

against the saints, and seems about to destroy them but the Ancient of days comes and his kingdom is given to the saints. The Son of Man has been given a kingdom that he shall reign, a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, but the kingdom that is given to the saints. So there is at least a part of the time when the Son of man reigns in power over this earth when the saints, as His representatives, are in power.

You find many people talking about the eternal age. Some say there can be no millennium when Christ comes back. There must be an eternal age because the kingdom cannot be destroyed. The kingdom of Christ. Well, it is quite plain that the kingdom of Christ cannot be destroyed, but there is no reason it cannot change its form in such ways as He may choose.

So the kingdom of the saints would seem to last for 1000 years add what is after that we do not know. I do not find the words eternal state anywhere in Scripture. I think they are a philosophical conception that has no solid basis. I see no evidence that time comes to an end. Time is simply the possibility of things following one another. There is no reason that things cannot follow one another after the Great White Throne judgment. God has not revealed to us what will happen then.

We noticed ch. 8, I put the ram a little lower down in the picture here, because it does not tell us in ch. 8 which of the animals or parts of the statue it corresponds to, but the description makes it very clear that it is the second and that the he-goat is third. And that the horn from littleness there and there we have the great crisis. In Can. 11 we have the same two kings described-- Persia and Greece. Then we have a crisis in vv. 21-35 and then we jump to the still greater crisis in vv.36ff.

There is much more we could say about ch. 8, but I want to have a few minutes at least on the 4 vv. that are found in ch. 9. So I'm going to make

VI Daniel 9:24-27

In Dan. 9 we have a great prayer which Daniel gives. He sees there had been a prophecy made by Jeremiah that Jerusalem would be desolate for 70 years. When did the desolation begin? Does the desolation begin with the destruction of the city, or does the desolation begin with the great destruction in the territory near and the great number of people who were taken into captivity at the time when Daniel was taken into captivity. It is pretty hard to be sure of when those 70 yrs. would begin.

In ch. 9 we find Daniel, after the Babylonians are destroyed, and Darius the Mede has taken over as Cyrus' representative, Daniel prays and he figures it has been about 70 yrs. he has been away from Jerusalem, and that the territory around Jerusalem has been desolate.

Now he prays, O God you said there would be 70 yrs. of desolation. Now is the time when we can go back to the homeland. We can reestablish the glory of Jerusalem. We can have things established as they were before. But, he says, we were a sinful nation. We deserved what you have done, and we still are sinful. So what is the Lord going to do? The greater part of ch. 9 is made up of this great prayer. Then God sends the angel to Daniel to bring him the answer. The angel gives