



PROPHECY

OUR COMFORT FOR THE NOT SO DISTANT FUTURE

A Study of Daniel 11 • "Prophecy is our Gift from God"

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

INTRODUCTION TO DANIEL 11

In this chapter, God's angel, Gabriel, describes for Daniel the future reigns of various Persian, Greek, Egyptian, and Syrian kings. The angel concludes this chapter by predicting the eventual rise and fall of the Antichrist himself!

All of this was given and documented between eight and eight-hundred years before it happened. The kings were mentioned in Daniel 11, by name, in most cases, before they were even born.

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future in the hands of a known God."

- Corrie ten Boom

STUDY SECTION FOR VV. 1 - 35

The Chronology of Christless Conquerors (Past)

Four Persian Kings (11:1-2): Daniel learns that three Persian kings will succeed Darius the Mede, followed by a powerful fourth ruler who will use his great wealth to wage total war against Greece.

A Mighty King of Greece (11:3-4): Here is a reference to Alexander the Great, who will suddenly die soon after building his vast empire, resulting in the empire being fragmented into four divisions.

The Kings of Syria And Egypt (11:5-20): The king of Syria will give his daughter to the king of Egypt in marriage to overthrow the kingdom from within.

An Evil Syrian King (11:21-35): This is a reference to Antiochus Epiphanes IV, (The OT Antichrist) who will come to power around 175 BC.

The Satanic, Self-Willed King (11:36-45): These verses describe the frightful reign of the coming Antichrist. [*His craftiness* (11:21-23); *His conquests* (11:24); *His confrontations*; *His cruelty* (11:31-35). (He will desecrate the Temple and murder many of the Israelites.)

STUDY SECTION FOR VV. 36-45

The Chronology of the Antichrist (Future)

1. The Character of the Antichrist

Daniel 11:36-39, NASB -³⁶ *"Then the king will do as he pleases, and he will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will speak monstrous things against the God of gods; and he will prosper until the indignation is finished, for that which is decreed will be done."* ³⁷ *"He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the desire of women, nor will he show regard for any other god; for he will magnify himself above them all."* ³⁸ *"But instead he will honor a god of fortresses, a god whom his fathers did not know; he will honor him with gold, silver, costly stones and treasures."* ³⁹ *"He will take action against the strongest of fortresses with the help of a foreign god; he will give great honor to those who acknowledge him and will cause them to rule over the many, and will parcel out land for a price."*

These verses tell us a number of important facts about what kind of man the Antichrist will be:

- He is arrogant and self-willed.
- He never stops talking and boasting about himself. (Daniel 7 makes this point emphatically when it emphasizes the "little horn" who makes big boasts. The Antichrist will be the ultimate egomaniac.
- He is a blasphemer.
- He is deceptive, ruthless, and utterly devoid of integrity.
- He is outspoken in his public opposition to God.
- He will initially be very successful.
- His reign is limited by God. The "time of wrath" in verse 36 refers to the last half of the seven-year Tribulation period. Note that even

though the Antichrist has enormous power, he can only do what God permits him to do.

- H. He rejects his own spiritual heritage. (Verse 37 says he has no regard for the “God of his fathers.” This expression has led some to think he must be of Jewish heritage. But remember, Daniel 7 says he comes out of the fourth beast, which represents the Roman Empire, and Revelation 13 pictures the Beast (a symbol for the Antichrist) arising out of the sea of the Gentile nations. *Pastor Joe feels strongly that he is a Gentile but the Bible isn’t explicit on this point.* POINT: Whatever spiritual background he comes from, he rejects it totally.)
- I. He opposes all organized religion.
- J. He will set himself up as a god to be worshiped. This is the “abomination of desolation” that takes place at the mid-point of the Tribulation when he will stop the sacrifices in the rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem and will proclaim himself to be God (see 2 Thess. 2:1-3).
- K. He has no regard for the desire of women. This ambiguous phrase in verse 37 has been interpreted in various ways. For some, it may mean that the Antichrist has no natural desire for woman (ie., that he is homosexual). Others believe his desire may be ‘unnatural.’ Regardless of the interpretation, it means that the way is being paved for the Antichrist to rise to power as a practitioner of moral perversion.
- L. He worships military might. Verse 38 mentions a “god of fortresses,” the only time this expression occurs in the Bible. His bloodthirsty character allows him to ruthlessly kill millions of people in his drive for world domination.
- M. His power will come from Satan. This explains the “god unknown to his fathers” in verse 38. He will deceive the world with the help of Satan who will empower him to work miracles that will astound millions.
- N. He will conquer many nations.
- O. He will richly reward those who follow him. For a short period of time he will appear to be the savior the world has yearned for. But the “Man of Peace” will soon reveal his true character.

Gabriel describes this evil ruler, the Antichrist, as a selfish and perverted ruler, a spellbinding orator who will arrogantly exalt himself. He is a man with no religious faith. He shall have a successful career until the Tribulation ends with the return of Jesus Christ to set up His kingdom. The believer must note that the evil one’s doom is sure—you don’t take on Holy God and win.

- Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe

2. The Career of the Antichrist

Daniel 11:40–44, NASB -⁴⁰ *“At the end time the king of the South will collide with him, and the king of the North will storm against him with chariots, with horsemen and with many ships; and he will enter countries, overflow them and pass through.”* ⁴¹ *“He will also enter the Beautiful Land, and many countries will fall; but these will be rescued out of his hand: Edom, Moab and the foremost of the sons of Ammon.”* ⁴² *“Then he will stretch out his hand against other countries, and the land of Egypt will not escape.”* ⁴³ *“But he will gain control over the hidden treasures of gold and silver and over all the precious things of Egypt; and Libyans and Ethiopians will follow at his heels.”* ⁴⁴ *“But rumors from the East and from the North will disturb him, and he will go forth with great wrath to destroy and annihilate many.”*

These verses describe a series of military maneuvers that will take place during the last few years of the Tribulation. (We studied them in our studies of Daniel and Revelation.) The “King of the North” could come from Syria, Turkey, Russia, or other regions of the former USSR. Other nations mentioned here would include Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, India, all of Southeast Asia, China, and North Korea. *Ultimately, he will ‘enter’ Israel.* His empire will span every continent and his rule will be the most demonic individual the world has ever experienced.

3. The Collapse of the Antichrist

Daniel 11:45, NASB -⁴⁵ *“He will pitch the tents of his royal pavilion between the seas and the beautiful Holy Mountain; **yet he [the Antichrist] will come to his end, and no one will help him.**”*

These descriptors in this verse suggest that God will defeat the Antichrist near Jerusalem, where the valley of Armageddon is.

APPLICATION SECTION

1. **Fulfilled prophecy speaks to the reliability of God’s Word.** Verses 1-35 were prophecy to Daniel but are history to us.
2. **Future prophecy in Scripture comforts us as we know our God wins.** Verses 36-45 were prophecy to Daniel and are still prophecy to us today. (We know how this world ends.)
3. **Brace yourself, be alert, be bold, be encouraged, and come to Christ (if you haven’t).**
4. **“If you know Christ, you will never know the Antichrist.”**