

# Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

## BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

# 10 LESSON

## Lesson 10

### DETAILS OF THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

Read Daniel 10 & 11

- **Study About Egypt's Clash With The Northern Power**
- **Consider The King Of The North's Malicious Activities**

Chapter 10 introduces Daniel's final and lengthiest vision, spanning three full chapters (Daniel 10, 11 & 12). The end-time fulfillment of Daniel's vision is announced right in the passage itself: Daniel 10:14 says, "Now I am come to explain to you what will happen to your people [Israel] in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come." The King James reads, "What shall befall thy people in the latter days."

Daniel and his companions were standing on the bank of the Tigris River around 535 B.C. The prophet had been fasting for three weeks (vs. 1-4), then he saw the Man clothed in linen, whose majestic appearance caused Daniel to faint in fear. Chapter 10 then addresses the clashes between loyal and rebellious angels; encounters which increase during the last days. When Heaven's messengers under the guidance of Michael, the Prince of the Host, move in the affairs of men and travel throughout the earth, they encounter resistance from the demonic forces. Sometimes only the Prince, the Man dressed in priest's linen, can demand compliance and push on through the enemy's barriers.

The forty-five verses that comprise chapter 11 portray the ongoing struggle between the kings of the north and the south. Commentators have applied most of chapter 11 to historical events, jumping from century to century across the span of time to find possible fulfillments. The king of the north has been assigned to various powers—Syria, Turkey, Russia and Europe, to name a few. However, after many years of consideration, this study will offer you a modern-day explanation of the vision. In the author's opinion, the entire chapter portrays events involving two adjoining nations—Egypt, the king(s) of the south and Israel, the king(s) of the north.



With this interpretation in mind, chapter 11 would be revealing several end-time clashes between Egypt and Israel, and the turmoil their leaders must face. The chapter implies there will be an internal power struggle in Egypt, and a turn-over of leadership; the reigning president of that day will be removed. What then follows is a series of clashes between Egypt and Israel during the counting periods of the appointed times.

Daniel 11 also notes a turn-over of power in Israel—at least three Israeli leaders rule during the appointed time of the end, starting with the current Israeli leader at the period the appointed times begin—quite possibly Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. He will be followed by a short-term Prime Minister—a raiser of taxes (v. 20), and finally by a contemptible outsider from Rome—the Jewish Papal Antichrist himself—he will become the king of the north (whose reign begins at Daniel 11:21). He will take control of Israel through intrigue and will gain the final foothold over Israel and Egypt with his vast European and international military forces. However, even his rule will be short-lived. Near the end of his evil reign, just before the Day of the Lord arrives... "the Man of Lawlessness [will be] revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God," (2 Thessalonians 2:2-3). Daniel

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relays it this way: He will "plant his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain [Jerusalem]. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him," (Daniel 11:45).

### Michael, Daniel's Prince

1. What are the main features of the Man clothed in linen (vs. 5-6)? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How closely does this compare with the description of Jesus in Revelation 1:13-16? \_\_\_\_\_

*They are virtually the same.*

3. What is the Man's name (Daniel 10:13, 21)? \_\_\_\_\_

*Michael, Daniel's Prince.*

Daniel was the only one to see the vision, while his companions were overwhelmed by fear and fled. He also grew weak in fear and dropped to the ground (vs. 7-9). John, the visionary author of the book of Revelation, also responded the same way when he encountered Messiah (Revelation 1:17). However, both prophets were touched by a steady hand and reassured.

4. Daniel was God's chosen servant (10:11-13). The messenger Gabriel told Daniel he was there to give him understanding. Although Gabriel was sent from the first day of Daniel's fast, why was he delayed from reaching the prophet (v. 13)? \_\_\_\_\_

*The demon prince of Persia stopped Gabriel from seeing Daniel.*

5. Ephesians 6:12 describes the evil forces in what terms? \_\_\_\_\_

The evil angels are assigned territories and nations, and Gabriel encountered a powerful foe. However, Michael, the leader of the heavenly forces (Revelation 12:7), took control of the situation and guaranteed Gabriel's safe passage.

