



INSPIRATION AND PROVIDENCE

**CLAIM & EVIDENCE OF
INSPIRATION**

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Inspiration Claim Places God as Author

- Omnipotent – **Romans 1:20; Genesis 17:1**
 - No contradiction or corruption.
- Omniscient – **Psalms 147:5; Isaiah 40:28**
 - Factual and consistent.

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- God's claim – **Isaiah 41:21-24; 46:8-10**
- If He inspired the Bible, then all prophecies will prove true.
 - The test of prophecy – **Ezekiel 2:5; 33:33; Jeremiah 28:9; Deuteronomy 18:21-22**
 - Prophetic perfect – EX: **Isaiah 21:9**
- If they do not, then the Bible is a charade.

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Daniel's interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream – **Daniel 2:31-45**
- Daniel's time – **Daniel 1:1, 21** – 605-538 B.C.
- Head of gold (Babylon); Chest/arms of silver (Medo-Persia); Belly/Thighs of bronze (Greece); Legs/feet of iron/clay (Rome)
 - Medo-Persia take over – **Daniel 5:30-31** (539 B.C.)

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Medo-Persia and Greece specified – **Daniel 8** – Goat attacking Ram.
 - Time of vision – **(v. 1)** – aprox. 550 B.C.
 - Initial vision – **(vv. 3-14)**
 - Interpretation – **(vv. 20-26)**

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Medo-Persia and Greece specified – **Daniel 8** – Goat attacking Ram.
 - **(v. 20)** – Ram – Media and Persia
 - *“one [horn] was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last” (v. 3).*
 - Herodotus: “On the present occasion the Persians under Cyrus rose against the Medes and from then onwards were masters of Asia.”

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Medo-Persia and Greece specified – **Daniel 8** – Goat attacking Ram.
 - **(v. 21)** – Male goat – Greece
 - *“Large horn...is the first king”* – Alexander the Great
 - **(v. 7)** – Greece defeating Medo-Persia – 330 B.C. (prophecy – 550 B.C.) – Battle of the Persian Gates.

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Medo-Persia and Greece specified – **Daniel 8** – Goat attacking Ram.
 - **(v. 22)** – broken horn, 4 horns in place = 4 kingdoms.
 - Divided among 4 generals after Alexander's death.
 - “[T]he Macedonian Empire split into four main kingdoms—the one of Seleucus (Asia), Ptolemy (Egypt), Lysimachus (Thrace), and Antipater's son Cassander (Macedonia, including Greece)”
(<http://www.historyofmacedonia.org/AncientMacedonia/AlexandertheGreat.html>)

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Medo-Persia and Greece specified – **Daniel 8** – Goat attacking Ram.
 - **(vv. 9, 23-26)** – little horn (king) out of one of the 4.
 - “The little horn (v. 9), which arose out of the four, is generally agreed to mean Antiochus Epiphanes (175-163 B.C.), of the Syrian branch of the Greek Empire, who made a determined effort to stamp out the Jewish religion” (Halley’s Bible Handbook, 440).

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Prophetic Accuracy

- Medo-Persia and Greece specified – **Daniel 8** – Goat attacking Ram.
 - **(vv. 9, 23-26)** – little horn (king) out of one of the 4.
 - Antiochus Epiphanes: Exalted self – **(vv. 11, 25)**

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“Tetradrachma of the Seleucid Empire of Antiochus IV Epiphanes...This coin portrays Zeus enthroned; the obverse bears the portrait of Antiochus IV with the inscription ‘of King Antiochus God Manifest’” (Archer, Gleason L., A Survey of Old Testament Introduction, 439)



EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Medo-Persia and Greece specified – **Daniel 8** – Goat attacking Ram.
 - **(vv. 9, 23-26)** – little horn (king) out of one of the 4.
 - Antiochus Epiphanes: “*grew exceedingly great toward...the Glorious land*” **(v. 9)**; “*and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away*” **(v. 11)**

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

“And Antiochus, after he had smitten Egypt, returned in the hundred and forty and third year and went up against Israel and Jerusalem with a heavy multitude and entered into the sanctuary in pride...And when he had taken all, he went away into his own land. And he made a great slaughter, and spoke with great pride.”

