

We conclude our study of Daniel chapter 8 with a detailed account of nations, particularly Pagan and Papal Rome, given by the heavenly messenger Gabriel, a Covering Angel. The name Gabriel means "man of God", and he is mentioned for the first time here in the Bible. He was sent by One, positioned between the banks of the river Ulai, having wisdom and authority to give understanding of the vision (*maréh* – Heb) to Daniel. The vision (*chazown* – Heb) includes the rise and fall of world empires that desolate *both* God's people, *the host*, and His *sanctuary*. The restoration of the sanctuary is highlighted in its "cleansing" (*Qodesh* – Heb), said to occur after 2,300 days (Daniel 8:13, 14). Consider the Bible here uses two distinct Hebrew words for vision. Let us now gain understanding of the two words and their usage as they appear in this and subsequent chapters:

- **Chazown** – Hebrew word for vision used to denote a comprehensive vision, or prophecy. The use of this word in Daniel Chapter 8 covers the panoramic prophecies of world empires that rise and fall over time, namely **2520** and **2300**-years. The word *chazown* used for vision is found in verses 1, 2, 15, 17, and 26<sup>b</sup> in this chapter
- **Maréh** – Hebrew word for vision used to denote a snapshot, a focused picture, appearance, or scene [within a broader vision]. The use of this word in Daniel Chapter 8 focuses on the segment of the prophecy related to the conclusion of the 2300-day period, when the sanctuary is said to be *cleansed* (Dan 8:14). The word *maréh* used for vision is found in verses 16, 26<sup>a</sup> and 27 in this chapter

Gabriel is commanded to explain to Daniel the particular scene (*maréh*) occurring during the **Time of the End** in the context of the larger vision (*chazown*). This suggests that the One speaking to Gabriel, Jesus, identified two separate subjects for consideration and for study (Dan 8:16, 17).

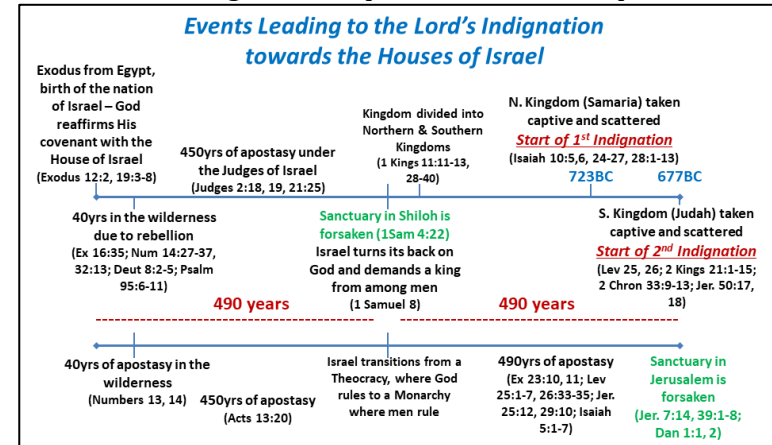
**Q:** *Gabriel told Daniel he would give him understanding of "what shall be in the last end of the indignation" (v19). What do you suppose the phrase "last end" means?*

**A:** We understand that Gabriel speaks of a "last end" of the indignation. Decomposing the statement by deductive reasoning, we assert that every "last" must have a "first", and every "end" a "beginning". Therefore, we conclude there are at least **two indignations**: a "first" – "beginning and end", and a "last" – "beginning and end" indignations respectively.

**Q:** *To what does the term indignation pertain? Consider the following verses: Lame 2:1-5; Ezekiel 22:15-31; Deut 29:24-28; Zechariah 1:12; Amos 3:1, 2; Isaiah 10:24, 25; Neh 9:32-38*

