DANIEL: Life in the Present; Hope for Our Future

<u>Chapter 11</u> Who is the AntiChrist to Come?

(Daniel 11:35-45; Rev. 13:1-18; Matthew 24:15-22; Rev. 19:11-21) **Review**: Dan. 10 the angel appears to Daniel; 3 times he faints & angel restores him 3x. Grand Vision of the end Vision is about Persian & Grecian empires – partial fulfilment of prophecies = fulfilled in Antichrist. -<u>So why are we spending so much time on the AntiChrist?</u> Because Daniel devotes four whole chapters to him. = Obviously, God wants discerning Believers to know and understand what will take place in the End Times.

Let's study: -Who is he? His rise to Power. And his ultimate Demise.

Daniel 11:1-35 (135 Prophetic statements about Persian and Grecian Gentile world powers: Culminating with Antiochus Ephiphanes (as a foreshadowing of the Anti-Christ who is to come at the end of the age)

³⁵ Some of withose who have insight will fall, in order to refine, purge and make them wipure until the end time; because *it is* still *to come* at the appointed time. ³⁶ "Then the king will do as he pleases, and he will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will speak immonstrous things against the God of gods; and he will prosper until the indignation is finished, for that which is decreed will be done.³⁷ He will show no regard for the imgods of his fathers [Jewish?] or for the desire of women [single? Homosexual?], nor will he show regard for any *other* god [atheistic]; for he will magnify himself above *them* all [declares himself to be god]. ³⁸ But iminstead he will honor a god of fortresses, [military might] a god whom his fathers did not know; he will honor *him* with gold, silver, costly stones and treasures.³⁹ He will take action against the strongest of fortresses with *the help of* a foreign god; he will give great honor to imthose who acknowledge *him* and will cause them to rule over the many, and will parcel out land for a price.

⁴⁰ "<u>At the end time</u> the king of the South will collide with him, and the king of the North will storm against him with chariots, with horsemen and with many ships; and he will enter countries, overflow *them* and pass through. ⁴¹ He will also enter the Beautiful Land, and many *countries* will fall; but these will be rescued out of his hand: Edom, Moab and the foremost of the sons of Ammon. ⁴² Then he will stretch out his hand against *other* countries, and the land of Egypt will not escape. ⁴³ But he will Bigain control over the hidden treasures of gold and silver and over all the precious things of Egypt; and Libyans and Ethiopians *will follow* at his Bels. ⁴⁴ But rumors from the East (China?) and from the North (Russia?) will disturb him, and he will go forth with great wrath to destroy and Bannihilate many. ⁴⁵ He will pitch the tents of his royal pavilion between the seas and the beautiful Holy Mountain; yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him."

Revelation 13:1-18: = symbolic/figurative language which represents something REAL! Dragon(satan); Beast (antichrist) "And the dragon [satan] stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast [antichrist] coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names. [10 horns = 10 powerful countries in alliance – 10 Nation European Union Alliance; the antichrist overthrows three of the ten, = 7 heads (=7 presidents/kings/prime ministers – the antichrist is the 8th); 10 diadems = 10 victorious crowns of success for these countries; blasphemous names = anti-god rhetoric.] ² And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like *those* of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority. ³ I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and *followed* after the beast;⁴ they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saving, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?" ⁵ There was given to him a mouth speaking warrogant words and blasphemies, and **authority to act for forty-two months** [3.5] years= unrestrained, unleashed] was given to him. ⁶ And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme God's name and His tabernacle, *that is*, those who adwell in heaven. ⁷ It was also given to him to make war with the esaints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him. ⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him, *everyone* whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain. ⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear. ¹⁰ If anyone *is destined* for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.

¹¹Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth [False Prophet]; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon. ¹² He exercises all the authority of the first beast win his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. ¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. ¹⁴ And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform win the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who *had the wound of the sword and has come to life. ¹⁵ And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even "speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed. ¹⁶ And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, wito be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, ¹⁷ and *he provides* that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, *either* the name of the beast or the number of his name. ¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of man. 3 is the number of completion. 3 6's (666) = the ultimate "man" (not God). 7 is number of perfection.

