

DANIEL 11

SUMMARY

PART 1 - 11:2-35 This portion details what's next with Medo-Persia and Greece. It focuses much on Antiochus Epiphanes, who was a major topic in chapter 8; and now who is given more details starting in verses 21-35.

PART 2 - 11:36-45 The second portion of chapter 11 details the Antichrist his various works in the Tribulation and Great Tribulation. The Antichrist was introduced in chapter 7; and now is given more insight starting in verse 36.

Tonight: We will be studying Daniel 11:1-35, which focuses primarily on Antiochus IV Epiphanes.

Before we study Antiochus, there are events in world history that lead up to that time period. So, let us look at those events.

First, in verses 2-4, detailed is the close of the Persian empire and the beginning of the Greek empire.

Verses 2-4: More Details Concerning Persia and Greece

(Daniel 11:2 And now I will tell you the truth: Behold, three more kings will arise in Persia, and the fourth shall be far richer than them all; by his strength, through his riches, he shall stir up all against the realm of Greece.

Daniel 11:3 Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.

Daniel 11:4 And when he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken up and divided toward the four winds of heaven, but not among his posterity nor according to his dominion with which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be uprooted, even for others besides these.)

What we read here is the angel giving more details to the revelation in chapter 8: the trajectory of the Medo-Persian empire and then the trajectory of the Greek empire, culminating with Antiochus Epiphanes.

Verse 2: The Trajectory and Close of the Persian Empire

Who were the following 3 kings in Persia? (1) Cambyses, (2) Smerdis, and (3) Darius I.

Verse 3: Alexander the Great

11:3 The mighty king who arose and did as he pleased, as predicted here, proved to be Alexander the Great (cf. 2:32, 39b; 7:6; 8:5–8, 21). He was, of course, Greek. His invasion of the Persian Empire was in large part retaliation for Xerxes' attacks against his people. He first attacked the Persians at the Granicus River near Constantinople in 334 B.C., and finally cast off the Persian yoke at Gaugamela near Nineveh in 331 B.C. His conquest of the ancient world took only five years (334–330 B.C.).

2

Verse 4: The Division of the Greek Empire

The Greek empire was divided into 4 parts after Alexander's premature death. Alexander the Great was only 32 years old when died. Therefore, the kingdom was divided among Alexander's four generals:

- (1). General Cassander governed Macedonia-Greece.
- (2). Lysimachus governed Thrace-Asia Minor.
- (3). Seleucus governed the rest of Asia.
- (4). Ptolemy governed Egypt and Israel.

Verse 4 made it clear that his posterity will not receive the power or kingdom.

And history tells us why:

Because his two sons and uncle were murdered, there was not an heir to take Alexander's place.

Verse 4 also made it clear that the kingdom will not be as strong or powerful as it was under Alexander the Great. And history proved that too. To prepare you for the rest of the chapter, **here's something to know and remember.**

Daniel 11 might be one of, if not, the most detailed prophecies in all of the Bible.

Before we continue, know this: **Everything up until verse 35 has already been fulfilled in world history.** There are approximately 135 prophecies up until verse 35. Every single prophecy was fulfilled in history. Let's read these:

Verses 5-35: Prophecies in History

(Daniel 11:5 *"Also the king of the South shall become strong, as well as one of his princes; and he shall gain power over him and have dominion. His dominion shall be a great dominion.*

² Constable Quote

Daniel 11:6 *And at the end of some years they shall join forces, for the daughter of the king of the South shall go to the king of the North to make an agreement; but she shall not retain the power of her authority, and neither he nor his authority shall stand; but she shall be given up, with those who brought her, and with him who begot her, and with him who strengthened her in those times.*

Daniel 11:7 *But from a branch of her roots one shall arise in his place, who shall come with an army, enter the fortress of the king of the North, and deal with them and prevail.*

Daniel 11:8 *And he shall also carry their gods captive to Egypt, with their princes and their precious articles of silver and gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the North.*

Daniel 11:9 *“Also the king of the North shall come to the kingdom of the king of the South, but shall return to his own land.*

Daniel 11:10 *However his sons shall stir up strife, and assemble a multitude of great forces; and one shall certainly come and overwhelm and pass through; then he shall return to his fortress and stir up strife.*

