Lesson 12

Daniel's Vision Of the Anointed One Daniel 11 and 12

Begin today's lesson asking the Holy Spirit to illumine your mind and to teach you His precepts.

Before you start the questions in this week's lesson, take some time to read through all of Daniel 11 and 12.

When the Bible was written, there were no chapter divisions or verse numbers. These were placed later as a way to mark the text. Daniel 11:1 seems to fit with the thought of the last two verses of Chapter 10.

- 1. If this is so, to whom does the word "I" refer in Daniel 11:1, and what did he do?
- 2. Remember that Daniel 10, 11 and 12 all concern one vision, the vision of the Anointed One. From Daniel 10:14 what is this vision about?

"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor? Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to Him again? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To *Him be the glory* forever. Amen.

Romans 11:33-36

When Daniel wrote Daniel 11, many aspects of this detailed prophecy were several hundred years from fulfillment and some were thousands of years from fulfillment. As we look back upon his words, we see from secular history that the first 35 verses have come to pass exactly as Daniel predicted. To begin, he tells us about four Persian Kings (Daniel 11:2). Under Xerxes, the last of these four kings, the power begins to shift to Greece, ultimately to Alexander the Great. (Daniel 11:4)

The prophecy then turns to the kings of the South (Egypt-the Ptolemies) and the kings of the North (Syria-the Seleucids). The events in Daniel 11:5-20 tell of 250 years of war between these two kingdoms, which directly affected the Israelites who were positioned between them. The betrayals, battles and arranged marriage all happened just as Daniel foretold. Because these events came to pass exactly as Daniel predicted, skeptics have questioned if Daniel could have written these words long beforehand, suggesting that he wrote this book after these events

transpired. But God is showing, through Daniel's precise vision, that He is sovereign and that His word is trustworthy, settled and sure. The remaining events will unfold just as certainly as the already fulfilled events.

In Daniel 11:21-35, Daniel describes a King of the North whom we now know as Antiochus Epiphanes. He was King of Syria from 175-164 B.C. He staged several battles against Egypt but ultimately turned his greatest wrath against the Jewish people. (Daniel 11:28, 30-35)

- 3. What is the holy covenant that King Antiochus Epiphanes hated so intensely? See Genesis 13:15-17, Genesis 15:4-6, 18-21, and Genesis 17:1-8.
- 4. From Daniel 11:21-35, list several things that are prophesied about Antiochus Epiphanes.

This period of time when Antiochus Epiphanes ruled in Israel is called the Maccabean Period, named after a Jewish family who came to prominence. They staged a revolt against Antiochus Epiphanes.

5. Can you find phrases from Daniel 11:32-35 that may refer to the Maccabean revolt, and may also refer to future people and events?

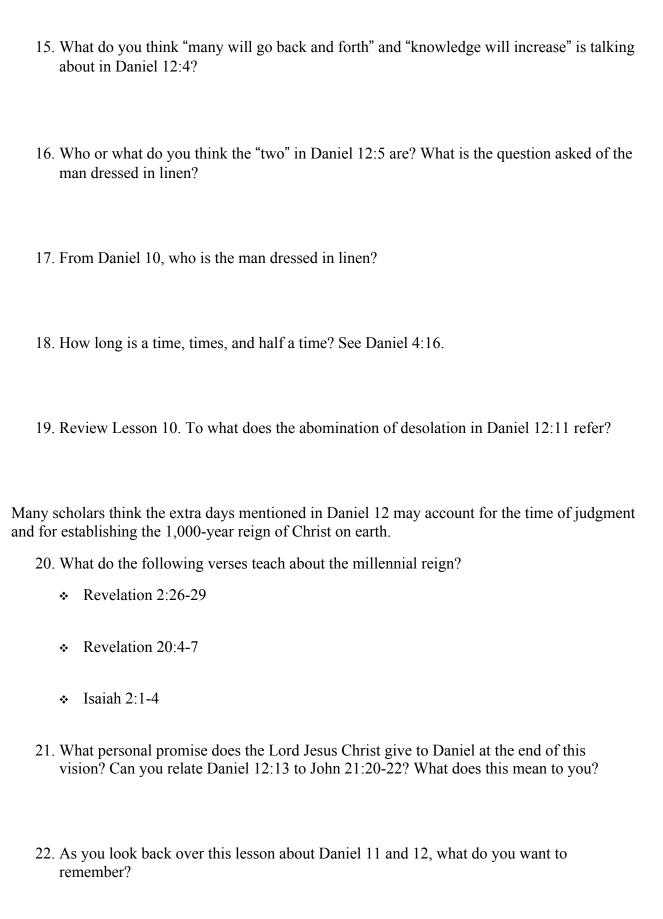
As this prophetic passage unfolds, it seems to move from a vision of Antiochus Epiphanes, who foreshadows the antichrist, to a prophecy about the antichrist himself, beginning in Daniel 11:36.

