

## 1. Opening Prayer

## 2. Intro: Susa



Susa. Photo: Todd Bolen / bibleplaces.com

One of the oldest cities (from 4395 B.C)

Political center of the ancient kingdom Elam.

Hammurabi of Babylon sacked the city in 1764 B.C.

Assyria destroyed in 645-640 B.C.

Persian king Cyrus the Great conquered in 540 B.C.

Darius the Great (522-486 B.C) made it flourish.

Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Mordecai, and many Jews lived in Susa.

Alexander the Great occupied and forced massive weddings between his 10,000 soldiers and women in Susa in 324 B.C.

Later it oscillated between Seleucid (305-63 B.C) and Parthia (247 B.C -224 A.D).

During Sassanid period, many Christians were persecuted (224-651 A.D).

Muslims occupied it in 642 A.D, and Mongols destroyed it in 1218 A.D.

## 3. Structure of Daniel 8

The Second Vision (v. 1-2)

The Vision (vv. 3-12)

- a. A Ram (vv. 3-4)
- b. A Goat (vv. 5-12)

The First Hearing (vv. 13-14)

The Second Hearing (vv. 15-17)

The Interpretation (vv. 18-27)

- a. Ram Representing Kings of Media and Persia (v. 18-20)
- b. Goat Representing Kings of Greece (vv. 21-22)
- c. A Stern-Faced King (vv. 23-27)

Beyond Understanding (v. 28)

#### 4. Let Us Read Daniel 8

#### 5. Questions

- a. From this chapter the author wrote in Hebrew again. Why do you think the author wrote in Hebrew from here?
- b. Do you see any differences between the ram and the goat?
- c. There are many visions and interpretations in the book of Daniel. Can you find out any common feature of the interpretations?
- d. What is this interpretation in chapter 8 about?
- e. Who would be the prince of the host in verse 11?
- f. What would be the sanctuary in verse 11?
- g. What is truth in verse 12?
- h. The word “re-consecration” is used only once here in the bible. How do you think a thing can be re=consecrated?
- i. Why do you think Daniel became exhausted after the vision?

#### 6. Closing Prayer