Daniel 11:11 *“And the king of the South shall be moved with rage, and go out and fight with him, with the king of the North, who shall muster a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into the hand of his enemy.*

Daniel 11:12 *When he has taken away the multitude, his heart will be lifted up; and he will cast down tens of thousands, but he will not prevail.*

Daniel 11:13 *For the king of the North will return and muster a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come at the end of some years with a great army and much equipment.*

Daniel 11:14 *“Now in those times many shall rise up against the king of the South. Also, violent men of your people shall exalt themselves in fulfillment of the vision, but they shall fall.*

Daniel 11:15 *So the king of the North shall come and build a siege mound, and take a fortified city; and the forces of the South shall not withstand him. Even his choice troops shall have no strength to resist.*

Daniel 11:16 *But he who comes against him shall do according to his own will, and no one shall stand against him. He shall stand in the Glorious Land with destruction in his power.*

Daniel 11:17 *“He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do. And he shall give him the daughter of women to destroy it; but she shall not stand with him, or be for him.*

Daniel 11:18 *After this he shall turn his face to the coastlands, and shall take many. But a ruler shall bring the reproach against them to an end; and with the reproach removed, he shall turn back on him.*

Daniel 11:19 *Then he shall turn his face toward the fortress of his own land; but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found.*

Daniel 11:20 *“There shall arise in his place one who imposes taxes on the glorious kingdom; but within a few days he shall be destroyed, but not in anger or in battle. [\[Starting in verse 21, we are speaking of Antiochus IV Epiphanes\]](#)*

Daniel 11:21 *And in his place shall arise a vile person, to whom they will not give the honor of royalty; but he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue.*

Daniel 11:22 *With the force of a flood they shall be swept away from before him and be broken, and also the prince of the covenant.*

Daniel 11:23 *And after the league is made with him he shall act deceitfully, for he shall come up and become strong with a small number of people.*

Daniel 11:24 *He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province; and he shall do what his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but only for a time.*

Daniel 11:25 *“He shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the South with a great army. And the king of the South shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand, for they shall devise plans against him.*

Daniel 11:26 *Yes, those who eat of the portion of his delicacies shall destroy him; his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.*

Daniel 11:27 *Both these kings’ hearts shall be bent on evil, and they shall speak lies at the same table; but it shall not prosper, for the end will still be at the appointed time.*

Daniel 11:28 *While returning to his land with great riches, his heart shall be moved against the holy covenant; so he shall do damage and return to his own land.*

Daniel 11:29 *“At the appointed time he shall return and go toward the south; but it shall not be like the former or the latter.*

Daniel 11:30 *For ships from Cyprus shall come against him; therefore he shall be grieved, and return in rage against the holy covenant, and do damage. “So he shall return and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.*

Daniel 11:31 *And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.*

Daniel 11:32 *Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.*

Daniel 11:33 *And those of the people who understand shall instruct many; yet for many days they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering.*

Daniel 11:34 *Now when they fall, they shall be aided with a little help; but many shall join with them by intrigue.*

Daniel 11:35 *And some of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify them, and make them white, until the time of the end; because it is still for the appointed time.)³*

In reading this, all of us can simply take a step back and say, “WOW. This is SO DETAILED.”

What’s happening here?

There are approximately **135** prophetic statements in verses 1-35. **All of these were fulfilled.**

Let’s give you a macro-level summary of Daniel 11:1-35.
(Graphic 2)

³ Pastor Chuck’s teaching on Daniel 11. [Click here.](#)

DANIEL 11

SUMMARY

THE BOOK OF DANIEL
"North and South Combat"
Daniel 11:1-35

INTRODUCTION

1. Angelic opposition persists throughout history in antagonism to the purposes of God. The testimony of Daniel 10 is supported by the events of Chapter 11.
2. Consider the outline of events in Chapter 11:
 - a. Events in Persia & Greece (vv. 1-4)
 - b. Events in Syria & Egypt (vv. 5-20)
 - c. Events in the life of Antiochus Epiphanes (vv. 21-35)
 - d. Events relating to the end time (vv. 36-45)
3. History is prophetically given by Daniel in our text. Details not known before are carefully elucidated. Check these historical factors and be assured that the Word of God cannot be broken:

I. PERSIA AND GREEK EMPIRES vv. 1-4

Note: The ministry of the angels in v.1 proved effective for the hostility of the Medes and Persians was turned to friendliness toward the Jews. Read Ezra and Nehemiah!

a. Persian Empire

After Cyrus, the four referred to are: Cambyses II, Pseudo-Smerdis, Darius, and Xerxes I (Ahasuerus of Esther).

b. Grecian Empire

That Alexander the Great is in view is not disputed vigorously. His two sons Hercules and Alexander were slain, so no rightful heir. Kingdom divided among four (4) generals: Ptolemy (Egypt), Seleucus (Syria-Asia Minor), Lysimachus (Thrace and southern), and Cassander (Macedonia-Greece).

