Our GREAT God JESUS CHRIST be praised.

Welcome to the continuation of the Book of Daniel. As we saw in the previous chapter, Daniel received a vision through the angel Gabriel while standing beside the River Hiddekel (Tigris), recorded in Daniel chapter 10. Chapters 11 and 12 continue the same conversation between Gabriel and Daniel.

After Daniel humbled himself before God through fasting and prayer, God revealed to him events that would occur both in his historical period and in the end times, with greater detail.

> *Daniel 10:12 (NKJV)*
> *“Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard.”*

This shows an important theological principle: revelation follows humility and prayer.

Daniel 11:1–2 — The Persian Kings

> *Daniel 11:2 (NKJV)*
> *“Behold, three more kings will arise in Persia, and the fourth shall be far richer than them all…”*

Gabriel explains that three kings would arise in Persia, followed by a fourth stronger and wealthier than the others.

Historically, after King Cyrus came several Persian rulers, and the fourth widely identified ruler is Ahasuerus (Xerxes I), the king mentioned in the Book of Esther, who ruled from India to Cush over 127 provinces.

> *Esther 1:1 (NKJV)*
> *“This is what happened during the time of Xerxes, the Xerxes who ruled over 127 provinces stretching from India to Cush.”*

His military conflict with Greece eventually led to Persia’s

downfall and the rise of the Greek Empire.

Daniel 11:3–4 — Alexander the Great

> *Daniel 11:3–4 (NKJV)*
> *“Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion...”*

The “mighty king” refers to Alexander the Great, who conquered Persia rapidly.

The prophecy states his kingdom would be divided and not inherited by his descendants. Historically, Alexander died at age 32, and his empire was divided among four generals — fulfilling the prophecy precisely.

This connects with Daniel’s earlier vision:

> *Daniel 8:21–22 (NKJV) — the great horn broken and replaced by four kingdoms.*

Theological Insight:
God rules over world empires; history unfolds according to divine sovereignty.

Daniel 11:5 — The Kings of the North and South

After Alexander’s empire divided:

- South (Egypt) — ruled by the Ptolemies
- North (Syria region) — ruled by the Seleucids

Seleucus eventually became stronger than Ptolemy, fulfilling the prophecy that one ruler would gain greater dominion.

Daniel 11:6 — Political Marriage and Betrayal

A political alliance occurred through marriage between Berenice (daughter of the southern king) and the northern king Antiochus II.

The prophecy foretold betrayal and death — which history

confirms when Berenice and her child were murdered after political intrigue.

Theological Lesson:
Human alliances without righteousness cannot secure lasting peace.

> *Psalm 146:3 (NKJV)*
> *“Do not put your trust in princes, nor in a son of man, in whom there is no help.”*

Daniel 11:7–9 — Revenge and War

Berenice’s brother, Ptolemy III, attacked the northern kingdom and carried treasures back to Egypt, exactly as prophesied.

This demonstrates the remarkable historical precision of biblical prophecy.

Daniel 11:10–12 — Continuing Wars

Successive wars followed between the northern and southern kingdoms. Victory temporarily favored the South at the Battle of Raphia (217 BC).

Yet pride followed victory:

> *Daniel 11:12 (NKJV)*
> *“His heart shall be lifted up…”*

Theological Insight:
Victory without humility leads to spiritual downfall.

> *Proverbs 16:18 (NKJV)*
> *“Pride goes before destruction.”*

Daniel 11:13–16 — Antiochus III (“The Great”)

Antiochus III defeated Egypt and gained control over the “Glorious Land” (Israel).

Some Jews supported him, unknowingly paving the way for later persecution.

Spiritual Principle:
God’s people must discern alliances carefully.

Daniel 11:17–19 — Failed Strategy and Roman Defeat

Antiochus III gave his daughter Cleopatra in marriage hoping to control Egypt, but the plan failed.

Later, Roman forces defeated him, fulfilling prophecy that his disgrace would return upon himself.

Daniel 11:20 — A Taxing King

Seleucus IV imposed heavy taxation and died shortly afterward,

just as foretold.

Daniel 11:21 — Antiochus IV Epiphanes

> *Daniel 11:21 (NKJV)*
> *“A vile person shall arise…”*

This refers to Antiochus IV Epiphanes, who gained power through deception and flattery rather than rightful succession.

He becomes a prophetic type (foreshadow) of the future Antichrist.

Daniel 11:22–35 — Persecution and the Abomination

Antiochus attacked Jerusalem, desecrated the temple, and stopped daily sacrifices, placing a pagan image (Zeus) inside the temple.

> *Daniel 11:31 (NKJV)*
> *“They shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.”*

Jesus later referenced this prophecy as having a future fulfillment:

> *Matthew 24:15 (NKJV)*
> *“When you see the ‘abomination of desolation’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet…”*

This shows dual fulfillment:

1. Historical (Antiochus IV)
2. Future (end-time Antichrist)

Antiochus as a Type of the Antichrist

Paul describes a similar figure:

> *2 Thessalonians 2:3–4 (NKJV)*
> *“...the man of sin... who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God...”*

Theologically, Antiochus serves as a shadow or prototype of the final rebellious world ruler.

Daniel 11:36–45 — The Self-Exalting King

The prophecy shifts toward an ultimate end-time ruler characterized by:

- Self-exaltation
- Blasphemy against God
- Political domination
- Sudden destruction

> *Daniel 11:45 (NKJV)*
> *“Yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him.”*

This parallels Revelation’s judgment imagery:

> *Revelation 18:8 (NKJV)*
> *“Her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine.”*

Purpose of the Revelation to Daniel

Gabriel revealed these events to help Daniel understand God’s sovereign plan across history.

Prophecy strengthens faith by showing that:

- God controls kingdoms.
- Evil has a limited time.
- Final victory belongs to God.

> *Isaiah 46:10 (NKJV)*
> *“Declaring the end from the beginning.”*

Application for Believers Today

Just as Daniel sought understanding through prayer, believers today must seek spiritual discernment.

Christ spoke of seven churches in:

- Revelation chapters 2–3

These represent spiritual conditions within the Church across history and warn believers to remain faithful.

Call to Holiness

> *Hebrews 12:14 (NKJV)*
> *“Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.”*

The central message is preparation for Christ’s return.

> *Matthew 24:44 (NKJV)*
> *“Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”*

Conclusion

Daniel 11 demonstrates:

- The accuracy of biblical prophecy
- God’s sovereignty over world history
- The rise and fall of empires under divine authority
- A prophetic preview of end-time deception
- The call for believers to live in holiness and readiness

Are you prepared for the Second Coming of Christ?

May God bless you.

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