

THE BREAKING OF THE LARGE HORN	THE BEGINNING OF THE HELLENISTIC KINGDOMS
(8) The goat became very great, but at the height of his power his large horn was broken off, and in its place four prominent horns grew up toward the winds of heaven.	(22) The four horns that replaced the one that was broken off represent four kingdoms that will emerge from his nation but four will not have the same power.

These verses were fulfilled when Alexander the Great died at the very summit of his power. The reference to the "winds of heaven" may suggest the fact that after his death his generals would fight for nearly 40 years as one after another would try to gain control over the entire empire. It eventually would become divided into three great lasting kingdoms² and a number of smaller ones, such as Bithynia, Pontus, Cappadocia, Pergamum, and Bactria. The picture in verse 8 of four prominent horns toward the four winds of heaven is a good summary statement.

The third kingdom is represented in chapter 2 as a unified portion of the statue, and is typified in chapter 7 by a single animal, though it existed as a unit for less than 30 years. Yet we can speak of it as one kingdom since this so called Hellenistic age was a period when one language and culture was dominant over a wide area and characterized the leadership of all the separate kingdoms formed out of Alexander's empire.

Alexander himself had wished to make one people out of the many diverse nations he had conquered. He married a Persian wife and induced many of his associates to follow his example. Everywhere he went he founded new cities on the Greek model, and this practice was continued by the rulers of the great dynasties that were established after his death. Soon there were cities all through their domains bearing such names as Alexandria, Philippi, Seleucia, and Antioch. Even the kingdom of Bactria in the area now called