NOTE: In this arrangement, Egypt was King of the South and Syria-Asia was King of the North.

II. NORTH AND SOUTH EMPIRES vv. 5-20

About 200 years of war between these two areas are given beginning with 301 B.C. Mark these general details:

- a. Ptolemy I, ruled Egypt and his chief leader was Selucus I, who later became head of Selucid dynasty that later ruled Syria. The son of Selucus, Antiochus II, divorced his wife Berenice, daughter of Ptolemy II (v. 6) in the hope of adding Egypt to his empire. He died suddenly, maybe poisoned by his first wife, whose son then murdered Berenice and her infant son. Ptolemy III, Berenice's brother, in revenge for his sister's death, invaded Syria and overran part of it (v. 7) and returned to Egypt with much booty (vv. 8, 9).
- b. Antiochus the Great was at first successful against Egypt, but was afterward defeated (v. 11) and made peace with Ptolemy IV of Egypt but he failed to take advantage of his position (v. 12). Antiochus returned to the struggle with Egypt when Ptolemy IV died (v. 13) and in his battle some renegade Jews living in Egypt thought they would help Antiochus and win independence for their own land (vv. 14, 15). Antiochus also tried to neutralize Egypt by marrying his daughter to the youthful Ptolemy V Epiphanes, but she sided with her husband (v. 17).
- c. Antiochus then turned toward the isles of the Aegean, but Romans defeated him (v. 18). To pay for this war, he taxed the people and even tried to rob a popular temple, but was killed by an infuriated mob (v. 19). His son, Selucus Philopater had to pay Rome heavy-

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ly and was finally poisoned by his treasurer (v. 20).

III. ANTICHRIST EMPIRE vv. 21-35

- a. Antiochus IV Epiphanes took over by flattery (v. 21). He deposed the Jewish high priest, Onias III (v. 22) and set up his own priesthood. He made a covenant with his Egyptian rival and assisted by Judah, became strong in Edom, Ammon, and Moab (v. 23). He took possession of Palestine and also pursued bribery as a policy (v. 23). When he was ready, he fought Egypt and won (vv. 25-27), but later he was less successful (vv. 28, 29). He also turned against Palestine with the help of apostate Jews and took away the daily sacrifice (vv. 30, 31).
- b. The conditions prevailing under Antiochus' rule are described (vv. 32-35). Many Jews put up heroic opposition (v. 32), but others of the godly Jews were martyred (v. 33). The heroism of the Maccabees is given highlight in these last verses (vv. 34, 35).

CONCLUSION

With an historical interlude of this nature, some may be prone to ask: "What has all this got to do with me?" The answer is simple and direct. The Word of the Lord is sure. It cannot be broken. We have in our hands the Bible, God's infallible Word. These lessons of history certainly point up that one must be sure he is one of God's beloved children. We can be sure - John 5:24. Any other course than absolute submission to the Lord is plain spiritual suicide!

*I wish I could give credit to who wrote this, but I lost the source. I do recall he was a professor at Dallas Theological Seminary:

- For those of you who want to go into depth with all of the history, the names, the wars, the battles, the changes of power and authority, etc., you can check out a few videos I've attached on the teaching notes, which you can find on the youtube channel description or the church website.⁴

Critics Regarding Daniel 11:

Critics have a very hard time with Daniel 11. There is no evidence to contradict any statement in Daniel 11 that predicted world history. That's why critics will say Daniel had to be written later in time because the detailed prophecies of world history are accurate.

- Like we've said multiple times already: "Prophecy is the future written as history."

Here is one way to biblically reason why the critics must be wrong (*I repeat: must be wrong):

(Graphic 3)

⁴ Not only are they on the substack post, here is [video 1 by Mike Winger](#). And here's [video 2 by Paul LeBoutillier](#).

