

Overcoming the Mesmerizing Power of this World

Daniel 8:1-12

Daniel: God's Sovereign Rule Over Human History,
part 20

- Daniel was the prophet who told of four _____: his world, that of Christ's first coming, of Christ's second coming, but also the silent years, the "intertestamental world."
- These empires revealed in Daniel 7-8 were used to prepare the world for the "fulness of times" in the first coming of Jesus Christ & the spread of the Gospel into the world:

(1.) _____: arose during the Babylonian captivity and spread through the world during the subsequent empires. Synagogues were the perfect bridge from the OT Temple to the NT Church that helped bring the Gospel to the world.

(2.) _____: Alexander the Great conquered the world militarily and culturally. The Greek language united a world of confused languages so when the apostles went to the world with the Gospel in the first century they went with a language all could understand.

(3.) _____ on roads and waterways incredibly improved during the Roman Empire so the Gospel could spread rapidly through the world.

- In Daniel 8, he narrows his view to Medo-Persia, Greece, and the rule of the Antiochus Epiphanes which is the "little horn" that arises out of Greece.
- This world of lust & pride is terribly mesmerizing, with its allure for power, pleasure and prosperity, but true believers must never compromise their faith and apostasize into darkness. Here are two things to consider in order to overcome the seductive power of this world. Consider...

1. Their _____

- All three of these empires- Medo-Persia, Greece & Antiochus' rule - are called "great," but they all end up doomed and broken. v.4 8, 9, 10, 11, 25; v.7, 8, 25.

2. Their _____, v.3-11

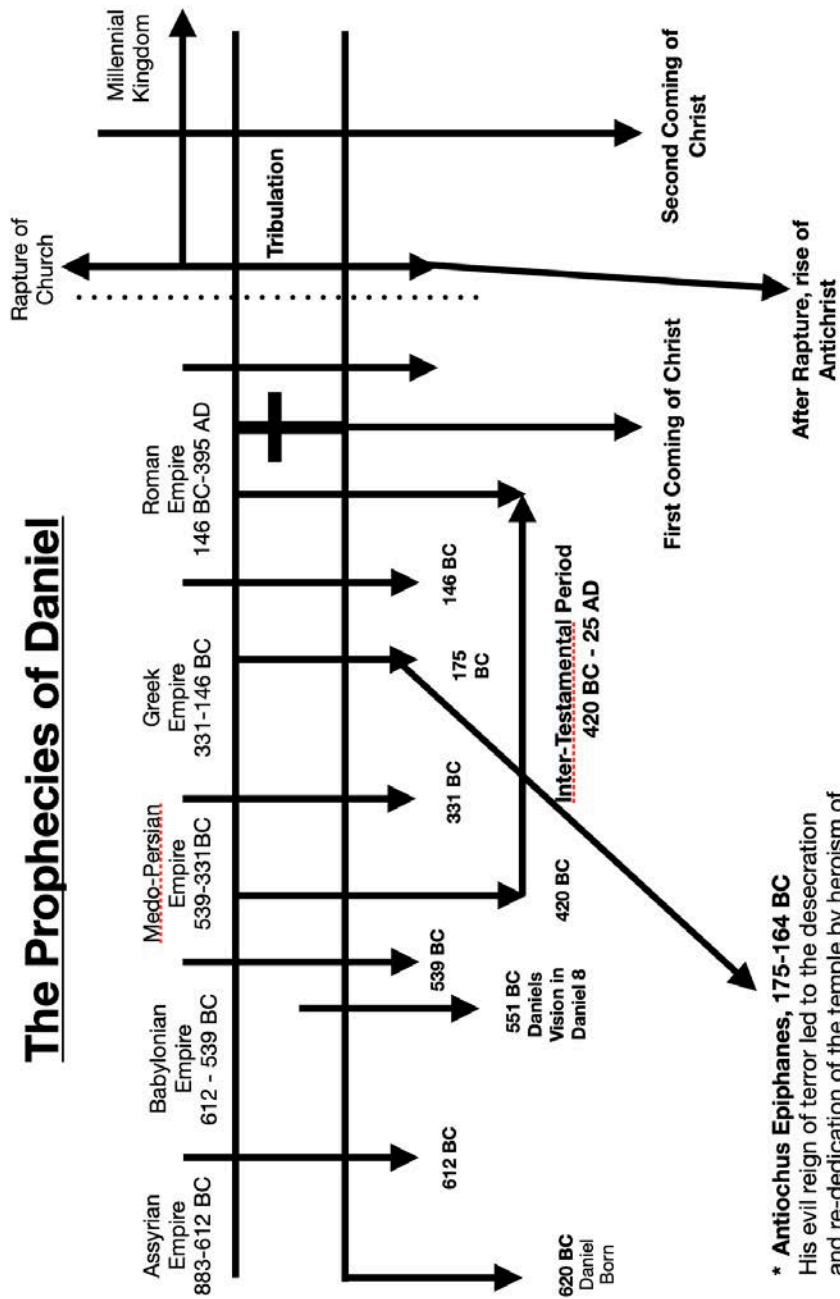
A. Spiritual _____: Medo Persia, v.3-7; 20

B. Savage _____: Greece, v.5-8, 21,22

- Fury of his power & choler speaks of rage fueled by bitterness.

C. Satanic _____: Antiochus Epiphanes, v. 9-14, 23-25

The Prophecies of Daniel



* **Antiochus Epiphanes, 175-164 BC**
 His evil reign of terror led to the desecration and re-dedication of the temple by heroism of the Maccabees & the establishing of the feast of Hanukkah, prophesied in Daniel 8.



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