

THE KING OF THE NORTH IN THE END-TIME

JAMIE MCNAB

18.7.26

Last week ended in Daniel Chapter 9 — Daniel's 70 week prophecy.

The Angel Gabriel brings a prophecy to Daniel of events 70 x 7 years ahead (490 years).

Part applies to the arrival of The Messiah — circa 27 AD.

There is a final 7 year period. The “prince who is to come” (the Antichrist) establishes (or strengthens?) ... a covenant for 7 years.

At the mid-point he stops the Jewish sacrifices and sets up an Abomination of Desolation in the Sanctuary.

Daniel 9:27

27 Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week;

But in the middle of the week

He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.

And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate,
Even until the consummation, which is determined,
Is poured out on the desolate.”

Many references tend to identify the “he” in verse 27 as Jesus. He would apparently “confirm” the “New Covenant” for 7 years.

He would be cut off — sacrificed — at mid-point ... after His 3½ years earthly ministry (and on Wednesday — half-way of a physical week)?

There are a couple of problems with this view.

- No hard evidence that Jesus' physical ministry was 3½ years in duration — you can't find that in the Bible! Many scholars give 2–3 years as most likely. The chronologies in the Gospel accounts are ambiguous.

So ... if Jesus' ministry was not 3½ years ... then this view of Daniel 9:27 fails.

- **And IF Jesus' ministry was 3½ years ... then where does the remaining 3½ years of confirming the Covenant go?**

SPECULATION INCLUDES:

- The Apostles preaching to the Jews for 3½ years up until the martyrdom of Stephen?
- Some churches believe that they will be in the Place of Safety for 3½ years.
- The first 3½ years of the Millennium.

I can't see any merit in these speculations.

Jesus gives us a very clear warning. Watch for The Abomination of Desolation — and the cancelling of the daily sacrifices.

Daniel 9:27 gives the specific time. At the mid-point of the final 7 years.

A very clear sign — for those with eyes to see!

Plus ... the prophecy covers 7 ... 62 ... 1. Not 7 ... 62 ... ½ ... ½ — with the 2 halves separated by 2,000 years!

On to Chapter 10.

Daniel 10:1-14

1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision.

2 In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks.

3 I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

4 Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris,

5 **I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz!**

6 **His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in colour, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.**

7 **And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision**, for the men who were with me did not see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

8 Therefore **I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigour was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength.**

9 Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground.

10 **Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands.**

11 **And he said to me, “O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you.”** While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.

12 Then he said to me, **“Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.**

13 **But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.**

14 **Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come.”**

Daniel is seeking to understand the future of his people. He humbles himself.

Even though God responded IMMEDIATELY — the angel (Gabriel) was held back for 21 days by other spirit beings.

There is spiritual opposition!! The Archangel Michael had to assist.

We don't know too much about these spirit beings ... but they can clearly interfere with answers from God? **Maybe some times an answer from God has been "on the way" to us ... but we've given up hope? Not realising there may be a spiritual battle?**

Ephesians 6:10-13

10 **Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.**

11 **Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

12 **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.**

13 **Therefore take up the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.**

There appears to be 4 ranks or types of spirit opposition to us? "Principalities" is the same word used by Gabriel in Daniel Chapter 10 (Greek: Archon — "ruler").

It is worth thinking about. **"Be sober ... be vigilant" as the Apostle Peter says!!**

Daniel 10:14

14 **Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come."**

The Latter Days.

Daniel 10:15 - 11:1

15 **When he had spoken such words to me, I turned my face toward the ground and became speechless.**

16 **And suddenly, one having the likeness of the sons of men touched my lips; then I opened my mouth and spoke, saying to him**

who stood before me, “**My lord, because of the vision my sorrows have overwhelmed me, and I have retained no strength.**

17 For how can this servant of my lord talk with you, my lord? As for me, no strength remains in me now, nor is any breath left in me.”

18 Then again, the one having the likeness of a man touched me and strengthened me.

19 And he said, “**O man greatly beloved, fear not! Peace be to you; be strong, yes, be strong!**”

So when he spoke to me I was strengthened, and said, “Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.”

20 Then he said, “**Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come.**

21 **But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth.** (**No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince.**

Chapter 11

1 “Also in the first year of Darius the Mede, **I, even I, stood up to confirm and strengthen him.**)

More angelic combat?

Chapters 10 — 12 are one long continuous vision. There are no chapter divisions in the original.

