

Daniel 11:1-35 –21 August 2025

“Leading To The Substitute: Ep 1 of 2”

Introduction

*Book’s Outline: 2 halves (historical chronology chap 1-6 & more detailed prophetic visions in chap 7-12)

*1st half foreshadows the overall End Times Timeline & the 2nd half digs deeper into the specifics

*In Dan 11 the angel will explain the 1st half of this final vision that Daniel received, finishing in chap 12

*The angel gives Daniel a prophecy lesson that for us today has become a history textbook from 536-164BC

*”Anti” means *against* or could just mean *instead of*

*This is the same as saying the substitute

Today, we’ll take 3 steps to whittling down the nations until we get to the first substitute – Antiochus IV Epiphanes

Hold on for the end & we’ll make 3 points of application from this chapter

Step #1 – From Present Persian Rule to Future Greek Rule (Vs 1-4)

Read Vs 1-2

1. Now the angel unfolds what will become history as prophecy to Daniel
2. After Cyrus, who's ruling Persia now, there will be 4 more kings (of significance)
 - a. Not that there's only 4 more, but the emphasis is on what the 4th one coming does
 - b. After Cyrus will be Cambyses aka Ahasuerus (Ezra 4)
 - c. Smerdis aka Artaxerxes (no other reference)
 - d. Darius aka Hystaspes (Ezra 5-6, Hag, Zec)
 - e. Xerxes aka Ahasuerus (Esther) (*Emphasis*)
3. It's during Xerxes reign that the next piece of the puzzle, Greece, is stirred up
 - a. After Xerxes was Artaxerxes Longimanus of the time of Nehemiah

Read Vs 3-4

1. This is Grecian king Alexander w/ his kingdom divided to his 4 generals upon his early death

Step #2 – From A General Greek Rule To A Specific Greek Rule (Vs 5-20)

Read Vs 5

1. King of South was Alex's general Ptolemy I Soter of Egypt & other prince is Seleucus I Nicator of Syria
2. Other two of Alex's generals aren't mentioned b/c they're not relevant to the fight over Israel

Read Vs 6

1. The daughter is Ptolemy II Philadelphus's daughter Bernice (also a title, more than a name)
2. The king of the north is Antiochus II Theos
3. They married & divorced so it never resulted in power or unity

Read Vs 7-9

1. As Bernice went back to Egypt, one of her line, Ptolemy III Euergetes seeks revenge on the king of the north, Antiochus II and takes spoils
2. This has Antiochus & the Seleucid Kingdom stirred up for generations

Read Vs 10

1. The king of the north's sons are Seleucus III & Antiochus III warring with Egypt

Read Vs 11-12

1. Egypt's Ptolemy IV Philopator wages the Battle of Raphia (Gaza Strip) in 217 BC
 - a. 70,000 troops, cavalry, & elephants each
 - b. Though Antiochus gets the initial cavalry win, Ptolemy's infantry stands & wins the day

Read Vs 13-16

1. Now this is Antiochus III The Great finally breaking the strength of Egypt & the Ptolemies
2. Israel stood w/ Antiochus in battle (ie vs 14)
 - a. Though it wasn't long until Antiochus turned his destructive hand against the Jews as well

Read Vs 17

1. Antiochus III The Great gave his daughter Cleopatra to marry Ptolemy V hoping for unity

- a. But she stood w/ her Egyptian husband, not her father
- b. This isn't the famous Cleopatra (100 yrs later)

Read Vs 18-19

- 1. Antiochus III The Great turns away from Egypt
 - a. Set on conquering Asia Minor and he did
 - b. Encountered Rome & found trouble
- 2. Battle of Magnesia 190 BC
 - a. Antiochus clashed w/ Roman Lucius Scipio
 - b. Rome's small force won, forcing Antiochus home, making Apamea treaty w/ Rome then dies
 - c. Interesting, they had to give hostages to Rome including his son Antiochus IV Epiphanes who later becomes a type of Anti-Christ

Read Vs 20

- 1. Antiochus III's son Seleucus IV Philopater becomes king for a short time
 - a. He seeks much taxes to pay the Romans & is shortly killed
 - b. Many believe he was killed by his brother Antiochus IV that was recently returned from Rome who becomes king now

Step #3 – Antiochus IV Epiphanes Rises With Intrigue (Vs 21-35)

Read Vs 21

1. This's Antiochus IV; he rises to power in peace yet deception becoming a prototype of Anti-Christ
2. Though there was much personal treachery behind the scenes in killing his brother

Read Vs 22-27

1. Antiochus deals deceitfully with Egypt acting as if he wants peace only to destroy them
2. He even pushes thru Israel with destruction

Read Vs 28

1. He calls Judaism illegal & loots the Temple

Read Vs 29-30

1. He again attacks Egypt, but this time he's repelled by Rome coming across the sea

2. At this time, he gets Hellenistic Jews to give him intelligence on his way back home

Read Vs 31

1. We spoke extensively of the Abomination of Desolation in Dan 9
2. Jesus says in Matt 24 that this is yet to come, therefore Antiochus is a prototype of Anti-Christ doing this again in the future

Read Vs 32-35

1. Antiochus as a foreshadow of Anti-Christ mentally confuses the Jewish people (Dan 7:25)
 - a. Notice this is in the future *in many days*, when the *appointed time comes*
2. How does he do it? W/ flattery & false kindness
3. What's the solution? To know God (vs 32)
 - a. Jesus warned, "I came in My Father's name & you received Me not, another will come in his own name & him you will receive"

Conclusion

So God is homing in on history to get to Antiochus the main prototype of the Anti-Christ to come

1. **We've gone from the present Persian rule to the future Greek rule**
2. **We went from general Greek rule to a specific Greek rule**
3. **Finally, a look at Antiochus' rise to power**

Now, let's make some application points to take home

1. **God in His infinite foreknowledge tells the end from the beginning – we can trust Him**
 - a. Be convinced that He also knows the best plan for my personal life
2. **Man in his limited power comes up like the grace & fades in a day – we can't trust him**
 - a. Don't be seduced by the imposters that come along
3. **The Bible isn't about me; it's about God's infinite plan to draw His people unto Himself**
 - a. Remember we're getting insight into what's important to God, not just something of earth