

Daniel



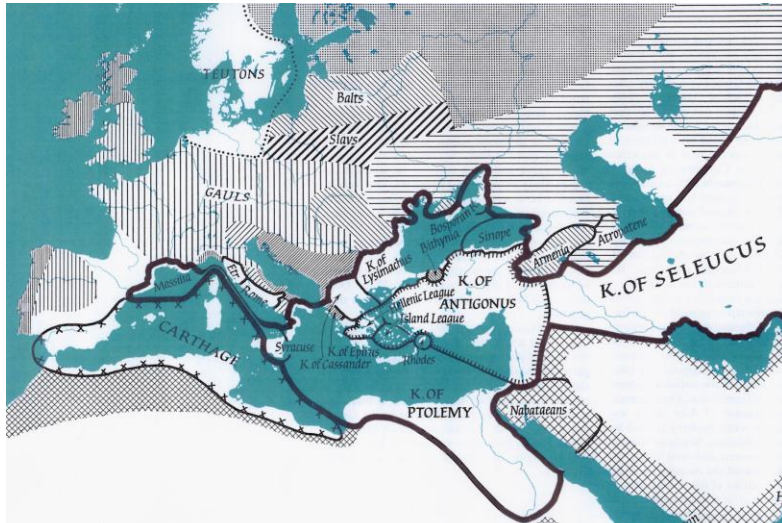
Lesson 20-The Prophetic Magnifying Glass

Focus: Daniel 11:1-22

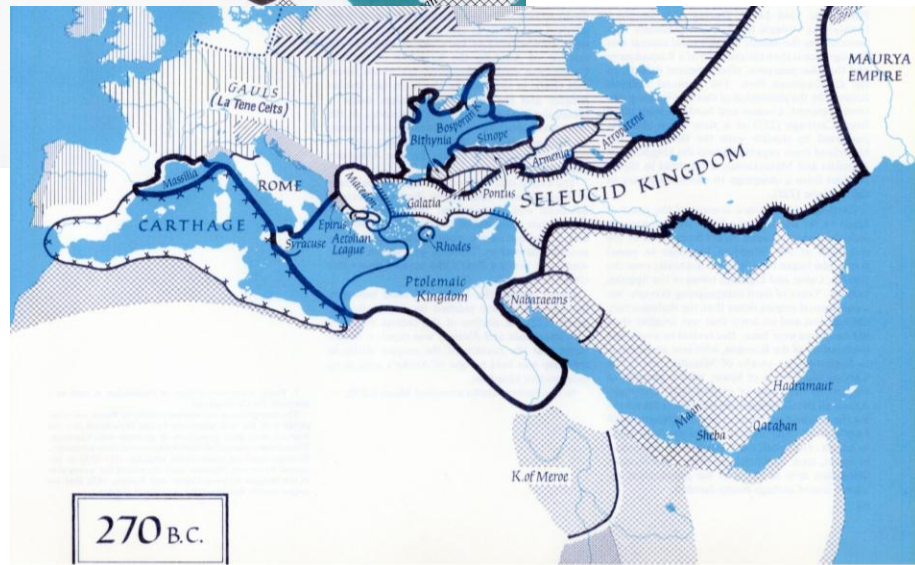
- ❖ In the “first year of Darius” (538 BC), Daniel’s interpreting angel (Gabriel) was standing to strengthen Darius and the Median Empire, he (Gabriel) explains (v.1)
 - This would have been the same exact year (commenting only on verse 1) when Daniel had received the vision of Daniel 9 (See Dan. 9:1). **This vision of chapter 11 however was being given “In the third year of Cyrus King of Persia...” (Dan. 10:1; 533 BC).** The Vision explained in Daniel 11 is a continuation of the scene from chapter 10. The events seen in this one vision continue all the way until the end of the book (ch.12 v. 13). However, **the vision sequence of events continues only from chapter 11:1 to 12:3.**
- ❖ Let’s get an overview of this vision before we begin looking at some of the details. This vision basically just magnifies the details of the prophecy nation sequence already given from chapters 2, 7, and 8. These prior chapters gave fewer details (each one with increasing detail). Daniel 11 gives the most in depth detail of the entire prophecy sequence.
 - Starting with **Persia (v.2)** (which was in power during the time this vision was given)
 - **Greece comes next! (v.3,4).** Verse 4 describes the break-up of the Greek Empire after the death of Alexander the Great in 323 BC. It is divided up towards the “**four winds**” and given to his four generals: Lysimachus, Cassandar, Ptolemy, and Seleucus. It was “**not [given] to his posterity [Children]**” because he had none to give it to. After his death there was a posthumous son of his, named Aegus...supposedly a son born to him shortly after his death. The baby was put to death though. (as w/Dan.7:6 and 8:8)
 - Verses 5 to 15 describe tensions and battles between the Divided Greek Kingdoms. Focused especially on the **Kingdom of the North (Seleucid; Seleucus/Antiochus) and the Kingdom of the South (Ptolemy; Egypt).** The time frame here continues until 168 BC when the Roman Empire took over.
 - **Rome comes in at verse 16.** They charged at the Greeks from the “...East” (Dan. 8:9). Rome shattered and broke all those smaller Greek kingdoms apart (as foretold in Dan. 2:40 and 7:7,19,23). It was the iron Kingdom. They also moved towards the “...pleasant land [Jerusalem]” (Dan. 8:9) and took control of it. They “consumed” the holy land and remained in power of it throughout the days of Jesus Christ.
 - (verses 17 to 19 continue to describe the detail of some of Rome’s leaders) **Verses 20 to 22** describe the **times of Jesus Christ/Messiah** (when He was going to be here). “...raiser of taxes” (v.20) refers to Julius Caesar (when Jesus was a baby...Luke 2:1). **Verse 22** describes how Rome stood up against “...**the Prince of the Covenant [Jesus].**” (See also Dan. 8:11,25; 9:25,27).
 - **Verses 23 to 30** bring us from the days after Jesus Christ to the time of Constantine (4th Century Rome, mid 300s AD—v.30 especially). **V.30-32** tells about the corruption of the Dark Ages between the Roman government and the Roman church. It tells how the gospel covenant through Jesus Christ was polluted by church and state compromises.
 - **V.32 to 35 tells us about** the Reformers of the middle ages (who tried to keep the Christian faith pure) up to 1798 AD. Verses 36 to 45 describe about the corruption and final workings of the Roman Church/State power—more last day events (which Revelation elaborates on).

- **The prophecy ends with Michael, our “great Prince” standing up and finishing the work of the Heavenly Judgment. He then returns for His people (Second Coming of Jesus Christ), at which time there is a resurrection of the saints, the faithful followers of God (Daniel 12:1,2; See also 1 Thessalonians 4:16,17)**

Maps During the time of the Divided Greek Empire (Daniel 11:4-15): Spanning from 323 BC (Death of Alexander the Great) to 168 BC, when the Roman Empire finally took over. The big “**kingdom of the North**” would have been the Seleucids, while the “**Kingdom of the South**” would have been Ptolemy.



301 B.C.



270 B.C.

Question (s) for the Heart:

Is it your desire to trust the details of your life into the hands of Jesus Christ? _____ He knows every detail of history before it ever happens. Do you believe you can trust the details of your life into his hands? _____ “Casting all your cares upon Him, for He cares for you...” (1 Peter 5:7). Will you choose today to be ready for Jesus’ soon coming? _____ It’s coming just as surely as every other detail of History.