(1 Maccabees 1:20-24; Bibliotheca, The Apocrypha, 390)

- *“grew exceedingly great toward...the Glorious land”* (Daniel 8:9)

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

“And the king [Antiochus Epiphanes] sent letters by the hand of messengers to Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, that they should follow laws strange to the land, and should forbid whole burnt offerings and sacrifice and drink offerings in the sanctuary, and should profane the sabbaths and feasts, and pollute the sanctuary and holy ones.”

(1 Maccabees 1:44-46; Bibliotheca, The Apocrypha, 392)

- *“and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away”* (Daniel 8:11)

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Medo-Persia and Greece specified – **Daniel 8** – Goat attacking Ram.
 - **(vv. 9, 23-26)** – little horn (king) out of one of the 4.
 - Antiochus Epiphanes: *“But he shall be broken without human means”* **(v. 25)**

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Died because of a distemper, or fever – “he was confounded, and by the anxiety he was in fell into a distemper, which, as it lasted a great while, and as his pains increased upon him, so he at length perceived he should die in a little time; so he called his friends to him, and told them that his distemper was severe upon him; and confessed withal, that this calamity was sent upon him for the miseries he had brought upon the Jewish nation, while he plundered their temple, and contemned their God; and when he had said this, he gave up the ghost.”

(Josephus, Antiquity of the Jews, 12:9:1)

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Head of gold (Babylon); Chest/arms of silver (Medo-Persia); Belly/Thighs of bronze (Greece); Legs/feet of iron/clay (Rome) (cf. Daniel 2)
 - Medo-Persia take over – Daniel 5:30-31 (539 B.C.)
 - Greece take over – Daniel 8 – Goat attacking Ram. (330 B.C.)
 - Greece followed by Rome (146 B.C.)
 - “*in the days of these kings...*” – Daniel 2:44-45 – God’s eternal kingdom.

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- *“in the days of these kings...”* – **Daniel 2:44-45** – God’s eternal kingdom.
- **Mark 9:1** – within the generation of those Jesus spoke to Himself.
 - “According to The Skeptics Annotated Bible, in Mark 9:1, ‘Jesus falsely prophesies that the end of the world will come within his listeners’ lifetimes.’” (<https://apologeticspress.org/a-failed-prophecy-of-christ-5956/>)
 - Spiritual (**cf. John 18:36**) – **Acts 1:5-8; 2** (30 A.D.) (Church)

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Critics baselessly argue that Daniel could not have been written during the time it claims.
 - Argument made simply based on the sheer accuracy of the prophecies. Claim *vaticinia ex eventu* (predictions from the event).
- Jesus referred to Daniel as the work of Daniel the prophet (605-538 B.C.) – **Matthew 24:15**

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

Prophetic Accuracy

- Cyrus Named:
 - Isaiah – 740-700 B.C.
 - Babylon prophesied to fall to the Medes –
Isaiah 13:17-18; 21:9
 - Babylon's rise – 605 B.C.; Fall – 539 B.C.
 - Name of the man to lead the Medes specified –
Isaiah 44:28; 45:1-7 – 150 years before Cyrus was born.

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Prophetic Accuracy

- Messianic Prophecy (Over 300 prophecies):
 - Birthplace – **Micah 5:2** (735-700 B.C.); **Matthew 2:3-5**
 - Death with wicked – **Isaiah 53:8-9** (740-700 B.C.);
Luke 23:32-33
 - Death, hands/feet pierced – **Psalms 22:16** (1010-970 B.C.); **Matthew 27:35; John 20:24-28**
 - Could not have been contrived by Jesus. Done to Him.

EVIDENCE OF INSPIRATION

*“no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for **prophecy never came by the will of man**, but holy men of God spoke as **they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**”*

(2 Peter 1:20-21)



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