- 6. Take some time to consider Daniel 11:36-45. What do you learn about this king, both his character and his actions?
- 7. Matthew 24:2-31 and Mark 13:3-33 are parallel prophetic passages spoken by Jesus about the times at the end of the age. Discuss how these passages relate to Daniel 11. What additional things do you learn from Jesus' teaching?
- 8. Daniel 11:45 talks about a king pitching his tents in Israel and coming to his end. The tents may be for the purpose of war, specifically the battle of Armageddon. Read Revelation 19:11-21 and discuss what you learn here about that battle and about his end.

- 9. How does Daniel refer to the period of time noted in Daniel 12:1?
- 10. Discuss all you learn from the following passages about this particular period of time.
 - ❖ How does Jesus describe this period of time in Matthew 24:21?
 - **❖** Zephaniah 1:14-16
 - **❖** Joel 2:1-2
 - ❖ Jeremiah 30:7

This time includes all of the seal, trumpet and bowl judgments of Revelation chapters 6-18.

- 11. Daniel 12:1 mentions "your people."
 - * To whom do you think "your people" refers?
 - Consider Ezekiel 36:22-28; 37:7-14, 21-28 and Romans 11:25-27. How could these prophecies fit in with this Daniel verse?
- 12. Daniel 12:2 depicts resurrection, reward and judgment. Read Matthew 25:31-46, John 5:21-29 and Revelation 20:4-6 and 20:11-15. Discuss what you learn.
- 13. In this time of great tribulation there will be great darkness but there will also be "shining stars." From Daniel 12:3 and Isaiah 60:1-3, discuss what you learn. How does this apply to your life?
- 14. What do you think "seal up the book until the end of time" (Daniel 12:4) means? See also Revelation 10:4, 22:10, and Daniel 12:8-9.



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Thoughts From Martha:

Well, I guess Daniel's final chapters will be our own ending, as well, and what an end it will be: a real cliffhanger, for sure! And to think Daniel actually got to see the previews! I wonder at the end of the age if he'll be like one of those people you sit next to in the movies who keeps saying, "Oh yeah, I saw this part and let me tell you what happens next" ... only in this case, we'll be longing to hear?

And just how DOES one say goodbye to someone like Daniel? Maybe we should salute or genuflect or something. It certainly seems fitting after having witnessed the better portion of a life spent in persistent devotion and uncompromising faithfulness. Daniel was truly a person with steadfast convictions and unwavering faith whether a mere youth or aged man. He has not only given us a storehouse of treasures through his wisdom, courage, single-hearted devotion, humility, and prayerfulness, but he's given us a glimpse – a 'visual' glimpse and savory foretaste – of God's hidden kingdom and that is a treasure which will continue to grow brighter in time.

We thank you, Daniel for giving your life so wholeheartedly-so unreservedly-to God because, in so doing, it has become a source of hope, faith, and strength for countless others. It is with the greatest of admiration and deepest respect that we now take our leave.

And Daniel ... See ya in the millennium!!!

"I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and His incomparably great power for us who believe.

Ephesians 1:18-19

Lecture Notes: