

## Doing hard things well

### Daniel 11:29-45

- We left off with after Alexander the great death, he left his vast kingdom to his four generals the most prominent being Ptolemy and Seleucus, one was the king in the South (Ptolemy) the other the king in the North (Seleucus). The King in the South was over the Egyptian territory and the King of the North ruled Syria and Mesopotamia which is modern day Iraq and parts of Turkey, both believed they had jurisdiction over Israel and fought for over one hundred and fifty years to control that area.
- From this battle arose a man name Antiochus “Epiphanes” which means God manifest, his first name Antiochus means opposer or withstander, so when you actually put it together it literally means opposer of God revealed. No wonder the Jews changed it to Antiochus “Epimanes” meaning madman or crazy one.
- **V21-28** were told that this man would seize power through trickery ad flattery, seducing the people into thinking he is the rightful king that would do right by them. He not only seduced Syria but also Israel into willingly accepting him in the beginning, but soon he showed his true colors by overthrowing the priesthood and installing his own priesthood instead, then taxing people, and taking all the best real estate from Palestine, Edom, Moab, taking all the wealth back to Syria with him.

### V29-45

- **V29-31** tell us that neither Kings had good motives or pure hearts, they both were scoundrels, the difference was Antiochus absolutely hated the Jews. So on his way back from fighting Egypt he stops through Jerusalem and decides to desecrate the temple, he takes all its wealth, sacrifices a pig on the altar, smears pigs blood on the walls and in the sanctuary, and abolishes all the daily sacrifices in 168 B.C.
- All this happened because unlike before when he went up against Egypt instead of defeating them he lost as Rome assisted them with ships V30 from Cyprus, and since he didn’t get what he wanted which was full control of Egypt, he decides to take his rage out on Israel described in these verses.

- **V31** Gabriel calls it “**the abomination that maketh desolation**” and notice there was some inside help as those who forsook their own covenant supported him in **V30**. So there was always Jewish traitors well before Judas betrayed Jesus, as they were betraying their covenant, country, and people for a long time just like today.
- When this did happen people thought the antichrist, when the Roman general Titus does a similar thing and burns the temple down in A.D. 70 people will think antichrist, they are only types of what is to come. When the real antichrist comes he will put his own image in the Jewish temple when he breaks the covenant with the Jews in the middle of the seven year tribulation mentioned in Daniel’s seventieth week > **Dan 9:27, 12:11**, along with **Math 24:15, Mk 13:14**.
- **V32-35** this happened during Antiochus Epiphanes persecution, and Titus and Rome conquering Israel, but the most prevalent time in which this prophecy will manifest itself is during the tribulation period. As many will succumb to the antichrist flattery > **2 Thes 2:9-12, Rev 13:5-6**, but we see that some will withstand him and carry out great exploits, although dying for their efforts > **V33-35**- it will lead to people coming into a right relationship with The Lord.
- **V36-39** in contrast to Jesus Who is equal to God being God, humbling Himself and making Himself of no reputation, the antichrist will claim to be god, exalting and magnifying himself with such deceiving words that he will make Adolf Hitler look like a small child speaking. The world will rally behind him because he is prosperous, and initially he will reward those who support him, but as we read its only for an appointed time until the wrath from God is accomplished **V36**.
- This is why I don’t believe the Church will be there > **1Thess 5:9, Rom 5:9**, also in the book of **Revelations 3:10**- in the letters to the churches Jesus promises to keep believers from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world.
- **V40-45** not everyone will bow down as a military force will assemble from the north and South once he declares he is to be worshipped solely and put his image in the temple. But he will defeat them and at the end of the three and a half years he will hear of news in the East and North as another army assembles to fight against him and this is the battle of “Armageddon” means mountain of Megiddo. This will occur at the end of the tribulation period, and this is where he will meet his end.