

Daniel.14. Chapter 11

This morning, we continue in the series on the Book of Daniel looking at chapter 11

- We will briefly look at this chapter, and then devote the rest of the time for questions

Daniel chapter 11 gives a detailed account of “kings” who will rise up and war against each other to possess for a season rule over the land and people of Israel

- Because there is so much accurate prophetic detail concerning the events that have taken place thus far in history, so-called “scholars,” who do not believe the word of God or the God revealed in the Scriptures Who “*reveals mysteries*” about “*what will take place in the latter days*” (Dan, 2:28), claim these words of Scripture had to be written after they happened, and thereby fulfilling 2 Peter 2:16 of “*the ignorant and unstable who twist to their own destruction the Scriptures*”

While many interpret these words to, in one way or another, be completely fulfilled by Antiochus IV Epiphanes (215-164 B.C.), the text transitions in verse 21 to speak about a “contemptible person” who shall “arise”

- There are at least three major reasons for interpreting these verses to be about the “Antichrist”

(1) The interpretive key is stated in Daniel in 10:14 by the angel who revealed these words to Daniel that this is ultimately “what is to happen to your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come.”

- The words “*latter days*” means the days at the end of the age, which is “*yet to come*”

(2) Antiochus didn’t fulfill a number of things stated in these verses

- Being a prophetic “type” of the coming Antichrist, Antiochus fulfilled some of these things but not all

- Among these are that while he called himself “Epiphanes,” he did not “*exalt himself and magnify himself above every god*” (Dan. 11:36), for being a Hellenist, he worshipped Zeus, and he did not die in the land of Israel as Daniel 11:45 states where this one “*will come to his end*”

(3) The New Testament make reference to these verses as being fulfilled in the coming one we call the “Antichrist”

- **2 Thessalonians 2:4** = *who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.*

Outline of Chapter

11:1-2 - The Kings of the Persian Empire

11:3-20 - The Kings of the Greek Empire

11:21-45 - The Contemptible Person

Daniel 11:1-20 have been fulfilled, but 11:21-45, while partially fulfilled by Antiochus Epiphanes, are about the Antichrist

- As was characteristic of the previous revelations in which the prophecy would not give a chronologically consecutive account but “skipped,” it is evident that this revelation “skips” to the person who, according to the angel, will “*arise*” in the “*latter days*,” or the end of the age (10:14)

- The following are some of the major areas of his actions, along with New Testament references

(1) The Rise of “a contemptible person”

- **Daniel 11:21** = *In his place shall arise a contemptible person to whom royal majesty has not been given. He shall come in without warning and obtain the kingdom by flatteries”*
- **Daniel 11:23** = *and he shall become strong with a small people.*
- That he will “arise” and “come without warning” is referred to in **2 Thessalonians 2:3** which states that the “*man of lawlessness will be revealed*”
- He will not be known until he is “*revealed*” at “the time appointed” by God (Dan.8:19; 11:29)
- The Hebrew word translated “*contemptible*” is used of those who “*despise*” the covenant of God (Gen.25:34), the word of God (Num. 15:31; 2 Sam. 12:9), and God Himself (1 Sam. 2:30), thus he is “*a man of lawless,*” and for this reason called the “Antichrist” (1 John 2:18)
- Rather than being from a royal family line, which would be more typical of a person rising to political power and authority, such as a Saudi king, he will be one “*to whom royal majesty has not been given*”
- His “*receiving a kingdom*” has been prophetically spoken of in Daniel in terms of him being “*the little horn*” that will arise in the final kingdom (Dan. 7:8; 8:9)
- That he is a “little horn” is referred to in that “*he shall become strong with a small people*”

(2) Concerning the Covenant

- The previous chapter, Daniel 9, spoke about his actions in relationship to a seven-year “*covenant*” which he will break after 3 ½ years, when he will set up “the abomination” which will cause the “desolation” of the temple in Jerusalem (Matt. 24:15)
- **Daniel 9:27** = *And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”*
- Chapter 11 continues to refer to a “*covenant*”
- **Daniel 11:22** = *Armies shall be utterly swept away before him and broken, even the prince of the covenant.*
- **Daniel 11:28-30** = *And he shall return to his land with great wealth, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will and return to his own land.*²⁹ “At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south, but it shall not be this time as it was before.
³⁰*For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and pay attention to those who forsake the holy covenant.*
- **Daniel 11:32** = *He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant, but the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action.*

(3) He will act deceitfully

- **Daniel 11:23** = *And from the time that an alliance is made with him he shall act deceitfully,*
- **Daniel 11:24-27** = *Without warning he shall come into the richest parts of the province, and he shall do what neither his fathers nor his fathers’ fathers have done, scattering among them plunder, spoil, and goods. He shall devise plans against strongholds, but only for a time.*²⁵ *And he shall stir up his power and his heart against the king of the south with a great army. And the king of the south shall wage war with an exceedingly great and mighty army, but he shall not stand, for plots shall be devised against him.*²⁶ *Even those who eat his food shall break him. His army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.*²⁷ *And as for the two kings, their*

hearts shall be bent on doing evil. They shall speak lies at the same table, but to no avail, for the end is yet to be at the time appointed.

- **2 Thessalonians 2:9-12** = *The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders,¹⁰ and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.¹¹ Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false,¹² in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*

(4) He shall set up the abomination that makes the temple desolate

- **Daniel 11:31** = *Forces from him shall appear and profane the temple and fortress, and shall take away the regular burnt offering. And they shall set up the abomination that makes desolate.*

- **Daniel 11:36** = *And the king shall do as he wills. He shall exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak astonishing things against the God of gods. He shall prosper till the indignation is accomplished; for what is decreed shall be done.*

- **Matthew 24:15** = *“So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand)”*

- **2 Thessalonians 2:4** = *who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.*

(5) He will persecute the people of God

- **Daniel 11:33-35** = *And the wise among the people shall make many understand, though for some days they shall stumble by sword and flame, by captivity and plunder.³⁴ When they stumble, they shall receive a little help. And many shall join themselves to them with flattery,³⁵ and some of the wise shall stumble, so that they may be refined, purified, and made white, until the time of the end, for it still awaits the appointed time.*

- **Matthew 24:21-22** = *For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be.²² And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.*

- **Revelation 12:17** = *Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.*

- **Revelation 13:7** = *Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation*

- **Revelation 13:10** = *If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes; if anyone is to be slain with the sword, with the sword must he be slain. Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.*

(6) His end will come in the land of Israel

- **Daniel 11:41-45** = *He shall come into the glorious land. And tens of thousands shall fall, but these shall be delivered out of his hand: Edom and Moab and the main part of the Ammonites.⁴² He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape.⁴³ He shall become ruler of the treasures of gold and of silver, and all the precious things of Egypt, and the Libyans and the Cushites shall follow in his train.⁴⁴ But news from the east and the north shall alarm him, and he shall go out with great fury to destroy and devote many to destruction.⁴⁵ And he shall pitch his palatial tents between the sea and the glorious holy mountain. Yet he shall come to his end, with none to help him.*

The Following is a quotation from a sermon spoken a few years ago by Rev. John MacArthur about Islamic belief about the end of the age concerning the Mahdi, who is the Antichrist, and the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ at “the end of history,” meaning the end of this age

Who is the Antichrist? John MacArthur

As you get to the end of human history, and you get into the period of time called “the tribulation,” there is a specific fulfillment of this prophecy that I want you to understand and it has to do with Islam. In Islamic eschatology, there are three great signs of the end of history, three great signs. There are some lesser signs, or some minor signs, and some major signs. In their eschatology, quoting their sources exclusively, there are three great signs of the end of history. And each of them is a man. Let me tell you about those three men.

First of all, the first man that will come in the end of history is the Mahdi. Sometimes, he’s called “The 12th Iman.” Every time Ahmadinejad over in Iran speaks, he says, “Glory to the Mahdi. Glory to the 12th Iman” - every time. He’s waiting for the coming of the Mahdi.

What is he coming to do? He’s coming to slaughter all who will not worship Allah, convert to Islam. They are identified in their writings as “pigs and dogs.” And to establish the everlasting, world dominating kingdom of Islam.

The Mahdi, or 12th Iman, means “the guided one,” is the long, awaited Savior. He is the establisher of the final Caliphate. The world must follow him as he takes over or he will or he will destroy all enemies of Islam. He will come, and he will carry on holy war, and either you will convert or you are killed by the Mahdi.

He will have an army. His army will be a massive army, and his army will go from nation to nation to punish the unbelievers. The holy writings of Islam say that this army will carry black flags. And on those black flags, there will be one word. And that one word will be the word “punishment.” By the way, the Iranian army today carries black flags. They want to be ready for the coming of the Mahdi.

He will lead the army of black flags, first, to Israel, slaughter all the Jews. And then he will establish his rule in Jerusalem on the Temple Mount. That’s what their literature says - slaughter the Jews, establish his rule on the Temple Mount.

According to their holy writings, the Mahdi will bring rain, and wind, and crops, and wealth, and happiness so that all will love him, and no one will speak of anyone but him.

Their writings says, the Mahdi will come and make, at first, a peace agreement with the Jews and the West for 7 years. The reign of Mahdi lasts 7 years in which he establishes Islam on the earth.

Their holy writings say this: the Mahdi will come riding on a white horse. And it even says in their writings, as it says in Revelation 6:1 and 2. Saddam Hussein, by the way, painted murals of this Mahdi on a white horse all over Bagdad. And he comes carrying a sword to kill the infidels.

When the Mahdi arrives, he will discover hidden scriptures. He will discover them, interestingly enough, somewhere near the Sea of Galilee. And there will be there, hidden scriptures, hidden gospels, and a hidden torah. And they will be the true scriptures which will be used by the Mahdi to show the Jews and the Christians they were wrong, that their scriptures were the false scriptures.

Let me summarize: The Mahdi will be a Messianic figure. He will be a descendant of Mohammad. He will be an unparalleled, unequaled leader. He will come out of a crisis of turmoil. He will take control of the world. He will establish a New World Order. He will destroy all who resist him. He will invade many nations. He will make a 7-year peace treaty with the Jews. He will conquer Israel and massacre the Jews. He will establish world Islamic headquarters are Jerusalem. He will rule for 7 years, establish Islam as the only religion. He will come on a white horse with supernatural power. He will be loved by all people on earth.

If that sounds familiar, that is a precise description of the Biblical Antichrist. Absolutely, step, by step, by step, by step. The Bible's Antichrist is their Mahdi. We know that the rider on the white horse in Revelation 6 is the Antichrist. They use that verse to describe their Mahdi.

Why am I giving you all this? Because the description of the Mahdi is exactly the description of the Biblical Antichrist, the beast of Revelation 13. And you go into any kind of a study of that, and you will find that all the details match up perfectly. The Bible's Antichrist is Islam's Savior and world conqueror who establishes a universal Islamic kingdom.

And there's a second sign, a second person. It is Jesus. The Mahdi is not Jesus. The Mahdi is greater than Jesus. And that's important to their system because if you have somebody greater than Jesus, then the Christians were wrong.