The reference to the “Latter Days” means the actual end-time.

Daniel 12:1-2

1 “At that time Michael shall stand up,
The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people;
And there shall be a time of trouble,
Such as never was since there was a nation,
Even to that time.

And at that time your people shall be delivered,
Every one who is found written in the book.

2 And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,
Some to everlasting life,
Some to shame and everlasting contempt.

- The time of Great Tribulation
- The time of the Resurrection

The revelation from the angel starts in Chapter 11:2. The first 20 or so verses seem to be historic (many commentators suggest up to verse 40 are history).

The early verses of **Daniel Chapter 11** are very detailed and the history is difficult to follow.

We'll read just a few verses to get the overall theme — **which is an age-old rivalry between two powers — the King of The North and the King of The South.**

It is relevant to us ... because they'll still be fighting in the end-time!

Daniel 11:40

40 “**At the time of the end** the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a **whirlwind**, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through.

At the time of the end! Just prior to the arrival of Jesus Christ.

We need to know who these powers are!

Daniel 11:2-4

2 And now I will tell you the truth: **Behold, three more kings will arise in Persia, and the fourth shall be far richer than them all; by his strength, through his riches, he shall stir up all against the realm of Greece.**

3 **Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.**

4 **And when he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken up and divided toward the four winds of heaven**, but not among his posterity nor according to his dominion with which he ruled; **for his kingdom shall be uprooted, even for others besides these.**

Alexander the Great's Empire breaks up.

Initially there were numerous potential successors ... who fight off and on for around 50 years. The Diadochi. **Eventually ... 2 major successors divided the Greek Empire — the King of the North and the King of the South.**

Daniel 11:5-6

5 **“Also the king of the South shall become strong, as well as one of his princes; and he shall gain power over him and have dominion. His dominion shall be a great dominion.**

6 **And at the end of some years they shall join forces, for the daughter of the king of the South shall go to the king of the North to make an agreement; but she shall not retain the power of her authority, and neither he nor his authority shall stand; but she shall be given up, with those who brought her, and with him who begot her, and with him who strengthened her in those times.**

Daniel 11:9-15

9 **“Also the king of the North shall come to the kingdom of the king of the South, but shall return to his own land.**

10 However his sons shall stir up strife, and assemble a multitude of great forces; and one shall certainly come and overwhelm and pass through; then he shall return to his fortress and stir up strife.

11 **“And the king of the South shall be moved with rage, and go out and fight with him, with the king of the North, who shall muster a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into the hand of his enemy.**

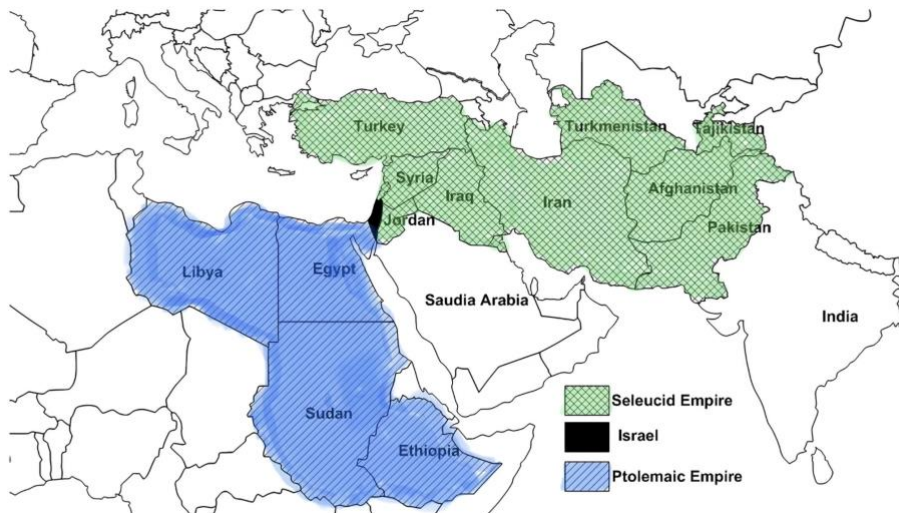
12 **When he has taken away the multitude, his heart will be lifted up; and he will cast down tens of thousands, but he will not prevail.**

13 **For the king of the North will return and muster a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come at the end of some years with a great army and much equipment.**

14 **“Now in those times many shall rise up against the king of the South.** Also, violent men of your people shall exalt themselves in fulfillment of the vision, but they shall fall.