THE DOCTRINAL PROOF
 WHY DANIEL 11 IS PROPHECIC AND TRUE

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

2 Peter 1:20-21 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, (21) for prophecy never came by the will of man, but **holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**

Daniel 10:1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision.

Hebrews 6:18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

Romans 3:4 Certainly not! Indeed, **let God be true but every man a liar.** As it is written: "That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged."

These scholars and critics who claim that Daniel 11 is not prophetic and must've been written after the events occurred are claiming that the Bible is deceptive and providing false information. By doing so, whether they will publicly admit it or not, they are claiming that God is a liar.

For one semester, I attended a Christian college with a liberal Bible department. I did not know that the Bible department was liberal who had heretic professors teaching courses. I transferred to another college after one semester. It broke my heart every class to hear heretical Bible teaching. In one of those classes, the professor took us to a particular verse in scripture where the Apostle Peter quoted the Old Testament. The professor said, "The Apostle Peter was not educated enough and biblically literate as we are today. In this OT quotation, the Apostle Peter abused his authority by twisting this OT passage to fit his agenda. The Apostle Peter is wrong." I felt so bad for the other students hearing these heresies. I raised my hand and simply said, "For the sake of all the class, I'd like to make my question very clear: Either we trust that you are the authority of the Bible or we trust that the Apostle Peter, led by the Holy Spirit, is the true authority of the Bible, including interpretation? I must say, I'd much rather trust the Apostle Peter than you." I doubt anyone challenged the professor's lies with the truth. The professor was floored and simply said, "Can I talk to you after class?"

To all these critics we say,
"Let God be true but every man a _____."

Verses 5-20: Prophecies Fulfilled Part 1

What's going on in these verses? I'd like to show you a verse by verse understanding of the historical figures and events:

(Graphic 4)

DANIEL 11:5-20

Verses	King of the North	King of the South	Comments
5	Seleucus Nicator I (312-281)	Ptolemy I (323-285)	Ptolemy moved against Seleucus and occupied Israel.
6	Antiochus II Theos (261-246)	Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285-246)	Ptolemy arranged marriage of Berenice to Antiochus II ends with their death at Laodice's hand.
7-8	Seleucus II Callinicus (246-227)	Ptolemy III Eurygetes (246-222)	Ptolemy III attacked Syria with great success and took home great treasure.
9-10	Antiochus III the Great (223-187)	Ptolemy IV Philopator (222-203)	Antiochus' dad picked-up the fight with Egypt in 240 B.C.
11-12	Antiochus III the Great (223-187)	Ptolemy IV Philopator (222-203)	Battle of Raphia on Jun 22, 217 B.C. Ptolemy wins that initial battle.
13	Antiochus III the Great (223-187)	Ptolemy V Epiphanes (203-182)	Antiochus recovered and in 200 B.C. gained control of Israel back from Ptolemy V.
15-16	Antiochus III the Great (223-187)	Ptolemy V Epiphanes (203-182)	Antiochus III wins great victory at Sidon and settles himself in Palestine.
17	Antiochus III the Great (223-187)	Cleopatra I (182-174)	Antiochus gave his daughter Cleopatra to Ptolemy V in marriage. She sided with her husband.

Verses	King of the North	King of the South	Comments
18-19	Antiochus III the Great (223-187)	Ptolemy VI Philometor (180-145)	Antiochus started annexing parts of Asia Minor and Greek islands. Defeated by Roman consul Lucius Cornelius Scipio in 191 and 190. Antiochus died in 187.
20	Seleucus IV Philopator (187-175)	Ptolemy VI Philometor (180-145)	Seleucus imposed heavy taxes so he could pay Rome.
20	Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-163)	Ptolemy VI Philometor (180-145)	Antiochus is the "Madman" and brother of Seleucus IV. The focus of verses 21-35.

One of my favorite prophecies was verse 20. Let me read that verse again: (Daniel 11:20 "There shall arise in his place one who imposes taxes on the glorious kingdom; but within a few days he shall be destroyed, but not in anger or in battle.")