So, Jesus will return. Yes, Muslims believe that Jesus will come again. They believe in the return of Jesus. Not the true Jesus. The Jesus of Islam, not God, didn't die, didn't rise, didn't provide a sacrifice for sin, but He does return. He's a prophet. And he comes back, and he has one purpose when he comes back, and that is to assist and aid the Mahdi. He returns as a radical Muslim. He will arrive by a minaret near Damascus. And he will come back holding the wings of two angels who flew him down to meet the gathering army of the Mahdi in the east, the army of the black flags. Jesus, when he comes back, will pray to the Mahdi who is greater than he. He will acknowledge the Mahdi as his lord. He will make a pilgrimage to Mecca. He will worship Allah. And, thus, he will lead all Christians who will follow him to reject their notion of Jesus and accept the real Jesus, who was nothing but a prophet and a man. He will establish world-wide Shariah law. He will become the greatest Muslim evangelist. And he will be the final witness on the Day of Judgment against non-Muslims. Christians everywhere will affirm that they were wrong, that the gospel is wrong, the New Testament is wrong. He didn't die. He didn't rise. He isn't God. He isn't the Son of God. He himself will come back and point out how wrong we've been. He will correct all misinterpretations and all misrepresentations. Let me quote what their literature says. "He will shatter crosses." That's metaphoric for the destruction of the church, the symbol of Christianity being placed in the church. "He will kill pigs." He will abolish the tax on non-Muslims because there won't be any living non-Muslims. You can't tax dead people. And then he will do one more thing. He will kill the Islamic Antichrist. He will kill the Islamic Antichrist. Then he will die and be buried by Muhammad. But not until he has destroyed Christianity by revealing who he really is.

Who is this? You compare what he does to the false prophet in the book of Revelation chapter 13:16-20, the beasts coming out of the earth, the false prophet, who aids and abets the Antichrist. He is, as the Mahdi is the exact replica of the Antichrist, the Jesus prophet in Islam is the exact parallel to the false prophet who aids and abets the Antichrist. One of their writings says he espouses the cause of the Mahdi. He is the Mahdi's executioner. He is the Mahdi's enforcers. He is the Mahdi's prophet. And it is he who kills the Antichrist.

That leads me to the third person. The Antichrist will show up. The Muslims call him Dajjal. He is the great deceiver. He comes to earth on a mule. And he's blind in one eye. He is an

infidel. He is a false miracle worker, this Antichrist, the Islamic Antichrist. But do you know who he claims to be? He claims to be Jesus, the Son of God. He claims to be deity. He will attempt to stop the Mahdi and the true Jesus. But the true Jesus will slaughter him.

This is their view of the true Christ. Our Jesus is their Antichrist. Our Antichrist is their redeemer. It is a Satanic counterfeit that is in complete reverse.

This is a quote: “The army of Satan will be led by a person who will claim to be Jesus Christ.” There will be a great battle. The Muslim Jesus will fight the false Jesus, and kill him, and establish Islam forever. The truth is, the true Jesus will destroy the Antichrist and the false prophet and establish His kingdom forever. This is Satan’s complete counterfeit, Muslim world domination.

Now somebody might say when you think about the future and what’s going to happen in the world, don’t we have a revived Roman Empire, doesn’t that mean the West? You remember that the image in Daniel 2 of the image of the final world empire had two legs, and the Roman Empire had the West and the East. Do you know, of course, if you know history the western part of the Roman Empire basically dissolved and the east survived for a thousand years more, so that at the time of the New Testament, 60% of the Roman Empire was land that is now under Muslim control, at least 60%. The vast majority of the Roman Empire in New Testament times is now under Muslim control. And Islam is moving across the West rapidly in Europe, isn’t it? When you have a picture in Ezekiel 38, you have a picture of the Antichrist, Gog, and you have the listing of 8 nations that will be a coalition for the Antichrist, all 8 of those are Muslim nations, all 8 of them. And they ring the Mediterranean all the way to Libya. In Revelation 17:9-11 it says there were 6 kingdoms and then a 7th, and finally an 8th. What is the 7th? Well, there’s been discussion about that. It well could be the Ottoman Turk empire which lasted 500 years and didn’t really fall until the modern era. The Turkish Empire was the last Caliphate which ended in 1923 and they’re waiting for the restoration when the Mahdi comes.

So, right at the very end somebody’s going to say, “I’m Jesus.” Somebody else is going to say, “I’m Jesus.” Who you goin’ to believe? That’s just one form of this deception that will show up at the end. And even now it is deceiving people. There is a whole world of Muslims who think Jesus is someone He is not. And, consequently, reject the true Jesus