

A Study of the Book of Daniel

Daniel's Final Climax

Chapter 11

Introduction: Chapter 11 provides an outline, an overview of a vast sweep of prophecy. Here Gabriel gives to Daniel a detailed history from the time of Darius the Mede, through the time of Christ's crucifixion in Daniel 11:22, and covering events during the time of the end. This is a repeat and enlargement of the prophecies that we have already looked at from Daniel chapters 2, 7, and 8.

The Medo-Persian Empire 539-331 B.C.

Daniel 11:1, 2 (*Arms & Chest of Silver-Daniel 2 / Bear -Daniel 7 / Ram -Daniel 8*)

*"Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him. And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, **there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all:** and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia."*

Gabriel declares that he was there working with King Darius the Mede, the initial ruler in Medo-Persia. However, at the time of this vision King Cyrus is now ruler. Gabriel informs Daniel that there will be three more kings in Persia, followed by a fourth who will be far richer and will "*stir up all against the realm of Grecia.*"

King Cyrus was reigning at the time of the vision. History tells us the next three kings of Persia were **Cambyses II** (530-522 BC), **Bardiya** (522) and **Darius I** (522-486 BC). Cyrus and Darius I, issued the first two decrees to rebuild the Temple. The fourth king was **Xerxes** (486-465 BC) known in the Bible as Ahasuerus, the husband of Queen Esther. Xerxes the great was by far the richest king to rule Persia. Something else to note, is that Xerxes was not the last Persian king, but Gabriel moves on to the next kingdom.

The beginning of the Grecian Empire 331-168 B.C.

Daniel 11:3, 4 (*Belly & Thighs of Brass-Daniel 2 / Leopard -Daniel 7 / He-Goat -Daniel 8*)

*"And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will. And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall **be divided toward four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion** which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those."*

Next, the "*mighty king*" that arose was Alexander the Great of Greece. He led Greece to world supremacy the quickest of any kingdom, paralleled by the Leopard with four wings from Daniel chapter 7. At the age of 32, Alexander the Great got sick with a fever, after a drinking binge, and died in June of 323 B.C. After the death of Alexander, there was civil unrest for the next twenty years, as there was a power struggle to gain control of his kingdom. Finally, in 301 B.C. After the battle of Ipsus, the territory was divided up into four parts, in which his four generals, Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy, and Seleucus, ruled in his place. Thus, Alexander's kingdom was given to "*others*" who were not of "*his posterity.*" It should also be noted that the kingdom of Greece would never again be as strong as it was during Alexander's day. In other words, "*Nor according to his dominion.*"

Key Point:

Cassander controlled Macedonia and Greece, **Lysimachus** controlled eastward to Thrace and Asia Minor, **Seleucus** founded the Seleucid Empire that controlled the area of old Syria eastward to the Indus River, and **Ptolemy** founded the Ptolemaic Empire of Egypt.

Daniel 11:5

*"And the **king of the south** shall be strong, and **one of his princes**; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion."*

The terms “King of the North” and “King of the South” appear frequently in Daniel 11. They designate those countries or kingdoms which would come through Palestine, the dwelling place of God’s people, from the north or south. Here the angel portrays God’s people caught between the great struggles of opposing powers that Satan would manipulate for his own ends. In verse 5, Ptolemy I Soter (323-280 BC) was strong right from the start. The prince who would become stronger was Seleucus I Nicator, who was driven out of the north by Antigonus I Monophthalmus, who founded the Macedonian dynasty of the Antigonids (306–168 BC), becoming king in 306. Antigonus was one of Alexander’s former generals that controlled Syria. He was trying to reunite Alexander’s kingdom, but, Ptolemy, Cassander, Lysimachus, and Seleucus allied together against him. Seleucus I Nicator fled to Egypt where he was helped by Ptolemy I Soter. Outfitted with another army from Ptolemy, Seleucus eventually retook the Seleucid empire. This made him the “King of the North” and master of most of Alexander’s original empire.

