

1. Last week I taught Dan 11:37, 38 and 39. As part of that study I developed a biography of the Antichrist. When time expired we were in the process of analyzing Dan 11:40-43.
2. I want to review some of that learned and then we will continue our biography. First let's look at an expanded translation of Dan 11:36-39.

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.

Dan 11:37 The Antichrist in the Tribulation will openly flaunt his hatred of religion; particularly will he ridicule the hope of a coming Messiah. He will finally declare himself to be god.

Dan 11:38 Even early in his ministry he will glorify raw power, placing his trust in military might and wealth.

Dan 11:39 He will attack and defeat those nations who do not submit to his program of world domination and with the help of the False Prophet he will procure favor among the Jews in the land. He will at first aid and protect them. In fact all who support his rise to power he will protect and prosper.

1. Examining all other passages relating to the end time, it becomes evident that the sole confidence of the final world ruler will be in his military power in consonance with Daniel's description "he will place his confidence in the god of war," or "god of fortresses."
2. From this verse we conclude he will treasure his military "he will honor them with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts."
3. He is Satan's masterpiece, a human being who is Satan's substitute for Jesus Christ, thus properly identified as the Antichrist.
4. Taking the passage Dan 11:36-39 as a whole, it is apparent that the revelation provides an incisive analysis of a man devoted to materialism, militarism, and a world religion, all of which will be embodied in the final world ruler.
5. The situation in the first third of this century is rather amazing in its similarity. Already active in the world is the promotion of a world church and a unified Europe with common laws, tariffs and currency.

5.1 The European Union is even today militarily impotent. Its members are pacific; the Antichrist after the rapture may add the missing link leading to their success - his god of fortress.

6. This portion of Daniel, in the light of contemporary trends, becomes an illuminating prophetic commentary on the ultimate end which will unite the political, religious, and materialistic philosophies of our day in one man who is Satan's nomination for king of kings and lord of lords.

7. Now let's continue our study of Dan 11:40-43.

KJV

Dan 11:40 And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

Dan 11:41 He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.

Dan 11:42 He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

Dan 11:43 But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.

NIV

Dan 11:40 "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.

Dan 11:41 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.

Dan 11:42 He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape.

Dan 11:43 He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Nubians in submission.

Principles:

1. The time of the end introduced in verse 35 is again mentioned in the opening portion of verse 40 to make clear that the military struggle described is that which will characterize the end of the age.

2. The events described are what many glibly refer to as the Battle of Armageddon; just as glibly many think the battle is confined to the valley of Megiddo.

3. The term Battle of Armageddon is actually a misleading expression; the word battle should better be translated "campaign" thus Campaigns of Armageddon would be more descriptive.

4. Actually, this war will encompass more than just the Valley of Megiddo; it covers all of the land of Palestine from Mount Carmel to the Gulf of Aqabah.

5. The carnage and the horror of the scene are described only generally by Daniel. In order to get a full picture of this horrible period, we must turn to several other passages.

6. The first, in a series of battles to come, is described in Dan 11:40-43.

7. The Scriptures describing the location of the campaign lead to the conclusion that the campaign leading up to "the great day of God the Almighty," is fought in several specific geographical areas:

7.1 Jerusalem (Zec 14:2 and 12:2-11);

Zec 14:2 I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city.

Zec 12:2 "I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem.

Zec 12:3 On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.

Zec 12:4 On that day I will strike every horse with panic and its rider with madness," declares the LORD. "I will keep a watchful eye over the house of Judah, but I will blind all the horses of the nations ...

Zec 12:9 On that day I will set out to destroy all the nations that attack Jerusalem.

Zec 12:10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

Zec 12:11 On that day the weeping in Jerusalem will be great, like the weeping of Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo when Josiah is killed in battle in c. 609 B.C.

7.2 Megiddo and the Plain of Esdraelon (Rev 16:16);

Rev 16:16 Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

Isa 63:6 I trampled the nations in my anger; in my wrath I made them drunk and poured their blood on the ground ù."

7.3 That the conflict will rage throughout the entire land of Palestine is confirmed in the phrase "covering the land" (Eze 38:9, 16) and alludes to the fact that the armies will sweep over the land of Palestine.

Eze 38:9 You and all your troops and the many nations with you will go up, advancing like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land.

Eze 38:16 You will advance against my people Israel like a cloud that covers the land. In days to come, O Gog, I will bring you against my land, so that the nations may know me when I show myself holy through you before their eyes.

7.4 The Greek word Armageddon is derived from the Hebrew Har Megiddo, meaning the "hill of Megiddo."

8. This great battle of Christ versus the Antichrist will conclude in a display of the omnipotent and sovereign Christ, for He will utterly destroy the Antichrist and his armies.

9. The carnage of this battle is well described by John in Rev 19:17-18 and Ezekiel in Eze 39:17-22.

Rev 19:17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair, "Come, gather together for the great supper of God,
Rev 19:18 so that you may eat the flesh of kings, generals, and mighty men, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, small and great."

Eze 39:17 "Son of man, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: Call out to every kind of bird and all the wild animals: 'Assemble and come together from all around to the sacrifice I am preparing for you, the great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel. There you will eat flesh and drink blood.

Eze 39:18 You will eat the flesh of mighty men and drink the blood of the princes of the earth as if they were rams and lambs, goats and bulls-- all of them fattened animals from Bashan.

Eze 39:19 At the sacrifice I am preparing for you, you will eat fat till you are gluttoned and drink blood till you are drunk.

Eze 39:20 At my table you will eat your fill of horses and riders, mighty men and soldiers of every kind,' declares the Sovereign LORD.

Eze 39:21 "I will display my glory among the nations, and all the nations will see the punishment I inflict and the hand I lay upon them.

End Lesson Taught 3-30-2003