

THE COMING KING OF GREECE

Is a great ruler or King of Ionia (possibly present-day Greece; See below.) yet to appear which will be followed in short succession by a fierce king which fights Yahshua the Messiah? The Bible predicts as much. Importantly, the key leading up to this end-time confrontation is the rise of a great *King of Ionia*. Events may even now be focusing on the nation of *Greece* (See map at right.). Let us look at a key prophecy often considered as fulfilled long ago and see just what the Bible says.

The prophecy in Daniel Chapter 8 refers to a male goat (v. 5) which is the *King of Ionia* (*Javan'*: Ionia; v. 21) with a notable horn [a king v. 21]. This horn is broken (v. 8), and "...from his **nation**" (NASB), arises four notable kingdoms (vv. 8, 22). And out of one of these kingdoms comes a *little horn* (v. 9) which is the fierce *king* that shall "...stand up against the Prince of princes..." (v. 23, 25).

Note in the expression here translated "king of Greece" the word "king" (v. 21) is SEC 4428 which specifically denotes a **king**, not a kingdom (SEC 4467) as used in some translations. So this part of the prophecy refers specifically to the rise of a person, a *king*, a ruler.

Now notice verse 17: "...Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision." Verses 17, 23 and 25 complement each other by showing *who* the fierce king (little horn: v. 9, 23) will fight at the *time of the end*. He will fight the Prince of Princes.

This must surely be Yahshua the Messiah (See Dan. 9:25; Rev. 1:5). There is further indication of this by the fact that this fierce king will be broken, but not by human hands (v. 26 RSV)!

Now the *entire* vision (not just part of it, v. 17) is for the time when the Messiah, Yahshua, is **on the earth**. Therefore, the "time of the end" referred to in this dramatic prophecy *must include the time when Yahshua is on the earth!* And He did not oppose and destroy any human king at his first coming. Conse-

quently, this vision *must include* events shortly before, leading up to, and after the second coming of Yahshua the Messiah! That is, **at the end time**, the



Greece is surrounded by the Mediterranean, Ionian and Aegean Seas, bordered by Turkey, Albania, Macedonia and Bulgaria. Today it is one of the world's most traveled countries.

time of Yahshua's coming!

These constraints imposed by the Scriptures themselves show a coming *King of Ionia* (possibly Greece), the male goat (v. 5, 21), who will greatly influence momentous events in the years ahead-at the time of the end! He will trigger a series of events culminating with the destruction of a vicious and mighty king [the little horn: v. 9, 23-25] by the Messiah Yahshua.

THE GREECE OF DANIEL 8:21

The word translated "Greece" in Daniel 8:21 is the Hebrew *Javan* (SEC 3120). "The name corresponds etymologically with Ionia and may denote the Greeks". Javan was the fourth son of Japheth

who was a son of Noah (Gen. 10:2, 4). Javan had four sons: Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim (same as Chittim), and Dodanim.

Translations, with one exception, *Young's Literal Translation of the Bible*, universally translate "Javan" as "Grecia" or "Greece." Young's simply uses the Hebrew "Javan." The Jewish historian, Josephus, also believed Javan referred to the Greeks².

Notice what *Gesenius' Lexicon* (pg. 343) says about Javan:

"Ionia, from this province being more to the east, and better known than the rest of Greece to the Orientals, its name became applied in their languages to **the whole of Greece**; this has been expressly remarked by Greek writers themselves..."

And *Unger's Bible Dictionary* records ("Javan", pg. 556):

"...Javan refers more precisely to the **Ionians** who inhabited the coasts of Lydia and Caria, and whose cities were important commercial emporia two centuries before those on the Peloponnesus. Sargon II (721-705) first mentions them in Assyrian records as the result of an encounter with them in a naval battle."

Ionia historically was an ancient district on the west coast of Asia Minor, and was colonized by the Greeks in the 11th century B.C. The west coast of Asia Minor corresponds to the west coast of modern *Turkey*. History maps of ancient Greece show the Ionians also settled in south-central Greece and Euboea (See map p. 4). A group of islands called the Ionian Islands lie along the western coast of modern Greece.

Now if Daniel's vision (c. 553 B.C.) of the male goat is taken precisely, then the coming **King** of "Greece" (v. 21) will be a ruler of the peoples of Ionian decent, i.e. of Javanian ancestry. And the Biblical phrase reads "...the **King** of *Ionia*..."

It is therefore possible that an *Ionian* monarchy will arise in the Grecian area or possibly what was formerly western Asia Minor (presently western Turkey). Since the Ionians migrated to various parts of Greece, this prophecy may well refer to modern Greece, although as we can see it is not restricted solely to Greece proper.

Very specifically, however, the prophecy does refer to a king, so it is plausible that monarchical rule will be reestablished in Greece. In 1974 the country was converted from a monarchy to a republic; the New Democracy (ND). The current president is Dr. Karo-

los Papoulias who took office on February 8, 2005. Greece's Prime Minister, Kostas Karamanlis, nephew of the founding father of the New Democracy, went into office March 10, 2004.

