September 15 ...

READ DANIEL 7-9

CHAPTER 7

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

- 2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.
- 3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.
- 4 The first *was* like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.
- 5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and *it had* three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.
- 6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a

fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

- 7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.
- 8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn *were* eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.
- 9 ¶ I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire.
- 10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto

him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

- 11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld *even* till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.
- 12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.
- 13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.
- 14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.
- 15 ¶ I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of *my* body, and the visions of my head troubled me.
- 16 I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and

- made me know the interpretation of the things.
- 17 These great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings, *which* shall arise out of the earth.
- 18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.
- 19 Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth *were of* iron, and his nails *of* brass; *which* devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;
- 20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.
- 21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;
- 22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.
- 23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse

from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

- 24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are* ten kings *that* shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.
- 25 And he 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.
- 26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy *it* unto the end.
- 27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.
- 28 Hitherto *is* the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

CHAPTER 8

- In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.
- 2 And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan *in* the palace, which *is* in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.
- 3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had *two* horns: and the *two* horns *were* high; but one *was* higher than the other, and the higher came up last.
- 4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither *was there* any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.
- 5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat *had* a notable horn between his eyes.
- 6 And he came to the ram that had *two* horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran

unto him in the fury of his power.

- 7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.
- 8 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.
- 9 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*.
- 10 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.
- 11 Yea, he magnified *himself* even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily *sacrifice* was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.
- 12 And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by rea-

- son of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.
- 13 ¶ Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain *saint* which spake, How long *shall be* the vision *concerning* the daily *sacrifice*, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?
- 14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.
- 15 ¶ And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man.
- 16 And I heard a man's voice between *the banks of* Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this *man* to understand the vision.
- 17 So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end *shall be* the vision.
- 18 Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright.

- 19 And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end *shall be*.
- 20 The ram which thou sawest having *two* horns *are* the kings of Media and Persia.
- 21 And the rough goat *is* the king of Grecia: and the great horn that *is* between his eyes *is* the first king.
- Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.
- 23 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.
- 24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.
- 25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify *himself* in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

- 26 And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told *is* true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it *shall be* for many days.
- 27 And I Daniel fainted, and was sick *certain* days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood *it*.

CHAPTER 9

- In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;
- 2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.
- 3 ¶ And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:
- 4. And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments;
- 5 We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done

wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments:

- 6 Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.
- 7 O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries whither thou hast driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee.
- 8 O Lord, to us *belongeth* confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee.
- 9 To the Lord our God *belong* mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him;
- 10 Neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.
- 11 Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that *is* written in

the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him.

- 12 And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem.
- 13 As *it is* written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth.
- 14 Therefore hath the LORD watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us: for the LORD our God *is* righteous in all his works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his voice.
- 15 And now, O Lord our God, that hast brought thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and hast gotten thee renown, as at this day; we have sinned, we have done wickedly.
- 16 ¶ O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people

are become a reproach to all that are about us.

- 17 Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake.
- 18 O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies.
- 19 O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name.
- 20 ¶ And whiles I *was* speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God;
- 21 Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.
- 22 And he informed *me*, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee

- skill and understanding.
- 23 At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew *thee*; for thou *art* greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.
- 24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.
- 25 Know therefore and understand, *that* from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince *shall be* seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.
- 26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof *shall be* with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.
- 27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week:

and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Chapters 7 and 8 actually take place prior to chapter 5. Remember that Belshazzar's father, Nabonidus, was actually king of Babylon, the Empire, and Belshazzar was his coregent in the city of Babylon. To this point Daniel had been interpreting the dreams of others, but now God gives him extraordinary visions of his own. In these visions Daniel sees the course of Gentile history, and this vision helps us to understand what will happen to the Jews in the end days.

The restless sea in the Bible is often a picture of the Gentile nations. Here, it is the Great Sea, or the Mediterranean Sea, and all the empires mentioned in this vision border, in one way or another, on this Sea. Daniel saw four beasts, and the angel explained what they meant. Each beast represented a kingdom. The lion with wings (chapter 7:4) is a picture of Babylon; the bear with ribs is a picture of the Medo-Persian Empire; the winged four-headed leopard is Greece; and the terrible beast is the Roman Empire.

In chapter 8 we have the vision of the ram and the he-goat. This vision is actually an amplification of chapter 7:6, explaining how Greece will conquer Medo-Persia. It takes place two years after chapter 7, and describes the kingdom that will follow Babylon after it falls. Daniel was in Jerusalem, but God carried him, in a vision, to the capital of Persia. The he-goat appearing from the west represents Greece. Note that the ram had two horns, one higher than the other, symbolizing the Medes and the Persians, with the Persians being the stronger of the two. The he-goat had one great horn. This was Alexander the Great. When the he-goat attacked the ram, its two horns were broken. This represents Greece's victory over Medo-Persia. Then we see the great horn broken. This was the death of Alexander.

