

1. Last week I finished teaching Dan 11:36 and when time expired I was about to exegete Dan 11:37.

2. I want to review some of that learned and then we will start our analysis of verse 37 but first let's look at an expanded translation of Dan 11:36.

Dan 11:36 The Antichrist will do as he pleases. He will magnify himself above every god; he will however display a particular hatred toward the God of Israel. He will say blasphemous things against Him; as a world leader he will be successful until the middle of the Tribulation when he begins to lose control; at the appointed time in God's infinite wisdom, his reign will be brought to an end.

3. No expositor worth his salt claims to see a precise fulfillment in the events described in the remainder of this chapter eleven. Clearly what is seen is a future eschatological completion.

4. In contrast to what we have just studied in Daniel 11:1-35, there is no specific correspondence to history.

5. Most expositors identify the king of Dan 11:36 with the man of sin described in 2Th 2:1-9 and Rev 13:1-10.

2Th 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

2Th 2:2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

2Th 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

2Th 2:4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

2Th 2:5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

2Th 2:6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

2Th 2:7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he – be taken out of the way.

2Th 2:8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

2Th 2:9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

Rev 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

Rev 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

Rev 13:3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

Rev 13:4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

Rev 13:5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

Rev 13:6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

Rev 13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

Rev 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Rev 13:9 If any man have an ear, let him hear.

Rev 13:10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

6. Now let's see what we can learn from verses 37-39.

KJV

Dan 11:37 Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.

Dan 11:38 But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things.

Dan 11:39 Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.

NIV

Dan 11:37 He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all.

Dan 11:38 Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his fathers he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts.

Dan 11:39 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.

Principles:

1. One of the arguments given in support of the conclusion that the Antichrist is a Jew is found in the opening phrase of verse 37, "neither shall he regard the God of his fathers."

2. As Dr. A. C. Gaebelien writes: "The King, Antichrist shall not regard the God of his fathers. Here his Jewish descent becomes evident. It is a Jewish phrase 'the God of his fathers' and beside this, to establish his fraudulent claim to be the King Messiah, he must be a Jew."

3. Walvoord however counters:

"Gaebelien and others upholding this view, however, overlook a most decisive fact that the word for "God" here is Elohim, a name for God in general, applying both to the true God and to false gods. If the expression had been the usual one when referring to the God of Israel, the Jehovah of his fathers, the identification would be unmistakable. Very frequently in Scripture, the God of Israel is described as Jehovah, "the Lord God" of their fathers (compare for example Exo 3:15-16; Jos 18:3; Jdg 2:12; 2Ki 21:22; 1Ch 29:20; 2Ch 7:22; and Ezr 7:27) ... for Daniel to omit the word Jehovah or Lord ... is significant. The expression should be rendered "the gods of his fathers," that is, any god, as most revisions translate it."

Moses Is Given His Orders

Exo 3:15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, the LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

Exo 3:16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

Seven Tribes Had Not Received Their Land:

Jos 18:3 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, How long are ye slack to go to possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers hath given you?

Israel Began To Worship Canaan's Idols

Jdg 2:12 And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger.

Amon Son of Manasseh Judah's Evil King

2Ki 21:22 And he forsook the LORD God of his fathers, and walked not in the way of the LORD.

David On His Death Bed

1Ch 29:20 And David said to all the congregation, Now bless the LORD your God. And all the congregation blessed the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads, and worshipped the LORD, and the king.

Solomon Is Warned - Time of Temple Building

2Ch 7:22 And it shall be answered, Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold on other gods, and worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath he brought all this evil upon them.

Ezra Praises God

Ezr 7:27 Blessed be the LORD God of our fathers, which hath put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to beautify the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem:

4. In November of 2001 I gave you an extensive study of Rev 13:1-2. I think a review of that study will help to establish not only the ethnicity of the Antichrist but I believe such will also serve as a good introduction for much of what Daniel will tell us.

5. First let's see how the two verses look in first the KJV and then the NIV:

KJV

Rev 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

Rev 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

NIV

Rev 13:1 And the dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. He had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on his horns, and on each head a blasphemous name.

Rev 13:2 The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. The dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority.

1. The Antichrist is called a "beast" because that's what he is in the sight of God, a ruthless, unfeeling dictator.

2. His true, ruthless nature is exposed in the latter part of the Tribulation period, even though at the beginning he appears to be a sweet, caring benevolent leader.

3. Why does the Beast emerge from the sea? John explains the figure in Rev 17:15. "The waters which you saw ... are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues."

4. In Biblical usage the ocean pictures the restless strivings of the nations of the world. As Isaiah put it, "The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt" (Isa 57:20).

5. It's from this chaos of the nations that the Antichrist will rise.

5.1 As brilliant as he is, notice where the Antichrist gets his power: "The dragon [Satan] gave him his power and his throne, and great authority" (Rev 13:2).

5.2 During the last half of the Tribulation, God will allow Satan to give the Antichrist tremendous supernatural ability.

5.3 So great will be the Antichrist's influence over people that every "tribe and people and tongue and nation" will yield to his sway.

5.4 For the first time in the history of the world Satan will get what he's been after all these years worldwide worship by earth's people!

6. What do the ten horns with crowns represent?

7. In the Bible horns almost always represent political power just as the sea and/or oceans represent Gentiles or nations.

8. In this case the Beast's ten horns, they picture ten nations that will form a confederacy which the Beast will rule during the Tribulation. Daniel elaborates on this in Daniel chapters seven and eight.

9. The symbolism in Daniel's prophecies is rather elaborate as we have seen, he states that four successive world empires would rise and fall (Babylon, Medo Persia, Greece, and Rome).

Dan 7:3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

Dan 7:4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

Dan 7:5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

Dan 7:6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

Dan 7:7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

10. Then, when God is about to climax world history, ten nations will emerge from the ancient people and culture of the fourth empire, Rome, and will form a tight confederation that will become a sovereign political unit.

11. At this point a scintillating personality will rise to world prominence and be proclaimed the head of this "Federation."

12. Of the ten nations that confederate, seven will acquiesce willingly, but three will seemingly have to be brought into the union unwillingly.

12.1 This will be accomplished by the Roman leader, who thereafter becomes a maniacal and tyrannical dictator.

13. Daniel earlier prophesied that this confederacy would be the greatest Gentile power to ever gain control of the whole world, and that it would acquire this worldwide control through its economic and military strength and of course the actions of its expert leader.

14. Once a European confederacy includes the ten nations of God's choosing, the group will begin to look for a leader powerful enough to make this new confederation the nucleus of a one-world government.

Dan 7:19 Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

Dan 7:20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.

Dan 7:21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

Dan 7:22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

Dan 7:23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

Dan 7:24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

Dan 7:25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

End Lesson Taught 3-9-2003