Daniel is struck a second time by the overpowering encounter with Gabriel and he bowed in reverence with face to the ground. The messenger who looked like a man touched Daniel and gave him strength to continue. Gabriel tells the prophet he has arrived to help him understand the great conflict that will involve his people (Israel) at the end of time (10:14-21), as written in the Book of Truth. When his visit with Daniel was finished, Gabriel said he would still continue to face future challenges by demonic forces. It is possible Gabriel is the one who once before "prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints," (Jude 14); the one "translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God," Hebrew 11:5.

6. Michael, "your [Daniel's] prince" continued to help Gabriel. Why would Michael be called "Daniel's prince"? \_\_\_\_\_

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*Michael is simply another representative title for Messiah, Daniel's Savior and Lord, who was "with God," and "was God. He was with God in the beginning," (John 1:1-2).*

### Fourth Persian King

Daniel 11:1-3 offers a detailed explanation of last-day events starting with the conflict between the fourth leader of Persia (Iran) and the western forces. This is a shortened version of events earlier portrayed in Daniel 8:1-8 between the Ram (Islam) with two horns (Iraq and Iran) and the western powers. The details of these verses would help Daniel and future readers get their bearings as to the timing of the vision in relationship to the previous three (chapters 7, 8 & 9). Once the modern-day Gulf War begins, and Iran is defeated, America—the primary leader of the Western coalition of nations—will be broken (as portrayed in Daniel 7:4 and 8:8) and U.S. global dominance will be divided into four major regions of power—“parceled out toward the four winds of heaven” (11:4), as also indicated in Daniel 7:2-3.

The prophecy notes that in the “latter days” (10:14) there will emerge in Persia (Iran) “three kings” (or, rulers—11:2). However, the “fourth” ruler will stir up the Iranians against the “realm of Grecia”. The same confrontation is spoken of in Daniel 8:21 and this vision identifies the powerful Goat and the “horn” as the first king (first in standing; the most powerful) as making war with a Ram (Islam) with two horns (Iraq and Iran). The translators identified the Goat as “Greece,” which in the Hebrew text is “Yawan” or “Javan”. Javan was one of the sons of Japheth (Genesis 10:2), and at the writing of Daniel Javan implied more than a specific nation (Greece). Since the vision concerns the time of the end, it would be reasonable to identify the Goat as a coalition of western European NATO powers, including Greece, with the prominent horn as the first in power—the United States.

Persia, whose name was changed to Iran in 1935, was ruled by empires and dynasties. However, political revolution led to a major realignment of power and the *Islamic Republic* was established in Iran on April 1, 1979. A Constitution of the Islamic Republic was approved by national referendum in December, 1979. Iran now had *elected* leadership, a clear transition from the past. This ushered in the conditions for the end-time predictions of Daniel 11 to become reality. One key religious leader in the development of the Islamic Republic became the fourth and one of the most influential leaders in Iran—the wealthy Hojatolislam Ali Alvar Hashemi Rafsanjani.



"Now then, I tell you the truth: Three more kings will appear in Persia [Iran, in the latter days], and then a fourth [Rafsanjani], who will be far richer [wealthy man] than all the others. When he has gained power by his [personal] wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece ["Javan"; the West]," Daniel 11:2. The West will soon confront Iran. For more details about this conflict and Rafsanjani’s reemergence to power, review Lesson 8.

### Kings Of The North and South

Once Iran is attacked and overcome by the American and Western coalition, the United States will fall from power in ways not specifically spelled out. Then, starting at Daniel 11:5, the chapter focuses upon an ongoing engagement between two powers—Israel, the king of the north, and Egypt, the king of the south—cloaked in the language of yesteryears. The Middle East has for centuries experienced mayhem and battles. Religious hatred and territorial control are nearly always the issue, with the land of Israel the prize.

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Verse 6 indicates internal strife in Egypt. A military personality in a high position in the government will overtake the ruling Egyptian president (possibly a military coup), and will take over Egypt's leadership. The verse also indicates Egypt may send a group to negotiate with Israel; however, Egypt's peace envoy will not be successful, and Egypt's leader will fall from power. Verse 7 suggests a powerful Egyptian commander will attack Israel with some success. Verse 8 emphasizes Egypt's victory, and also predicts that Egypt's new leader could indeed remain in power through the end of time, while the Israel's Prime Minister will not (v. 19).

Verse 9 is more difficult, and there are several translations; however, Israel's leader could try a somewhat unsuccessful military strike against Egypt. Verse 10 suggests another Israeli build-up for war and another attack against Egypt. In response (v. 11) Egypt will retaliate, slaughtering thousands, and yet Egypt will not be strengthened by this attack (v. 12). The northern leader will rebuild militarily, and "after certain years," literally, "at the end of the times, years," will plan new attacks (v. 13). Violent men in Egypt will rebel, but their attempts to overthrow the government will be unsuccessful (v. 14). Israel will attack a major city and will prevail against it, and Egypt will not be able to ward off the attacks (vs. 15-16). The northern leader will be firmly established in the "glorious land"—Israel, and will exert great power.

Verse 17 indicates Middle East negotiations may once again be renewed. Israel's leader will offer covenantal concessions in an attempt to manipulate the process. However, Israel will not succeed and these plans will not help his cause. The northern power will renew fighting and will focus on the coastlands of the Mediterranean, but a military commander will stop the onslaught by turning against the Israeli leader, who will die or be killed (vs. 18-19).

Verse 20 speaks of the new Israeli leader who will take control well into the appointed time of the end; albeit, within a short time he too will die, "yet not in anger or in battle." At verse 21 we notice a significant turning point. The last Israeli leader is introduced who will reign over the war-torn Middle East. He will divide the land, forsake the Holy Covenant, take away the daily sacrifice, set up the abomination and will persecute God's people until his death. By comparing the events of Daniel 11:21-45 with the actions of the evil leader of the end-times in Daniel's other visions, we are left with only one conclusion: the Papal leader obtains the title of "king of the north" and is given authority in the Middle East by promising lasting peace, with strong rule over Palestine and Israel. Jerusalem will be considered the International City of Peace.

### **The Last King Of The North—Antichrist**

**7. Daniel 11:21-24 predicts what kind of person will emerge to reign as the northern leader? \_\_\_\_\_**

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*A contemptible personality, not of natural royal lineage, will seize power through schemes and secrecy.*

He will talk of peace and negotiate his powerful takeover of the region, and will offer intriguing solutions to the continued fighting. All opposition will be swept away through military action, and under his counsel even the leader of the agreement will fall (v. 22).

The False Shepherd's promises will be worthless, as from the first his method will be deceit; with the help of influential supporters, he will become strong (v. 23). With Gentile coalition forces he will enter the richest area of Israel without warning and do something never done before: he will take the property and

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wealth of the rich and disperse it among the people. He will successfully besiege and capture powerful strongholds, but this will last for only a short while (v. 24).

**8. What does the king of the north do next (Daniel 11:25-27)?** \_\_\_\_\_

*The dictator will see Islamic Egypt as a threat to his successes in the Middle East, and he will call for an attack.*

Egypt will respond with military forces, but their plans will not succeed because there will be plots against the Egyptian leader (v. 25). Those in his own realm will eventually bring Egypt's leader down, his army will desert, and many will be killed (v. 26). Both the Man of Sin and Egypt's president will plot against each other during negotiations, attempting to deceive the other. But it will make little difference, because the end will still come at the appointed time (v. 27) and neither will prevail.

**9. The Jewish leader will return from the negotiations with plans against what (v. 28)?** \_\_\_\_\_

*The Holy Covenant.*

**10. What does Deuteronomy 4:13 identify as the Holy Covenant?** \_\_\_\_\_

*The Ten Commandments, as permanently inscribed on the two tablets of stone by Yahweh's own hand.*

**11. At what time will Antichrist attack the south again (v. 29)?** \_\_\_\_\_

*At the "appointed time" of the end.*

His assault will be very different from the first two battles, as written of earlier in the chapter. This time ships of the western coastlands of the Mediterranean will scare him off, and he will turn to vent his anger against the Holy Covenant. He will show favor to those in Israel who forsake the Ten Commandments as written by God's own hand (v. 30).