In history, we know this man to be Seleucus IV. It prophesies that he will not die from mob violence or battle. If you were reading this shortly after Daniel wrote it, you'd then ask, "Well then, how does he die?" Well, with you and I centuries later can go to world history and discover that this prophecy was right. Seleucus IV did not die from mob violence or battle. He was poisoned. **This is just one example of the prophetic and historical accuracy of scripture.**

Verses 21-35: Prophecies Fulfilled, Part 2 with Antiochus IV Epiphanes

As stated, I want to focus most upon verses 21-35. If you note, Antiochus Epiphanes and his life and works gets the same amount of verses as the events in verses 5-20.

Antiochus Epiphanes is mentioned in a couple verses in chapter 8, and now he is mentioned in chapter 11 with great detail. By the sheer amount of verses that speak of this man, I find that a good reason to give him more consideration, especially with his connection to the Antichrist in the Tribulation:

Verse 21:

To show you how sick this man was:

Antiochus the IV added Epiphanes to his name - to honor himself. What does *epiphanes* mean in Greek? Manifest.

Comparative Example:

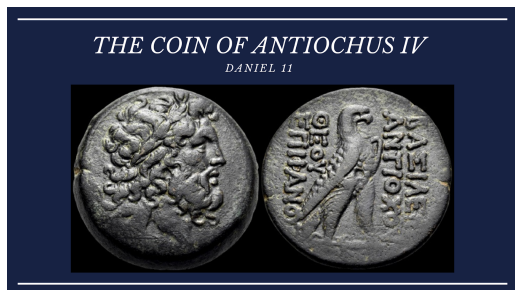
Remember that moment when Jesus lifted up the Roman coin, the denarius, before the Pharisees and disciples and asked whose face was on the coin?

(**Matthew 22:19** *Show Me the tax money.*” So they brought Him a denarius.

Matthew 22:20 *And He said to them, “Whose image and inscription is this?”*

Matthew 22:21 *They said to Him, “Caesar’s.” And He said to them, “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”)*

(Graphic 5)



Look at the coin Antiochus IV minted when he rose to power.

On the back side of the coin, you see THEOS EPIPHANES. Some of you know what THEOS means. What does this mean: *theos* means God? So THEOS EPIPHANES is, “God manifested.” The implication is that Antiochus Epiphanus was declaring himself to be God manifest in the flesh, forcing all to hear and know by currency, from the nobility to the peasants.⁵

Remember in chapter 8 when we first were introduced to Antiochus IV? that he resembled the Antichrist in numerous ways? to the point that some people misunderstood the prophecies concerning Antiochus IV to actually refer to the Antichrist? Antiochus Epiphanes, by his own words, was none other than a type of the antichrist to come.

(Graphic 6)⁶

⁵ I found a [pretty cool resource](#) on the topic.

⁶ The contents from this graphic come from Constable.

ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES

DANIEL 11:21-35

V21: Ant. IV rises to power. 175-164BC

V22: Ant. overcame Egypt and took out Onias III the high priest. 172 BC

V23: The alliance between Ptolemy VI in 170 BC.

V24: He used his wealth to bribe allies.

V25: In his strength, Ant. marched his army against Ptolemy VI in 170BC.

V26: Ptolemy VI and army were defeated.

V27: Ant. and Pto. had a banquet to discuss peace (both were deceptive).

V28: As a result, Ant. left Egypt with a newfound interest in Israel.

V29: Ant. sought to attack Egypt again. Popilius Laenas of Rome prevented this.

V30: Ant. returned to Syria avoiding a potential conflict with Rome.

V31: Ant. ordered his general, Apollonius, to exterminate Judaism and hellenize Israel.

V32: Ant. deceived many Jews with flattery and false promises. The Maccabean revolt resulted, in which thousands of Jews rebelled.

V33: The Chassidim (Hasidim) movement came as a result of Ant.'s persecutions.*

V34: Some Jews were indifferent towards the rebellion.

V35: These events purified the Jewish identity.

*V33 Side Note:

- If you notice there is an asterisk for verse 33. Some of you may have wondered, where did the Pharisees come from? Pharisee means “separated one.” Some of the Chassidim, the religious movement as a result of these events, created a new sect, the sect of Pharisaism.

Remember that all these prophecies were prophesied centuries prior by Daniel. So when all these things were fulfilled, it only verified the reliability of the prophetic scriptures.

Verse 31:

I want us to come back to verse 31 to understand more of what Antiochus IV Epiphanes did.

