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 (3rd Kingdom) – typical
  – 8:9-12; 22-25; 11:21-35
- Little horn (4th Kingdom) – actual
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)
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
### Daniel 11

| 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) |
| 4th 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 |

### Focus upon 2 of the 4 divisions of the Greek empire

- **King of the South – Egypt**
- **King of the North – Syria**

| 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  
– Ptolemy IV died; succeeded by son Ptolemy V (age 4 years) – Antiochus attacked with larger army |
| 14 | Many shall stand against the king of the South | Enemies of Ptolemy 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 Ptolemy 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 Ptolemy 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 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Details and Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 20  | There shall arise in his place . . .                                          | Seleucus IV Philopator (187-176 BC), son of Antiochus the Great  
- inherited empty coffers and great debt to Rome  
- sent Heliodorus to seize Temple treasury in Jerusalem  
- Seleucus died after 11 years – mysteriously, probably by assassination (poisoning) by his son |
| 21  | A contemptible person                                                        | Epiphanes = manifest or illustrious called Epimanes = madman  
Seized the throne from rightful heir (his nephew and son of Seleucus) – used political intrigue |
| 22-23 | With force of a flood . . .                                                  | Antiochus turned back invading armies  
- general reference to all invaders  
- particular reference to Egypt  
Prince of the Covenant  
- uncertain identity  
- may refer to Ptolomy V who was steward of the covenant made with Antiochus the Great  
- may refer to the High Priest in Jerusalem who was killed by Antiochus in 4th year  
- 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) |
| 24  | He shall enter peaceably . . .                                                | He spoiled the wealthy areas and distributed to the poorer areas to curry favor |
| 25  | He shall stir up . . . against the king of the South                          | Invaded Egypt, ruled by his nephew, Ptolemy Philometor.  
- Ptolemy sought to regain the dowry states  
- North defeated South in 170 BC  
- Ptolomy was partial victim of treachery by his own forces |
| 26-27 | Those who eat of the portion of his delicacies . . .                         | His trusted counselors betrayed him and he was captured by Antiochus  
Antiochus professed friendship with Ptolemy because Ptolomy’s brother had seized the throne in Memphis.  
- Antiochus sought to use Ptolomy to gain power  
- Ptolomy did not trust Antiochus  
- Finally the two Ptolomy brothers arranged a joint rulership and Ptolomy Philometer married his sister (Cleopatra, named for her mother) |
| 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 |

**The Antichrist**

| 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. |