

Dream On

What's a dream you've had that made no sense to you?

Read Daniel 8:1-9:27.

1. The vision in Daniel brings to mind:
 - A. The dream I had last night.
 - B. The dreams from Daniel 2 (multiple-metal human figure) and Daniel 7 (beasts).
 - C. Each vision seems increasingly complicated.
 - D. Sanctuary animals (ram and goat).
 - E. Watch out for little horns!
 - F. Lots of bad stuff.
 - G. Bad stuff eventually concludes, and God's way wins in the end.
 - H. Two years had passed since Daniel's previous dream from God (7:1).
 - I. Other.

2. The "little horn" that grows in power:
 - A. Is just a little horn.
 - B. Expands until it seems to take over the world.
 - C. Reminds me of _____.
 - D. Attacks God's sanctuary—God's visible presence in the world.
 - E. Impacts earth and also heaven.
 - F. Seems to succeed.
 - G. Is Satan.
 - H. Is a tool of Satan.
 - I. Other.

3. What does it mean for the sanctuary to be "cleansed" (8:14)?
 - A. Custodial service is needed at the church.
 - B. Something messed it up, and messed it up really bad.
 - C. The word can mean cleansed, vindicated, made right, restored.
 - D. The little horn ruins the sanctuary, but the sanctuary will be back.
 - E. The daily sacrifices (like daily devotions) had stopped, but will return.
 - F. We have to clean up the sanctuary.
 - G. God has to clean up the sanctuary.
 - H. It takes more than six years (2300 days) or 2300 prophetic years.
 - I. Other.

4. What did Gabriel reveal in his interpretation of Daniel's dream?
 - A. Not much.
 - B. Much.
 - C. Gabriel was clearly supernatural.
 - D. Both good and evil supernatural powers operate on earth.
 - E. Followers of God are always protected from evil.
 - F. When we pray, things happen.
 - G. Daniel's vision would be sealed up/closed until the end of time.
 - H. The sanctuary, symbolizing God's presence, would soon be rebuilt.
 - I. Other.

5. What grabs your attention in Daniel's prayer (9:4-19)?
 - A. How he praised God in his prayer.
 - B. Daniel identified with God's sinful people—"we" instead of "they."
 - C. So much repetition.
 - D. Confession—we did wrong and got what we deserved.
 - E. One prophet (Daniel) read the writings of another prophet (Jeremiah).
 - F. A big "ask"—for God to act so the sanctuary would be rebuilt.
 - G. How he based his request on God's reputation and undeserved mercies.
 - H. Daniel had been in Babylon for nearly 70 years.
 - I. Other.

6. What understanding did Gabriel give Daniel at their second meeting?
 - A. God thinks very, very highly of you!
 - B. You're thinking of 70 years; I'm telling you about 70 x 7 (490) years.
 - C. God is telling you how much time He's giving the Jewish nation.
 - D. The sanctuary will be rebuilt.
 - E. After the sanctuary is rebuilt, it will be destroyed again—horrible!
 - F. Daniel might have understood this, but I don't.
 - G. The Messiah/Anointed One is coming!
 - H. Other.

7. In Daniel's vision things seem to get worse rather than better. Do you expect things to get worse or better, or just stay the same? Where is God in everything that is going on today?

8. Daniel prayed for the sanctuary—God's presence on earth—to be rebuilt. Where do you pray to see God's visible presence today?