

**The Most High God**  
**Ruler of Heaven and Earth**

**A Vision of the Latter Days**  
**Daniel 11**  
**Lesson 11**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*  
*August 10, 2014*

# The Most High God, Ruler of Heaven and Earth

- ▶ Course of world history (Daniel 1-7)
  - Sovereign rule by the Most High God
  - Four kingdoms followed by the eternal Kingdom on earth
  - Persecution for relationship with the Most High God
  - Do not defile self; trust God; be devoted to God
- ▶ The Beautiful Land in world history (Daniel 8-12)
  - The Promise to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3)
  - Dramatic beginning; tragic course; termination
  - State of Israel, 1948 – How does it fit into Daniel?

# Israel in world history (Daniel 8-12)

- ▶ 70 years (in Babylon)
- ▶ 70 weeks – 490 years (in world history)
  - Daniel 9:24
  - 7 – 62 – 1
  - The anti-Christ

# A Vision of the Latter Days (8-12)

- ▶ 8:19 – It pertains to the appointed time of the end
- ▶ 8:26 – It pertains to many days in the future
- ▶ 9:24 – 70 weeks . . . finish . . . make an end . . . bring in everlasting righteousness . . . seal up the vision.
- ▶ 10:14 – in the latter days . . . the vision pertains to days yet future
- ▶ 11:35 – until the end time
- ▶ 11:40 – at the end time
- ▶ 12:1-3 – at that time . . . resurrection of just and unjust
- ▶ 12:4, 9 – seal up until the end of time
- ▶ 12:13 – at the end of the age

# Greek Empire

- ▶ Greek Empire replaced Persian Empire
- ▶ Greek Empire disintegrates into 4 parts
- ▶ Two divisions of the Greek Empire emphasized
- ▶ The Anti-Christ is revealed in type

# The Anti-Christ – 2 little horns

- ▶ Little horn (3<sup>rd</sup> Kingdom) – typical
  - 8:9-12; 22-25; 11:21-35
- ▶ Little horn (4<sup>th</sup> Kingdom) – actual
  - 7:8, 20-22, 24-27; 9:26-27; 11:36-45

# Daniel 11 – the vision of the latter days

- ▶ Persian Empire (11:2)
- ▶ Greek Empire (11:3-4)
- ▶ The kings of the north and the south (11:5-20)
- ▶ The despicable person (11:21-35)
- ▶ The willful king (11:36-45)

## **Four kings in Persia (11:2)**

- ▶ Telling the truth (10:1, 21; 11:2)
- ▶ Cyrus (539-529 BC) – current ruler
- ▶ Cambyses (529-522 BC)
- ▶ Smerdis (522-521 BC)
- ▶ Darius Hystaspes (521-486 BC)
- ▶ Xerxes (486-465 BC) – Ahasuerus
- ▶ 7 more kings of Persia – ca. 130 years



## **A mighty king (11:3-4)**

- ▶ Male goat with large horn (8:5-8)
- ▶ Alexander the Great (336-323 BC)
- ▶ Kingdom broken up into 4 parts

# **Kings of the South and North (11:5-20)**

- ▶ Ptolemy Soter, satrap of Egypt (11:5-6)
- ▶ Seleucus Nicator, satrap of Babylon (11:6)
- ▶ Antiochus III the Great ruled 46 years (11:13-19)
- ▶ Seleucus IV (11:20)

# Antiochus Epiphanes (11:21-35)

- ▶ A despicable person
- ▶ Took throne from nephew by intrigue
- ▶ War with Egypt
- ▶ Against the holy covenant
  - Desecrate temple
  - Stop sacrifice – made them illegal
  - Abomination of Desolation
- ▶ Hypocrisy and purification

# The Willful King (11:36-45)

- ▶ No historical correlation
- ▶ Distinct from the kings of the North and South
- ▶ Will prosper until the indignation is finished
- ▶ Daniel 12:1-2 – the end of the age – resurrection

