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We now continue our studies on:

The Story of Daniel 8 and 12

Prophecy Research Initiative

presents

The Story of Daniel 8 and 12

Franklin S. Fowler Jr., M.D.

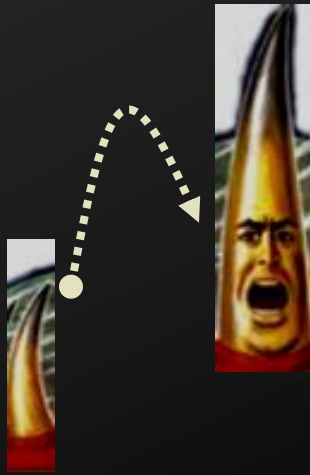


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These conclusions are always tentative since new light constantly unfolds.

Lesson Seven –
Daniel 8 & 12

That Evil “Little Horn”





The “little horn” started out small in both the Daniel 7 and 8 visions – then became “great” and belligerent.

Before we review those “stories,” let’s first look more deeply into the meaning of “horns” in prophecy! What do they really represent?

In the agrarian life of Bible times, God used illustrations from crops, nature, farm animals and even weather to convey lessons. He even used the parts of animals to teach amazing truths.

That is where the “horns” come in.

Let’s now tiptoe into that school of symbols.

Daniel was also interested in this illustration:

“I considered the horns.” (Dan. 7:8)

Later, when he couldn't understand:

“My cogitations much troubled me.” (Dan. 7:28)

God did give some explanations as metaphoric “starters,” and we even have a New Testament clue:



- *“The ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings [kingdoms] that shall arise.”* (Dan. 7:24)
- *“The ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet.”* (Rev. 17:12)

The horns are best viewed as *kingdoms*.

There are other special illustrations where the Bible uses the “horn” symbol:

When Israel apostatized, Solomon noted about God’s reaction: *“He hath cut off in his fierce anger all the horn of Israel: he hath drawn back his right hand from before the enemy, and he burned against Jacob like a flaming fire, which devoureth round about.”* (Lam. 2:3)

That “horn” represented glory, might and kingdom power!

The “right hand” represents *protection* and *honor*.

There are other incredible portrayals of horns that helps us to solidify their great prophetic meaning.

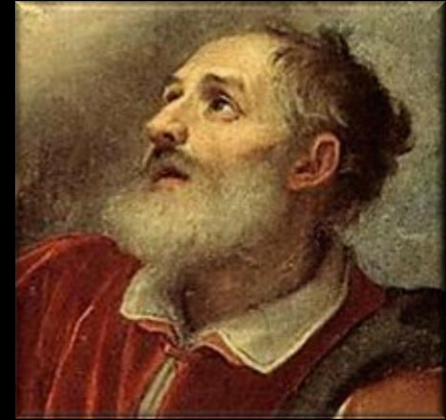


Abraham was about to take the life of his son, Isaac. His hand was stopped by an angel.

The Record says:
“Abraham lifted up his eyes ...” (Gen. 22:13)

When we lift up our eyes, we see the “Ram of God.” When Abraham lifted up his eyes, he saw a ram caught in the thicket.

The Bible says: the ram was “*caught in a thicket by his horns.*” (Gen. 22:13)



This “ram” represented Jesus, who became a substitute for us. The source of His glory and power – His “horns.” He voluntarily made Himself helpless by becoming a man (caught in the thicket of this world) and relinquishing His power to the vicissitudes of this world. Because of this, something wonderful occurs:

Jesus gave up His heavenly “might and power” to bring to us glory, protection and power!

In amazing language, Samuel shares with us the wonders of ancient metaphors. Jesus, Jehovah, will become the “horn of our salvation!”

“And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; the God of my rock;

“In him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me.” (II Sam. 22:2-3)

With those “horn” illustrations in our thinking, we can now move to that “little horn” that Daniel has so much to say about.

As a point of reference, let’s look at some of the descriptive information given to us of a “little horn” from the time of the Dark Ages in Daniel 7.

