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PROPHECY SEMINAR

THE KING OF THE NORTH

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The book of Daniel is very much concerned with the sequence of nations that were to arise from Daniel's day to the time of the end. Every prophecy in the book of Daniel intimately describes this panorama of the nations. Seven times already Daniel has gone through this sequence: twice in Daniel 2 (once in the vision and once in the interpretation), three times in Daniel 7 (once in the vision and twice in the interpretation), and twice in Daniel 8 (once in the vision and once in the interpretation).

In Chapter 11, Daniel goes through this sequence for the eighth and final time. Since each succeeding prophecy unveils further details, we can expect to discover exciting new information about the end time in Daniel 11.

CONTROVERSY IN DANIEL 10

This lesson will briefly survey Daniel 10 so that the context of Daniel 11 is clear. Daniel 10 pulls aside the curtain and reveals to us the great controversy going on behind the events of world history. Once again, Daniel is reminding us that in the rise and fall of empires, God is still in control of world events.

1. What does Daniel do for three weeks? Daniel 10:1-3

He was _____.

2. Who appeared to Daniel at the end of the three weeks? Daniel 10:410

"A _____ man clothed in linen."

NOTE: By comparing this vision with the one John the Revelator saw in Revelation 1, we learn that this person who appeared to Daniel was none other than Jesus Christ Himself (see Lesson 2).

3. Why didn't help come to Daniel immediately when he started to pray? Daniel 10:11-13

"The prince of the kingdom of Persia _____
twenty-one days."

NOTE: God drew aside the curtain and revealed to Daniel the cosmic struggle behind the scenes. Cyrus was the reigning king of Persia, but Daniel was shown that there was a cosmic force working on Cyrus behind the scenes. This cosmic power was Satan and his angels, who were doing their best to influence the king of Persia in order to prevent him from fulfilling the prophecy to rebuild the temple. For three weeks the struggle continued. Christ was victorious. He assured Daniel that the future was in God's control.

4. Who would be the subject of the rest of the vision? Daniel 10:14

"I have come to make you understand what will _____ to

20. What happens to this power when it seeks to conquer the glorious holy mountain? Daniel 11:45

"He shall come to his _____, and no one will help him."

NOTE: Thank God, this power will come to an end! This final great controversy will cease. This power may seek to destroy God's last-day people, but the promise is that he will come to his end, and no one shall help him. Many of the details of this final conflict are not totally clear from Daniel 11. One thing is clear, however: there will be a final great conflict between the forces of good and the forces of evil and ultimately, Christ and His people will win this conflict. Lesson 24 will explore the various powers that are involved in the final great conflict. While Daniel does not mention them in great detail, the book of Revelation clearly delineates the powers that are involved in the final controversy of earth. It is only reasonable to assume that these same powers are active in the final conflict described here in Daniel 11.

21. What happens to God's people in this final time of trouble? Daniel 12:1

"At that time Michael shall _____ up, ... and there shall be a time of _____ .. and at that time your people shall be delivered."

NOTE: Thank God, deliverance comes to God's people. In the midst of this final, great time of trouble, this final conflict of the great controversy, Michael comes and delivers God's people, every person found written in the book. While the last days will be troublesome times, Daniel ends on a high note of assurance to the people of God. Deliverance will come, just as deliverance had come to the Hebrews in Babylon, in the fiery furnace and in the lions' den. We need not be overly concerned about the details of last-day events because we know that, ultimately, God's people will be delivered.

22. Do you wish to be delivered when Michael stands up to deliver God's people in the final controversy?

13. What happens at the time of the end? Daniel 11:40

"At the time of the end the king of the _____ shall attack him."

NOTE: At this point in the prophecy, we have arrived at the time of the end. Since the events described in Verses 40-45 are still future, we must not be too dogmatic on their exact fulfilment. However, we can carefully examine what Daniel says these powers will do in the last days.

14. What does the king of the North do In the last days? Daniel 11:40

"The king of the North shall come against him like a _____,
... he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through."

NOTE: Not only the king of the South, but also the king of the North, is involved in this mighty conflict at the time of the end.

15. What land does the king of the North enter? Daniel 11:41

"The _____ Land."

NOTE: The Glorious Land is a reference to Palestine (for the part Israel will play in last-day events, see Lesson 22).

16. How widespread will be his domain In the time of the end? Daniel 11:42, 43

"Egypt shall not escape. . . also the Libyans and _____."

17. In spite of the fact that the king of the North has conquered all this territory, what now troubles him? Daniel 11:44

"News from the _____ and the _____ shall trouble him."

18. When he is thus troubled, what does he do? Daniel 11:44

"He shall go out with great fury to _____ and annihilate many."

NOTE: Here again is depicted a final great conflict in which this power goes forth to completely destroy those who oppose it

19. Where does this power seek to plant its tabernacle? Daniel 11:45

"The glorious holy _____."

your _____ in the latter days."

NOTE: The only nations that are mentioned in prophecy are nations that affect the covenant people of God. This is why many nations are not mentioned in Scripture.

5. Daniel fainted at the revelation of what was to happen to God's people, but what did God do to Daniel? Daniel 10:15-19

"Then again, the one having the likeness of a man _____ me and _____ me."

NOTE: What a revelation of God! He came so close to the prophet; He even touched him and gave him strength.

6. Who were the next two powers that would affect the covenant people and that God would have to contend with? Daniel 10:20,21 (869) [869].

"The prince of _____ ." "The prince of _____."