# Blasphemous

- ▶ Exalt and magnify himself above every god
- ▶ Blaspheme the God of gods
- ▶ No regard for
  - gods of his fathers
  - desire of women
  - any other god
- ▶ Honor a god of fortresses
- ▶ Wars (11:40-44)
- ▶ Pitch tents between the seas and the beautiful Holy Mountain
- ▶ He will come to his end (7:11, 26)
- ▶ Little horn (4<sup>th</sup> Kingdom) – 7:8, 20-22, 24-27; 9:26-27; 11:36-45

# How shall we live?

- ▶ The Ruler of Heaven and Earth
- ▶ A spiritual warfare
- ▶ Daniel's lesson to us
  - Do not defile yourself
  - Trust in the Lord alone
  - Love the Lord your God only and fully
  - Be faithful stewards in a wicked world

<b>Daniel 11</b>		
2-4	3 more kings in Persia	Cyrus (539-529 BC) – current ruler Cambyses (529-522 BC) Smerdis (522-521 BC) Darius Hystaspes (521-486 BC)
	4 <sup>th</sup> king far richer – stir up against Greece	Xerxes (486-465 BC) – very rich – attacked Greece – (7 more kings in the Medo-Persian empire)
	then . . . a mighty king with great dominion	Alexander the Great (336-323 BC) – imposed will on army – extended dominion from Greece and Egypt to India (greater than Medo-Persia) – kingdom broken up among 4 generals – none had his authority
<p><b>Focus upon 2 of the 4 divisions of the Geek empire</b>  <b>King of the South – Egypt</b>  <b>King of the North – Syria</b></p>		
5	King of the South will become strong	Ptolemy Soter – highly capable general under Alexander – made satrap of Egypt (323 BC) – declared himself king of Egypt – Seleucus Nicator served under Ptolemy – S.N. became king of Babylon, Syria, Media – both proclaimed themselves king in 304 BC
6	At the end of some years, they shall join forces	Alliance between North & South around 250 BC – son of Ptolomy with grandson of Seleucus – Berenice (daughter of Ptolomy, king of South) married Antiochus II Theos (king of North) – 2 years later, Ptolomy died and Antiochus II put away Berenice and took back his first wife (Laodice) – Laodice poisoned Ptolomy and killed Berenice with her attendants and child – proclaimed her son Seleucus II Callinicus (245-227 BC) as king
7-8	From a branch of her roots one shall arise Come with army against king of North and prevail	Brother of Berenice – Ptolomy III Euergetes (245-221 BC) – came to avenge sister and defeated Syria army – killed Laodice – successful campaign as far as Tigris River – outlived Seleucus II Callinicus

9-10	King of North shall come to King of South	Unsuccessful attack by Seleucus II v. Ptolomy III Sons of Seleucus II – Seleucus III Ceraunus (227-223 BC) – Antiochus III the Great (223-187 BC) Sons tried to re-establish prestige of Syria – Antiochus III extended border of Syria to southern Palestine in two separate campaigns
11-12	King of South fight king of North	Ptolemy IV Philopator (221-204 BC) – attacked Antiochus II and defeated great army – proud man – returned to life of decadence – people dissatisfied with him so he was weaker after the victory than before.
13	King of the North will return	Antiochus the Great (through verse 19) – several years after defeat, he returned to battle – Ptolomy IV died; succeeded by son Ptolomy V (age 4 years) – Antiochus attacked with larger army
14	Many shall stand against the king of the South	Enemies of Ptolomy V: – Antiochus the Great – Philip V of Macedonia – Revolutionary Jews
15-16	King of the North shall come and raise siegeworks and capture a fortified city . . .	Antiochus the Great captured Sidon (203 BC) Ptolomaic rule of Palestine ended and Antiochus gained authority over Palestine
17	He shall set his face . . .	Antiochus determined to control Egypt – did not attack militarily – sent daughter (Cleopatra) to marry Ptolomy V (10 years old at time of agreement) – marriage in 193 (4 years later) – purpose: subdue Egypt as he planned to attack Rome; have Cleopatra promote Syrian goals – However, Cleopatra was a proper wife (Egypt actually aided Rome so Antiochus' plan failed)
18-19	He shall turn his face to the coastlands	Antiochus (post treaty with Ptolomy V) undertook a vigorous campaign into the Aegean and Asia minor regions. – Seized part of Thrace and invaded Greece – Roman general, Lucius Cornelius Scipio drove him out of Asia minor – Antiochus died the next year and little is known about his last year