15 **So the king of the North shall come and build a siege mound, and take a fortified city; and the forces of the South shall not withstand him. Even his choice troops shall have no strength to resist.**

Lots of battles!



The King of the North: the Dynasty of Seleucus

Controlled the region of Syria ... Iraq ... Iran ... Pakistan and Turkey.

The King of the South: the Dynasty of Ptolemy

Controlled the region of Egypt ... Libya ... Sudan.

North and South from the viewpoint of Jerusalem.

Likely to be the same regions in the end-time. (Note that they are Muslim countries).

It is a bit of a stretch to say Western Europe is King of the North?

At some point in Daniel Chapter 11 the story shifts from ancient history to end-time prophecy and the final Kings of the North and South.

Most commentators suggest around verse 32 or verse 35. **I'd speculate that the final King of the North (Antichrist ... Little Horn ... Beast) ... begins at verse 21.**

Daniel 11:21-24

21 **And in his place shall arise a vile person, to whom they will not give the honor of royalty; but he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue.** (*Looks like a sheep in wolf's clothing*)

22 **With the force of a flood they shall be swept away from before him and be broken, and also the prince of the covenant.**

23 **And after the *alliance* is made with him he shall act deceitfully, for he shall come up and become strong with a small number of people.**

24 He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province; and he shall do what his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: **he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but only for a time.**

The King of The North — the Antichrist — A vile person = contemptible. A master of intrigue ... deceit ... treachery.

Daniel 11:25-27

25 **“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 devise plans against him.**

26 Yes, those who eat of the portion of his delicacies shall destroy him; his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.

27 **Both these kings' hearts shall be bent on evil, and they shall speak lies at the same table; but it shall not prosper, for the end will still be at the appointed time.**

The Antichrist does not have supreme control. There is resistance and battles ... even from Islamic countries.

The historic rivalry continues!

Daniel 11:28-31

28 **While returning to his land with great riches, his heart shall be moved against the holy covenant; (*talking of the King of The North*)** so he shall do damage and return to his own land.

29 **“At the appointed time he shall return and go toward the south; but it shall not be like the former or the latter.**

30 **For ships from Cyprus (*Kittim — from the Western Coastlands of the Mediterranean*) shall come against him; therefore he shall be grieved, and return in rage against the holy covenant, and do damage.**

“So he shall return and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.

31 And forces shall be mustered by him, **and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; (the Temple) then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.**

The Abomination of Desolation! At the mid-point of the 7 years.

Most commentators say that this is historic. They suggest Antiochus Epiphanes in 168 BC. Antiochus was a Seleucid ruler (King of the North).

Brutal. Killed 80,000 Jews in Jerusalem. Sacrificed pig's blood to Zeus.

Could well be a forerunner of the end-time Antichrist. **But the angel in Daniel Chapter 12 applies these verses to the end-time.**

Here we have the stopping of the sacrifices ... and the Abomination of Desolation ... the key sign that Jesus gave for the end-time!

Which initiates the Great Tribulation.

Daniel 11:32-35

32 Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; **but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.** *(Take action)*

33 **And those of the people who understand shall instruct many; yet for many days they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering.**

34 Now when they fall, they shall be aided with a little help; but many shall join with them by intrigue.

35 **And some of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify them, and make them white, until the time of the end; because it is still for the appointed time.**

Saints at this time are doing great exploits. Instructing many about the Truth — and warning about the Antichrist ... warning about the Mark of the Beast.

It sounds like the 5th Seal of Revelation Chapter 6? Some (many) will be martyred for the Word of God and their testimony.

Maybe the saints' finest hour?!

Daniel 11:36-39

36 “**Then the king (of the North) shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done.**

37 **He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all.**

38 **But in their place he shall honor a god of fortresses; and a god which his fathers did not know he shall honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and pleasant things.**

39 **Thus he shall act against the strongest fortresses with a foreign god, which he shall acknowledge, and advance its glory; and he shall cause them to rule over many, and divide the land for gain.**

A similar description to the Man of Sin?

Daniel 11:40-45

40 “**At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through.**

41 **He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.**

42 **He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape.**

43 **He shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians (Cushites — Sudan) shall follow at his heels.**

44 But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many.

45 And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him.

The end-time. Approximately the final 3½ years ... the age-old rivalry continues!

Egypt and its allies (King of the South) ... provokes war with the King of The North.

It doesn't end well for Egypt.