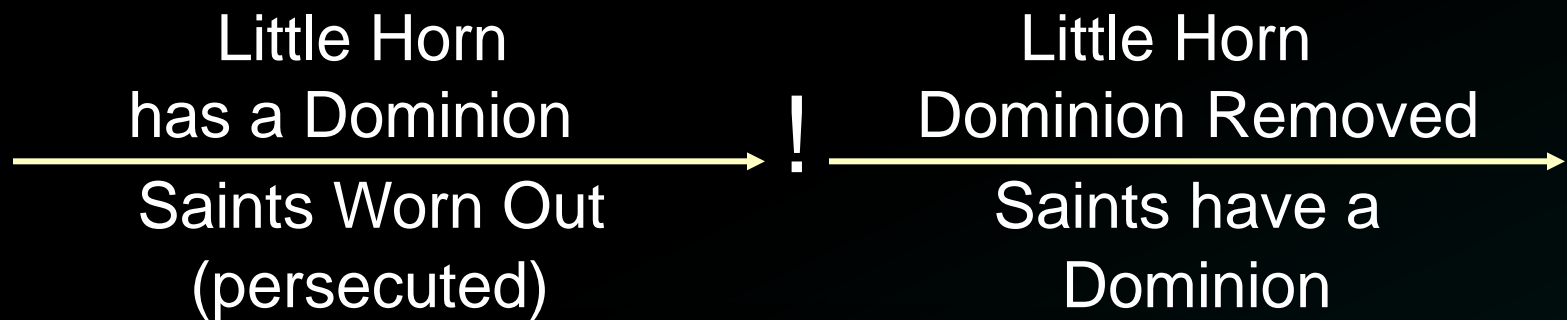


Early in his writing Daniel said that God was the One who had authority to change “times and seasons” related to His “clocks.” (Dan. 2:21)

Daniel, however, long after he penned *those* words, was told of a power that would arise, assuming that authority.

*“And he [a little horn] shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and **think to change times and laws:** and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.”* (Dan. 7:25)

Daniel then heard in vision that the “dominion” of that “little horn” would eventually be taken away and given to the saints! (7:27) That was a prophetic promise to help us cope with the interim time and give us historical insight of what we might yet experience from the end-time “little horn.”



This prophecy extends from the onset of papal Rome to past the eschaton.

Daniel 7 is the introductory prophecy of the “little horn.”

It arises totally different from another “little horn” vision that we are about to discuss from Daniel 8. Both represent the same power. They come, however, from a different era!

Little Horn Power One (Dan. 7):

1. Speaks out against God
2. Persecutes the saints
3. Changes God’s laws and clocks
4. Has a kingdom dominion for a specific period of time



That gives us some expectancy for Daniel 8!

In Daniel 8:21, Gabriel said of the rough he-goat:

“The great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.” (Dan. 8:21) That’s specific!

Historically, it was Alexander the Great of Greece. At the end of time the prophetic focus is on a “little horn” that becomes “great,” from a metaphorical Greek Empire. We’ve already learned that the “Greek beast,” or “rough male-goat,” is Satan.

What “horn” power is a unique support to him at the “time of the end?”

Here is where our story begins:

First a historical review:

“Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.” (Dan. 8:8)

Now the symbolic message begins!

“And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.” (Dan. 8:9)

The focus starts with these thoughts:

“... four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven. And out of one of them came forth a little horn.” (Dan. 8:8-9)



What does the “little horn” come out of?

The Hebrew text tells us it originates from one of the four winds (not from one of the four horns).



The direction that “little horn” comes from is as important as knowing about the horn.

Which of those four winds does it come from?

“... toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.” (Dan. 8:9)

Not out of the head of a Roman Beast – as is implied in Daniel 7 – but it comes:

Out of a north wind [symbolic of war and strife (Jer. 25:32-33)]. North is also where God’s throne is. (Psa. 48:2)

But **that is also** where Satan constantly attempts to penetrate. In fact, he makes it look like that is where his “palace and throne” are.

The “little horn” is one of his minions related to the “north!”

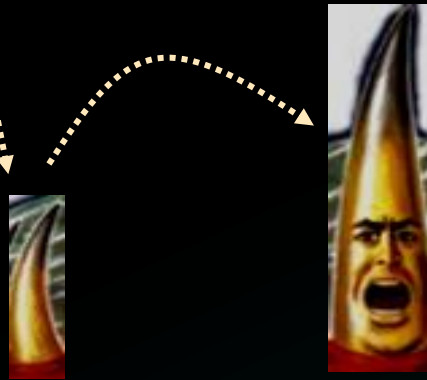
The “little horn,” it says, “*came forth.*”

That Hebrew word, *yasa*, means it moved from one point to another with military precision. It is highly organized and powerful.