20	There shall arise in his place . . .	<p>Seleucus IV Phiopator (187-176 BC), son of Antiochus the Great</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- inherited empty coffers and great debt to Rome</li> <li>- sent Heliodorus to seize Temple treasury in Jerusalem</li> <li>- Seleucus died after 11 years - mysteriously, probably by assassination (poisoning) by his son</li> </ul>
<b>Antiochus Epiphanes (175-164 BC)</b>		
21	A contemptible person	<p>Epiphanes = manifest or illustrious called Epimanes = madman</p> <p>Seized the throne from rightful heir (his nephew and son of Seleucus) - used political intrigue</p>
22-23	With force of a flood . . .	<p>Antiochus turned back invading armies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- general reference to all invaders</li> <li>- particular reference to Egypt</li> </ul> <p>Prince of the Covenant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- uncertain identity</li> <li>- may refer to Ptolomy V who was steward of the covenant made with Antiochus the Great</li> <li>- may refer to the High Priest in Jerusalem who was killed by Antiochus in 4<sup>th</sup> year</li> <li>- the league with Egypt was based upon marriage of his sister (Cleopatra) with father of current king. He went back on the promised dowry (two states including Palestine)</li> </ul>
24	He shall enter peaceably . . .	<p>He spoiled the wealthy areas and distributed to the poorer areas to curry favor</p>
25	He shall stir up . . . against the king of the South	<p>Invaded Egypt, ruled by his nephew, Ptolomy Philometor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ptolomy sought to regain the dowry states</li> <li>- North defeated South in 170 BC</li> <li>- Ptolomy was partial victim of treachery by his own forces</li> </ul>
26-27	Those who eat of the portion of his delicacies . . .	<p>His trusted counselors betrayed him and he was captured by Antiochus</p> <p>Antiochus professed friendship with Ptolomy because Ptolomy's brother had seized the throne in Memphis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Antiochus sought to use Ptolomy to gain power</li> <li>- Ptolomy did not trust Antiochus</li> <li>- Finally the two Ptolomy brothers arranged a joint rulership and Ptolomy Philometer married his sister (Cleopatra, named for her mother)</li> </ul>

28	He shall return to his land with great booty . . .	On return trip, he worked havoc in the Temple – Jews reacted against high priest Menalaus who was supporter of Antiochus – Antiochus put down the revolt and desecrated the Temple (cf. 8:11)
29-30	He shall return to the South . . .	A second invasion 2 years later (168 BC) – intended to break the brothers' coalition – prevented from battle by Rome – He sought to stamp out Mosaic observances and enlisted the help of Menalaus the high priest
31-32	Defile the Sanctuary	Erected statue of Jupiter (Zeus) or substitute altar
33	Those of the people who understand . . .	Mattathias Maccabeus, father of 7 sons, refused to offer the sacrifices and began the Maccabean revolt. Antiochus defeated the revolt.
34-35	Now when they fall . . .	Some of the people offered help but not sincerely Divine purpose – refine, make white until the time of the end
<b>The Antichrist</b>		
36	The king shall do according to his will . . .	The King – not used for Antiochus Exalt above all gods – Antiochus served Greek gods Duration until wrath accomplished
37-38	He shall not regard . . .	Despise God of fathers, desire of women (Christ?), gods Honor the gods of power
39	He shall act against the strongest fortress . . .	No fear Honor his associates
40-45	King of South attack king of the North . . .	No historical time to correlate with this text A time of great wars ending with the termination of the Antichrist.