

- I) **V36-39 INTRO: Then the king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and**
- II) **Ch 11 is a revelation of the future that is delivered to Daniel by an angel
The chapter is divided into two sections**
- III) **The first 35 verses relate to the major rulers in Persia and Greece
V36-45 and conclude with the last ruler, the antichrist who is in power at Jesus' return**
- IV) **Throughout the first portion of the chapter Daniel is given a preview of future events
The angel speaks of Persian kings that will come after Darius concluding with Xerxes 1**
- V) **He went on to inform Daniel that a great king would arise and conquer Persia: Alexander
When Alexander died, his kingdom was divided amongst four of his generals**
- VI) **These kings were not united and there would be a history of warfare among them
Out of Syria would eventually come an evil man named Antiochus Epiphanes**
- VII) **He was a military leader and he led various military campaigns
Eventually, he came against Israel and began to occupy it
While in Israel, he attempted to Hellenize the nation**
- VIII) **He had the High Priest, Onias, murdered
Developed various treaties to strengthen his position
He fought against and defeated Egypt, but was put in check by Rome**
- IX) **This forced him to return to Syria but while enroute, he vented his rage of Israel
Israel was divided over him: some siding with him and others rebelling**
- X) **He polluted the altar of sacrifice, stopped daily offerings, prohibited Jewish worship
He placed an idol of Zeus Olympus in the temple, desecrating it
He took the name Epiphanes (the glorious manifestation)**
- XI) **Antiochus Epiphanes is a type, foreshadowing the coming Antichrist**

It is an event or person in Scripture that points forward to a later event or person

XII) We concluded our study last week at V35 where we read *Until the time of the end*

Until the time of the end introduced the next portion of the prophecy
This is actually a phrase introducing the next several verses

XIII) This gives us the insight that what is spoken of is in the Last Days
The time that is being spoken of is the time we are now about to look at

I) This passage introduces us to a last days figure known as the Willful King
The willful king is another name for the Antichrist

II) Conservative scholars recognize this as the last days that culminate in Jesus' return

III) Daniel gives us various details concerning this Willful King that help us to identify him

IV) V36 FIRST: The king shall do according to his own will
The king does not answer to anybody on earth

V) He has an absolute authority
This lines up with what Daniel had already written about him
Dan 7:23 The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all other kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, trample it and break it in pieces.

VI) He exalts and magnifies himself above every god
In his reign he shall claim to be god and shall demand worship
2 Th 2:4 (He) opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God

VII) The result will be that the world begins to worship him
Rev 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

VIII) V36 speaking blasphemies against the God
We have already seen this in ch 7
Dan 7:25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then

the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.

IX) V36 He shall prosper until the wrath (Tribulation) has been accomplished
Rev 6:16 They called to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from *the wrath of the Lamb!*

X) This tells us that his rule is limited: It lasts until the wrath has been accomplished

XI) If people do not worship him, they will be executed: This solidifies his rule
This worship of him will be accomplished through his false prophet
Rev 13:15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

I) V37 He shall regard neither the God of his father nor the desire of women; nor regard any

Many commentators take this to mean that he is an apostate Jew
That of course is very possible: The expression literally is the gods of his fathers

II) Some has said that he simply disregards any gods, including the God of Israel
In his blasphemy, he magnifies himself over any and all gods worshiped on earth

III) He yields to the same temptation that caused Satan to fall

IV) He desires to steal God's glory in order to be worshiped
Ezek 28:14-15 You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you.

Ezek 28:17 Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth
Is 14:12-15 How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: `I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High. Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.

V) Satan desired to be equal with God and to be worshiped
As a result, he was removed from his place of power and authority

- VI) He brought the same temptation to Eve, and she succumbed to it
Gen 3:5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will *be like God*, knowing good and evil
- VII) God knows, because He is omniscient and knows all things
Your eyes will be opened: the eyes of your understanding will be enlarged
You will be like God: Your understanding will be unlimited
You will understand the depth of good, as well as evil: though Eve did not know of evil
- VIII) In her innocence, she believed Satan because she desired to have her eyes opened
She wanted more understanding and had not experienced being lied to
- IX) She desired knowledge and attempted to attain it through her own effort
Paul told us the way for our understanding to enlarge is by God's grace
Eph 3:18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints
- I) The coming world ruler gives in to the promise of power and authority
He accepts what has been offered to him
Rev 13:2 The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.
- II) He does not regard the God of his fathers
This may mean he is Jewish, which paves the way for him to claim to be Messiah
The Jewish people would not accept a gentile messiah
- III) V37 nor the desire of women
The desire of Jewish women was to be the mother of the promised Messiah
Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.
- IV) This would be understood as a symbol of the Messianic hope of Israel
Instead, he magnifies himself above all gods
- V) V38 Bbut in their place he shall honor a god of fortresses; and a god which his fathers
The god he honors is unlike any gods his forefathers worshiped
In his quest for total rule and worship, he replaces all religious worship

with his own

VI) His new religion is based on the power to make war symbolized by the word fortress

Rev 6:2 I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.

Rev 13:4 People worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, Who is like the beast? Who can wage war against it?

VII) He is not a prince of peace, but a bringer of war

VIII) V39 Thus he shall act against the strongest fortresses with a foreign god which he shall

HIS RULE: Is characterized by warfare and rewarding those who side with him

SUMMATION: His rule combines materialism, violence and false religion

IX) In a society dulled to violence, it is not hard to believe that it will follow a violent leader

X) Antichrist will combine pragmatic materialism, war and false religion to enslave the world

The culmination of this will be in the last half of tribulation

This is the Tribulation, revealed in Revelation 6-18: His rule ends in a final world war

XI) V40 At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North

At the end of the Tribulation there will be a great military struggle

The antichrist is attacked through the combined strength of two kings

I) The King of the South: Representing Egypt and the continent of Africa

The King of the North: Syria and the lands north, including Russia

II) By this time the antichrist has become a world ruler

Rev 13:7 It was given power to wage war against God's holy people and to conquer them. And it was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation

This combined attack is a rebellion against his rule: This is the beginning of the end

II) V40-41 And he shall enter the countries (that attacked) overwhelm them and pass through

In the beginning, he will repel the attacks and go on a counterattack

IV) V41 He shall also enter the Glorious Land and many countries shall be overthrown

He moves into Israel and his armies occupy the middle-east
Edom (S, S/E of Israel) Moab (Jordan) and Ammon (north of Jordan)

somehow escape

V) V42-43 He shall stretch out his hand against the countries and the land of Egypt shall not

He counterattacks, and Egypt falls to him and he begins to take tribute from Egypt

This is now resulting in further rebellion against him

VI) V44-45 But news from the east and the north shall trouble him

A gigantic army from the east and north attack him and his military

Rev 9:13-16 Then the sixth angel sounded: And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates. So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year, were released to kill a third of mankind. Now the number of the army of the horsemen was 200 million; I heard the number of them.

Rev 16:12 Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.

V16 And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

VII) Against both of these invaders the antichrist launches a counterattack

He establishes his headquarters in Jerusalem: The battle continues until the 2nd coming

Zech 14:1-4 Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; the city shall be taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, but the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south.

I) V45 In spite of his military victories, the antichrist is defeated

II) He shall come to his end and no one will help him

Rev 19:19-21 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.