



**THE DEVOTED LIFE OF DANIEL**  
**“The King’s Business” Daniel 8:1-27**

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Daniel was granted rare insights into the way God works out His purposes in the world. Occasionally, he was deeply distressed by what he learned but he carried on with the king’s business nevertheless. Those to whom God reveals truth need to know what to do with it!

**I. The Revelation. vv. 1-14**

A. The vision. vv. 1-12

1. The two-horned ram—one horn longer than the other. v. 3
2. The ram rampaging irresistibly west, north, south. v. 4
3. The ram did as he pleased and grew very great.
4. The sudden appearance in the west of a one-horned goat. v. 5
5. The lightning attack and the destruction of the ram. v. 6-7
6. The goat’s horn breaks at the height of its power. v. 8
7. The appearance of four horns and a small horn. vv. 8-9
8. The small horn’s power extends to south, east, and Palestine. vv. 10-12
  - a. The stars are trampled.
  - b. The Prince is challenged.
  - c. The sanctuary is brought low.
  - d. The truth is ground down.

B. The conversation. vv. 13-14

1. How long will this state of affairs be prolonged?
2. 2,300 evenings and mornings and the sanctuary will be restored.

**II. The Realization. vv. 15-26**

A. The awe-inspiring Gabriel explains the vision is about “the time of the end.”

1. The present “time of wrath.”
2. The later “appointed” time of the end.
3. The ram is Media/Persia.
4. The goat is Greece under Alexander.
5. The small horn is Antiochus.
  - a. His description.
  - b. His deception.
  - c. His devastation.
  - d. His destruction—“but not by human power.”

B. The indication the vision concerns the “distant future.” vv. 26

1. If Daniel was written in the 6th century these events were four centuries away.
2. But the spirit motivating Antiochus will continue his struggle until the End.

**III. The Reaction. v. 27**

- A. Understanding the ways of God in the world is exhausting.
- B. Recognizing what is happening in our world is alarming.
- C. Getting on with the job in hand is demanding.

**Points to Ponder:** We should be about the king’s business in our world—He is!