

Daniel 8:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

The confrontation between ram and goat represents the military clash between Persia and Greece. The phrase "he came to the ram that had two horns" describes Alexander's direct assault on Medo-Persian power. "In the fury of his power" (Hebrew: *bachamat kocho*, בַּחַמַּת כּוֹחוֹ) depicts the rage and ferocity of Greek military might unleashed against Persian forces.

The verb "ran" (Hebrew: *yarots*, יָרָץ) means to rush violently, capturing the speed and aggression of Alexander's campaigns. This wasn't cautious, calculated warfare but overwhelming assault. Historically, Alexander's battles at Granicus, Issus, and Gaugamela demonstrated exactly this fury—he personally led cavalry charges with reckless courage, repeatedly risking death to break enemy lines. His tactical genius combined with passionate intensity created unstoppable momentum.

Spiritually, this teaches that human rage and power, however impressive, remain under God's sovereign control. Alexander's fury served divine purposes—judgment on Persian pride and preparation for gospel advancement. Yet fury without divine sanction leads to destruction; Alexander's empire fragmented immediately after his death. Only Christ's righteous wrath against sin accomplishes eternal purposes, and His resurrection power surpasses all earthly might.

Historical Context

The Battle of Issus (333 BC) exemplifies this "fury." Alexander, commanding about 40,000 troops, attacked Darius III's 100,000+ Persian army. Leading the elite Companion cavalry, Alexander personally charged through Persian lines seeking Darius. The ferocity so terrified Darius that he fled, causing Persian collapse. Similar fury characterized Gaugamela (331 BC), where Alexander's aggressive tactics broke the larger Persian force. Ancient sources describe Alexander's almost suicidal battlefield aggression—wounded multiple times, he fought with berserker intensity.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Alexander's fury serving God's purposes teach us that God sovereignly uses even human rage to accomplish His will?
2. What does the ram's inability to resist the goat's fury teach about earthly empires' ultimate fragility?
3. How does human military fury contrast with Christ's righteous wrath that ultimately conquers sin and death?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּבֹא אֵלָיו	עַד	הָאֵל לְ	בְּעַל	הַקֶּרְבַּיִם	אֲשֶׁר רָ	כִּי יִרְאֶה
And he came	H5704	to the ram	that had	two horns	H834	which I had seen
H935		H352	H1167	H7161		H7200
עֹמֵד	לִפְנֵי	הַנָּחַל	וַיָּרָץ	אֵלָיו	בְּחֵמָה	כֹּחֹ:
standing	before	the river	and ran	H413	unto him in the fury	of his power
H5975	H6440	H180	H7323		H2534	H3581

