

"The Shape of Things to Come"

An in-depth Study of the Book of Daniel Chapter 11

Subject: "Wars and rumours of wars"

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5th, 1989

1. In this chapter we have four major periods dealt with. In each the King of the North comes down to fight the King of the South. On the way through he poses a threat to Israel, Jerusalem and the Temple of God. Each time when it seems to be the end, it isn't. It is only in the fourth period that the time of the end comes. The practical lesson is that we need to be cautious when we read the times.
2. Some ugly wars of the past:
 - (a) The conflicts of the Medo-Persian Empire (11:2).
 - (b) The conflicts of Alexander the Great (11:3).
 - (c) The conflicts between Ptolemies and the Seleucids (11;5-35).
3. Some significant wars in the future (11;36-12;1):
 - (a) The Antichrist's style. He will do as he pleases, set himself up as the Lord of Lord's and the sole object of people's worship. He will not desire female affection and pour all his resources into military programmes (11;36-39).
 - (b) The Antichrist's defeat. While residing in Israel the King of the North will storm against him and the King of the South will collide with him. (11;40). The army of the North will defeat many countries and invade Israel but will fail to capture the Antichrist but continue its conquest into N.E. Africa (11;41-43). After hearing rumours he will regroup and prepare for battle between the seas i.e. the Mediterranean Sea and the Dead Sea and Mount Moriah (11;44-45). The ensuing battle of Armageddon will be a victory for Christ and the heavenly hosts and the devastation will be so great that cities will be levelled and entire geographic areas will be destroyed (Rev. 16;16-20;19;11-21;Dan 12;1).
4. Realising the end is approaching we should seek to constantly live godly lives and seek to tell others of the Lord Jesus. Only two things will last forever; people and God's Word. Are we investing our lives in people and in the Word of God (2 Peter 3;3-11)?

"No man will or can be a match for the Antichrist. It is tremendously comforting to realise that the Lord will destroy him with the brightness of His coming and the Lord shall be king over all the earth and in that day there will be one Lord and His name one. With such a Lord you need not be afraid of anything (2 Thess. 2;8; Zech. 14;9).

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