they might forget the law and change all the ordinances.

*And whosoever would not
do according to the
commandment of the king,
he should die."*



"Theos Antiochus Theos Epiphenes," which means Antiochus, god manifest.

In the end Antiochus had killed 80,000 Jews and sold 40,000 more into slavery, plundered the temple and dedicated it to his idols, he spread the fluids from a pig that he slaughtered on the altar and spread the fluids all through the temple,

he forced pork down the throats of the priests, and only allowed to worship of zeus and other false gods in the temple and he established prostitution in the temple chambers thereby turning God's temple into a brothel.

Daniel 8: 13(NASB)

Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to that particular one who was speaking, “How long will the vision about the regular sacrifice apply,

Daniel 8: 13(NASB)

*while the transgression
causes horror, so as to
allow both the holy place
and the host to be
trampled?”*

Daniel 8: 14(NASB)

He said to me, “For 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the holy place will be properly restored.”

We know from history that Judas Maccabeus, the great leader of that family who led the revolution against Antiochus, came in and cleansed the temple. The temple was restored on December 25th, 165 BC.

Although we do not know the exact day these atrocities began, we know the year. It is recorded historical fact that the Jewish atrocities began in the year 171 BC. Until 171 BC, historical record reveals there was peace between Antiochus and the Jews.

Daniel 8: 14(NASB)

He said to me, “For 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the holy place will be properly restored.”

Let's do some math:

$2,300 \text{ days} / 365 = 6.3 \text{ years}$

Jewish atrocities began in
the year 171 BC

$171 \text{ BC} + 6 \text{ years} = 165 \text{ BC}$

Temple cleansed=December
25th, 165 BC

Let's do some more math:

Herodotus, the historian, tells us that the Medes and the Persians were outside the city in the night in which Belshazzar had his feast. The date is recorded as the 16th day of Tishri, 539 B.C. This correlates to the 11th or 12th of October, 539 B.C.

Let's do some more math:

Daniel had this vision in
539 BC

Temple cleansed=December
25th, 165 BC

$539 - 165 = 375$ years

How did Daniel know exactly
what was going to happen 375
years later???

GOD!!!