AS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

It is interesting to note that Yahshua himself said, "But as the **days of Noah** were, so shall also the coming of the son of man be" (Matt. 24:37). He then describes certain particulars that were prevalent in Noah's day (vv. 38-39). Notice carefully that in addition to those He mentioned, one of the most important particulars of those days was that *Noah with his sons* figured prominently in the affairs of his day. One of his sons was Japheth, the *Father Of Javan*, the ancestor of *Ionia*; which is possibly modern Greece!

Notice this is for the time of the *end*. The time when Yahshua will return in awesome power to take control of the governments of this earth!

And Daniel's spectacular prophetic vision for "...the time of the end..." *likewise* says that the lineage of one of Noah's sons, Japheth, figures prominently in the affairs at "...the time of the end..." (Dan. 8:17).

These scriptures taken together provide important circumstantial evidence also showing that "...the time of the end..." in Daniel's vision refers to the days just prior to and including the second coming of Yahshua. As it was long ago, when the house of Noah and Sons had high visibility or prominence, so it will be again—*when Yahshua returns!* Was Yahshua in fact emphasizing Daniel's crucial prophecy by pointing to the house of *Noah* as an indication of events surrounding His personal stunning second coming? It would appear so!



Crown jewels seen here are similar to what Otto of Greece wore during his reign as King of Greece from 1833 to 1862. He was the first modern King of Greece. *wikipedia.org*

LITTLE HORN IS NOT ROME

The coming king of Ionia (Greece) has a notable horn between his eyes (Dan. 8:5). This great horn or first king (v. 21) is broken (v. 8). Then *four* horns or kingdoms come out of the nation of the first king (v. 22) which is part of or attached to the head of the goat. The horns are part of the head of the goat and the goat is Ionia.

Now notice: out of *one of these four kingdoms* comes "...a little horn which waxes exceeding great toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land [doubtless Palestine]" (Dan. 8:9).

So this little horn is one from four nations or kingdoms which come *from* an *Ionian* nation. This simply cannot be Rome as some claim. Why? Because Rome obviously comes out of *Italy*, these facts alone exclude Rome as the little horn.

Another reason precludes Rome being the little horn: "beasts" in prophecy are consistently used to mean universal or worldwide empires (See Dan. 7:23). Whereas horns stand prophetically for lesser kings (rulers), not wielding global power and dominion. For we see horns *on* a beast (v. 7) or horns arising among horns (ch. 7:8; ch. 8:8-9), which are *on* a beast. The horns obviously cannot be as great (or greater) than the beast of which they are only a part. How can the part (horns) be greater than the whole (beast) when it is *still part of* the whole?

Consequently, Rome—which was a universal empire—could not be a horn, but rather a beast. Likewise, contrary to the general supposition that Alexander the Great was the notable horn that was broken (Dan. 8:8), he too would be excluded. The reason being was that his empire was also definitely a universal world-ruling power stretching from Macedonia to India! He was definitely in the class of "beasts," not horns!

ALEXANDER THE GREAT AND ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES

Many assume this prophecy was fulfilled and completed long ago with the exploits of Alexander the Great (B.C. 356-323 B.C.), King of Macedonia (ruled B.C. 336-323), and culminating with Antiochus Epiphanes' (175 B.C. to 164 B.C.), polluting the sanctuary with the statue of Jupiter Olympius on the 15th of Casleu, 168 B.C. (See I Mac. 1:54).

This assumption *ignores* the *crucial* link the archangel Gabriel made between the "time of the end" and Yahshua's role in the vision; *and* the fact that Al-

exander the Great fits the class of "beasts" prophetically just as Rome did.

Since the entire vision *must include* the confrontation with the Prince of Princes, i.e. Yahshua, the "time of the end" could hardly have started with an assault on Jerusalem in 169 B.C.! Gabriel clearly says the vision—the *whole vision*—is "at the time of the end" (v. 17).

Some authors *assume* the 'time of the end' referenced in chapter 8, verse 17 of Daniel is the time of the end of the Jewish nation preceding its subjugation to imperial Rome, and culminated with Antiochus Epiphanes' desecration of the temple. This is clearly the view of the Jewish historian Josephus². But even Josephus freely admits that he is merely giving his *opinion* that Antiochus Epiphanes was the little horn:

"And indeed it so came to pass, that our nation suffered these things under Antiochus Epiphanes, according to Daniel's vision, and what he wrote many years before they came to pass... Now, as to myself, I have so described these matters as *I have found them* and read them; but if *any one is inclined to another opinion about them*, let him enjoy his different sentiments without any blame from me."² [Emphasis mine]

As you can see, the previous discussion above provides clear and certain evidence that the expression 'the time of the end' in this case is definitely *not* used in such a restricted sense such as the Jewish losses in 168-165 B.C.

The indisputable fact is that the *archangel Gabriel*, *not* some Bible student trying to promote a theory, clearly and unambiguously links this expression with the *second coming* of Yahshua the Messiah! Plain and simple.