Who is the AntiChrist? Unholy trinity (Satan/Dragon; Beast/AntiChrist; & False Prophet)

- 1. He will receive power, throne, & authority from satan (Rev. 13:2)
- 2. He will be a world ruler; his purpose is world conquest; he will control huge armies (Rev. 6:2; 19:19)
- 3. He will be the ultimate blasphemer against God (Rev. 13:5)
- 4. He will have authority over & deceive the nations for 3.5 yrs. Make a peace treaty with Israel & allow sacrifices. He will break the treaty at the 3.5 year point, signaling the Great Tribulation (Dan. 9:27; Rev. 13:7)
- 5. He will declare himself as the LAW, and will put himself above all else on earth (Dan. 11:37; 2 Thess. 2:3-10)
- 6. He will proclaim himself to be God and demand that his image is worshipped (2 Th. 2:4; Rev. 13:14; Jn 5:43)
- 7. He will be murdered and stage a miraculous resurrection for the whole world to see (Rev. 13:3, 12)

8. He will make war against the Jews when he breaks the treaty with Israel – defiles the temple at 3.5yr point: Matthew 24:15-22 "Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶ then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. ¹⁸ Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. ¹⁹ But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ²⁰ But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. ²¹ For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. ²² Unless those days had been cut short, no whife would have been saved; but for the sake of the welect those days will be cut short."

9. He will make war against Christians (Rev. 6:9-11; 7:13-14; 13:7; Mt. 24:9) "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name."

Rev. 20:4 ""Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years"

10. A False Prophet will rise to serve him and make the world worship him (Rev. 13:11-18)

His rise to power: when he receives his power, after his false resurrection he has one goal: <u>have the world worship him</u> <u>Three great obstacles will stand in the antichrist's way</u>: (after the Church is raptured away – 2 Thess. 2:7)

1. The Temple worship & Jews (Rev. 11:1-2)

2. The Two Witnesses (Rev. 11:7)

3. 1 World Ecumenical Religion Rev. 17:16 (Babylon = religious/economic center) vs. (political/military) of AC = The Antichrist will overthrow all three at the midpoint of the Tribulation (3.5yrs in)

The AntiChrist's demise = Jesus will kill the Antichrist:

2 Thess. 2:8 "Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His ncoming;"

Rev. 19:11-21 "And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes *are* a flame of fire, and on His

head *are* many diadems; and He has a name written *on Him* which no one knows except Himself. ¹³ *He is* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white *and* clean, were following Him on white horses. ¹⁵ From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will I rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the I wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. ¹⁶ And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God, ¹⁸ so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of all commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great."

¹⁹ And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. "And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs win his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with "brimstone. ²¹ And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh."

What's our takeaway?

- The Antichrist will be a real person in the end-times and will work to have the rest of the world reject the One True God and have the world worship the devil.
- God, in His sovereign purpose, uses the devil (and by extension the antichrist) to accomplish the purpose of sealing the unbelieving hearts to condemn themselves; 2 Thess. 2:9-14 "The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie,¹⁰ and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. ¹¹ For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie ¹² and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness."
- The devil and the antichrist who just want to be God themselves will be killed and judged as creatures of God's wrath. Their end is swift and sure. = We know how the story ends. He is bully that dies!

Application:

-Pride is the sin that causes us to make ourselves out as God – to be the center of our own universe. Pride is what had lucifer cast out of heaven, - so how is your pride? The opp. Is Humility. Lowering yourself & being dependent on the presence of God for your EVERYTHING!!

1 John 2:22-23 "Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a person is the antichrist denying the Father and the Son. ²³ <u>No one who denies the Son has the Father</u>; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also."

- Do you affirm that Jesus Christ is Lord, that He is God, and that He is your lord?
- Does your life look like you deny the Lord by how you live?? Does your life negate what you say you believe?