NOTE: Before Daniel was given the delineation of empires and kings that would affect the covenant people, God revealed to Daniel the cosmic struggle unravelling. God allowed Daniel to see that He worked against Satan's attempts to subvert the divine purpose by contending with the forces of darkness to accomplish God's plans. Again we are given the divine assurance that God is in control of world history. Things-don't just happen. God controls world events to accomplish the divine purpose.

THE EVENTS OF DANIEL 11

The king of the north is a symbol of the powers that oppose God's people down through the ages. It is the term used to refer to those whom Satan has used in his attempt to destroy God's people.

As Daniel centered our attention on the great controversy theme as he approached the climax of his book in Chapters 11 and 12, he wanted us to see clearly that this is not just the rise and fall of empires described here, but the cosmic drama of the ages being played out before our eyes as these various powers sought to destroy God's people. Daniel 11 will parallel Daniel 2,7 and 8, but will add many more details. Daniel 11 is portraying the same panorama of empires as Daniel 2, 7 and 8: Persia, Greece, Rome and the papal system.

7. With what empire does Daniel 11 begin? Daniel 11:2

"Three more kings will arise in _____."

NOTE: The four kings mentioned in this verse are Cambyses, False Smerdis, Darius and Xerxes, all kings of the Persian realm.

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8. Who was the mighty king that should stand up? Daniel 11:3

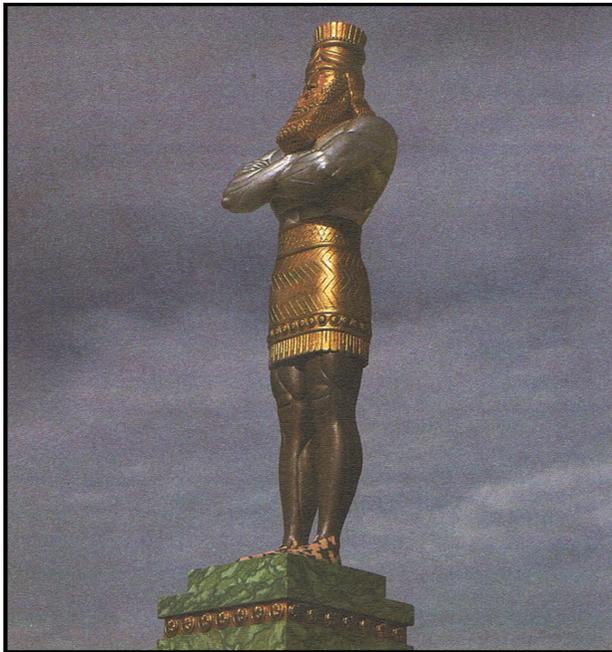
A _____ king shall arise."

NOTE: This mighty king was Alexander the Great.

9. What would happen to the kingdom after the death of Alexander? Daniel 11:4

It "shall be broken up and _____ toward the four winds of heaven".

NOTE: Alexander's kingdom was divided among four of his generals. Notice the parallel between Daniel 2, 7, 8 and Daniel 11 thus far.



10. What symbol is now used to describe the two powers in the Grecian realm that fought against each other? Daniel 11:5-15

The king of the _____ and the king of the _____

NOTE: Daniel added detailed descriptions of the various struggles between the different kings who carved up Alexander's empire. The symbols Daniel used for these various kings became the dominant symbol of Daniel 11: the king of the north and the king of the south.

11. Daniel 11:16-30 gives Intricate details of the pagan Roman Empire. What are a few of the descriptions that Daniel gives of this power?

- a. "There shall arise in his place one who _____ on the glorious kingdom" (Vs. 20). This is a reference to Caesar Augustus, who became the great taxer of the people.
- b. And "be broken, and also the _____ of the covenant" (Vs. 22). It was the Pagan Roman Empire that broke Christ by crucifying Him on the cross.
- c. "His heart shall be moved against the holy _____"(Vs. 28). Pagan Rome sought to destroy the covenant of God and the covenant people of God through persecution and distortion of its doctrine.

12. The next several descriptions in Verses 31-39 portray the activities of the papacy. You will notice that many of the same descriptions found in Daniel 7 and 8 reappear In Daniel 11, which helps us to clearly identify the papacy as the power now being depicted.

- a. "They shall take away the _____ sacrifices" (Vs. 31).
- b. "And place there the abomination of _____." (Vs. 31). Lesson 15 clearly identified the papacy as the one who destroyed the ministry of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary by making the work of the sanctuary a work on earth instead of in the heavenly sanctuary.
- c. "The king shall do according to his own will: he shall _____ and _____ himself above every god" (Vs. 36). Here again is a reference to the blasphemous claims of the papacy as it attempted to exalt itself above God.
- d. "He shall regard neither the . . . desire of _____" (Vs. 37). This may possibly be a reference to the papacy's insistence on celibacy.
- e. "He shall. . . divide the land for gain" (Vs. 39). This may be a reference to the papal attempt to be the one who decides who gets what lands, such as the Roman pontiffs did in dividing up~ the lands of the new world among the kings of Spain, Portugal, France and England.

Daniel 11 has traced for us once again the rise and fall of the various empires of antiquity. In startling detail, Daniel has indicated what is going to happen in Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome and the Papacy. Only the divine foreknowledge of God could have given us such a detailed history written in advance. But let us not miss the point behind it all. The real lesson we need to learn from this prophecy is that God is in control of world events. As these nations rise and fall, God is in control and, ultimately, He will accomplish His will.