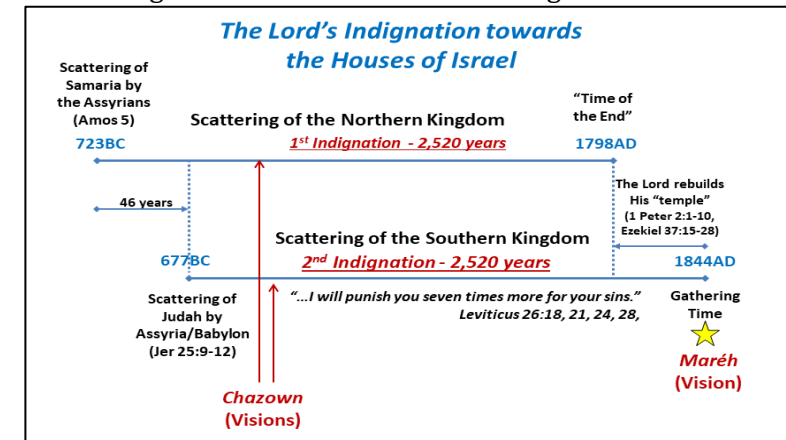
The **indignation** was God's chastisement upon Israel for apostasy, disobedience in breaking the covenant written in the Law of Moses (Ezekiel 36:17-19). By removing His hand of protection, God permitted a series of events to ensue that would require 2,520 years to resolve, including, Israel's enemies **treading-down** God's people, "the host", and His "sanctuary" (Daniel 8:13). The conclusion of the treading-down [scattering] would result in God gathering, and entering covenant once again with a people [a remnant] who were to be His ambassadors, and the scattering of others permanently. Gabriel was instructed to give Daniel counsel

regarding what was to happen at the conclusion of the "last end" of the indignations upon Israel. To comprehend the



nature of the two indignations, we must understand that at the time of King Rehoboam of Israel, grandson of David, the nation was divided into two kingdoms, Northern and Southern, with the house of David ruling to the south (2 Chronicles 10, 11; Ezekiel 37:15-22). The covenant promises, once spoken by God through His servant Moses to the unified nation, were reconfirmed to the king appointed by God to the Northern Kingdom, Jeroboam (1 Kings 11:26-39). Israel therefore, existed as two separate kingdoms under a common covenant with God. Bible history confirms that both Northern and Southern kingdoms fell into open apostasy, turning from God, seeking strange gods, and breaking His covenant (Hosea 4:1-6). They were, therefore, subject to the covenant curses pronounced within the Law of

Moses (Lev 26:9-28; Deut. 28). The provision of the curses written in Moses' Law called for **seven-times of scattering** to be inflicted upon the nations [refer to Lessons **10** and **11** for an explanation of the term *seven-times*]. God's indignation first fell upon the nations from the Northern Kingdom at the hands of the **Assyrians in 723B.C.** (Isaiah 10:5-11; Amos 5). God's indignation befell the Southern Kingdom at the hands



of the **Assyrians in 677B.C** and was progressively completed until 596B.C. by the Babylonians (2 Kings 21:1-15; 2 Chron 33:9-13; Jer 13:1-27, 50:17, 18). The conclusion of the first time of scattering, for the Northern Kingdom (A.D.1798), marked the *first end of the indignation* and the restoration of "the host" of Daniel 8:13 (Dan 12:7). Therefore, the conclusion of the second time of scattering for the Southern Kingdom (A.D.1844), signaled the fulfillment of the "last end of the indignation". It also marked the

restoration ("cleansing") of the sanctuary, of Daniel 8:13, 14. Gabriel stated that the prophetic vision would end at an "appointed" time [mow'ed - Heb] established by God.

God, through the angel Gabriel, interpreted the visions of the ram and the male goat to be the Medo-Persian and Greek Empires, respectively. The Bible tells us that in God's eyes, these two world empires, the one to follow, and even the once chosen Nation of Israel, were all "transgressors" (v23).

**Q:** In what ways were the world empires mentioned in the chapter, as well as the Nation of Israel, transgressors?

**A:** Israel, as well as the world empires mentioned in the chapter, through prideful self-exaltation forsook the true God and His commandments. Their worship of idols, the works of men's hands, indulging in abominable pagan practices of worshipping the hosts of heaven (sun, moon, and stars) and sacrificing their children to those idols made Israel and the other world empires transgressors (Jeremiah 9:25, 26, 25:15-29; Deut. 4:14-19; 2 Kings 17:7-19).

Verse 23 of the chapter indicates that when the divided Greek Empire reached its end, when it had "come to the full", a king of "fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up." Consider the following verses and their context when attempting to define these terms:

- Fierce Countenance:** Deuteronomy 28:49-55
- Understanding Dark Sentences:** Numbers 12:6-8; 1 Kings 10:1; Psalm 49:1-4, 78:1-5; Proverbs 1:5-7; Isaiah 28:11, 29:15; Ezekiel 3:4, 5, 28:3-5; Daniel 5:12;
- Stand up:** Daniel 11:2, 3