**12. His armies will do what three terrible acts in Jerusalem (v. 31)?** \_\_\_\_\_

*His Gentile forces will desecrate the Temple site and will abolish the daily sacrifices/worship at the Temple Mount. Then he will set up the abomination that causes a final and complete desolation upon Jerusalem.*

**13. What similar acts are found in Daniel 9:27?** \_\_\_\_\_

*Once the sacrifices are stopped, his final act will be to set up his abomination on the Temple Mount, which will bring the total destruction of Jerusalem.*

The Man of Sin will flatter with praise those Jewish leaders and teachers who forsake God's Law, but those who know their God will firmly resist him (v. 32). Those who are wise in the Word will instruct many, although many will be martyred. God's authentic followers will endure great trial for their faith and many others will join them who believe in the cause, but will not be truly sincere in faith. Others will

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be refined by trials, purified from sin and made spotless, while others will not endure to the end (vs. 33-35).

**14. What will the king of the north do during the appointed time of the end (vs. 36-37)?** \_\_\_\_\_

*He will do what he wants, magnifying and exalting himself above every other god. He will say unheard of things against God. His successes will continue until his time is up, for what prophecy has predicted will take place. He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the one desired by women—the goddess of worship. He will exalt himself above them all.*

**15. What god is desired by women in Ezekiel 8:14?** \_\_\_\_\_

*Tammuz. The women weeped for the Babylon god Tammuz, whose worship included that of his mother, Ishtar, with its mother-child myths.*

**16. What was Ishtar called in the Scriptures (Jeremiah 44:16-19)?** \_\_\_\_\_

*Queen of Heaven.*

**17. What goddess of today is a carry-over of the mother-child worship in Christianity?** \_\_\_\_\_

*Virgin Mary, Queen of Heaven, goddess worship is very popular today, and will be multiplied by miracles, signs and wonders around the globe in the last days.*

Daniel 11:38-39 tells us the masterful leader will regard no other god above himself, but instead will honor a god of fortresses. This may be a reference to Satan, the prince and power of the air, a demonic or military power which helps him gain territory and supremacy, or some god yet unknown. He will honor those who acknowledge his power, offering positions and even land.

**18. When will the ruler of Egypt once again attack Israel (v. 40)?** \_\_\_\_\_

*At the time of the end, the last military conquest will continue all the way to Armageddon. With vast armies and military machinery, the Vatican will use the European forces to push southward into Israel, the Beautiful Land. He will overthrow the governments of Egypt and many other occupied lands, capturing the resources of Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia (vs. 41-43).*

Daniel 11:44-45 takes us to the edge of time. News out of the north and east of Israel will alarm the global leader as he hears and sees vast armies marching towards the Armageddon confrontation, including Russia and Eastern Asian nations. He will set out in great rage to destroy and annihilate many.

**19. Considering Revelation 9:16, how large are the forces that will advance towards Israel in the final moments of time?** \_\_\_\_\_

*200,000,000. A vast number of military forces, more than can be imagined.*

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**20. Where does the king of the north pitch his royal tents (v. 45)? \_\_\_\_\_**

*His entourage sets up between the seas (Mediterranean Sea and Dead Sea) at the beautiful holy mountain—in Israel and Jerusalem. See also Isaiah 66:20; Daniel 9:16; and 2 Thessalonians 2:4.*

**21. What is his punishment for claiming Jerusalem as his, after he steps onto the Temple Mount (2 Thessalonians 2:8-9)? \_\_\_\_\_**

*Read Daniel 7:26, Daniel 8:25, Daniel 9:27 and Daniel 11:45; each of Daniel's four visions foretell the demise of Antichrist, Satan's master leader of deception.*

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