

## <u>The Book of DANIEL</u> <u>Chapter 11</u> "<u>Amazing Prophecies!</u>"

Intro: Chapter 11 unveils amazing prophecies of world empires and Israel's struggles in verses 2 - 45; then in verses 35 - 42 we are thrown into the "tribulation" period.

## (v1-2) Medo-Persian Empire! - Four Kings:

- (1) Cambyses (530-522B.C.);
- (2) Psuedo-Smerdis (522B.C.);
- (3) Darius I Hystaspes (522-486B.C.);
- (4) Artexerses I (486-424B.C.)

## (v3-17) Grecian Empire!

(v3-4) Alexander the Great died in 323B.C., his empire is divided up amongst <u>four Generals</u>:

- Cassander ruling Macedonia
- Lysimachus ruling Thrace & Asia Minor

- Ptolemy I ruling Egypt whose successors were called the Ptolemies, ruled 323-30B.C. (referred as the King of the South).

- Seleucus ruling Syria and the near East, whose successors were called the Seleucids, ruled to 65B.C. (referred as the King of the North).



(v4-6) J. Vernon McGee writes, "To form an alliance between these two warring families, Ptolemy Philadelphus of Egypt gave his daughter Berenice in marriage to Antiochus Theos of Syria. Antiochus was already married to Laodice, whom he divorced. After two years Ptolemy Philadelphus died; so Antiochus Theos put away Berenice with her son and took back his first wife, Laodice. She, in turn, poisoned Antiochus Theos and ordered the death of Berenice and her son. Then Laodice put her own son, Seleucus Callinicus, on the throne. That was some juggling act, and it is interesting how this is covered in the prophecy given to Daniel."

(v7-16) The kingdom of the South (Egypt) and the kingdom of the North (Syria) will war against each other from 246 to 175 B.C. with Israel (the glorious land) in the middle.

(v17) "*give him the daughter*"- Antiochus feeling pressure from Rome to make peace with Egypt, offered his daughter Cleopatra to marry Ptolemy V Epiphanes (ca. 192B.C.). The Syrian thus hoped his daughter would spy to help him to "destroy" or weaken Egypt and bring it under his power. Cleopatra, instead of helping her father, favored her Egyptian mate.

(v18-20) <u>Roman Empire Rising! - Date: 191-190 B.C.</u>

(v20) *"imposes taxes*"- Rome imposes taxes on the Syrian Kingdom, which is ruling Israel (Glorious Land) & Syria imposes taxes on all they are ruling. *"he shall be destroyed, but not in anger or in battle,"* Seleucus IV Philopator was poisoned.

## (v21-34) <u>Seleucid, King of the North (Syria) Attacks Israel! - Date:</u> <u>175-164 B.C.</u>

- This king is known as Antiochus IV Epiphanes (cf. 8:9-14,23-25). This king was a type of the Antichrist to come. He is the "<u>vile person</u>" killing 80,000 Jews, selling 40,000 slaves, and taking 40,000 prisoners. He will "<u>defile the sanctuary</u>" & create an "abomination of desolation" by banning the daily sacrifices and sacrificing a pig on the altar. They even imposed an idol statue in honor of the Olympian god Zeus into the temple.

(v35-45) <u>The Time of the End—The Antichrist & the Tribulation!</u> (v35) "time of the end" & "the appointed time"

- At Daniel 11:36, the prophecy shifts from Antiochus Epiphanes to the man he foreshadowed, <u>the Antichrist, the last world dictator</u>. We have moved to "<u>the time of the end</u>" (v. 35; see 12:4), when the following events are predicted to occur:

- The rise of Antichrist 11:36-39
- The Tribulation 12:1
- War and invasions 11:40-43
- The battle of Armageddon 11:44-45
- The return of Christ to defeat Antichrist 11:45
- The resurrection of the dead 12:2

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- Once again, Daniel and Jesus speak of the antichrist to come in Daniel 9:27 - Then he (Antichrist) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week (7-year period);

But in the middle of the week  $(3\frac{1}{2} \text{ years})$ 

He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.

And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation (complete destruction), which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate (literally in Hebrew is <u>desolator</u>, the Antichrist)."

- Jesus spoke of this in Matthew 24:15-22 - "Therefore when you see the <u>'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet</u>, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), 16 "then let those who are in Judea flee

to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. 19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! 20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. <u>21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor</u> <u>ever shall be</u>. 22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened. (Also, Revelation Ch. 13)

(v36-45) Nine characteristics of the Antichrist:

- #1 His own will
- #2 Self-exaltation
- **#3 Blaspheme God**
- **#4 Prosper through wrath**

#5 - No ancestral religious following, it is not <u>God</u> of his fathers, but is translated as gods of his fathers.

#6 – Nor the desire of women (which would be to birth the Messiah).

- **#7 Honors power, authority, control**
- #8 Honors a new god
- **#9 Conquering in the name of his god**

- Let us understand the time of the end - 2 Thessalonians Ch. 2 - Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him (this speaks of the rapture of the church), we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. 3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away (last day apostasy, church of Laodicea in Rev. 3:14-22) comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, 4 who 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 (temple is rebuilt in the first 31/2 years of the 7-year tribulation), showing himself that he is God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? 6 And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He (Holy Spirit) who now restrains will do so until <u>He is taken out of the</u> <u>way</u>. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. 9 <u>The coming of</u>

the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, 12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 13 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, 14 to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle. 16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, 17 comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

(v45) The *seas* are the Mediterranean Sea, and the *glorious holy mountain* is Jerusalem; Antichrist will come to his end at the second coming of Jesus Christ! (Rev. 19:11-21)