

Daniel



Lesson 24-Final World-Dominating Powers and Christ's Return **Focus: Daniel 11:41-45**

❖ What Final events are portrayed in the last five verses in Daniel 11? (v.41-45)

- *These verses portray events that would occur between the captivity of the Papal power (end of the 1260 years, 1798, see v.40), and the Second coming of Jesus (See Dan. 12:1) when God's people are delivered. **These are describing last day events which have not all occurred yet!***
- **(v.41)** "He," referring to the Papal power who received damage in 1798, will "...enter into the glorious land" (Jerusalem). The Bible tells us, the "Deadly (fatal) wound" of this religious/political power would heal sometime later in history after it was received in 1798 (Rev. 13:3) "...and all the world wondered after the Beast..." (we can see such a fact noted in Dan.2:41,42 as well).
- **(v.41,42)** "...He shall stretch forth his hand upon the countries...Egypt shall not escape." This could be a reference to the Pope's involvement with the UN meetings today. He exerts a power and an influence over nearly all the countries of the world in some way. **Also, it would describe his dominating role in the Final world Crisis before Jesus Returns** (mentioned in Revelation 13). **Note:** If somehow verses 41 and 42 were still referring to Napoleon's France (since verse 40, King of the North), then those two verses would have been fulfilled between 1798 and June of 1815 as Napoleon moved his armies to attack so many nations, including Egypt, and even entering into the holy land—Jerusalem. **However, in the larger scope, and in the light of Revelation's prophesies, it seems more likely this portion of the prophetic page is describing the works of the Papal power in the last days (after 1798, and after their regained strength and power).** We must here consider also that the central "him" of v.40 was not the King of the North, nor of the South, but rather the character being persecuted between them. Revelation of course predicted his recovery from this wound (Rev. 13:3). Furthermore, when this power ("he") "comes to an end" (v.45), then it is "...at that time" (Dan. 12:1) that Michael stands up, the saints are delivered, and the resurrection takes place. Therefore, since the French power under Napoleon lost his power in 1815, and neither Christ's return, nor the resurrection occurred "...at that time" then it is very safe and fair to conclude that the "he" in v.41-45 is descriptive of the papal power after the healing of their wound from 1798, as they regain prominence in world events and play a direct role in last day political and religious matters (such as we see pointed out in Revelation 13).
- **(v.43)** He is rich and powerful. The poor African countries will desire from him. **"But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver."** The Final Crisis of Revelation 13 tells us those who do not "worship the Beast, or receive his mark..." will not be able to buy or sell (Rev. 13:16,17).
- **(v.44,45)** "Tidings out of the East and of the North trouble him..." He gets **very angry** and goes out **"to destroy"** and to take away many lives [of God's people]. During the final Crisis of Revelation 13 the Beast power says those who don't "worship the image of the beast should be killed" (Rev. 13:15). (on v.45)—It looks like he finally moves his capital from the city of Rome to the city of Jerusalem. **"Yet, he shall come to his end, and none shall help him"** (v.45). Revelation 17 describes the final events of this little power just before Jesus brings him to an end (Rev. 17:12-14, 18). The **"tidings"** are a disturbing message to him (the 3 angels' messages of Rev. 14:6-12; Rev. 7:1-3; Rev. 18:1-5). The East and the North are God's directions. Jesus comes from the "east" (Matt. 24:27). "...in the sides of the north" (Isaiah 14:13) is the throne of God—these are messages from heaven that disturb this corrupt power and make him want to fight and persecute angrily.

