

FF EPISODE 23 - DANIEL LAST CHAPTERS

The book of Daniel is such a treasure. It brings together God's plan of redemption into a plot we can see in hindsight. Concludes history of this age for Israel. When they are restored the world is restored. When Messiah reigns, we in the church reign with him as joint-heirs. So this is the fulfillment of the plan since the Fall, since Gen 3:15 to restore all things through the seed of the woman, then Abraham's seed, then Isaac's seed, then Jacob's seed, then Judah, then David, then Solomon, etc. That is really the plot of the whole Bible. The day of the LORD is mentioned over and over as the time when this age culminates in judgement.

9:24-27 review.

Most of 9:24 is fulfilled in the Millennial Kingdom.

Messiah was cut off (crucified) 69 weeks (483 years) after the decree to restore Jerusalem.

Antichrist will make or affirm a covenant in the beginning of the 70th week and the abomination of desolation (A of D) will be in the middle. A signal flare for believers to know there is only 3 ½ years until the Kingdom and even less until the rapture.

Recommend Mideast Beast by Joel Richardson. Can be downloaded at <https://joelstrumpet.org>
See slides which document that the Roman legions who destroyed Jerusalem were middle eastern, not Italian Romans. Therefore, "the people of the prince who is to come" in Dan 9:26.

Zech 12:1-3. Jerusalem is to be one of the big end-times issues. Where you stand on J has a lot to do with where you stand in the judgement of God.

10:1. Now we are in the reign of Cyrus the Persian and Daniel is getting pretty old. B was 40 years after Neb., then comes Darius, then Cyrus (maybe others in between). This vision goes through chapters 10, 11 and 12. We'll just look at some highlights.

10:10-14. Greatly loved. Glimpse of how the battles of principalities and powers are at work controlling world affairs.

10:21. Importance of Michael as being the one who contends for Israel.

11:1-20. Persian kings, Alexander, 4 successor kingdoms, conflict between king of the north (Seleucid) and king of the south (Ptolemaic), back and forth. It all of that the pathway of their fighting is through the land of Israel causing great hardship and devastation. That's the history of the inter-testamental period. These Hellenic kingdoms after Alexander warring until Rome conquered them all. Actually, Rome brought more stability and order, as long as they did not rebel against them. All the pagan areas conquered had to worship the emperor, but Judea got a pass because the Romans understood their religion enough to let them keep practicing it. That's just another reason why Rome isn't the 4th beast with claws of iron that utterly breaks up and destroys everything. In the eastern part of the Roman empire, everything stayed pretty Hellenic, or Greek. Greek was the common language and the "Hellenization" of culture that happened due to Alexander's conquests was not overthrown by the Romans. In fact, historians

know that Rome respected and tried to imitate Greek culture. The educated, elite Romans learned Greek, read Greek philosophy, poetry and plays and even hired Greek tutors for their children.

Scholars debate what parts of Daniel 11 are historical and what parts are definitely about end times. Antiochus Epiphanes would fit descriptions of the “king of the north” in this 11:21-32. AE was a type of antichrist and many Bible prophecies are fulfilled in the past and more completely in the end-times. He is a “type” of the future antichrist and Jesus told us the “abomination of desolation” is in the future, so from 11:31 on, it certainly applies to antichrist. There are many resources and teachers out there who document how these verses are fulfilled in history. Dr. David Jeremiah is one of my favorite popular authors and teachers and he has some books and teaching series on this.

As the end times “king of the north”, that points to antichrist being from a revival of the Seleucid empire, not Rome. That fits with him leading a Mideast coalition, not a Roman revival.

11:33-35. We want to be among the wise. Will be hard even for the wise. Looks like we are seeing deception and some apostasy. Agrees with Jesus saying many will fall away and betray one another...love of most shall grow cold. Fits with 2 Thess 2 that two things come before the day of the LORD, apostasy and man of sin.

12:1-4. Michael, the great prince, stands aside. Trouble like Jacob’s trouble in Jer. 30 and the great trib in Matt. Strongest mention of resurrection in the OT. God’s people delivered. Shut up the scroll. Not fully revealed until the end. Run to and fro over the words of Daniel, knowledge of prophecy shall increase.

Some people wonder about how they should view the nation of Israel as it exists today. It seems so secular, so worldly. Are the people there now this chosen people about whom Daniel’s end-times prophecies apply? We covered this in detail in Episode 16. Yes, because the scenario is that the Lord God will eventually bring back all of Israel to the land and write the law in their hearts and they will all know God and they will be blessed and no more to be conquered. That obviously has not happened. In all the end-times prophecies, we see a nation of Israel in the land of Israel whom antichrist viciously attacks and prevails against. How does it make sense to believe that is not the current Israel, but some different, future, hypothetical Israel which would fit some people’s pre-conceptions? There will be this successful invasion, God will protect a remnant, destroy the antichrist’s armies and Messiah Jesus will then reign over them. Now the typical dispensationalist assumption is that the rapture occurs before any of this 70th Week, antichrist stuff. But that is only an assumption and you can’t prove from scripture that the church will be gone. The scriptures portray that the church will be here... the saints... those who hold the testimony of Jesus... hated for my name’s sake.

12:6-12. We’re reading the verses out of order. Revelation confirms the future nature of this prophecy. 3 1/2 years = time, times, half a time = 42 months = 1,260 days. From what I

understand the extra periods are times of purification and restoration. We can know when we see the A of D that we are in the home stretch because the rapture occurs before the 7th seal.

Thank God for Daniel. He will certainly stand in an exalted place. His holy devotion has done so much for our understanding and his example is wonderful. I hope you have learned a great deal in FF, and there is more to come. With this knowledge we need to stay pure and be refined by these events of the end times so that we can be among the wise and Finish Faithful.