



Lesson 8 - The Kings of the North & South

Daniel Chapter 11 - Verses 25 - 45

Lesson 8

Wow, are the events getting more and more interesting. Turkey backs off of attacking Syria until the Kurdish people can get out. The Russians are coming to the aid of Syria. Politics in the US is getting worse every day with continuous bickering and fighting. A new Brexit deal is almost done. China is getting worse and worse over Hong Kong. So, what are we to do? Jesus tells us in John 15:19 - *“If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.”* We must remember that this world is actually a penal colony for angels that rejected God and were thrown out of Heaven. Jesus goes on to tell us in John 16:7-11 - *“Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I*

will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.” Notice that in the KJV Jesus tells us He is sending the Comforter - NOT the problem eliminator. Jesus told His disciples that we are NOT of this world. The chaos and insanity will continue to get worse because Satan knows his time is drawing near and he is driven to take as many people as he can.

How can we avoid being deceived? Through prayer - this kind of praying is NOT the asking kind it is the listening kind of prayers. Always remember Joshua, God's chosen one to lead Israel into the Promised Land after 40 years of wandering in the desert. In Joshua 9:14-15 - *“The Israelites sampled their provisions but did not inquire of the Lord. Then Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath.”* The Gibeonites deceived Joshua but the key verse here is that the elders checked out the Gibeonites on their own and thought they were authentic and made the treaty with them - BUT did NOT inquire of the Lord. Who knows why they did not - maybe arrogance - they thought they could handle it.

Daniel 10-12 take place in the third year of Cyrus King of Persia (535-534 BC). The angel appeared to him in Chapter 10 and the Shining Man tells Daniel that this concerns a time yet to come. So we do not get any kind of idea as to when this will take place.

Daniel 11:25 *“With a large army he will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South. The king of the South will wage war with a large and very powerful army, but he will not be able to stand because of the plots devised against him.”*

We have to chase down whom “he” is referring to. If we go back to verse 15 we find the King of the North. After that reference, he is referred to with pronouns until verse 28. As we saw in the previous lesson there is a series of back and forth battles and deals between the King of the North and the King of the South. Now, the King of the North is coming against the King of the South again to wage war.

Daniel 11:26 - 27 - *“Those who eat from the king's provisions will try to destroy him; his army will be swept away, and many will fall in battle. The two kings, with their hearts bent on evil, will sit at the same table and lie to each other, but to no avail, because an end will still come at the appointed time.”*

Looking back at verse 25 it looks like our pronouns are now pointing to the King of the South. Notice the phrase “an end will still come at the appointed time”. This is different than what we will see later as it shifts to “at the time of the end.”

Daniel 11:28 - 29 - *“The king of the North will return to his own country with great wealth, but his heart will be set against the holy covenant. He will take action against it and then return to his own country. “At the appointed time he will invade the South again, but this time the outcome will be different from what it was before.”*

The holy covenant will be Israel and we can see that in these verses the pronouns are pointing to the King of the North. The King of the North is not satisfied and will return at the appointed time. It is important that we take note of Daniel repeating the phrase “at the appointed time”. Repetition is a sign of significance and it also helps us understand that God has a timetable and a plan and He has already established those times for Israel.

Daniel 11:30 - 31 - *“Ships of the western coastlands will oppose him, and he will lose heart. Then he will turn back and vent his fury against the holy covenant. He will return and show favor to those who forsake the holy covenant. “His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation.”*

This is where it really gets confusing. This phrase is mentioned 5 times in the Bible. The other 4 times are:

Daniel 9:27 - *“He will confirm a covenant with many for one ‘seven.’ In the middle of the ‘seven’ he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.”*

Daniel 12:11 - *“From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days.”*

Matthew 24:15 - *“So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination that causes desolation,’ spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand— then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.”*

Mark 13:14 - *“When you see ‘the abomination that causes desolation’ standing where it does*

not belong—let the reader understand—then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

