

Speaking Truth to Power

Daniel 11:2-9

Daniel: God's Sovereign Rule Over the Nations, part 35

- This chapter is God's expose' _____.
Believers should not be naive about the inherent dangers of government and the tyranny it has caused through out time. We know the sinfulness of the human heart!

- These final three chapters of Daniel are a prophetic unit without parallel in Scripture.

1.) A Vision & Introduction, Daniel 10-11:1; Daniel receives a vision in 536 BC of the Preincarnate Christ and then is touched three times by a heavenly angel. The angel reveals to Daniel the spiritual warfare behind the actions of kings and nations in international affairs.

2.) Angelic Revelation of the _____
(536-164 BC): Medo-Persia & Greek Empire, Daniel 11:2-35

- The detailed and specific prophecies of verses 2-35 cover about 370 years of history. Never forget the spiritual war behind the earthly events. This passage has prompted skeptics to attack the Book of Daniel as a forgery, for it baffles the unbelievers mind that such detailed prophecies could be fulfilled.
 - a. Medo-Persian period, v.2 (539-331 BC)
 - b. Greek Empire, v.3-4 (331-146 BC)
 - c. Two Divisions of Greek Empire, v.5-20 (North is Syrian or Seleucid; South is Egypt or the Ptolemaic).

d. Antiochus Epiphanes rule of terror, v.21-35
(170-164 BC)

3.) Angelic Revelation of the _____,
The Antichrist 11:36-12:4 (Still Future)

4.) A Final Message, Daniel 12:5-13

- The angel tells Daniel, "And now will I show thee the truth." He then reveals that no powerful person or nation is above the laws and principles of God's Word. Here are three true lessons we learn from Daniel's conversation with this mighty angel:

1. Powerful Nations _____, v.2

A. The Persian King Xerxes (in the Book of Esther), the fourth and richest king of all, uses his strength and his riches to form a huge coalition to war against Greece. His nation will reap what they sowed when Alexander is raised up to defeat the Persian Empire.

B. The law of sowing and reaping is in force for everyone in every age, Galatians 6:7-8. Do not be deceived, God is not mocked!

2. Ultimate Power _____ v.3-4

Matthew 16:26; For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

- Alexander the Great (336-323 BC) is moved by bitterness at Persia for Xerxes' war against Greece. Alexander wins decisive victories at the Granicus River and Battle of Issus. He defeated Persia by 331 BC. Within ten years he toppled the world, spread Greek culture, but then died of a fever at a young age. He learned by

experience that one could gain the whole world and still not gain peace.

3. Wars arise from _____, v.5-12

(James 4:1,2)

A. The Lust for _____ (v.5:
Battle of Ipsus, 301 BC)

B. The Lust in a “ _____ ” (v.6,
250 BC)

- Egypt and Syria seek to solve their power struggles with a love triangle, which backfires! Antiochus II of Syria puts away his wife, Laodice, to marry Berenice, the daughter of the Egyptian king. The marriage fails so Antiochus re-took Laodice, but still seething with jealousy, and because of the betrayal of her husband, Laodice had Antiochus poisoned and killed. Then Laodice had Berenice, her child and her attendants, all murdered.

C. The Lust of _____, (v.7-8,
241 BC)

- King Ptolemy III of Egypt, Berenice’s brother, avenges his sister’s murder, and he marched in war to defeat Syria and take revenge on Laodice and had her killed. The war lasted five years.

D. The Lust of _____,
(v.10-12)

- Both kingdoms are stirred up with anger and this prophecy shows the seesaw battles between Syria and Egypt and prophesies the **Battle of Raphia**, June 22, 217 BC.

Prov.28:25; He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat.

Prov.29:22: An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.



Alexander the Great fighting Darius III at Battle of Issus, 333 BC. First century mosaic found at Pompeii. Holman Bible Atlas, p.178

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**Heritage Baptist Church
633 Third Ave, 13E
New York, NY 10017**

212-947-5316

www.hbcnyc.org