Daniel 11:6

*"And in the end of years they shall join themselves together; **for the king's daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement**: but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm: but she shall be given up, and they that brought her, and he that begat her, and he that strengthened her in these times."*

Around 250 BC, King Ptolemy II Philadelphus of Egypt (King of the South) and King Antiochus II Theos of Syria (King of the North) attempted to guarantee peace via a marriage between King Antiochus II and the daughter (Bernice) of Ptolemy II. In order to form this new marriage, Antiochus II divorced his existing wife Laodice. Antiochus II and Bernice had a baby boy, but when Ptolemy II died, Antiochus divorced Bernice and took back Laodice. Despite getting her husband back, Laodice was bitter. She had Antiochus II, Bernice, their son, and Bernice’s attendants murdered, fulfilling what the angel had told Daniel some 300 years in advance.

Daniel 11:7-9

"But out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate, which shall come with an army, and shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and shall deal against them, and shall prevail: And shall also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the north. So the king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land."

King Ptolemy III (246-221 BC), Bernice’s brother, invaded Syria to avenge his sister’s death. He took his army all the way to Babylon and beyond before voluntarily pulling back. His navy occupied Seleucia, the port that served Antioch, the capital of Syria. For some time, Egypt dominated Eastern Mediterranean shipping. Winning this campaign, Ptolemy III captured 2,500 gold and silver images and took them back as the spoils of war from his campaign.

Daniel 11:10-12

*"But his sons [the two sons of Seleucus II] shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces: and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress. And **the king of the south [Ptolemy IV] shall be moved with choler**, and shall come forth and fight with him, even with the king of the north [Antiochus III]: and he [Antiochus III] shall set forth a great*

multitude; but the multitude shall be given into his [Ptolemy's] hand. And when he hath taken away the multitude [the army is defeated], his [Ptolemy's] heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down many ten thousands: but he shall not be strengthened by it."

The Ptolemies and Seleucids continued to quarrel. The two sons of Seleucus II [King of the North] namely Seleucus III who was assassinated (225-223 BC) and Antiochus III The Great (223-187 BC) continued to war against Ptolemy [King of the South]. In 217, Antiochus III [King of the North] and Ptolemy IV [King of the South] waged a heated battle, the Battle of Raphia, with about 70,000-foot soldiers and 5,000 cavalries including 180 trained war elephants. Antiochus III had a significant numerical advantage but lost the battle. After his defeat in 217 BC, Antiochus III [King of the North] went back and raised another army to attack the Ptolemaic Empire.

Daniel 11:13-19

*"For the king of the north [Antiochus III] shall again raise a multitude, greater than the former; and after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies. In those times many shall rise against the king of the south. Also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall. So the king of the north [Antiochus III] shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand. But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed. He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him **the daughter of women**, corrupting her: **but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him.** After this shall he turn **his face unto the isles**, and shall take many: but a prince for his own behalf shall cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he shall cause it to turn upon him. Then he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land: but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found.*

Between 212 and 204 BC, Antiochus III [King of the North] campaigned in Armenia, regained Parthia and Bactria as vassal kingdoms, and led expeditions into the Kabul Valley in India and across the Persian Gulf into Arabia. In 204 BC Antiochus III regained Phoenicia and southern Palestine from Egypt, for in that year Ptolemy IV had died and left his throne to his 4-year-old son Ptolemy V Epiphanes. Antiochus and Philip V of Macedon then decided to divide the Ptolemaic empire. In 197 BC, Antiochus III had captured a number of cities in Asia Minor previously under the control of the Ptolemaic kingdom of Egypt. The Romans supported the Egyptian interests, when they negotiated with the Seleucid king in Lysimachia in 196 BC. In response, Antiochus III indicated his willingness to make peace with Ptolemy V and to have his daughter Cleopatra I [the daughter of women] marry Ptolemy V. They were betrothed in 195 BC and their marriage took place in 193 BC in Raphia. At that time Ptolemy V was about 16 years and Cleopatra I about 10 years old. Antiochus III [King of the North] hoped to gain control of all the Ptolemaic empire, through this marriage. But it didn't work out, as his daughter sided with her husband's interest, not her fathers. [she shall not stand on his side] Antiochus III [King of the North] supposed that he had guarded himself from any interference in his wars with the Romans from the Egyptians. Antiochus III waged a four-year war against the Roman Republic beginning in mainland Greece in the autumn of 192 BC^{[5][6]} Antiochus III had fitted out a great fleet of one hundred large ships and two hundred smaller, and with this fleet subdued most of the maritime places on the coast of the Mediterranean, and took many of the isles, Rhodes, Samos, Eubaea, Colophon, and others. This he did during his war on the Roman Republic. The Battle of Magnesia was the concluding battle of the Roman–Seleucid War, fought in 190 BC near Magnesia ad Sipylum on the plains of Lydia. A decisive Roman victory resulted in Roman domination over the internal affairs of a large part of the territory once controlled by the Seleucid Empire. Antiochus III died July 3, 187

B.C.