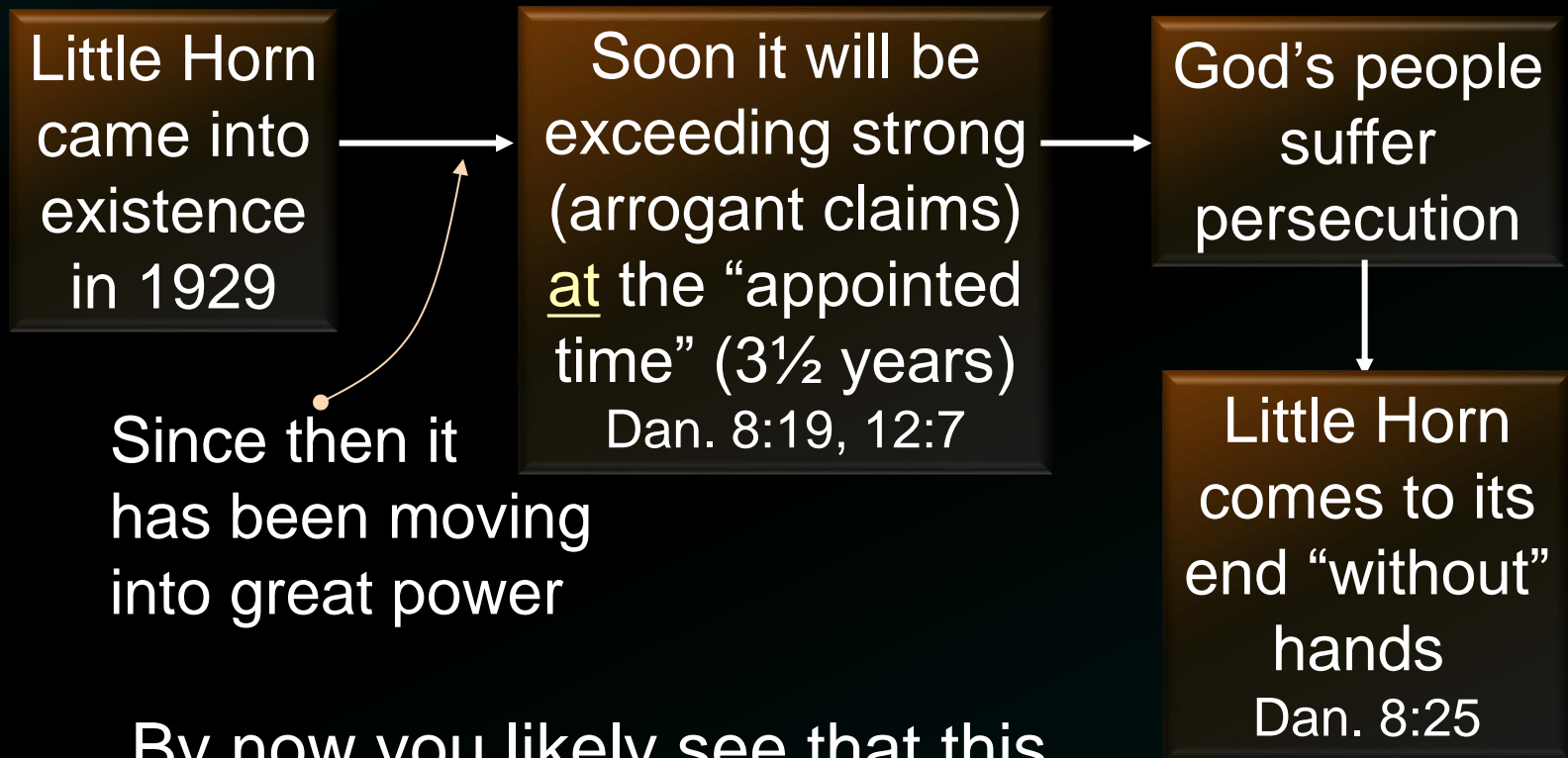
In this setting, at the “appointed time” (which we noted in the last lesson) describing the “time of the end,” this little horn is on the move. As it begins to spread out over the world, coming from a “position of power from the north,” it becomes “exceeding great” (*gadal*).

*“And out of one of them [the four winds] came forth a **little horn**, which waxed **exceeding great**, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.”* (Dan. 8:9)



Gadal means literally: “he made himself great” through arrogant, deceptive claims, presumptive moves and illegal acts (pretending to be from the north)!

This is a graphic outline of this horn in its end-time setting. “Clock/date” details will be clarified more as we go along.



By now you likely see that this “little horn” is the “antichrist!”

The “little horn” is a kingdom power that works against Christ and His people.

In Revelation 17 this same power is seen as a harlot woman riding a beast. That woman represents an apostate church. The “beast” is another symbol for a kingdom. That picture is one of a church and state working together.

What church has a state? The Roman Catholic Church has the Vatican. In fact, Revelation 17 ties that prophecy to the place of the “seven hills” – Rome.

The “little horn” is the papal power!
Could it be doing all these antichrist things?

From Pope Boniface VIII (1294-1303):

“We declare, we proclaim, we define that it is absolutely necessary for salvation that every human creature be subject to the Roman Pontiff.” [UNAM SANCTAM (Promulgated Nov. 18, 1302)]

“In Roman Catholic teaching there is no salvation apart from participation in the sacraments mediated through its priesthood. The Roman Church teaches that she is the mediator between Christ and the individual.”

[<http://www.christiantruth.com/RCJustification.html> (2009)]

“Romanism as a system is no more in harmony with the gospel of Christ now than at any former period in her history. The Protestant churches are in great darkness, or they would discern the signs of the times. The Roman Church is far-reaching in her plans and modes of operation. She is employing every device to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for a fierce and determined conflict to **regain control of the world**, to re-establish persecution, and to undo all that Protestantism has done.” (GC 565-566)



Gabriel gave to Daniel more details regarding this “little horn” in these words:

“And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.” (Dan. 8:23)

In the last days, when sin reaches its peak on earth, a final, deceptive, cruel ruler will come onto the scene.