It is also a notable fact that the historical account found in I Maccabees of Antiochus, Epiphanes' war against the Jews and their tribulation under his oppressive hand includes *no reference* whatsoever to Daniel's prophecy.

The Maccabees writer does use the same phrase: "abomination of desolation" (I Mac. 1:54); which is found in translations of Daniel's vision. This *may* have been intended to show he believed this was a fulfillment of the vision, but this is far from a direct statement to that effect.

It appears very probable if these events were generally regarded by the Jewish sages of that time as fulfillments of Daniel's vision, then the writer of I and II Maccabees would certainly have entered the fact in his chronicles as a matter of record. But we find no

such entry. By contrast, Josephus, the preeminent Jewish historian, left no doubt of his **opinion** that a fulfillment of the vision had taken place.

ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES AND THE 2,300 DAYS

Do the 2,300 days (Dan. 8:14), or 2,300 “evening morning” (lit. Hebrew) periods which alludes to 2,300 evening and morning **sacrifices** fit the timeline of Antiochus’ desecration of the sanctuary?

The abomination of desolation was set up on the fifteenth of the month Casleu, in the 145th year of the Seleucid or Greek era (168 B.C.) (IMac. 1:54). Ten days later, 25th of Casleu, the abominable sacrifices were begun (I Mac. 1:59). This year corresponded to the 153rd Olympiad.³

Sacrifices done according to the Law of Moses, were resumed on the twenty-fifth of Casleu, in the 148th year of this same era or 165 B.C. (I Mac. 4:52-53). This totals three years and ten days.

By the Hebrew calendar, 168-167 B.C., fall-to-fall was the third year of the 19-year cycle. It was a common year of 353, 354 or 355 days depending on what day of the week Rosh Hashanah (conjunction of the seventh month) fell that year. So also for 167-166 B.C. fall-to-fall. The final year of desecration 166-165 B.C. was the fifth year the 19-year cycle and an intercalary year in which an additional month of 30 days is added. This leap year was 383, 384, or 385 days long.

These figures give 1,099 to 1,105 days for the three years and ten days. Two daily sacrifices per day gives

2,198 to 2,210 morning and evening sacrifices. Obviously, none of these values fit the 2,300 sacrifices specified in Daniel’s vision. Thus, the “Antiochus Epiphanes theory” is simply not supported by the historical data.

Considerable evidence now clearly argues unequivocally for the *future fulfillment* of the vision of Daniel chapter eight! There is, therefore, *good* reason to expect a *coming King Of Ionia* (possibly modern Greece). If the swiftness with which this King (the male goat: Dan. 8:5-6) conquers modern Iran (vv. 7, 20) serves as the example for the speed with which all the events of the vision occur, then the entire scenario will be played out with stunning rapidity!

Who can doubt the dominant Greek influence on Christianity presently and historically which even includes adulterating the *name* of the Scriptural Messiah, i.e. so called Jesus (“Hazoo” or “HaZeus”)?! The New

Testament record itself is stamped in Greek. Therefore, it is hardly surprising to find a prophesied future dynamic and overpowering *Greek* influence in *major* events affecting **church** and **state** at the end time! When are these prophesied events? The Bible says “...for at the time of the end shall be the vision” (Dan. 8:17).

And let us *watch* the area of Greece for key indicators of momentous events ahead!

REFERENCES:

1. *The Bible Almanac*, Packer, Tenney, and White; Thomas Nelson Publishers; 1980, p. 642
2. *Josephus*, Antiquities, Bk. 10, ch. 11, par. 7
3. *Josephus*, Antiquities, Bk. 12, ch. 7, par. 6

“...this King conquers
modern Iran...”

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Since Yahweh’s commandments stand *forever* (Psa. 111:7-8; 119:160), the Holy Days (Lev. 23; Acts 2:1; Heb. 4:9; I Cor. 5:8) also stand *forever*.

Sadly, heartrending experience shows the individualist’s stance, like the group deception, is *usually irreversible* (Heb. 3:13). After a while they find no way to change their mind (Heb. 12:15-17).

What then, truly is the **word of Biblical truth**, the *sign* by which we *know* Yahweh sanctifies us-giving freedom; without which Yahweh *will not* sanctify a person; without which our journey will have been in vain?

Remember this sign only becomes *our sign* when we repent of breaking the laws regulating it. And without repentance there is *no hope*.

Here is that all important sign: “Verily my Sabbaths (*plural*) you shall keep: for it is a *SIGN* between me and you throughout your generations; that you may *KNOW* that I am Yahweh that does *sanctify* you” (Ex. 31:13; see also Ezk. 20:20).

Notice only Yahweh *sanctifies* (see John 17:17 above) and only because we repent and keep His Sabbaths. Covering this sin requires Yahshua’s sacrifice (Heb. 9:26; 10:12).

These Sabbaths include the weekly Saturday Sabbath (dawn-to-dark) and annual Holy Days (set by sun/moon conjunctions and summer solstice).

Do you have this sign, *the sign*? If so, your search has led you to fundamental Biblical truths, and where these truths are, so is Yahweh’s organized body of true followers. - **ICY**