

The Worst Will Precede the Best (Daniel 11:36–12:3)

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Water of Life Bible Class

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INTRODUCTION

HOW DO WE KNOW THAT 11:36-45 (IN 2020) IS STILL FUTURE?

Clue 1: Daniel 11:35 mentions “until the time of the end”

Clue 2: Daniel 11:2-35 predicted what Persian/Greek kings up to 164 BC would do.
Daniel 11:36-45 does not describe events that have yet happened.

In light of Daniel 2, 7, 8, and 9 predicting the yet-future 70th heptad, it is reasonable to regard Daniel 11:36–12:3 as still prophetic in 2020.

Clue 3: The focus of Daniel 2, 7, and (particularly) 9 is upon, “What is the final outcome?”
Daniel 12:4-13 views the final outcome: resurrection to the millennium or to judgment.
It is logical, then, that Daniel 11:36–12:3 would look at the next-to-the-final outcome

Clue 4: Daniel 12:1a uses words that Jesus (Matt 24:21) links to the Great Trib.

Clue 5: Daniel 12:1a says “at that time,” not “sometime later.”

Clue 6: Daniel 12:21b-2 speak of resurrections.

THIS SECTION DOES NOT PRESENT FURTHER EXPLOITS OF ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES

The king of the north will conquer Egypt, Libya, and Ethiopia (11:42b-43).

Rome had pushed his predecessor (Antiochus III) from Asia Minor/Greece (11:18)

Rome prevented Antiochus Epiphanes from having any such victories. Cf. 11:29-30.

PERTINENT PERSONAGES

The king [of the north] (Dan 11:36) = the man of sin (2 Thess 2:3) = the sea beast (Rev 13:4)
He will rule the same area as the Seleucids. Ethnically, he will be Assyrian (Micah 5:6)

The king of the south [Egypt] (Dan 11:40). He would be Egyptian, a Gentile.

The Antichrist (not mentioned here). 1 John 2:18, 22; 4:1, 3; 2 John 7 seem to link present-time antichrists to the many false prophets now in circulation. The analogy that this suggests is:

As many antichrists today = today's many false prophets,

so the Antichrist of the tribulation = the false prophet of the tribulation

Possible Relationship between the Blasphemous False Prophet and the Antichrist

Rev 13:1-10 describes a beast coming from the sea

Rev 13:11-18 describes a beast coming from the land

The sea in Isa 60:5; Jer 6:22-23; Ezekiel 26:3; Dan 7:2-3; Rev 17:15 = Gentiles

The land in Rev 13:11 contrasts with the sea. If sea = Gentiles, land = Israel.

EXPOSITION

THE KING'S BLASPHEMIES (11:36-39)

The king will blasphemously exalt himself above all gods & God, til God's wrath comes (11:36)

He will reject his fathers' god(s) [*elohim*], women, and any god, but will exalt himself (11:37)

Options for desire of women:

He is _____ or _____.

The king will honor with his wealth [Satan], a god of fortresses (11:38)

Options for *god of fortresses [protections]* and my take on the phrase.

The king's foreign god will enable him to conquer lands as he honors his god (11:39)

THE KING'S CONQUESTS (11:40-45)

Observations on the timetable (this is prior to the midpoint of the tribulation)

Other futurists writers wrongly assume that this follows the gathering at Armageddon

Why this must be prior

Seeing the red herring

Egypt's king will attack the king of the north; the latter will win decisively (11:40)

The king of the north also passes through Israel but not Jordan (11:41)

Israel is not attacked yet. The covenant of Dan 9:27 may allow this ally to pass through.

He will conquer Egypt (and its wealth) and much of North Africa (11:42-43)

Problems to the northeast cause the king to move forces there and fight (11:44)

The king will headquarter between the Med/Dead Seas, near the Temple Mount (11:45a)

The king will also meet his end there [3½ years later] (11:45b)

RESURRECTIONS OF BELIEVERS & UNBELIEVERS WILL FOLLOW THE GREAT TRIBULATION (12:1-3)

The great tribulation will begin (12:1a)

[3½ years] later tribulation saints will be resurrected (12:1b-2a)

Unbelievers will be resurrected to abhorrence [1000 years later] (12:2b)

Daniel must know that unbelievers will be judged. The timing is unspecified.

Wise and evangelistic believers will receive special rewards at their resurrection (12:3)

CONCLUSION