“And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.” (Dan. 8:24)

We were just given another clue as to what this “time of the end” really is. It is when “transgressors are come to the full.” (Dan. 8:23)

*That's what happened just before the flood.
That is how God saw the inhabitants of
Sodom and Gomorrah just before their
destruction.*

This is at the end of the world – at that
“appointed time” – when the “little horn”
arises.



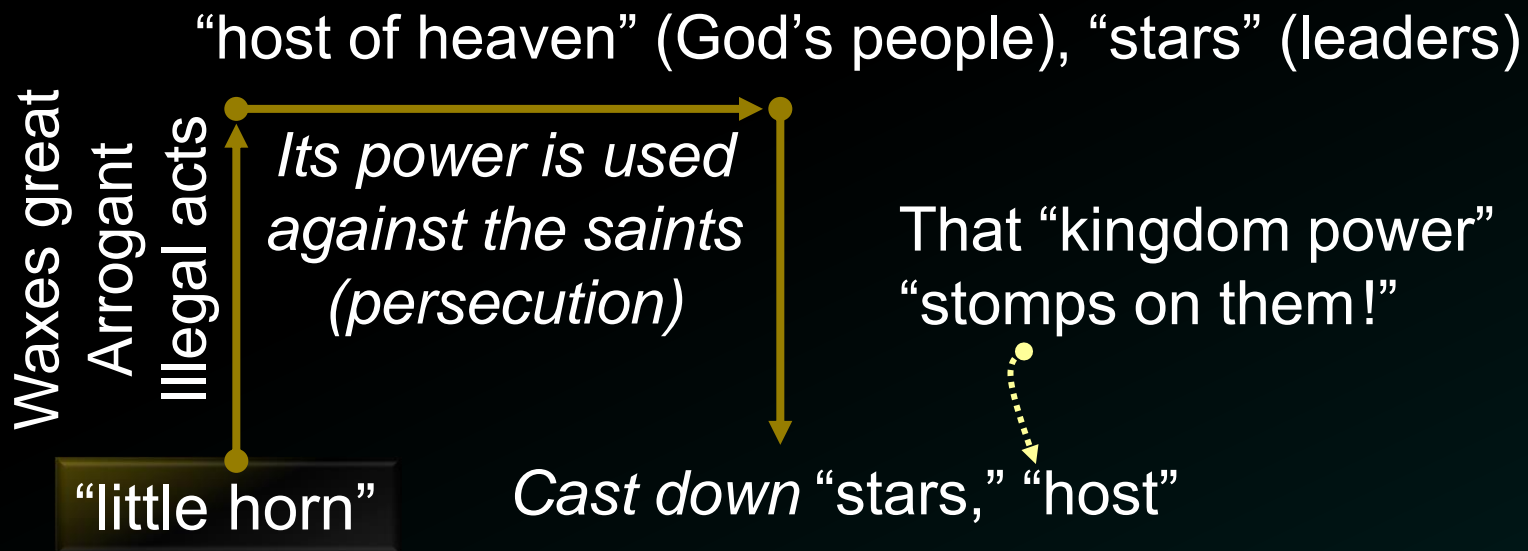
God has a plan for when to deal with iniquity: When the sins of the Amorites would be full, they would be destroyed. (Gen. 15:16, Matt. 23:32, I Thess. 2:16)

In the last days – which are very close now – this *global* strategy will be activated. Daniel tells us of this moment:

“Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.” (Dan. 12:10)

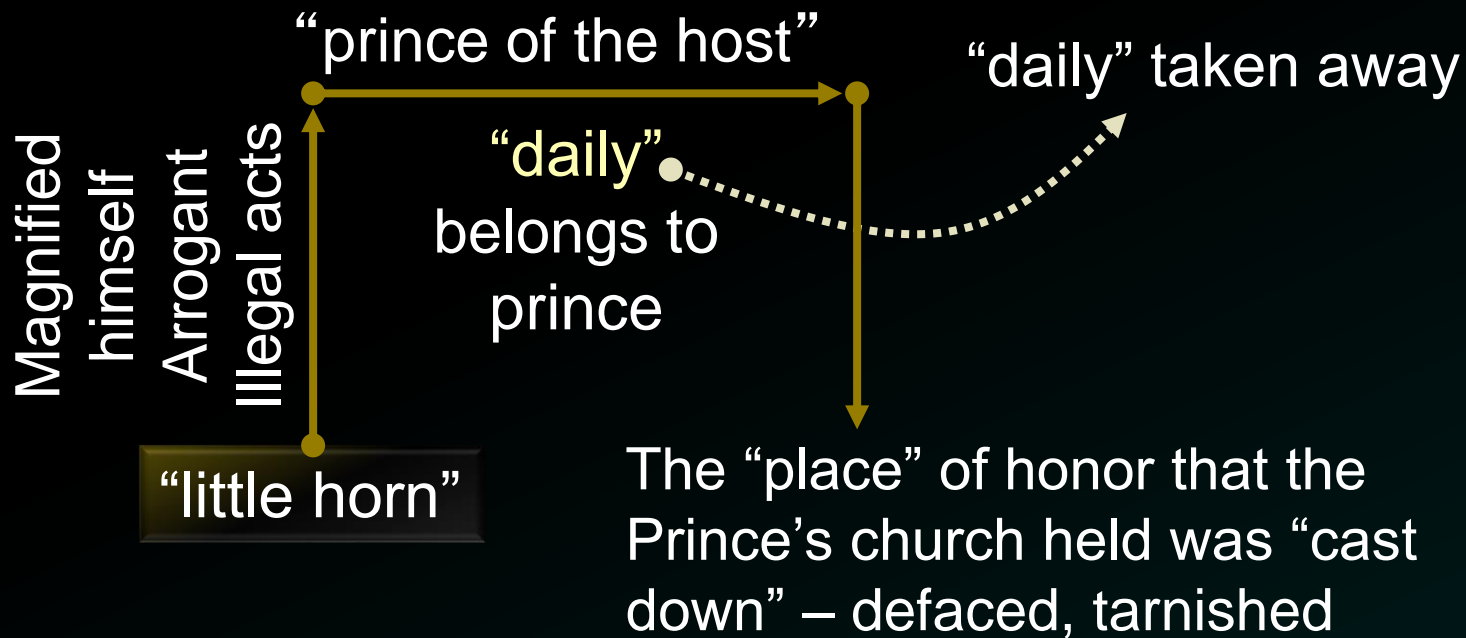
At the “appointed time” the “little horn” will begin its destructive work against humanity and God’s people. This is how it begins:

