

Sermon Notes

“Human Evil Brings About Judgement”

Daniel 11:2-45

August 30, 2015

6. Read Daniel 11:36-45. Daniel 12:1-3 follows 11:44-45 with, “at that time” and proceeds to detail three end-time events: the Great Tribulation of Israel, the resurrection of the dead, and the final reward of the righteous. This, along with other factors leads me to believe that the description shifted partway through the chapter to the Antichrist. In what ways does the description of this king’s career and demise in 11:36-45 resemble the career and demise of Antichrist (compare with the following texts)?

Daniel 7:11, 25-26

Daniel 9:26-27

Daniel 12:6-12

2 Thess. 2:3-10

Revelation 13:1-18

Revelation 19:11-21

7. All of chapter 11 was *future* to Daniel. However, 11:2-35 are *past* to us. Looking back, we can see how precisely God’s plans came true. God really is in control! How can God’s absolute authority and rule over history help you to stand firm when evil seems to triumph?

Let's Pray:

Introduction:

1. The message claims to be _____

How God Speaks

Method	Frequency		Test
From word of God itself	1000x	very common	don't test; just obey
From word through person			be humble and check
From person not contradict word			check carefully
From Holy Spirit to my spirit			check very carefully with Bible and others
In a dream to my mind			be extremely cautious

Chart referenced in “Time to Pull Over” preached by Dr. James MacDonald on March 6-7, 2010 at Harvest Bible Chapel. HarvestBibleChapel.org

2. _____ result in ill-fated, short-lived achievements.

3. God remains _____

Conclusion:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 8-30-15

Questions adapted from Daniel: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 2013, pp. 117-127; Douglas Connelly, Daniel, Spiritual Living in a Secular World, Intersarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 2000, pp. 42-45; John Lennox, Against the Flow: The inspiration of Daniel in an Age of Relativism, Monarch Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 2015, p. 408..

Getting Started:

1. How would you respond to someone who dismissed the Bible's warnings on the basis that people's predictions of the end of the world have repeatedly been proved wrong in the past?

Digging Deeper:

2. Read Daniel 11:2-35. As you read, notice all the places where the simple word "but" is used and the statements that are introduced there. What pattern do you find, and what does it reveal about the effectiveness of worldly rulers in plotting their schemes?

3. Daniel 11:5-35 is concerned with the conflict between two divisions of the Greek empire: the Syrian Seleucid family ("the king of the North") and the Egyptian Ptolemies ("the king of the South"). The focus eventually lands on a man we have met before – Antiochus Epiphanes. Daniel 11:21-24 describes his persecution of the people of Israel who had regathered in Palestine after the exile in Babylon. Summarize Antiochus' character and methods of operation from these verses.

4. Antiochus invaded Egypt the first time with relative success (11:25-28). The second time he met some opposition and in his frustration vented his anger on "the holy covenant," the Jewish religion (11:29-31). What do you learn from 11:32-35 about why God allows genuine believers to suffer under the hand of a godless tyrant?
5. As with the predictions in Daniel 8, the "selective yet detailed overview of the flow of history" here in Daniel 11 is regarded by "some scholars ... as a 'prophecy after the fact' that was actually written later than the events in the mid-second century B.C. because of the detail and accuracy of its predictions" (*ESV Study Bible* [Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2008], at Daniel 11:2-45). But passages such as Isaiah 41:21-27, 44:6-7, 46:8-11, and 48:3-8 review the Lord's forthright assertions of his ability to foretell events. What personally convinces you that these prophesied events in the book of Daniel were indeed written "before the fact"? What do your beliefs about this have to say concerning your view of God, and why is this important?