In His Hands #13 “The Rise and Fall of Anti-Christ” Daniel 11

**Intro**: George was with us yesterday… Blocks; I build, he knocks down

We learn through ***Repetition***.

Daniel understood this principle… Repeats Theological claim!

***He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands.***

Sovereignty – God knows what He is doing and He is doing it.

Daniel is in Exile; and the LORD is on His Throne!

* Nebuchadnezzar; Darius; Cyrus; Fire and Lions; political enemies; A Future that will be longer and more difficult than many imagine.
* Four Beasts; Ram and Goat; Today… *The Rise and Fall of a Future Evil King who opposes the LORD.*

**The Anti-Christ will come, and he will come to his end; because our LORD Reigns.**

**Daniel 11**

H. C. Leupold was a Lutheran Pastor and Professor who wrote an influential commentary on Daniel. He says of chapter 11,

“*This chapter might be treated in Bible class. We do not see how it could be used for a sermon*.”

Overview --- Outline --- Angel’s Revelation to Daniel about Future.

Vs. 1 - 4 Rise and Fall of Persia and Greece

Vs. 5 - 20 North (Syria – Seleucids) vs. South (Egypt – Ptolemies)

Thus, 530 – 175 = 350+ years in 20 verses…Lies, schemes, wars and rumors of wars, victories, disasters… Frustrated grasping for power and wealth ***with Israel Caught in the Middle***!

Vs. 21-35 Antiochus Epiphanes (175 – 164) More focused.

An Intense religious rampage against God’s People!

Vs. 36 – 45 The king who will do as he pleases --- not Antiochus.

AntiChrist - final Evil King in Opposition to the LORD!

***General Observations:***

* Incredibly Foresight with Detail; 350 years in Advance; already fulfilled! (Daniel in 5th C. speaks of 2nd C. events)
* Purpose is to Fortify the People in Advance
* VS. 36 – 45 are still ***yet in our Future***!

**t/s** – Let’s Read the end of Antiochus’s Reign and the description of the Final Evil King, the One John will call The Anti-Christ.

**Daniel 11: 24, 27-29, 35-45**

**The Anti-Christ will come, and he will come to his end; because our LORD Reigns.**

***Anti-Christ*** is actually the title John give him in his NT letters.

Daniel – Little Horn (7); The prince(9); The Willful King(11)

NT – The Man of Sin; Son of Perdition; Lawless One; Beast

**Characteristics** in Vs. 36 alone: Ruler; Strong; Unrivaled; Arrogant;

Exalt himself; Prosper; magnify himself ***Above*** God; and

Fight ***Against*** God and Against God’s People.

**The Anti-Christ will come, and he will come to his end; because our LORD Reigns.**

**t/s** – don’t Miss the Promises of the LORD’s Power and Purpose.

***He Tells Daniel the Future BEFORE it happens.***

***He repeatedly refers to Times determined beforehand.***

Vs. 24 – but only for a time

Vs. 27 – for the end is still to come at the appointed time.

Vs. 29 – At the appointed time…

Vs. 35 – until the end time; because it is still to come at the appointed time.

Vs. 36 - … for that which is decreed will be done.

**The Final Six Words of the chapter**. (11:45b) --- Six Hebrew words.

***Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.***

1. **Clarity**

The impact comes from its striking clarity at the end of a mysterious, confusing, cloudy vision. It is the one bright light that draws our eye; captures our attention.

* Much I do not understand, but I do understand this!

1. **Brevity**

Six Hebrew words! So brief, so abrupt that it is ***Dismissive***.

ILL – Davis compares it to an embarrassing brief Obituary.

**2 Thes. 2:8** – Paul’s dismissal of the Man of Lawlessness.

1. **Certainty**

***His*** *End* = the one determined for him by the sovereign LORD.

No One will Help because No One can stand in the LORD’s way

**The Anti-Christ will come, and he will come to his end; because our LORD Reigns.**

**ILL –** I used to read the Bible like a John Wayne Movie…

***That is an Audacious claim to an old Exile like Daniel to make.***

It is a call to stubborn and bold Faith in the face of opposition and adverse circumstances.

It is precisely the claim made by the people of God in every age. Because we believe that no matter what the present circumstances, our God is on His Throne. He knows what He is doing and He is doing it! ***He’s got the Whole World in His Hands***.

**T/S** - The Audacity of Daniel reminds me of another Bold claim.

***Old Fisherman from Galilee … 7 weeks after Execution of Jesus.***

A claim that sounded ridiculous to the powerful men that first heard it; but it was Good News to those Who knew they needed a Savior.

***Jesus was crucified according to God’s predetermined Plan!***

Peter closed his Pentecost sermon with a Bang!

He quoted Psalm 110 - ***The LORD said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.***

***Therefore, let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ --- this Jesus whom you crucified.***

**The Anti-Christ will come, and will he come to his end; because Jesus Christ is Lord.**

**Invitation** – Whose Side are you on?