

DANIEL PART 5

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4.2.17

We will have a brief recap before we carry on today.

Now in Daniel Chapter 11.

This is actually part of one long section ... Daniel Chapters 10, 11 and 12. Chapter 10 the angel arrives to give Daniel this understanding of the end-times. His message continues in Chapter 11-12; no chapter division!

We read through verses 1-20 of Chapter 11. Very detailed ... many scholars seem able to identify events with historical circumstances. (It is so accurate ... hence some skeptics accuse "Daniel" of being made up ... written hundreds of years after the events had happened).

The key feature for us ... is that the story revealed by the angel is all about the King of the North ... and the King of the South. These individuals are mentioned almost 20 times in these 20 verses. And are relevant to us.

And this prophecy of Daniel 11 and 12 goes all the way to Jesus' return ... right up to the Resurrection.

It is all relevant to us.

At some point ... the narrative moves from recording historical (to us) events ... to being events yet future. Most scholars say verses 32 or 35 ... but I've suggested as early as verse 21.

I speculate that we move now to the future ... to the end-times.

Most commentators suggest that this passage relates to Antiochus Epiphanes ... "A King of the North". In 168 BC he entered the Temple ... offered pigs blood to Zeus ... slaughtered thousands of Jews. (Certainly a Vile Person ... a shadowy pre-figure of the end-time Antichrist). But ... there are reasons to believe that verse 21 onwards relate not to Antiochus in 168 BC ... but to the end-time fulfilment.

Daniel 11:21-35 (NKJV)

21 **And in his place shall arise a vile person, (despicable person... horrible contemptible person)** to whom they will not give the honour of royalty; but **he shall come in peaceably, (initially) and seize the kingdom by intrigue.** (*Intrigue = treachery*)

22 With the force of a flood they shall be swept away from before him and be broken, and also the prince of the covenant.

23 **And after the league (NASB: "Alliance") is made with him he shall act deceitfully,** (*act deceitfully = NASB: "practice deception"*) for he shall come up and become strong with a small number of people.

24 He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province; and he shall do what his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but only for a time.

25 **"He shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the South with a great army. And the king of the South shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand, for they shall devise plans against him.**

Compare:

Daniel 8:23-25 (NKJV)

23 "And in the latter time of their kingdom,
When the transgressors have reached their fullness,
A king shall arise, (King of the North)
Having fierce features,
Who understands sinister schemes.

24 His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; (possibly
referring to satanic support)
He shall destroy fearfully,
And shall prosper and thrive;
He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.

25 "Through his cunning
He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule;
And he shall exalt himself in his heart.
He shall destroy many in their prosperity.
He shall even rise against the Prince of princes;
But he shall be broken without human means.

Look at the character of this person. He is probably around right now.

Daniel 11:26-35 (NKJV)

26 Yes, those who eat of the portion of his delicacies shall destroy him; his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.

27 Both these kings' hearts shall be bent on evil, and they shall
speak lies at the same table; but it shall not prosper, for the end
will still be at the appointed time.

28 While returning to his land with great riches, his heart shall be moved against the holy covenant; so he shall do damage and return to his own land.

29 "At the appointed time he shall return and go toward the south; but it shall not be like the former or the latter.

30 For ships from Cyprus shall come against him; therefore he shall be grieved, and return in rage against the holy covenant, and do damage. (*Ships from the West" ... NIV: "ships of the Western*

Coastlands" ...NLT: "warships from Western Coastlands will scare him off". Hold on a minute ... it is difficult to maintain that the "King of the North" is Western Europe ... when it appears that Western Europe is coming against the King of the North here??! They are more likely to go against an Islamic group of nations) "So he shall return and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.

*31 And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; **then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there (in the sanctuary) the abomination of desolation.***

(Antiochus Epiphanes allegedly did this way back in 168 BC? But ... I think Daniel Chapter 12 makes it clear this is end-time prophecy.

- 1) Take away sacrifices ... that is a key for us ... they have to start first!*
- 2) Set up Abomination ... this will be by the end-time King of the North ... Antichrist)*

Compare:

Matthew 24:15-16 (NKJV)

15 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand),

16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

Jesus says when you see this event take place ... be warned.

Matthew 24:21-22 (NKJV)

21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

22 **And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.**

So back to Daniel 11. Some people say we are now heading into the future ... but I think that started way back in verse 21.

