

The mad desire for power

It seems like the flesh, and evil have their major influence in the political world. (There needs to be a Christian influence as well. Joseph, Daniel, David)

Intertestamental period.

One of the feasts that didn't get ordered with Moses is the **Feast of Dedication, Lights, Hannukah**. (A priest and his family, Mattathias Macabee, led a revolution to restore holiness in the temple.) After Antiochus Epiphanes had tainted the olive oil for the lights, they found one container untainted. It took 8 days to make the oil, and this one lasted 8 days as the new oil was ready.

This was a dark time in Israel, and the Maccabean revolution was a rare bright spot.

The first 35 verses in 11 are history at this point, the last 10 future, even though the first 35 are also a picture of what is still to occur.

This covers from Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, then 4 generals from Greece. (**Cassander**- Greece/Macedonia, **Lysimachus**-Asia Minor/modern day Turkey, **Seleucus**-Syria/Babylonia, **Ptolemy**-Egypt & Palestine, then the little horn/Antiochus on into the Roman empire. (I think about the toes early on in Daniel)

1-5 covers this. (Really incredible considering the specificity ahead of the events.)

This zeroes in on the south/Ptolemy-Egypt & Palestine and the north Seleucus- Syria (where Antiochus Epiphanes comes from.

Daniel 11:6-7 (ESV)

⁶After some years they shall make an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement. But she shall not retain the strength of her arm, and he and his arm shall not endure, but she shall be given up, and her attendants, he who fathered her, and he who supported her in those times.

⁷“And from a branch from her roots one shall arise in his place. He shall come against the army and enter the fortress of the king of the north, and he shall deal with them and shall prevail.

- The king of the south gave his daughter to the king of the north in a peace treaty.
- The king of the north already had a wife and divorced her and relegated her to a concubine.
- The king of the south dies and he dumps the daughter and takes back his former wife, who then poisons him! (She puts her own son on the throne.)
- It is amazing to us earthlings how clear all of this is in prophecy.

Vs 7 The south attacks the north

Daniel 11:7-9 (ESV)

⁷“And from a branch from her roots one shall arise in his place. He shall come against the army and enter the fortress of the king of the north, and he shall deal with them and shall prevail.

⁸He shall also carry off to Egypt their gods with their metal images and their precious vessels of silver and gold, and for some years he shall refrain from attacking the king of the north.

⁹Then the latter shall come into the realm of the king of the south but shall return to his own land.

- As these kingdoms went one way or the other, Israel was in the middle.
- Incredible suffering

Daniel 11:15–16 (ESV)

¹⁵Then the king of the north shall come and throw up siegeworks and take a well-fortified city. And the forces of the south shall not stand, or even his best troops, for there shall be no strength to stand.

¹⁶But he who comes against him shall do as he wills, and none shall stand before him. And he shall stand in the glorious land, with destruction in his hand.

- The north sets in on Israel (This is a picture of what antichrist will do, Rev. 13:4)
 - Then he gives his daughter (Cleopatra) to the south and expects her loyalty, which backfires. (Not the famous one)
 - Rome is also starting to back the south. (Defeated on the coast.)
1. Antiochus Epiphanes- (a true picture of the future antichrist.) Truly mad w/power

Daniel 11:21 (ESV)

²¹In his place shall arise a contemptible person to whom royal majesty has not been given. He shall come in without warning and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.

- a. He enters the scene peaceably and deceptively. (**He talked peace and planned war.**) When the **rapture comes, religious leaders and leaders that are left will be lost!**
- b. Antiochus E killed the high priest and replaced and convinced many to leave their faith.

Daniel 11:23–25 (ESV)

²³And from the time that an alliance is made with him he shall act deceitfully, and he shall become strong with a small people.

²⁴Without warning he shall come into the richest parts of the province, and he shall do what neither his fathers nor his fathers' fathers have done, scattering among them plunder, spoil, and goods. He shall devise plans against strongholds, but only for a time.

²⁵And he shall stir up his power and his heart against the king of the south with a great army. And the king of the south shall wage war with an exceedingly great and mighty army, but he shall not stand, for plots shall be devised against him.