“And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.” (Dan. 8:10)

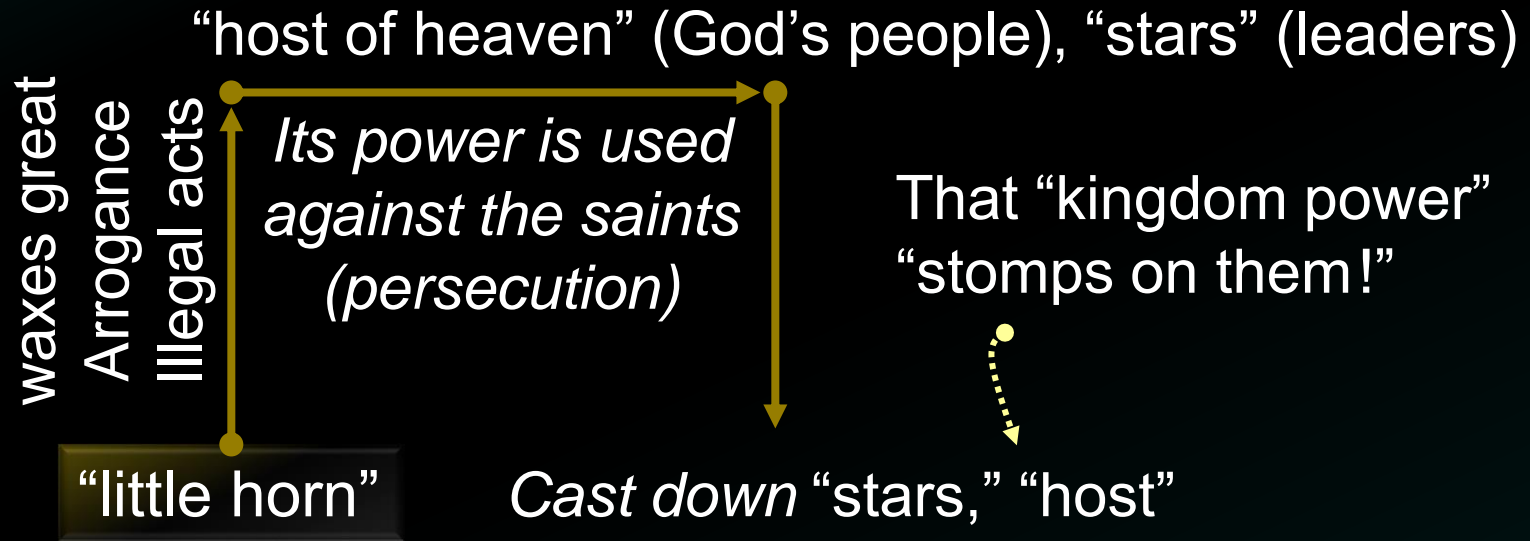


That isn't a pretty picture. It is a glimpse of how God's people will be hated and treated at the end! The saga continues:

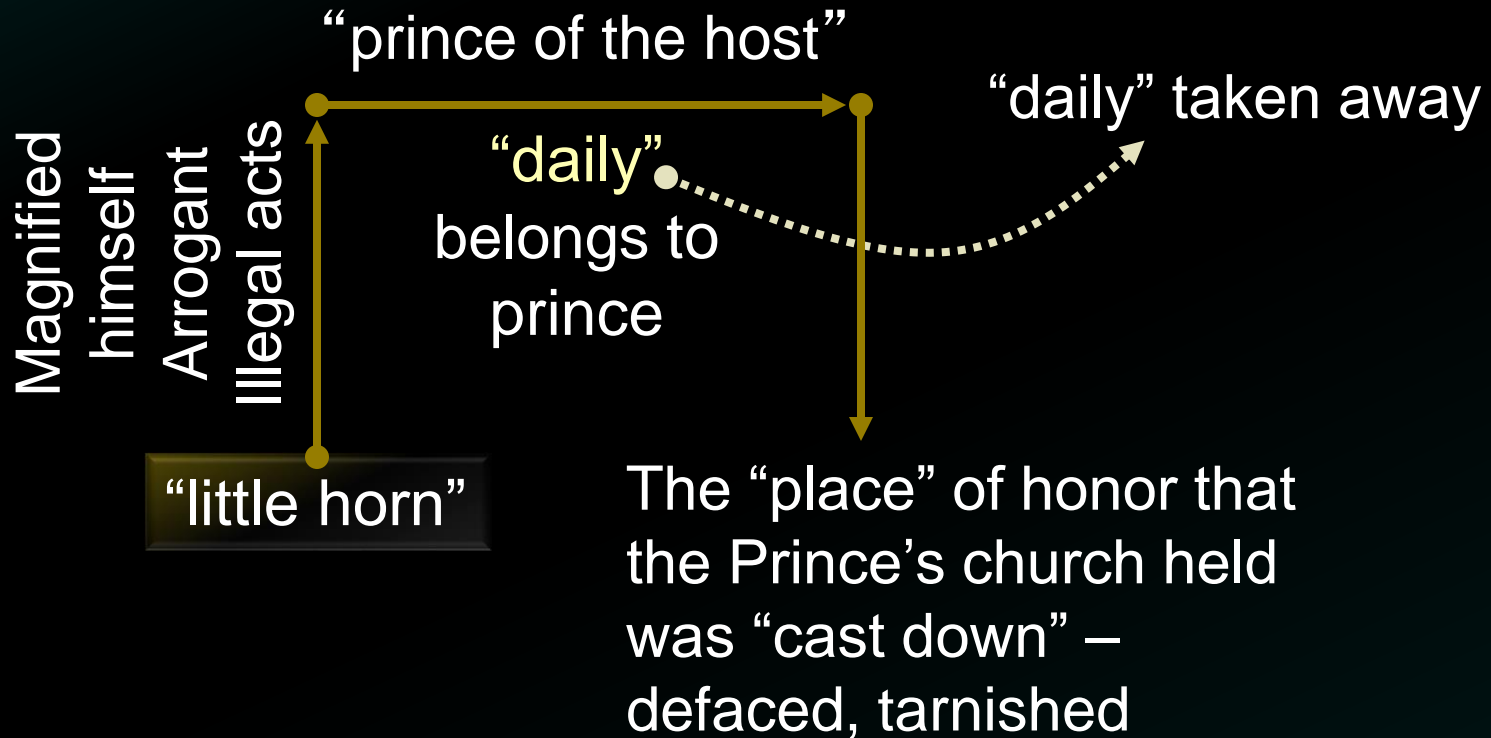
“Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily ... was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.” (Dan. 8:11)



Again, the “little horn” is against God’s people:



And the “little horn” is against Jesus:



This is exactly what **Paul** said the antichrist would be like!

“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”

(II Thess. 2:3-4)

Jesus told the disciples that an “abomination” that Daniel describes would “*stand in the holy place*” (Matt. 24:15) – referring to His church.

The “little horn” can now be seen as the
“man of sin,” and later Paul says:
“the wicked one” – “the antichrist.”



He takes away something special that
Jesus, the “Prince of the host,” has
called the “daily.”

He sets up something called an “abomination”
in its place. (Dan. 12:11)

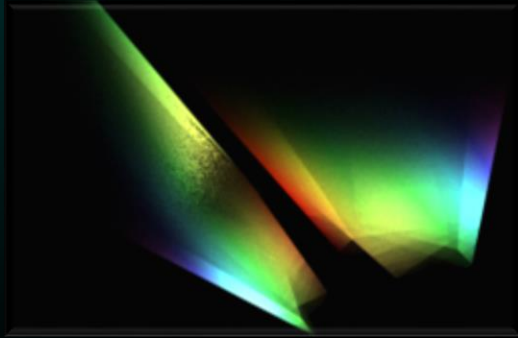


Is this the Matthew 24 “abomination”
or is there something else?

The study of the “daily” is extensive. But it is very important that we at least develop a basic understanding of it.

The word “daily” is *tamid*. However, in Daniel it is preceded by the word “the.” It is *ha tamid*. Since the word “the” is in front of *tamid*, it is something **very specific – set apart!**

Here in Daniel is the only place in the Bible where it is a *noun*. It is “something permanently set apart” that God possesses, owns, cherishes and that the antichrist takes away from the Prince. The “little horn” sets up something in its place that God doesn’t like!



Tamid refers to something that is established, perpetual. What has God established that He calls sacred, and never plans to change?

