

Hope for Today

How Heaven Deletes the Past

In the book of Daniel God answers Israel's loss. Consider what all they had lost.

1. They had lost their homeland (kingdom)
2. They had lost their king
3. They had lost their Sanctuary (their Temple)

Notice how from chapter 7 God is addressing these losses.

Let us now recap the comparison between the information dealt with in Daniel 7 and Daniel 8. Notice the similarities and the differences.

Comparison of Visions	
Daniel 7	Daniel 8
• Babylon • Medo-Persia • Greece & Division • Rome • Division of Rome • Medieval Papacy (Little Horn) • The Judgment	• Babylon ignored • Medo-Persia • Greece & Division • Little Horn (Horizontal) • Little Horn (Horizontal) • Medieval Papacy (Little Horn) • Cleansing of the Sanctuary

We immediately notice that while much is similar, toward the end things change. There is no "Judgment" in Chapter 8, but there is a "Cleansing of the Sanctuary". Why do the symbols at the end change in Daniel 7 from a judgment setting to that of the "Cleansing of the Sanctuary" in Daniel 8, and what we may learn from that. We will deal with that shortly.

What is the emphasis of Chapter 8? Let us read a statement from "**Symposium on Daniel**" – **Quoting William Shea on page 198**

"Chapter 8 is, above all, a prophecy about the Sanctuary and the relationship to it of two powers – **the Prince and the Little Horn**"

From a study of Chapter 8, we agree with the above statement, that there are 2 adversaries in Daniel 8, The Prince and the Little Horn.

Before we examine the links to the Sanctuary in Daniel, notice the Little Horn's focus.

Targets of the little Horn's attack:

1. Attacks the saints

Daniel 8:10 "It grew great, even to the host of heaven. And some of the host and some of the stars it threw to the ground and trampled on them."

Daniel 8:24 "and shall succeed in what he does, and destroy mighty men and *the people who are the saints.*"

2. Interferes with sacrifice

Daniel 8:11 "... and the daily sacrifice was taken away by him, and the place of the sanctuary was cast down."

3. Attacks "foundation" of the Sanctuary

Pagan Rome would physically attack the structure of the temple (AD 70), but Papal Rome would rob it of its meaning

4. Opposes The Prince of the Host

Daniel 8:11 “ It became great, even as great as **the Prince of host.**”

Daniel 8:25 “... and by peace shall destroy many. He also shall stand up against **the Ruler of rulers.**”

5. Cast's the truth to the ground

Daniel 8:12 “and **cast the truth** to the ground. And it worked and succeeded.” The apostle Paul warned in **Acts 20:29**, “after my departure **fierce wolves** will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise **men speaking twisted things**, to draw away the disciples after them” The greatest danger to Christianity is from within.

Much of this is focused on the Sanctuary therefore as we proceed lets consider the emphasis on the Sanctuary in Daniel 8. What symbols/links are there in Chapter 8 that lead us to this conclusion? And what is the significance to us today?

- 1. The Language changes to Hebrew**, which many would say is the language of the sanctuary.
- 2. The use of Sanctuary animals.** More accurately Day of Atonement animals. It was on the Day of Atonement that the Sanctuary was, so to say, “Cleansed”. Hence the interchangeable use of the terms “Day of Atonement” and “Cleansing of the Sanctuary”

Leviticus 16:5 “And he shall take ... two male goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering” Here are the same 2 animals that we see in Daniel 8; the ram and the goat!

But in the case of Daniel 8 there is already a hint of conflict in the Sanctuary! The symbols of the sanctuary were intended to reconcile; but these are at war!