The little horn in chapter 7:8 represents the Antichrist, the last world ruler and the final world empire before the return of Christ to earth. But the little horn in chapter 8:9 comes out from one of the four horns—that is, he is one of the leaders who comes from the four divisions of Alexander's king-

dom. So this little horn is not the Antichrist of the latter days, although he has a definite connection with him. The little horn here conquers nations to the south and east, and then invades Palestine. He not only attacks the Jews politically, but also religiously, for he tries to destroy their heavenly faith by stopping the sacrifices in the Temple.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labour shall increase" (Proverbs 13:11).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 28: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 11.

BIRTHDAYS TODAY

CHERYL MOORE VELMA KELLER

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1789

JAMES FENIMORE COOPER WAS BORN.

1857

THE BIRTHDAY OF WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT.

1914

THE PANAMA CANAL WAS OPENED.

THE LORD CREATED THE ATMOSPHERE AND DIVIDED THE WATERS.

In other words, tradition and the almanac say the second day of creation was on September 15.

"Well," you say, "do you still believe the old creation story?" Yes, I do.

Somebody wrote me a letter recently and said, "Pastor, were the seven days of creation literal days or seven period of time?"

Well the Bible says the evening and the morning were the first day. Someone asks, "Why does it say

'evening' and then 'morning'?" This is because the day on the Jewish calendar started at 6:00 p.m., and the evening came before the morning.

The best thing for us to do in the matter of the creation and other matters is simply to believe God. How we need to return to the old fashioned Gospel of Jesus Christ.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1830

THE FIRST NATIONAL NEGRO CONVENTION **BEGAN** in Philadelphia.

1876

WHITE TERRORISTS ATTACKED REPUBLI- CANS in Ellenton, South Carolina. Two whites and thirty-nine blacks were killed.

1898

NATIONAL AFRO-AMERICAN COUNCIL FOUNDED in Rochester, New York. Bishop Alexander Walters of the AME Zion Church was elected president. The organization proposed a program of assertion and protest.

1923

GOVERNOR SAID OKLAHOMA WAS IN A "STATE OF VIRTUAL REBELLION and insurrection" because of KKK activities. Martial Law was declared.

1963

FOUR BLACK GIRLS KILLED IN BOMBING of Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

1964

REV. K.L. BUFORD AND DR. STANLEY SMITH WERE ELECTED TO TUSKEGEE CITY COUNCIL and became first black elected officials in Alabama in twentieth century.

1969

LARGE-SCALE RACIAL DISORDERS WERE REPORTED in Hartford, Connecticut. Five hundred were arrested and scores were injured.

1971

INMATES SEIZED ATTICA STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY (N.Y.) AND HELD SEVERAL GUARDS HOSTAGE. They issued a list of demands which included coverage by the state minimum wage law, better food and no reprisals.

SEPTEMBER 15 PAGE 9

A Christian Life. . .

EVAN ROBERTS (1876-1951)

Leader of the Welsh revival. Evan Roberts worked in coal mines, but he walked in the heavenlies. Never without his Bible, he prayed and wept 11 years for revival in Wales. He entered the Preparatory School for the Ministry at Newcastle, Enlyn, when about 26.

He never finished. Compelled by the Holy Spirit, he returned in November, 1904, to his home village of Loughor, to tell of Christ. And fire fell! Evan did not preach. He led the meetings, praying, "Plyg ni, O arglwdd!" "Send us, O Lord!" And urging, "Obey the Holy Spirit. Obey!"

The Calvinistic Methodist church was moved until all Loughor became a praying, praising multitude. Taverns were emptied, brothels were closed. The churches were filled daily. Fire spread until all Wales was brought in repentance to its knees at the cross.

Roberts' life ministry was burned out in the short months of the 1904-05 Welsh revival. Broken in health, he retired from public view for the remaining half century of his life.



Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION: CHRIST'S BIOGRAPHY PREWRITTEN

(Assignment 28)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Refer-

	and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning" link back on the KJV page.)
His	Birth (742 B.C.)
() Isaiah 7:14
Ther	efore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and
	call his name Immanuel. (Fulfilled—Matthew 1:23)
His	Birth Place (710 B.C.)
() Micah 5:2

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. (Fulfilled—Matthew 2:5-6)

Rej	ected	by His	own	people	(712	B.C.)
() To.	ich Fo	2			

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised and we esteemed him not. (Fulfilled—John 1:11)

Sold for 30 pieces of silver (487 B.C.)) Zechariah 11:12

And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price: and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. (Fulfilled—Matthew 26:14-16)

Hands and feet pierced (1000 B.C.)) Psalms 22:16

For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. (Fulfilled—John 19:37)