In Daniel, when “daily” is used, it is always coupled with another issue. Note in this brief example:

“And from the time that [1] the daily ... shall be taken away, and [2] the abomination that maketh desolate set up ...” (Dan. 12:11)

If we can find out what the antichrist wants to set up, we would know what is taken away.

Daniel has already given us
a clue in chapter 8.

We will be studying this area more deeply in this course. But, there is an “opposite” in this chapter that gives us wonderful insight:

The “daily” was “taken away”— removed. (8:11)

Then a “transgression of desolation” cast down truth to the ground when it took that “daily” away.

(8:12-13)

One is the cause, the other the effect!

If we can ascertain what that “transgression” is (which God later calls an abomination) that casts truth to the ground, we will know its “opposite,” or what the “daily” means.

The word for “transgression” is *peshah*. This is one of the words used in combination with “sin” and “iniquity” in the Old Testament, especially related to the cleansing atonement work.

A careful exegesis shows: 

It means rebellion against:

1. God's law
2. God's authority
3. God's covenant

Where does that happen?

How can that happen?

It means rebellion against:

1. God's law
2. God's authority
3. God's covenant

Where does that happen?
How can that happen?

Those characteristics
are a summary of what the sacred
Sabbath actually represents!

Fourth Commandment of God's Law – the Decalogue

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy [it's sacred]. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is [God's authority], and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.” (Ex. 20:8-11)

Deuteronomy 5 adds the covenant!

The law, or Decalogue, is to be written in our minds and hearts as part of our covenant agreement with God:



“But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (Jer. 31:33; cf. Heb. 8:10)

But – what about the Sabbath?



The Sabbath is tied to God's everlasting covenant.

*“Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a **sign** between me and you throughout your generations [it is something perpetual]; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth **sanctify** you [it is tied to holiness]*

*“Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a **perpetual covenant**.”*

(Ex. 31:13, 15)

Now we can see that the Sabbath is a sign of:

1. God's law
2. God's authority
3. God's covenant

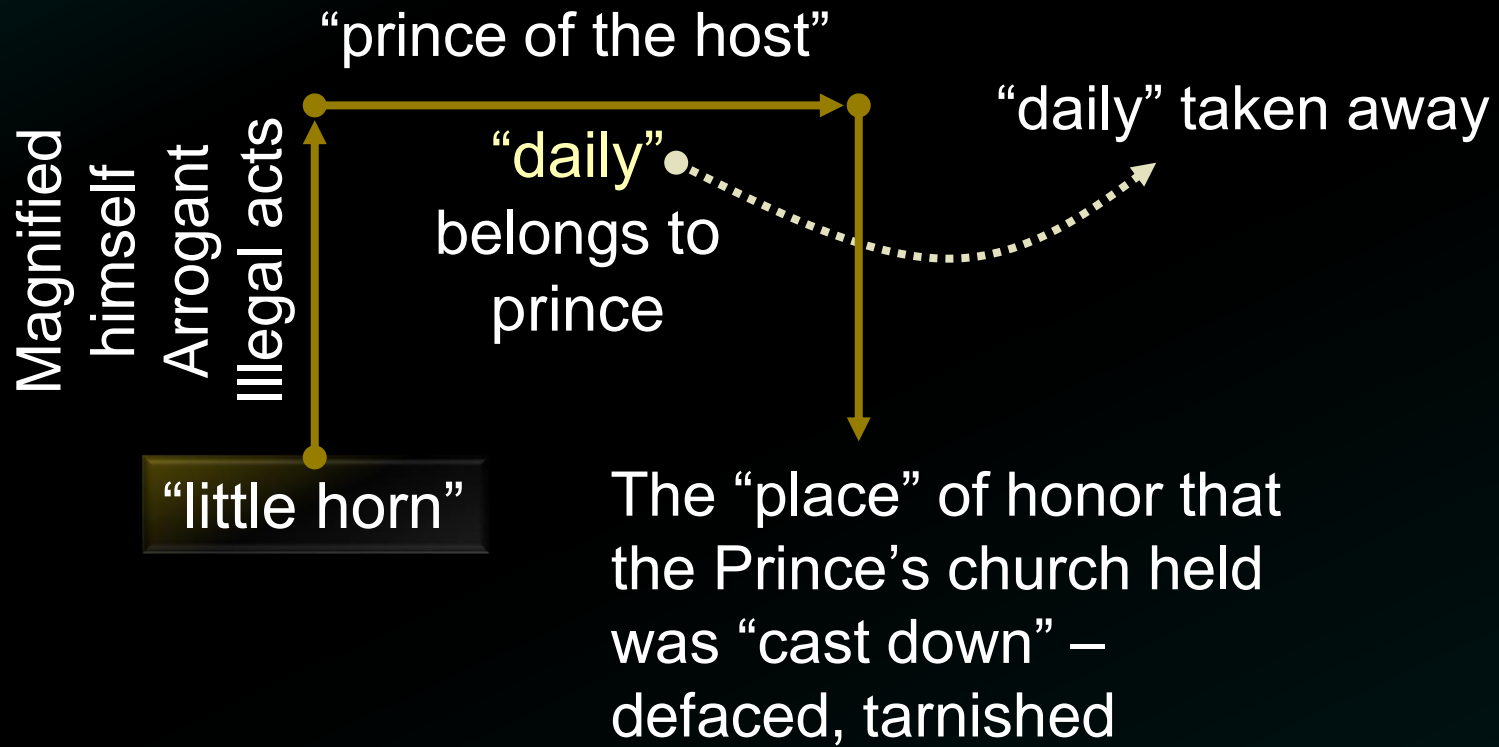
It is written in stone. It is perpetual – everlasting.