Daniel 11:32-35 The Persecution of the Saints

32 **Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.**

33 **And those of the people who understand shall instruct many; yet for many days they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering. (Sounds like a dangerous time to be a Saint)**

34 **Now when they fall, they shall be aided with a little help; but many shall join with them by intrigue. (Intrigue or flattery)**

35 **And some of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify them, and make them white, until the time of the end; because it is still for the appointed time. (Some Saints will fall/be refined/made white ... right up to the end)**

Compare:

Daniel 7:21-22 (NKJV)

21 **"I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them,**

22 **until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favour of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.**

This is right up to the beginning of God's Kingdom on earth.

Daniel 7:25 (NKJV)

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. (3½ years)

Daniel 11:36-39 (NKJV)

36 ***“Then the king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods,*** and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done.

37 He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all. ***(This person must almost certainly have been taken over by satan)***

38 But in their place he shall honour a god of fortresses; and a god which his fathers did not know he shall honour with gold and silver, with precious stones and pleasant things.

39 Thus he shall act against the strongest fortresses with ***a foreign god***, which he shall acknowledge, and advance its glory; and he shall cause them to rule over many, and divide the land for gain. ***(The god of Jihad ... god of violence and warfare perhaps?)***

Daniel 11:40-45 (NKJV)

40 ***“At the time of the end (the expression, “time of the end” only appears in the book of Daniel) the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through.***

41 ***He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.***

42 ***He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape.***

43 He shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians (*Ethiopians in Hebrew: Cush ... today ... the nation of Sudan*) shall follow at his heels.

44 But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many.

45 And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him.

At the end-time ... who are these individuals?

If Islamic? King of South = Egypt in alliance with Libya and Sudan.
King of North = Alliance of Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran, maybe Pakistan ... with one very powerful leader.

The other position ... according to people like Hal Lindsay or the old Church of God.

If "Rome"? King of North = Western Europe ... possibly led by Germany. And the King of South = most Church of God groups state some as yet unidentified Islamic countries? (Mr Flurry of The PCG identifies the King of the South specifically as Iran. Iran is not south ... it is North and East)

So ... either the oil-rich Islamic countries "pushing at" western Europe ... leading to this German-led counter-attack ... or it's Islamic states vying for control (Shia/Sunni split) ... with Jerusalem also seen as a prize (after Mecca and Medina ... the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem is their 3rd holiest site). He wants Jerusalem as his prize. Once he conquers all ... perhaps announced he's the Caliph ... having total control of 1.7 billion Muslims.

Continuing on with no chapter break. The prophecy marching on ... undisturbed.

Daniel 12:1 (NKJV)

1 **"At that time** *(the time spoken of at the end of chapter 11)*
Michael shall stand up,
The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people;
And **there shall be a time of trouble,**
Such as never was since there was a nation,
Even to that time. *(Pretty much what Jesus told us in Matthew Chapter 24)*

And at that time your people shall be delivered,
Every one who is found written in the book.

Daniel 12:2-3 (NKJV)

2 **And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,**
Some to everlasting life,
Some to shame and everlasting contempt. *(Time of the Resurrection)*

3 Those who are wise shall shine
Like the brightness of the firmament,
And those who turn many to righteousness
Like the stars forever and ever.

Daniel 12:4 (NKJV)

4 **"But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book** **until the time of the end;** **many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."** *(Compare" verse 9: (NKJV) ... "And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end").*

Do we understand this yet? If we are at ... or near ... the "Time of the end" ... then it is more likely to be understandable. (For example:

Matthew Henry's Commentary of the Book of Daniel in 1706 ...but he wouldn't have understood it ... Neither would Sir Isaac Newton in 1733 ... when he wrote about the Book of Daniel and Revelation? And potentially few ... if any ... of the 80 odd commentaries of the past 30 years understand either?)

Daniel 12:6 (NKJV)

6 And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, "How long shall the fulfilment of these wonders be?" (Other translations say, "How long until the end of these extraordinary things?")

Daniel 12:7-10 (NKJV)

7 Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, **that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time;** (3½ years) and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.

8 Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, what shall be the end of these things?"

9 And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for **the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.**

10 **Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.**

The angel is quoting Chapter 11:32-35 ... so clearly end-time ... at least back to verse 32.