Beginning of the Roman Empire 168 B.C – 476 A.D.

Daniel 11:20 (*Legs of Iron-Daniel 2 / Non-Descript Beast -Daniel 7 / Little Horn -Daniel 8*)

*"Then shall stand up in his estate a **raiser of taxes** in the glory of the kingdom: but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle."*

The Roman rule of Caesar Augustus is next on the scene, whom Daniel's prophecy describes as a "raiser of taxes."

Luke 2:1-3

*"And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a **decree from Caesar Augustus**, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city."*

Caesar Augustus established the "Pax Romana," Latin for Roman Peace, that was established in 27 B.C. and ran for 206 years, until 180 A.D. This was a time of when Rome was at rest and grew to approximately 70 million people. Caesar Augustus died of old age, not in battle.

Daniel 11:21

*"And in his estate shall stand up a **vile person**, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries."*

After Caesar Augustus came Tiberius Caesar. This pedophile, "a vile person," was an adopted son of Caesar Augustus who manipulated his way to the throne. He was in power when Jesus was baptized (27 A.D.) and when Jesus was crucified (31 A.D.). Rome hated him, and he was eventually murdered, and his body was thrown into the Tiber River.

Luke 3:1

*"Now in the **fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar**, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene."*

This verse leads into the account of the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. Tiberius was co-regent with Augustus starting in 12 A.D. and when Augustus died on August 19, 14 A.D. Tiberius took sole control. So, Luke is counting from 12 A.D. when he was co-regent, pointing to 27 A.D. as the date Luke is talking about in Luke 3:1 as the date Jesus was baptized. Three and a half years later, during the eighteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, Jesus was crucified on a Roman cross.

Daniel 11:22

"And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflowed from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant."

"And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflowed from before him and shall be broken" Tiberius Caesar was famous for a several military conquests.

"Yea, also the prince of the covenant" – Jesus was crucified under Tiberius Caesar's reign by Pontius Pilate.

KEY POINT:

The angel revealed prophetically to Daniel many details of the history affecting God's people. Almost five hundred years in advance, the prophecy foretold the time of Christ's

baptism and crucifixion in Daniel chapter nines 70-week prophecy. The predictive outline of Daniel chapter 11 foresaw the emperor under whom Christ's crucifixion would occur – Tiberius Caesar.

Daniel 11:23-30

"And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people. He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time. And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand: for they shall forecast devices against him. Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain. And both these kings' hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed. Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land. At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter. For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant."

After Tiberius died in 37 A.D., Rome continued its war on the Christian church during the first three centuries AD, beginning with Nero and ending with Diocletian. John Foxe, the author of *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*, lists ten major campaigns of persecution, the tenth being the worst. During this period, many Christians died for their faith as Christianity was outlawed and considered treason against the Roman Empire. Verse 29 describes the end of the Pagan Roman Empire. Constantine was the first emperor to stop the persecution of Christians and to legalize Christianity, along with all other religions/cults in the Roman Empire. In February 313 A.D., he met with Licinius in Milan and developed the Edict of Milan, which stated that Christians should be allowed to follow their faith without oppression. In 321, Constantine legislated that the *venerable Sunday* should be a day of rest for all citizens. Constantine disliked the risks to societal stability that religious disputes and controversies brought with them, preferring to establish an orthodoxy. His influence over the Church councils was to enforce doctrine, root out heresy, and uphold ecclesiastical unity; the Church's role was to determine proper worship, doctrines, and dogma. After Constantine converted to Christianity and left Rome to build up Byzantium, later known as Constantinople, as his new capital. When he left, Constantine put the bishop of Rome in charge of the church and state, paving the way for papal Rome. With incoming Barbarian tribes, the Roman Empire started on a downward spiral.

The beginning of the Roman Papacy

Daniel 11:31-39. (*Little Horn -Daniel 7 / Little Horn -Daniel 8*)

*"And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: **yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days.** Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, **even to the time of the end:** because it is yet for a time appointed. And the king shall do according to*

his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all. But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain."

