

this term in the common meaning that occurs so often in Ezekiel. (See discussion on p.112)

This chapter, like chapter 7 predicts political history through animal symbolism.

THE RAM	PERSIA
(3) I looked up, and there before me was a ram with two horns, standing beside the canal, and the horns were long. One of the horns was longer than the other but grew up later. (4) I watched the ram as he charged toward the west and the north and the south. No animal could stand against him, and none could rescue from his power. He did as he pleased and became great.	(20) The two-horned ram that you saw represents the kings of Media and Persia.

The picture in verses 3 and 4 is a vivid representation of the conquests of Cyrus the Great which put an end to the Babylonian empire. The statement in verse 20 that "the two horned ram . . . represents the kings of Media and Persia" parallels the references to "the laws of the Medes and Persians" in Esther 1:19 and in Daniel 6:8, 12 and 15 and contradicts the critical theory that the second and third animals in chapter 7 represent separate Median and Persian empires. This part of the vision parallels the second part of the image in Daniel 2 and the second animal in chapter 7. Verse 3 describes an unusual feature about the ram. One of its two horns was longer than the other, and the longer one grew up later. This feature, which may parallel the statement in 7:5 that the bear was raised up on one of its sides, clearly points to the history of the Medo-Persian empire. For a time the Medes had seemed far more