

## ***Wars and Rumors of Wars***

Lesson Twelve: Daniel Eleven

### Introduction

The path of man's history has been strewn with the victims of personal vendettas, national revolutions and international wars. No matter how hard people try to put an end to human conflict, peace continues to elude their grasp. Why? James 4:1-2 tells us that selfishness is the well from which springs personal, national and worldwide strife.

This remarkable chapter is forty-five verses all in Daniel's future, but for us much of it has already been fulfilled. So, we can divide it like this: Thirty-five verses of historical background and ten verse of future prophecy.

However, the first thirty-five verses are historical events that also foreshadow future events.

I am not going to give you a history lesson on these conflicts. My objective with verses one through thirty-five is (1) To prove the accuracy of the prophecy and (2) to establish confidence in hope of the future.

### **WHO IS TAKING A STAND IN DANIEL 1:1**

Keep in mind two facts from the previous chapters: (1) **Darius**, the Mede ruled over the combined kingdoms of the Medes and Persians, and (2) Satan had placed an evil spirit called the **Prince of Persian** in charge of affairs in Persia.

### **THE REST OF THE FIRST THIRTY-FIVE VERSES ARE DIVIDED AS FOLLOWS**

- Prophecies about Persia 11:1-2
- Prophecies about Greece 11:3-4
- The kings of the north and south 11:5-20

The nations here are Egypt (south) and Syria (north), and the rulers change regularly. Israel was caught between them.

- Ptolemy 1 Soter and Seleucus 1 Nicator 11:5
- Ptolemy 11 Philadelphus and Antiochus 11 Theos 11:6
- Ptolemy 111 Euergetes and Seleucus 11 Callinicus 11:7-8
- Ptolemy 1V Philopater and Antiochus 111 the Great 11:10-19

- Prophecies about Antiochus Epiphanes and Syria 11:21-35
- There are 135 prophecies fulfilled in these verses.

**A. *This prophecy deals with the rise and fall of empires, with alliances and intrigues, with the marching of armies, with imperial ambitions and palace plots.***

1. Chapter 11:1-2 deals with the prophetic history of Persia.
2. Chapter 11:3-20 foretells the history of Greece.
3. Chapter 11:21-35 sets forth the history of Israel during the Maccabean times.
4. Chapter 11:36-45 warns us of a coming monster and murderer – the Antichrist.

**B. *Five rulers were yet to come in Daniel's time. All the evil rulers are preparing us for a more evil ruler to come.***

**C. *Examples of the accuracy of the prophecy.***

1. Daniel 11:3-4
2. Daniel 11:10-16

***THE COMING ANTICHRIST (11:36-45)***

**A. *The Antichrist style (11:36-37)***

1. He shall do according to his own will.
2. He shall exalt and magnify himself above every god.
3. He shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods.
4. He shall prosper until the wrath has been accomplished.
5. He shall disregard all religions.
6. He shall not regard the desire of women.
7. He shall not regard any god.
8. He shall exalt himself above them all.

B. ***His chief love*** (11:38-39)

1. Fortresses are symbols of power. He will sell his soul for power.
2. Revelation 6:2 says that he is a Satan worshipper who comes forth as a man of peace carrying a bow without arrows but going out to conquer.
3. He declares war against nations with the help of Satanic powers.
4. Revelation 17:8 tells us of the treachery of his covenant with Israel.

**TIME OF THE END** (11:40-45)

A. ***Three things will take place*** (v.40)

1. A southern coalition will engage the Antichrist in battle.
2. A norther coalition will also engage the Antichrist in battle.
3. The Antichrist will strike back with Satanic power and defeat these coalitions.

B. ***Epic Center*** (v. 41)

1. Israel will be the epic center of conflicts during the tribulation.
2. Three things we learn from this verse.
  - “He shall also enter the Glorious land.”
  - “Many countries shall be overthrown.”
  - “Edom, Moab and the prominent people of Ammon”

C. ***Egypt's fate*** (Vs. 42-43)

D. ***Armageddon*** (Vs. 44-45)

Conclusion:

In a single chapter we have covered an entire era of history that was accurately predicted in detail long before it happened. This whole Book of Daniel is fitted to be a battleground between faith and unbelief. It does not allow for a neutral position.

Truth does not adjust itself to our preferences. God gives us one little section of prophecy to prove that when He says something is going to happen, it happens exactly like He says it will.