In 496 A.D., Clovis, King of the Franks, converted to Catholicism. Currently there were two main political/religious options, Catholicism and Arianism. Arianism believed that Jesus was a created being, created by God the Father. This belief was different from the Catholic belief that Jesus was the Son of God, Co-equal. As Clovis conquered lands, the enemies of Roman Church had a choice: become Catholic, leave or die! This led to the rise of the Papal Roman power, when in 538 A.D., Clovis finally "*uprooted*" the last of the three horns – the Ostrogoth's. These verses correspond with the Little Horn Power in Daniel chapter 7 and the first beast of Revelation chapter 13, which takes us down through the Dark Ages of Papal supremacy. This is the time when the Papal Roman Church persecuted the Waldenses, the Huguenots, and other reformers of the Protestant faith took place, all because they would not follow the traditions of the mother church. Protestants believed in following the Bible as their rule, practice and faith!

Revelation 13:1-10.

*"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. And I saw **one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed:** and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and **they worshipped the beast**, saying, Who, is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him **a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies;** and power was given unto him to **continue forty and two months.** And he opened his mouth in **blasphemy against God**, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to **make war with the saints,** and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. And **all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him**, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. If any man have an ear, let him hear. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints."*

The description of this first beast in Revelation chapter 13 has the same characteristics as the Little Horn from Daniel chapters 7 and 11, which we have already identified as the Roman Catholic Papacy. This power ruled from 538 A.D. until 1798 A.D., which brings us to Daniel chapter 11:40.

Daniel 11:40-43.

*"And **at the time of the end** shall the king of the south push at him: and **the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships;** and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. **He shall enter also into the glorious land,** and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall **escape** out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall*

not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps."

Verse 40 begins with **“And at the time of the end,”** which points us to 1798 A.D. At the close of the French Revolution, Napoleon sent General Berthier to Rome to stop the political power of the Roman Papacy. As Berthier took Pope Pious VI captive, the papacy received a **“deadly wound”** (Rev. 13:3), and the pope eventually died in exile.

On February 12, 1929 the *San Francisco Chronicle* headlines read, “Mussolini and Gasparri sign Historic Roman Pact.” The article stated, *“The Roman question tonight was a thing of the past and the Vatican was at peace with Italy...in affixing the autographs to the memorable document **healing the wound**...extreme cordiality was displayed on both sides.”* With the signing of the Lateran Treaty the previous day, the kingdom of Italy guaranteed the international sovereignty of the Holy See of Rome, giving it absolute and sole jurisdiction over the Vatican State. This territory was merely 110 acres, but it became a sovereign nation, with its own government. Today at least 105 countries have ambassadors to the Vatican, including the United States of America. Since that time the Roman Papacy has pervasively risen in power while influencing politics in every country and ethnic group. They have worked hard to get cooperation with the Islamic and Protestant nations alike. Some will escape Rome’s power, symbolized by *“Edom, Moab, and Ammon,”* but *“Egypt,”* symbolizing the atheistic secular societies that prevail today, will not escape the grip of the Little Horn Power. The Papacy has worked to bring down communism and secularism, as they work to control politics for their own gain. The goal of the Papacy is the union of church and state, enabling the church to control the state.

In the past God used the Ottoman Empire (Islam) to hold the persecution of the Papal Roman Church during the Protestant Reformation (dark ages). The Roman church had to combine all its forces to fight the Islamic power that was on the rise. The king of the North (Papal Rome) won, but God's Word could no longer be silenced, it spread like wild fire!

God may be using the Islamic power to rise, ***“at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him,”*** to force Christianity to fight under one banner, with one leader, the Pope!

On July 1, 2014, the Telegraph reported: *“Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the self-proclaimed leader of the 'Islamic State' stretching across Iraq and Syria, has vowed to lead the **conquest of Rome** as he called on Muslims to immigrate to his new land to fight under its banner around the globe.”*

On August 7, 2014, Reuters World News reported: ***“Pope Francis appealed to world leaders on Thursday to help end the crisis in northern Iraq...His Holiness addresses an urgent appeal to the international community to take action...”***

On August 8, 2014, Weekly Examiner
“Obama Renews Airstrikes in Iraq.”