- c. He shares some of the loot with loyal followers
 - His days are limited

Daniel 11:26–28 (ESV)

²⁶Even those who eat his food shall break him. His army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.

²⁷And as for the two kings, their hearts shall be bent on doing evil. They shall speak lies at the same table, but to no avail, for the end is yet to be at the time appointed.

²⁸And he shall return to his land with great wealth, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will and return to his own land.

- He is not reliable/he is a liar/ and develops incredible wealth
- Ignores the covenant that God had made with Israel (40,000 killed, enslaved many, allowed troops to rape the women.)

John 8:44 (ESV)

⁴⁴You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

2. **Rome is rising-** The southern leaders appeal to Rome for help so AE backs off and zeroes in on Israel

Daniel 11:30–32 (ESV)³⁰For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and pay attention to those who forsake the holy covenant. ³¹Forces from him shall appear and profane the temple and fortress, and shall take away the regular burnt offering. And they shall set up the abomination that makes desolate. ³²He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant, but the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action.

- a. Just like the antichrist, he unleashes his fury in Israel. (Interferes with sacrifices, pigs blood, he declared that he was "Zeus".)

2 Thessalonians 2:4 (NET)

⁴He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, and as a result he takes his seat in God's temple, displaying himself as God.

Revelation 13:15–18 (NET)

¹⁵The second beast was empowered to give life to the image of the first beast so that it could speak, and could cause all those who did not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

¹⁶He also caused everyone (small and great, rich and poor, free and slave) to obtain a mark on their right hand or on their forehead.

¹⁷Thus no one was allowed to buy or sell things unless he bore the mark of the beast—that is, his name or his number.

¹⁸This calls for wisdom: Let the one who has insight calculate the beast's number, for it is man's number, and his number is 666.

Matthew 24:15–17 (NET)

¹⁵"So when you see the abomination of desolation—spoken about by Daniel the prophet—standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),

¹⁶then those in Judea must flee to the mountains.

¹⁷The one on the roof must not come down to take anything out of his house,

- b. **The ones who have faith in God act** (cold, lukewarm, hot) Pretenders, on the fence, and passionate for God. (Maccabees)
- c. It was costly, but some did stand
- 3. **The part of history upcoming**- A E was a picture of antichrist and Israel in judgement. (Now let's finish with the last 7 years of it.)
 - a. The Roman empire, time of gentiles, church age.

Daniel 11:36–39 (ESV)

³⁶“And the king shall **do as he wills**. He shall **exalt himself and magnify himself above every god**, and shall **speak astonishing things against the God of gods**. He shall prosper till the indignation is accomplished; for what is decreed shall be done.

³⁷He shall **pay no attention to the gods of his fathers, or to the one beloved by women**. He shall not pay attention **to any other god, for he shall magnify himself above all**.

³⁸He shall honor **the god of fortresses instead of these**. A god whom his fathers did not know he shall honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts.

³⁹He **shall deal with the strongest fortresses with the help of a foreign god**. Those who acknowledge him he shall load with honor. He shall make them rulers over many and shall divide the land for a price.

- b. Rev. 6:2 “starts as a bow with no arrows” but...

Revelation 13:4–7 (NET)

⁴they worshiped the dragon because he had given ruling authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast too, saying: “Who is like the beast?” and “Who is able to make war against him?”

⁵The beast was given a mouth speaking proud words and blasphemies, and he was permitted to exercise ruling authority for forty-two months.

⁶So the beast opened his mouth to blaspheme against God—to blaspheme both his name and his dwelling place, that is, those who dwell in heaven.

⁷The beast was permitted to go to war against the saints and conquer them. He was given ruling authority over every tribe, people, language, and nation,

- c. We see in the rest of chapter 11 , the world converges upon Israel where antichrist has set up shop in Jerusalem

d. Until Jesus returns and this ends. Revelation 16:12–16 (ESV)

¹²The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east.

¹³And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs.

¹⁴For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty.

¹⁵(“Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!”)

¹⁶And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.