Let's go back and read those verses.

Daniel 11:32-35 (NKJV)

32 Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.

33 And **those of the people who understand shall instruct many; yet for many days they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering.**

34 Now when they fall, they shall be aided with a little help; but many shall join with them by intrigue.

35 **And some of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify them, and make them white, until the time of the end; because it is still for the appointed time.**

This is in the final 3½ years.

Daniel 12:11-12 (NKJV)

11 **"And from the time that the daily sacrifice (Hebrew: Tamiyd) is taken away, and the abomination (Shiqquts) of desolation. (Shamem) is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days.**

12 **Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days.**

The angel is quoting Chapter 11:31 (same Hebrew words) ... so 11:31 is end-time. Not Antiochus Epiphanes in 168 BC.

Let's go back and look at that verse. This is at the very end-time.

Daniel 11:31 (NKJV)

31 And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; **then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.**

So ... at least as far back as 11:31 ... it's all future (and I suspect back to verse 21) ... which describes the character of this end-time final King of the North).

So ... right at the end-time ... the final 3½ years ... the king of the North/Antichrist ... is in Jerusalem (his HQ?).

And the setting up of the Abomination of Desolation triggers the final 3½ years leading up to Jesus' return and the Kingdom of God being established ... bringing us into the Great Tribulation ... the time of great destruction.

In Daniel Chapter 9 we saw a reference to a 7 year covenant/treaty to be made by this end-time "Prince" (Antichrist ... King of the North) ... which he will break "in the middle" of the 7 years. It isn't clear if we will recognise the beginning of the 7 years (perhaps that will be "secret" ... not made public knowledge?) ... but ... we'll certainly see and recognise the mid-point when the Jewish sacrifices are stopped and the Abomination set up ... if we are paying attention.

Hopefully ... we might spot the beginning of the 7 years? Count down begins.

There are various references in Daniel Chapter 12 to specific periods of time ... "time, times and half a time" (3½ years) ... "1290" days (verse 11) ... "1335 days" (verse 12). There are lots of time periods being given to us. It will be a rather interesting time?!

3½ years of Great Tribulation ... persecution of Saints (Daniel 7:21 + 25) ... repeated in Rev 13:5 (42 months) ... plus also 2 witnesses proclaiming their testimony for 1260 days before they themselves are killed.

There is a lot happening!! When? :) There are major changes here in the UK ... across the Pond with Mr Trump ... in Turkey with Mr Erdogan. But ... Daniel recorded it all for us ... not for his time.

Daniel 12:13 (NKJV)

13 "But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days."

In the meantime ... we're all watching and waiting.

So. Summary.

Daniel 1 Jerusalem captured ... Daniel taken away to Babylon.

Daniel 2 Nebuchadnezzar's Great Statue in his dream

Daniel 3 Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the fiery furnace

Daniel 4 Nebuchadnezzar's Proclamation (written by a Gentile)

Daniel 5 Writing on the wall ... end of Babylon's Rule

Daniel 6 Daniel in the lions' den because he wouldn't compromise

Daniel 7 4 Great Beasts

Daniel 8 Ram and He-Goat

Daniel 9 70 Weeks Prophecy ... including final 7 year period

Daniel 10 Angel brings message after 21 day delay

Daniel 11) Kings of the North and South battle over 2300 years right

Daniel 12) up to the end-time ... up to the time of the Resurrection

So. We can/should try to be familiar with the narrative of all prophecies ... that's not beyond us. Interpretation? ... that's a bit trickier!! Is it a German-led United States of Europe? Or is it an Islamic Empire (resurrected Ottoman Empire)? Or maybe some other explanation?

Time will tell ... but hopefully we're a little more knowledgeable about the narrative ... the content ... and hopefully ... may be better equipped to perceive Jesus' warning in Matthew 24.

So ... we'll go back there.

Matthew 24:15-16 (NKJV)

15 "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' (it hasn't happened yet) spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand),

16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

Matthew 24:21-25 (NKJV)

21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

23 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it.

24 For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

25 See, I have told you beforehand.

There will be huge deception. False christs and false prophets are coming. These men/women will show great signs and wonders ... and potentially could deceive the very elect.

Hopefully ... if we are forewarned ... we are forearmed!!