Therefore, the “transgression” that leads to desolation (called by God an “abomination”) is setting up a false Sabbath. Concomitantly, that antichrist, the “little horn,” takes away the true Sabbath – and by doing that dashes “truth to the ground!”

The “daily” is the true Sabbath!!! – which the “little horn” “takes away.”



Little horn is against Jesus:



“Prince” is *sar* in Hebrew. It usually means an “extraterrestrial” God.

1. Daniel 10:13 – Michael is called “one of the chief princes”
2. Daniel 10:21 – Michael, “your Prince” – of God’s people
3. Daniel 12:1 – He is noted as “Michael the great Prince”
4. In the New Testament Michael is identified with Christ (Jude 9, I Thess. 4:16, Rev. 12:7-17)

Daniel's prophecy continues:

“And an host was given him against the daily ... by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.” (Dan. 8:12)

This “host” (*tsaba*) is a vast number of warring people who support the “little horn” power.

What are they against?

The “daily” – the Sabbath.

Why? The “little horn” set up a substitute Sabbath. The host defies any opposition.



The “host” is inspired by Satan (in context, the “rough he goat”). The “little horn” became a great horn. This is the end-time application of that goat’s large horn.



Speaking of another symbol for the “little horn,” Rev. 13 notes regarding the “beast” which comes out of the sea:

“The dragon gave him his power.” (Rev. 13:2)

“All the world wondered after the beast.” (Rev. 13:3)

“It was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them.” (Rev. 13:7)

The “world that wondered” is the “host” which gives strength to the scurrilous hatred of this power – “it cast truth to the ground.”

When a false religious belief, liturgy, worship experience or counterfeit of a directive of God is established, truth is cast down.

This “truth” that is cast away is *emeth*. It refers to a revelation that came from God (Dan. 8:26; 10:1, 21; 11:2) OR what is written in the law (Dan. 9:13a).

The Sabbath, “the daily,” is cast away.

Jesus submitted to the vicissitudes of this world, and will forever retain His humanity. He gave up for a time the *glory* and *might* of divinity to become Immanuel, “God with us.”



At a time when the summation beauty of the whole plan of redemption nears its end, this satanic agent, the little horn, tries to take the very place and time of worship that Jesus set aside!

This “horn,” with fiendish power, is trying to pretend he is the ram.

The meaning of the “man of sin” has never been more clear. He is the “wicked one,” the “anti-Christ.”

Soon we will see and feel the hatred that comes out of Rome, that originates in the very precincts of hell.



“The Roman Church now presents a fair front to the world, covering with apologies her record of horrible cruelties. She has clothed herself in Christlike garments; but she is unchanged. Every principle of the papacy that existed in past ages exists today. The doctrines devised in the darkest ages are still held. Let none deceive themselves. The papacy that Protestants are now so ready to honor is the same that ruled the world in the days of the Reformation, when men of God stood up, at the peril of their lives, to expose her iniquity.

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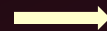
concluded:

“She possesses the same pride and arrogant assumption that lorded it over kings and princes, and claimed the prerogatives of God. Her spirit is no less cruel and despotic now than when she crushed out human liberty and slew the saints of the Most High.” (GC 571)



Thus, we are informed in detail regarding the “little horn” of Daniel 8. In summary:

1. It acts against God’s people through persecution.
2. God’s people are called a “host” – thus, He has a corporate body, revealing that it is the very end of time.
3. That “horn” is specifically against Jesus, the Prince of that host, in two very specific ways:
 - a. He defaces the sacredness and meaning of “church” – the sanctuary.
 - b. He casts truth to the ground by taking away the “daily.”



4. The sin of removing the “daily” is called the “transgression.” In Hebrew it is *pesha*. That is rebellion against the Sabbath.
5. In a couplet, when the “little horn” acts to “set up” an abomination, the “daily” (or the Sabbath) being taken away is referred to also. Thus, the hatred against the Sabbath is seen by that act.
6. This is the first apocalyptic prophecy in the Bible to show that at the end of time, the Sabbath will be a major issue!
7. The information regarding the “little horn” confirms that it is the antichrist that is centered in Rome.



When the vengeance of this power comes to you, how will you react? Will you become part of his “host?” Or will you remain loyal to Jesus Christ?

“Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God.” (III John 11)

Remain Christ’s friend – that is what He craves.

The End

Next Lesson:

**Eavesdropping on Gabriel
and Christ!**



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