

Excellence in Exile (9)

A Time of Tribulation

Daniel 8:1-27

Intro: The Purpose of Prophecy

I. Rams, Goats, and Horns, OH MY! (v. 1-14)

II. The Meaning of the Vision (v. 5-27)

Conclusion: Encouragement for Today

Discussion Questions

1. We are blessed to live in a land with very strong religious freedoms, so it's hard to imagine what it must have been like for the Jewish people living under the rule of Antiochus Epiphanes. What do you think you would do if you were living in Jerusalem in 167 B.C.? Can you think of some ways to keep faith strong even without the ability to gather publicly?
2. Verse 24 says that Antiochus will become very strong, yet not by his own power. Why do you think God allows or even gives authority to wicked leaders? What designs or purposes might He have in such instances? (Think about God's purposes for the Exile and King Nebuchadnezzar)
3. As wicked as Antiochus was, God had already ordained the number of days this would continue. God alone knows the number of days remaining until Christ returns for us ... but He knows! What encouragement does that give you as you face difficult moments of life?