

# Daniel 8:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

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The goat's total victory over the ram depicts Greece's complete military triumph. "Smote the ram, and brake his two horns" represents shattering Medo-Persian power—both Media and Persia thoroughly defeated. The phrase "there was no power in the ram to stand before him" emphasizes absolute military helplessness. Persia's vast armies, superior numbers, and extensive resources couldn't withstand Greek phalanx tactics and Alexander's genius.

"Cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him" uses vivid imagery of utter humiliation—not mere defeat but total subjugation. "There was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand" stresses that no nation could rescue Persia; former allies and subjects abandoned the failing empire. This language mirrors verse 4's description of Persian invincibility, showing how quickly divine judgment transfers power between kingdoms.

Theologically, this demonstrates that God judges prideful empires. Persia had conquered brutally; now divine justice repays through Greek conquest. The reversal of fortunes warns that earthly power is temporary—nations rising by violence often fall by violence. Only Christ's kingdom, established through self-

sacrificial love rather than military conquest, endures eternally. This points to His ultimate victory over all powers opposed to God.

## Historical Context

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After Gaugamela (331 BC), Persian resistance collapsed entirely. Alexander occupied Babylon without resistance, captured Susa and its treasures, and burned Persepolis (330 BC) symbolically ending Persian dominion. Darius III fled eastward but was murdered by his own officials (330 BC). Former Persian territories—Egypt, Syria, Mesopotamia, Asia Minor—submitted to Greek rule. The 220-year Persian Empire ended decisively within three years of Alexander's invasion, exactly as Daniel's vision predicted.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. What does Persia's rapid collapse after apparent invincibility teach us about false security in earthly power?
2. How does God's use of one prideful empire to judge another demonstrate His sovereignty in executing justice?
3. In what ways does Alexander's complete victory foreshadow Christ's ultimate triumph over all opposing powers?

