

RUSSIA

IN END-TIME BIBLE PROPHECY

VISIONS OF DANIEL

Two

Seven

Eight

Eleven



VISIONS OF DANIEL

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Eight

Eleven

Babylon

Medo-P.

Greece

Rome

Divided World /
Church & State

Second Coming



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DANIEL'S LAST VISION

Introduction

Vision

Interpretation



Dan. 10:1-11:1

Dan. 11:2-12:4

Dan. 12:5-13

A VISION FOR THE LAST DAYS

- ▶ “Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.” **Daniel 10:14**

OUTLINE OF DANIEL 11

- ▶ “And now I will show thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in **Persia**; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all:” **Daniel 11:2**
- Since this vision was given to Daniel in the third year of Cyrus, the reference here is doubtless to the four kings who followed Cyrus on the throne of Persia. These were: Cambyses (530-522 B.C.), the False Smerdis, a usurper (522 B.C.), Darius I (522-486 B.C.), and Xerxes I (485-465 B.C.).

OUTLINE OF DANIEL 11

- ▶ "...he shall stir up all against the realm of **Grecia**. And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion...and when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven..." **Daniel 11:2**
- Reference here is made to Alexander the Great of **Greece**, his death and his kingdom being divided into four territories. Compare the four winds here with the four heads of the leopard in Dan. 7:6 and to the four horns of the goat in Dan. 8:8, 22.

OUTLINE OF DANIEL 11

- ▶ “Then shall stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom...” **Daniel 11:20**
 - A reference to the **Roman** Caesar Augustus - **Luke 2:1**

OUTLINE OF DANIEL 11

- ▶ “And in his estate shall stand up a vile person...and with the arms of a flood shall they be overflown from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant.” **Daniel 11:21-22**
 - A reference to the **Roman** Tiberius Caesar and the crucifixion of Christ by the **Romans**.

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OUTLINE OF DANIEL 11

- ▶ “And arms shall stand on his part...and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that taketh desolate.” **Daniel 11:31**
 - The work of the **Papacy** is here delineated. Compare with **Daniel 8:11**.

OUTLINE OF DANIEL 11

- ▶ “And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, **many days.**” **Daniel 11:33**
- ▶ “And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, **even to the time of the end:** because it is yet for a time appointed.” **Daniel 11:35**
 - Referring to the persecutions of God’s people by the **papacy** during the 1260 year prophecy. The close of the 1260 year prophecy would then mark the beginning of the “time of the end”.

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OUTLINE OF DANIEL 11

- ▶ “And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him...” **Daniel 11:40**
 - The phrase “the time of the end” designates a specific time in history when the persecuting power of the papacy was removed. This occurred at the close of the 1260 prophecy ending in 1798. Therefore, the setting of the remaining verses of Daniel 11 must occur sometime after 1798.

OUTLINE OF DANIEL 11

- ▶ “And at that time shall Michael stand up...and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation...and at that time thy people shall be delivered...and many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake...” **Daniel 12:1,2**

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Judgment (Finished)

Second Coming

VISIONS OF DANIEL

Papacy

Judgment (Finished)

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VISIONS OF DANIEL

Papacy

Judgment (Finished)

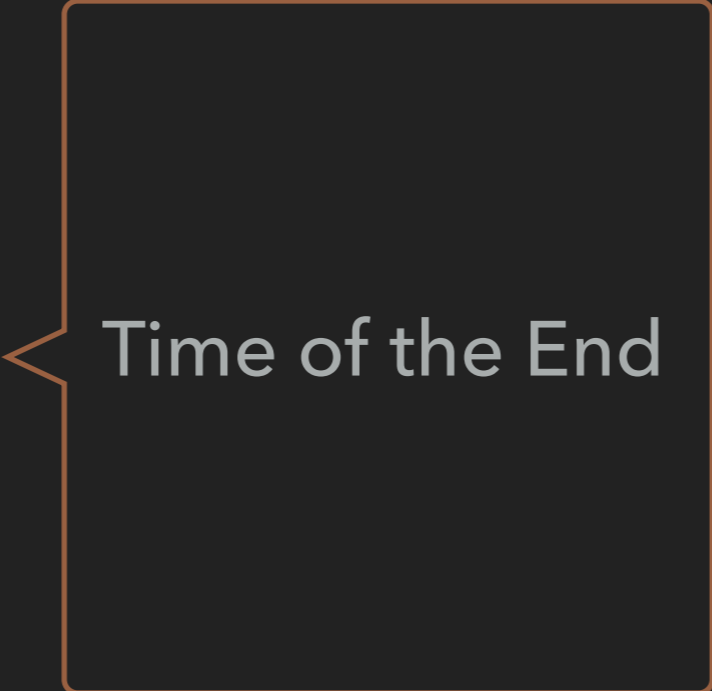
Second Coming

VISIONS OF DANIEL

538-1798

Papacy

Daniel 11:40-45



Close of Probation

Judgment (Finished)

Second Coming

PLOT OF THE APOCALYPTIC NARRATIVE

Daniel 11:40

1. Introduces the king of the South and his conflict with the king of the North
2. It dates the narrative (1798 - Time of the End)
3. Shows the military reaction of the king of the North

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KING OF THE NORTH

- ▶ Babylon resided north of Israel and is referred to as the king from the north in Ezk. 26:7
- ▶ God's throne is referred to as being from the North - see Ps. 48:2 & 75:6,7
- ▶ Satan tried to exalt his throne above God's "in the sides of the North" - see Is. 14:12-14
- ▶ Babylon is biblical symbol of apostate or counterfeit religion - see GC 381

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KING OF THE NORTH

- ▶ Conclusion: "King of the North" = a title for ancient Babylon, used symbolically to denote apostate Christianity

PLOT OF THE APOCALYPTIC NARRATIVE

Daniel 11:40

king of the South



Identified in the vision with **Egypt** (vs. 8)

EGYPT AS A SYMBOL

- ▶ In the Old Testament, Egypt is a land known for not believing in God and for its defiant attitude towards the God of Israel. (Exod 5:2)

EGYPT AS A SYMBOL

- ▶ In **Rev. 11:8**, Egypt is used as a 'spiritual' name for France because of its atheism. (see GC 269)

EGYPT AS A SYMBOL

- ▶ It was **France that invaded Rome in 1798** taking the Pope captive and inflicting a deadly wound to the Roman Church, thus ending the 1260 years and ushering in the “time of the end”.

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

- ▶ Began in 1789
- ▶ At that time the official state religion was Catholicism
- ▶ France's population of 28 million was almost entirely Catholic
- ▶ Church revenue was enormous. Tithe income was exempt from taxes.
- ▶ The church owned 6% of all land in France

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

- ▶ The Enlightenment quest promoted reason as the basis for legitimacy and progress.
- ▶ On the eve of the Revolution, the French state was on the verge of bankruptcy
- ▶ 1790 the state took control of all church affairs, property and finances
- ▶ Clergy were forced to take an oath of loyalty to the new constitution or surrender their position and salary

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

- ▶ 1793 - the state closed all churches and converted them to warehouses, manufacturing works or even stables, stating Christianity had no place in the republic.
- ▶ 1798 - France invades the Papal States and takes the pope captive.
- ▶ 1801 - The French sign the Concordat with Rome, which allowed the church to function, but only under the authority of the state. Bishops were appointed by Napoleon.

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

- ▶ Nicholas Atkin wrote that the French Revolution was 'a watershed for Catholicism not just in France but in Europe more generally'.
- ▶ In this extension of state control, as well as in the targeted destruction of the Church and religious practice, the Revolution represents a key development in the secularization that would stretch across Europe.
- ▶ 1905 - France officially separates church and state

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF COMMUNISM

- ▶ February 21, 1848: German economist and philosopher Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels publish **The Communist Manifesto**.
- ▶ November 7, 1917: With Vladimir Lenin at the helm, the Bolsheviks, ascribing to Marxism, seize power during **Russia's** October Revolution and become the **first communist government**.
- ▶ July 1, 1921: Inspired by the Russian Revolution, the Communist Party of China is formed.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF COMMUNISM

- ▶ January 21, 1924: Lenin dies at age 54 of a stroke, and Joseph Stalin, who had served as Lenin's general secretary, eventually takes over official rule of the Soviet Union until his death in 1953. He industrialized the country through a state-controlled economy, but it led to famine. Under his regime, detractors were deported or imprisoned in labor camps, and, as part of the Great Purge, 1 million people were executed under Stalin's orders.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF COMMUNISM

- ▶ March 12, 1947: President Harry S. Truman addresses Congress in what would come to be known as the Truman Doctrine, calling for the containment of communism, and later, leading to U.S. entry into wars in Vietnam and Korea to provide defense from communist takeovers. The doctrine becomes the basis for America's **Cold War** policy.
- ▶ October 1, 1949: Following a civil war, China's Communist Party leader, Mao Zedong declares his creation of the People's Republic of China, leading the United States to end diplomatic ties with the PRC for decades.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF COMMUNISM

- ▶ 1950-1953 - Korean War
- ▶ 1959 - Communist take over Cuba
- ▶ 1976 - Socialist Republic of Vietnam under communist rule

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF COMMUNISM

- ▶ 1940 to 1979: Communism is established by force or otherwise in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Yugoslavia, Poland, North Korea, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, China, Tibet, North Vietnam, Guinea, Cuba, Yemen, Kenya, Sudan, Congo, Burma, Angola, Benin, Cape Verde, Laos, Kampuchea, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Vietnam, Somalia, Seychelles, Afghanistan, Grenada, Nicaragua and others.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF COMMUNISM

- ▶ June 4, 1989: After weeks of protests, the Communist Chinese government sends in its military to fire on demonstrators calling for democracy in Beijing's Tiananmen Square. The bloody violence ends in hundreds to thousands of deaths (no official death toll was ever released).

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF COMMUNISM

- ▶ November 9, 1989: The Berlin Wall—that separated communist East Berlin from democratic West Berlin for nearly 30 years—falls. The years 1989-90 see the collapse of communist regimes in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Benin, Mozambique, Nicaragua and Yemen.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF COMMUNISM

- ▶ December 25, 1991: With the resignation of Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet Union is dissolved. New Russian President Boris Yeltsin bans the Communist Party. Communism soon ends in Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Congo, Kenya, Yugoslavia and other nations. China, Cuba, Laos, Vietnam remain under communist rule.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KING OF THE SOUTH

- ▶ Nations with atheistic beliefs - God is not acknowledged
- ▶ Secularistic actions
- ▶ Restricts the personal liberties of the people
- ▶ Religion is either not allowed, or is controlled by the power of the state

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE KING OF THE NORTH

- ▶ Outwardly religious, but actually in apostasy
- ▶ Unites church and state
- ▶ Intolerant of any other religions
- ▶ Attempts to put itself in the place of God
- ▶ Persecutes God's people

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