On August 8, 2014, The Weekly Examiner reported: *Obama renews airstrikes in Iraq, and on August 13, 2014, Yahoo News reported: “Fearing a genocide of Christians, **the Vatican has given its approval to US military air strikes in Iraq** -- a rare exception to its policy of peaceful conflict resolution.”*

Now we jump ahead to October 29, 2019 CNN reported: ***“A years-long hunt for Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi came to a dramatic end this weekend as US forces overcame gunfire, a booby trap and explosive vests during a raid in northwest Syria. The ISIS leader “blew himself up” when cornered by US military personnel who conducted the two-hour nighttime raid. Baghdadi —***

who declared a so-called Islamic caliphate in Iraq and Syria in 2014 — was one of the most wanted terrorists in the world.”

Isn't it interesting that the United States was quick to answer the Popes call for help, with a military response! The Bible says the "**at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships;**" The Bible tells us in Revelation chapter 13:11-18 that the United States will be foremost in leading the charge of uniting with, supporting and leading people to worship the Pope.

Revelation 13:11-15

*“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein **to worship the first beast,** whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that **as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.**”*

But the prophecy of Daniel chapter 11 doesn't end here, it continues.

Daniel 11:44-45.

*"**But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him;** therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."*

*“**But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him.**”*

Revelation 7:2-3

*“And I saw another angel ascending **from the east,** having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, **till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.**”*

Isaiah 41:25

*“The Lord says, **I have raised up one from the north, and he shall come:** from the rising of the sun shall he call upon my name.” (Isaiah 41:25)*

Therefore, “*the tidings*” out of the east and north that trouble the Papacy is the warning that is given in the third angels' message! God in these last days has raised up a church, a group of faithful Christians that will proclaim God's last day message with power around the world. The message that declares that Jesus is coming SOON! And we need to be ready, by following Jesus and His Word (*Bible*) and don't worship the beast (*Papacy*), and of course the Papacy is not happy about it, and goes to destroy all of God's faithful people that he can! Just like they did during the Dark Ages!

Revelation 14:9-11

"If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."

Daniel 11:44

"Therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many."

Revelation 13:11-18.

"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that **they should make an image to the beast**, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that **as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed**. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, **to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:** And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: **for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.**"

Once again, we see that these verses unmistakably point to the United States of America. This country rose from virgin soil, in an unpopulated area of the world. From its humble beginning, the USA has risen to be the last super power on earth which influences the world physically, morally, and spiritually! Revelation chapter 13 tells us that this "*Lamb-like Beast*" will work hand-in-hand with Papal Rome.

Verse 12 says, "***He exerciseth all the power of the first beast [Roman Papacy].***"

For the United States to exercise all the power of the Papacy, civil and religious liberties will be trampled upon as church and state unite. Therefore, the USA acts as the "*Enforcer*," causing everyone to "*worship the first beast*" which is the Papacy.

Verse 15 says, "***He had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.***"

The conclusion of the Great Controversy comes to a climax as a death decree is issued for those who keep the commandments of God and refuse to participate in this forced, false worship which pays homage to Papal Rome instead of the God of Heaven. This is the same situation that we saw in Daniel chapter 3, where Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were given the ultimatum, fall down and worship the golden image or die! At the end of time God's true people will be given the ultimatum, worship the image to the first beast (Papal Rome) or die!

The death decree issued by the United States of America leads to decisions. Most will choose to follow and worship the Beast, but God's true believers obediently worship Him alone by His grace. When every choice has been made, the sealing process is finished. Once this is done, probation closes and Jesus stands up, comes out of the heavenly sanctuary, takes off His High Priestly garments, and puts on His crown as King of kings and Lord of lords! Chapter twelve is a continuation of this prophecy.

Daniel 12:1-3

*"And **at that time shall Michael stand up**, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be **a time of trouble, such as never was** since there was a nation even to that same time: and **at that time thy people shall be delivered**, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."*

When Michael (*Jesus Christ*) stands up, the judgment is finished. Every case has been decided, and we are forever saved or lost! At this point there is no switching sides, no second chance! Probation is closed! The seven last plagues will fall on the wicked (*see Rev. 15 & 16*) while God protects His people. Then we will see Jesus coming in the clouds of heaven. Coming to get all His faithful people and take them back to heaven.

We are living in the very last few verses of Daniel chapter 11, just preceding the close of probation and the second coming of Jesus. There is no time to delay! Have you made the right decision to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, by choosing to walk in the light of the Truths He has shown you?