The greatest insult was when he placed an image of Zeus, the Greek god, and erected an altar to worship Zeus **in the temple in Jerusalem**. Also, he made it illegal for the Jews to practice the scriptures.

Then, he sacrificed a pig on that altar and ordered that the Jews do the same.

- For those who know, pigs were unclean animals. It was abominable to ever think of sacrificing these animals as a worshipful sacrifice in the Temple to God. In 10 days, this event happened 2,191 years ago to the day. The Jews referred to this as **the abomination that caused the desolation**.

Some of you are already thinking, “Wait, isn’t the abomination of desolation in reference to the Antichrist?” The answer is yes! We will get to that in chapter 12. Again, Antiochus IV Epiphanes was a type of Antichrist. The Antichrist will

later bring his abomination of desolation. In other words, the book of Revelation predicts the coming “beast” (Antichrist) who will behave as Antiochus did but on a larger scale.

What happened to Antiochus Epiphanes IV?

He became insane. He died in Persia in 163 BC. This man was about 50 or 51 years old at his death.

For What?:

A text like this reveals what an unregenerate man can accomplish. Someone like Antiochus IV Epiphanes, a man with a religious, political, cultural, militaristic, and imperialist agenda and passion! It causes me to stagger at his resume he built in his life of a meager 50 years.

There are individuals just like Antiochus who accomplish amazing things in their life. But for what?

(Matthew 16:26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?)

For God’s Glory:

At the end of the day, men like Antiochus ultimately serve the purposes of God.

(Romans 9:22 What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,

Romans 9:23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory,)

At the end of the day, God will receive all the glory! At the end of the day, the believers will experience the riches of His glory!

So even Antiochus IV who called himself, “God manifested in the flesh,” who only mocked Jehovah and Jehovah’s people, ultimately brought God glory.

At the end of the day, every knee will bow before Jesus Christ.

The Similarities to the Antichrist:

Again, Antiochus IV Epiphanes was a *type* of the coming Antichrist, the “beast” in the book of Revelation. In the New Testament, the Apostle John in 1 John 2:18 reveals the “antichrist(s)” (plural) that are actually in the churches among Christians. Antiochus was an antichrist.

Verse 35a: The Method of Purification

(**Daniel 11:35** *And some of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify them, and make them white, until the time of the end; because it is still for the appointed time.*)

The second half of verse 35 is supremely important to our next study. It tells us the timing of what we will read starting in verse 36. So I'd like to simply meditate and close with the first half of verse 35.

Guzik: This terror could only last for as long as God had appointed it, and God had a purpose even for such persecution and blasphemy.

This suffering was redeemed by God to be God's method of purification for the Jews as a nation.


Application:

In comparison, for the church of Christ, God also redeems suffering to be a method of purification. For you and I, suffering is God's redemptive method for purification.

Everyone suffers on this planet because this planet is sinful. Until Christ establishes the new heavens and new earth, there will always be suffering because of sin. Either you will suffer as a non-believer without hope or redemption; or you will suffer as a child of God with hope and redemption!

The most unique thing about a Christian's suffering is that God **redeems our sufferings**. What do I mean?

(Graphic 7)



SUFFERINGS
FOR THE BELIEVER

1). To purify and strengthen faith
1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 1 Peter 1:7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

2). To comfort other believers
2 Corinthians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 2 Corinthians 1:4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 2 Corinthians 1:5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ.

Your faith grows and you comfort others:

At the end of the day, if each of us have a privilege to be on a deathbed, the legacy on earth that truly matters

- (1). The person you became, &
- (2). The lives you touched.

At the end of the day, your fruitful and admirable legacy is only what it is because God is the Great Redeemer of our Sufferings.

Conclusion:

Daniel received these prophecies, that were all fulfilled in world history. Do you recall our study in the book of Revelation? God revealed to John the Apostle future prophecies that are still yet to be fulfilled. They will be fulfilled. Because we are living in the last days close to Christ's return, what should we know about it and what should we be doing about it?

What you should know about the last days:

(2 Timothy 3:1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:)

What you should do in the last days: (Also, in chapter 3)

(2 Timothy 3:14 But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

2 Timothy 3:15 and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.)

Continue to obey the Lord and know His word.

Draw closer and closer and closer to the Lord in these last days.