Symposium on Daniel – William Shea page 198

“In one way or another therefore *transgression has been introduced into services or functions (of the sanctuary)* that were intended to treat transgression. Their purpose has been subverted”

Daniel 8:12 “And a host will be given over to it together with the regular burnt offering (tamid) *because of transgression,*”

3. Reference to 4 Horns (Dan 8:8)

Exodus 27:2 “And you shall make **horns** for it (the altar) on its **four corners**; its horns shall be of one piece with it”

- 4. The Sanctuary is mentioned 3 times (vs. 11, 13, 14)**
- 5. Use of the word “Tamid” / Daily**

This word is not “continual sacrifice” but encompasses all of the daily services in the sanctuary

6. Use of “Evening/morning”

Daniel 8:13-14 “Until when shall the vision last concerning the daily sacrifice and the transgression that astounds. And he said to me, ‘For 2,300 **evenings and mornings**. Then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state (**cleansed**)

Exodus 27:20-21 “You shall command the people that they bring pure beaten olive oil for light, that a lamp may regularly be set up to burn.. Aaron and his sons shall tend it from **evening to morning** before the Lord.”

Numbers 9:15 “the **cloud** covered the tabernacle,from **evening until morning** it was above the tabernacle like the appearance of fire.”

7. Use of words “holy ones”

Daniel 8:13 “Then I heard a certain holy one speaking, and another holy one said to that one who spake,” This is a very rare word used for angels.

What was the importance of the O.T. Sanctuary?

Psalms 77:13 “Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary” The Sanctuary is God’s “Command and Control Centre” for dealing with Sin!

Lets step back and try to understand these O.T. sacrifices in order to understand the “Cleansing of the Sanctuary”

God had asked Israel to build a Sanctuary as a teaching tool of how He would deal with sin, once and for all. The sanctuary was made up of 3 major areas and 2 compartments. There was an outer court, where the sinner would bring and sacrifice the animal. The priest would catch and take this blood within the Holy Place. The physical structure had a Holy Place and a Most Holy Place. The priests would regularly minister in the Holy Place. But only the High Priest was allowed to enter the Most Holy Place, once a year, on the Day of Atonement.

Leviticus 5:5 “And it shall be when he is guilty in one of these, he shall confess that he has sinned. And he shall bring his trespass offering to Jehovah for his sin which he sinned, a female from the flock, a lamb or a doe of the goats, for a sin offering. And the priest shall make an atonement for him for his sin.”

What were all these animal sacrifices about? They pointed forward to Jesus, “the Lamb of God”

Let me show how sin was “transferred” from the sinner to the sanctuary. When the sinner brought the sacrifice to the temple, he confessed his sin before killing the animal, and through the blood this sin was transferred into the sanctuary. According to Leviticus 10:17-18, it was not always brought in via sprinkling, but at times through the priest eating it, the sacrifice.

Once a year, on the Day of Atonement, one of the highest of all Jewish festivals, they celebrated the “Cleansing of the Sanctuary”. In a sense the removal of sin from the Sanctuary.

Leviticus 16:29 “And it shall be a statute forever to you: in the seventh month on the tenth of the month, you shall afflict your souls and do no work at all, the native and the alien who is staying among you.”

Leviticus 16:30 “For on that day an atonement shall be made for you, to cleanse you, so that you may be clean from all your sins before Jehovah.”

So the purpose of the service was to cleanse the people finally from their sins!

Leviticus 16:19 expands the purpose to **the cleansing of the sanctuary itself**. “...he shall sprinkle some of the blood on it (the altar) with his finger...and cleanse it...from the uncleanness of the people”

According to Leviticus 16:5 and 8, two goats would be brought, one for the Lord, the other the Azazel. The Lord’s goat was sacrificed but not the Azazel. **Leviticus 16:10 actually says that the High Priest would “make atonement upon it” (Azazel) but it would not be killed!** Watch how the blood of the Lord’s goat was used.

Via the blood of the Lord’s goat, the sins that had been placed daily in the Sanctuary are now being removed, as the High Priest, in symbolic fashion carries them out from the Sanctuary, in

preparation for placing them on Azazel (Leviticus 16:21). This whole process is a reversal of the daily transfer of sin into the Sanctuary. Finally the High Priest confesses the transferred sins onto Azazel and releases it to die in the wilderness. What an amazing shadow of the end-time reality found in Revelation 20. **Revelation 20 shows that at the end of time, Satan finally bears the responsibility for sin, as he is banished to a 1000 years in the wilderness.**

What was the importance of the sanctuary and was it in the Old Testament only? If we study the New Testament the answer is clearly No!