Until this point it seems like the angel is telling Daniel of events that could match up to many of the historical accounts of Antiochus Ehipanes BUT since Jesus referred to it as a future event we have to look at this part of the prophecy as a future event rather than a historical event. The chapter 9 reference gives a little more detail and it would have been given to Daniel over 10 years after the accounts in Chapter 11 and 12. The Chapter 9 reference is tied specifically to the middle of the Seventieth Week that has been prophesied for Israel. Since it came later it might be a more detailed explanation of the same event or it may be referring to a second but similar event. However, when we factor in Jesus using it to specifically to answer the question from His disciples about the signs of His coming and the end of the age, it is hard not to place the events at the time of the end.

This does presents a transition in the prophecy that may shift from events that occurred before Jesus Christ to the events that have not yet occurred. So the pronoun in verse 31 is pointing to the King of the North that may be yet to come and over 2,000 years after the King of the North that has been referenced up to this point. Verse 29 starts with “At the appointed time” and this may be our time shift.

Daniel 11:32 - 33 - *“With flattery he will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, but the people who know their God will firmly resist him. “Those who are wise will instruct many, though for a time they will fall by the sword or be burned or captured or plundered.”*

To add to the confusion so far we have to determine if the abomination that causes desolation is a person or an action - because in verse 32 we have the pronoun “he” and if the abomination is a person then this pronoun would point to the abomination, but if it is an event then we are still referencing the King of the North. The dictionary say *abomination* means - “a thing that causes disgust or hatred” or “a vile, shameful, or detestable action, condition, habit, etc.” Desolation - devastation and ruin. So, the abomination that causes desolation is an action or a person who will bring about devastation or ruin. From the dictionary it can being either an action or person.

Those who understand the warning and warn/teach others will be persecuted and/or killed. Those who know God will resist either the King of the North or the abomination that causes desolation.

Daniel 11: 34-35 - *“When they fall, they will receive a little help, and many who are not sincere will join them. Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined, purified and made spotless until the time of the end, for it will still come at the appointed time.”*

For the ones who know God and are helping others, while they are persecuted very few will help them. Some of these teachers will fall but that experience will help them to be refined and notice that it says - made spotless. That would be with the blood of the Lamb that they are made spotless. Again we see the time of the end and that it will come at the appointed time.

Daniel 11: 36-37 - *“The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place. He will show no regard for the gods of his ancestors or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all.”*

At this point we can see a more clear focus on prophecy that has not been fulfilled yet. The king would seem to be directing our attention back to the King of the North. This king sounds like the same leader/horn referred to in Chapter 8:11-12 -

Chapter 8:11-12 - *It set itself up to be as great as the commander of the army of the Lord; it took away the daily sacrifice from the Lord, and his sanctuary was thrown down. Because of rebellion, the Lord’s people and the daily sacrifice were given over to it. It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground.*

Daniel 11: 38-39 - *Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his ancestors he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honor those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price.*

A god of fortresses - unknown to his ancestors - could this be “technology” or something completely different? Now the angel introduces the term - “a foreign god”.

Daniel 11: 40-41 - *“At the time of the end the king of the South will engage him in battle, and the king of the North will storm out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships. He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood. He will*

also invade the Beautiful Land. Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand.”

At the time of the end - this would definitely place it in the future from now. The battle between the King of the North and the King of the South will rage on the King of the North looks like he will be the aggressor and he will also attack Israel. Some of the countries near Israel will be spared from the King of the North.

Daniel 11: 42-43 - *“He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape. He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Cushites in submission.”*

The King of the North becomes very wealthy. Egypt is named specifically instead of being referred to as the King of the South. If that is the case, does that mean the other areas where Daniel referred to the King of the South should be Egypt.

Daniel 11: 44-45 - *“But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.”*

Reports from the east - that would include, Iran and Iraq and everything else all the way to China. His end will come and if this is the same person/ruler we saw in Daniel Chapter 7:11 - *Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire.*

The prophet Daniel is receiving this dreadful message about the future - even still - OUR future.