Again, unlike the explicit revelation of the two preceding world empires, the identity of the crafty kingdom that would stand up after Greece is withheld. As seen earlier in the chapter and noted in the prior studies, the Roman Empire, both its Pagan and Papal phases, are referenced by Hebrew pronouns when comparing their works. Similarly, the facts given by Gabriel in verses 24-25 juxtaposes *two desolators*, the two Romes. Let us analyze the following table for details:

vs.	Text	Pagan Rome fits the description	Papal Rome fits the description
24a	"And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power"	-----	Papal Rome was empowered by the civil/military powers (arms) of the 7 kingdoms that converted to Catholicism (Dan 8:12, 11:31)
24b	"and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice"	The iron fist of Rome subdued all kingdoms in its path and prospered, militarily, economically (through taxation), and in culture	The church of Rome prospered wonderfully in wealth as its wasteful bishops enriched merchants of the world through their lavish and extravagant living (Rev 13:7; 18:3, 9-13)
24c	"shall destroy the mighty and the holy people"	Pagan Rome rose up and persecuted Jesus Christ at His birth and death. Pagan Rome also martyred most of the Apostles of Christ	Historians estimate that Papal Rome is responsible for the death, imprisonment, and torture of 50+million people who opposed its doctrine over a period of 1,260 years
25a	"through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper..."	-----	Through cunning and craft, the Papacy brought world monarchs under its control, promoting its agenda of world dominance (Ek 28:2-5)
25b	"and he shall	Caesars were High	The self-exaltation of papal

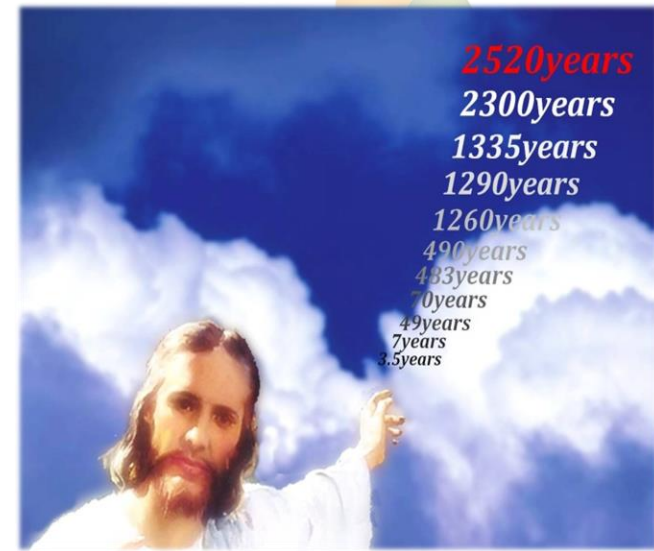
	magnify [himself] in his heart"	Priests over pagan religious practices (Pontifex Maximus) and were themselves revered as gods	bishops, usurping the glory and praise due God, yet in the name of God, was prophesied by Jesus and the apostles (Mark 13:6; 2 Thess 2:3, 4)
25c	"by peace shall destroy many"	Rome would wax strong and become the dread of all nations. Kings, rather than be subdued by the Roman armies, bequeathed their kingdoms and subjects to Rome after their death (Dan 11:24)	Bearing the outward frock of piety but inwardly vicious power mongers, the Roman bishops ravenously hunted Protestant Christians who dwelt in remote mountain wildernesses in supposed, obscure peace and safety (Rev 12:6; Heb 11:36-38)
25d	"shall also stand up against the Prince of princes"	Jesus Christ was tried in a Roman court, condemned by a Roman governor, nailed to a Roman cross, and pierced by a Roman spear	The boast of the pope is that he is Christ's vicar, representative, or substitute on earth; but God declares him a mere man who will be broken. (Ezekiel 28:1-10; 2 Thess 2:3-9; 2 John 1:7)
25e	"but he shall be broken without hand"	-----	Throughout the Bible, God has assured His utter destruction of this world power (Rev 18:2-17; 19:20)

The Lord, through His angel Gabriel, instructed Daniel to seal the vision because understanding of the prophecy and its fulfillment would be given in the distant future, at an appointed time (compare Daniel 12:4; Isaiah 29:11, 12). This and other prophecies establish the principle that often the writings of the prophets are more applicable to the last days, our time, than for the time in which they were written (1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 11; 1 Peter 1:9-12).

For additional Bible studies or if you have questions, please write or contact: [Life More Abundant](mailto:Life More Abundant)  
 PO Box 334 \* Goshen, VA 24439 \* [www.lifemoreabundantpa.com](http://www.lifemoreabundantpa.com) \* [biblestudies@lifemoreabundantpa.com](mailto:biblestudies@lifemoreabundantpa.com)

# Deciphering the Bible's Longest Time Prophecy

## Daniel Chapter 8 - Part 3 [Based on verses 13-27]



Lesson 21