

Lesson 17 – Chapter 11: 36-45 - Continuation of the Concluding Vision beside the Tigris River

I. Brief review:

- A. We are in the middle of a vision that started with a _____ in linen and an angel who _____ Daniel, allowing him to receive and absorb the rest of the vision.
- B. It speaks of unseen _____ between angelic forces aligned with certain kingdoms, and then proceeds to precisely predict how it will play out during the Medo-Persian and Greek empires, and beyond. This is a glimpse into the LORD's book of _____ that contains pre-recorded history before it happens. He foreknows the _____ of rulers, and the conflicts they generate can serve a _____ purpose.
- C. This deeper purpose comes into focus with the foreseen emergence of Antiochus IV Epiphanes, who _____ the throne of his deceased brother, Seleucus IV. Amidst back-and-forth forays against Egypt he invades Israel and seeks to destroy the Jews' _____ of God. While some Jews succumb to the king's flatteries and pressure, others stand _____ in their faith, even at risk to their own lives. These are the LORD's maskilim ('wise' in vss 33 & 35 of ESV). Through these difficulties they are _____ and give _____ to others.
- D. In context, these maskilim appear to include the Maccabean 'freedom fighters' and martyrs such as Eleazar the scribe (whose story we read last week). In vs. 35, their example appears to also be a characteristic _____ describing the LORD's people until the 'time of the end'. This 'end' is an _____ time He determines.

II. Introduction to today's text (11:36-45)

- A. Contrasted with verses 2-35a and possible role of verse 35b:
- B. Seamless continuation into chapter 12:
- C. Suggestion: Antiochus IV Epiphanes of previous verses a toned-down version of an evil end-times ruler:

'God-_____' (Daniel 11:36-45)	Little _____ of 4th Empire (Daniel 7:8)	Desolating _____ of 70th 'week' (Daniel 9:26-27)
Man of _____ (2 Thess 2:3-12)	Blasphemous _____ (Rev 13:1-10)	_____ (with multiple predecessors) (I Jn 2:18-22, 4:1-3, 2 Jn 7)
- D. Usage of 'anti' prefix in NT Greek words:

III. Today's text concerning a future imposter-ruler (*with contrasting aspects of the true Christ in italics*)

- A. 'God-replacer' (vss 36-37)
 1. As he wills (sim. to 11:3, 16)
 2. Above and instead of every god (also 2 Thess 2:4)

...though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be _____, but emptied himself... (Philip. 2:6-7a)

...there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was _____ before him. And to him was _____ dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him... (Dan 7:13b-14a)

3. Astonishing things (also 7:8b and 25a, Rev 13:5-6)

4. Decreed limitation (also 8:19)

B. Fortress dealer (38-39)

1. Fortresses

2. Doled-out material favors (also Rev 17:12)

...the Christ should suffer...rise from the dead...and repentance for the _____ of sins be proclaimed in his name (Lk 24:46-47)

C. Destructive ruler (40-44)

1. Prolonged military aggressions

...The thief comes only to steal and kill and _____. I came that they may have _____... (Jn 10:10)

2. Glorious land threatened (poss. parallels in Ezek 38-39, Joel 3, Zech 12-14, Rev 16:12-16, 19:11-21)

...Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations ... his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives (Zech 14:3a, 4a)

3. His end (45; also 2 Thess 2:8, Rev 19:20)

“...I died, and behold I am _____ forevermore...” (Rev 1:18)

“...and He shall _____ forever and ever” (Rev 11:15)

IV. Closing thoughts from a familiar prayer:

A. Hallowed be...

B. Give us...

C. Thine...

Next Sunday: Please read and ponder chapter 12 for our next class. We will aim for that to be the next to last class of our series, reserving May 1's class for some concluding summary thoughts and for you to briefly share with the class any aspects of Daniel's message that has been particularly helpful to you.