❖ How will this power exert its political and economic influences over the countries of the world? (as in v.42,43) (See Revelation 13:11-18)

- We saw in our last couple lessons how **the first beast of Revelation 13 was the Papal power or “Little Horn,” the Roman church/state power who ruled and persecuted for 1260 years until 1798 AD. (ref. Rev. 13:1-10). He received a “deadly wound” but later that would be healed (v.3). Verses 9 and 10 portray him going into captivity in the year 1798. Around this time, John sees a SECOND BEAST (Kingdom/nation) coming up! How can we identify this power? See below...**
- (1) **Nation comes to power around 1798 AD** (as the Papacy is being led into captivity)
- (2) **It comes to power in a little populated area of the earth** (the “earth” is the opposite of the “sea” which represents many nations, languages, and peoples (like you’d have in Europe.) So, this nation comes to power where the population is relatively small)
- (3) **It has two governing principles (horns) which are similar to the Christian principles Christ (the Lamb) gave us.** Unlike the “horns” on the first Beast of Revelation 13 these ones do not have “crowns” on them. They do not represent kingdoms in the strictest sense. Instead, they represent the separation of two governing powers that Jesus—the Lamb—taught us about. **“Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s” (Matthew 22:21).** Jesus taught that the Church should be separated from the State. “Caesar” (Rome), or the State, has no right to be mixed with the “church” of God. So, this nation has “two horns like a Lamb.” The United States constitution, Bill of Rights, Amendment One says, *“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;”* The same Amendment also says the government is not to restrict the *“freedom of speech, or of the press.”* Congress is not supposed to establish or declare a state sponsored religion. Neither are they to stop others from practicing their religion. The US was built on the Christian principles of the separation of church and State. Early leaders in the US knew this was greatly important because many had just come away from the religious intolerance and bloodshed that had been in Europe for so many centuries.
- (4) **This nation is youthful “like a lamb”** A lamb is a young sheep. This nation would come to power as a new (emerging) nation. It would not be an old nation that took over another.
- (5) **It would have world-wide influence** in the last days of earth’s history (v.14,16)
- ❖ **The only nation that fits all five of these points is the United States of America.** It declared independence from Britain in 1776 (right around 1798). It was still very young at this time. Secondly, it came up in a very sparsely (little) populated area of the world. Third, it followed the two governing principles of Christ—the separation of church and state. Fourthly, it was a very young nation. Never had such a nation existed before.
- ❖ **But, how does the Bible say this nation will begin to change its character? (v.11)** “It spoke like the _____” This nation will start to speak like the “dragon” or Satan (Rev. 12:9). It will start to abandon its earlier “lamblike” principles. It will work just like the “dragon” or Satan worked through the first Beast of Revelation 13 (the Roman church/state) during the Dark ages (see Rev. 13:2—the dragon gave him his power).
- ❖ **How does a nation speak (or, make its will known to others)? _____** That’s right. It makes Laws to tell people how or what they should be doing. The US will abandon its early laws about the separation of church and state. Instead, it will enforce the principles of the Devil and the Roman church—the combining of church and state. Already, Americans have been losing their freedoms in the name of “security” for the greater good. The freedom of speech has been greatly limited. It’s only a matter of time before the rest of the 1st Amendment is brushed aside. **This nation will start telling people who and how to worship (v.12). And it will unite or link its efforts with those of the “first beast” (the Roman church).** We are on the verge of these events happening. In the 1990’s it was the Vatican leaders and the US working together that were attributed with the fall of communist Russia. Since Pope John Paul II and now with Pope Benedict XVI the papal church has been receiving much more attention from the US than at any other time in History (even more than when Kennedy—a catholic—was the US president). **This nation influences the whole world. It compels people to give their worship to the Roman church by death threats, miracles, and by taking control of people’s ability to buy and sell (v.13-17). God’s Laws are attacked again (Rom. 6:16; Deut. 6:6,8)**
- ❖ **God’s last day message (and messengers) fly completely in the face of this Crisis and false governing system (Rev. 14:6-12; 18:1-5)** They don’t like it (as Daniel 11:44 tells us). Note: Last day “Babylon” mentioned here is the spiritually confusing religious and political system caused through the Roman power (the Mother of harlots—Rev. 17:5), and her unfaithful daughter churches.

Question (s) for the Heart:

Will you choose to be among the faithful “saints” in the last days who “...keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus”? _____ (including the 4th commandment—the 7th day Sabbath).