Hebrews 8:1,2 "... We have such a **High Priest**, who has sat down on the right of the throne of the Majesty in Heaven, a Minister of **the sanctuary** and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man."

What is Jesus doing for us in Heaven right now?

Hebrews 9:23, "Thus it was necessary for these earthly copies of the things in Heaven to be cleansed by these sacrifices, **but the heavenly things themselves are made clean with better sacrifices** (a reference to the blood of Christ) than these"

Hebrews 9:24 "For Christ has not entered into **Holy of Holies** made with hands, which are the figure of the true, but into Heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."

1 Timothy 2:5 "... there is one **Mediator** of God, and of men, the Man Christ Jesus."

1 John 2:1 "... And if anyone sins, we have **an Advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

Hebrews 4:15 "For we do not have a **high priest** who cannot be touched with feelings of infirmities, but was in all points tempered just as we are, yet without sin."

When did the "Cleansing" begin, and which sanctuary was it - The earthly or Heavenly?

Daniel 8:13 ".. to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled?"

Daniel 8:14 "And he said to me, 'For 2,300 evenings and mornings. Then the sanctuary shall be restored to its rightful state (**cleansed**)"

Remember at this stage where we are in the flow of the vision and prophetic history. **Therefore when we speak of the "Cleansing of the Sanctuary" after the Dark Ages it must be the Heavenly!**

Comparison of Visions	
Daniel 7	Daniel 8
• Babylon • Medo-Persia • Greece & Division • Rome • Division of Rome • Medieval Papacy (Little Horn vertical) • Judgment	• Babylon ignored • Medo-Persia • Greece & Division • Little Horn (Horizontal) • Little Horn (Horizontal) • Medieval Papacy (Little Horn vertical) • Cleansing of the Sanctuary

The 2,300 days/years would run from the Medo-Persia empire to the Cleansing of the Sanctuary

That is why **Hebrews 9:24** says "For Christ has not entered into Holy of Holies made with hands'. But into heaven itself"

The Bible reveals a judgment scene in progress in Heaven.

This is why John says in **Revelation 22:12** "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense (reward) with me, to repay everyone for what he has done." By the time Christ returns, He has decided who gets what!

What does it mean to say the Heavenly sanctuary was "cleansed"? This is a unique word, found only once in the whole Bible. A unique word with critical meaning. To answer that question we must ask what were the issues? What did the little horn attack?

Remember the Targets of the little Horn's attack

1. Attacks the saints
2. Interferes with sacrifice
3. Attacks "foundation" of the Sanctuary
4. Opposes The Prince of the Host
5. Casts the truth to the ground

So would it not make sense that in the process of finally dealing with sin, as our Heavenly High Priest, Christ deals with each of these attacks as well. Hence the deep meaning of this word!

Cleansing of the Sanctuary

1. Cleansed
 - a. What was applied as a result of Calvary is being certified as a result of the judgment
 - b. Our sins that had been removed from us and placed on Christ need to be erased
2. Reconsecrated
3. Set/Put right
 - a. Put back in its rightful place. Given the proper understanding & attention
4. Restored
 - a. During the Dark Ages and since, men's attention has been diverted from Christ's work in the sanctuary, to men's work on earth.
5. Justified
 - a. In spite of men's attention being drawn away from the heavenly sanctuary, the work done there would justify God's justice and His righteousness.

Daniel 8:26 "And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true."

Daniel 8:17 "But he said to me, understand O son of man, for the vision is for the time of the end."

Daniel 8:26, 27 "But you shall shut up the vision; for it shall be many days. I was amazed at the vision, but there was no understanding." **Clearly there were issues that troubled Daniel, and others that left him confused.** Could it be that he was concerned about this time prophecy. Where does it begin and end? I believe Daniel 9 will resolve these issues.

Because of His Life & Death, Jesus is now putting the records straight. He is verifying, on the basis of our choice, not only our acceptance of His forgiveness, but our acceptance of His transformation (healing), who is saved and who is lost.