

The Historical Aspects of Daniel (chs. 1-6)

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The prophetical Aspects of Daniel (chs. 7-12)

*There is no change in subject matter in moving from chapter eleven to chapter twelve. In fact, the message of the grand angel to Daniel continues without break through verse four of this chapter, making his uninterrupted message to extend totally from 10:20 through 12:4. In verses six and eight, questions were asked by another heavenly messenger and by Daniel; and these prompted the grand angel to speak further in verse seven and then continuously in verses nine to twelve, which closes the chapter.*¹

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IV. GOD CAUSES DANIEL TO HAVE A VISION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF ISRAEL, (ch. 10-12)

E. Daniel Is Told of Michael, Israel's Angelic Defender Amidst the Conflict, (12:1-4)

 **INTERPRETATION:**

¹ “**At that time** (during the events of 11:40-45),² **Michael** (the

NOTES:

 **COMMENTARY:**

¹ Wood, *A Commentary on Daniel*, p. 315.

² The phrase "at that time" (verse 1) should be connected with the events of 11:45. It is the time when the armies of the North have been destroyed. You would think that the collapse of Russian Communism would mark the end of Israel's troubles, but it is only the beginning. Russia's defeat prepares the way for the uncontested reign of the European beast and his Jewish confederate in Palestine.

Isaiah 14:25 describes the devastation of the northern army. But in verse 29 the prophet warns the people not to take any special comfort from that because "out of the serpent's room shall come forth a cockatrice [viper]." In other words, an enemy will arise in Palestine who will sorely afflict the people. Revelation 12:16 refers to the destruction of the flood of armies from the North. But the devil, who instigates the invasion, is not finished with Israel (verse 17). He will bring the first and second beast to world supremacy and motivate them against Israel (Revelation 13:1, 7, 11, 15).

You need to understand that many events will occur almost simultaneously at the middle of the tribulation: (1) The Roman prince in Europe will order his statue to be placed in the temple in Jerusalem; (2) The devil and his angels will be cast out of heaven and come down to earth [Mat. 24:29; Rev. 12:7-12]; (3) God will use the devil to move the northern armies against Israel to chastise Israel for entering into an idolatrous alliance with the antichrist and his European colleague; (4) The pious Jews will flee to the mountains of Judea. Revelation 8-12 gives most of these details. These events occur at the three-and-one-half-year point in the tribulation. Matthew 24:15-26 is a parallel passage. Many of these events are implied in Daniel 12:1, (John L. Benson, *Daniel: Dreams and Destiny*, [CO: Accent Publications, 1986], p. 89, 90).

same archangel who helped this heavenly messenger fight against the demon of Persia in Daniel 10:13), **shall stand up** (he shall come to render aid), **the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people** (the divinely appointed guardian of Israel); **and there shall be a time of trouble** (concerning Israel), **such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time** (nothing in past history will compare to it, [*cp.*, Jer. 30:7; Joel 2:2; Mat. 24:21]).³ **And at that time your people** (Daniel, Israel), **shall be delivered** (from God's chastening for Israel's idolatrous sinful actions of the past and thus from the physical ruin of Israel's present enemies [*Zechariah 13:8, 9 indicates that only about one third of the Jews will survive the tribulation period and enter into the millennial reign of Christ*]), **every one** (that is...), **who is found written in the book**, (the remnant of national Israel that places saving faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior [Rev. 20:12]).

² **And** (also), **many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth** (all of the bodies of the Old Testament and tribulation saints), **shall awake** (they shall be resurrected at the conclusion of the tribulation period and be united with their souls and spirits [Rev. 20:4, 6]), **some** (at that time), **to everlasting life** (those whose names were found written in the book of life, and), **some** (at a latter time, at the conclusion of the millennial reign of Christ [Rev. 20:5, 11-15]), **to shame and everlasting contempt**, (whose names were not found in the Lamb's book of life).⁴

F APPLICATION:

- Today is the day of salvation. Get your name in the Lamb's Book of Life before it's too late! If you die in your sin, you will pay the awful consequences for the rest of your eternal days.
- God chastens those He loves because of His grace and mercy. He loves us enough to do whatever it takes to turn us from our sinfulness. He is one person who will not give up on you.

NOTES:

³ Michael the archangel will assert himself by casting Satan down to earth. The principalities and powers of the heavens will be shaken down and drop to earth (Matthew 24:29; Revelation 12:7-12). In his wrath Satan will inspire the northern armies to invade Israel. This event occurring simultaneously with the placing of the idol in the temple, will commence the great tribulation—the last half of the tribulation. From this point, the seven-year tribulation will sharply increase the intensity of its woes, so much so that nothing like it ever happened before in all the history of Israel. It will be unequalled for its severity (Matthew 24:21; Mark 13:19), (John L. Benson, *Daniel: Dreams and Destiny*, p. 90).

⁴ Those that would be included in the **FIRST RESURRECTION** mentioned in Revelation 20:5, 6 would include several groups; each in their own order.

1. **Christ**, who is the first fruits; three days after dying on the cross, (1 Cor. 15:23)
2. Next, the **church saints**; at the rapture, (1 Thess. 4:15, 16)
3. After this the **Old Testament saints**; at the conclusion of the 70th week of Daniel, the great tribulation period, (Dan. 12:1, 2)
4. At the same time the **tribulation saints**, (Rev. 20:4)

Those that would be resurrected in the **SECOND RESURRECTION**, are all those who from the beginning of time, to the end of the thousand year reign of Christ upon the earth, who have died in their sin; at the great white throne judgement, (Rev. 20:11-15).

³ **Those who are wise** (those who recognized their personal sinfulness and sought God's forgiveness [*"the wise" are in the same form as in 11:33, 35*]),⁵ **shall shine like the brightness of the firmament** (they shall shine like a star lit up against the vastness of space), **and those who turn many to righteousness** (those who evangelize the lost), **like the stars forever and ever**, (their shining shall never grow dim).

⁴ **But** (in the mean time), **you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book** (preserving its contents, making sure they are not lost or destroyed), **until the time of the end** (as those who will live through this tribulation period will need them); **many** (at that time), **shall run to and fro** (looking for answers), **and knowledge shall increase**," (i.e., "many shall run to and fro in their desire for knowledge of the last things, and, find it in Daniel's book, because it will have been preserved to this end, their knowledge shall be increased.")⁶

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F. Daniel Receives One More Message About When All of the Conflict Will End, (12:5-13)

INTERPRETATION:

⁵ **Then** (after being given these instructions), **I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others** (besides the heavenly being and I), **one on this** (side of the Tigris), **riverbank and the other on that riverbank**, (on the opposite side of the Tigris).

⁶ **And one** (of these, presumably angels), **said to the man clothed in linen** (who had been interpreting the prophecies for me), **who was** (still standing), **above the waters of the river** (signifying his supernatural power and authority), **"How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?"** (When will the wonders of this 70th take place?)

⁷ **Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above**

COMMENTARY:

⁵ Now the angel speaks of a group of God's people who are called "wise" (Daniel 12:3). They are the teachers or instructors who witness for God during the tribulation period. They are not the only Jews to be saved; they are a special group of 144,000 evangelists from the twelve tribes of Israel whom the Spirit of God will seal (Revelation 7:1-8) and send into the world to preach the gospel of the kingdom (Matthew 24:14). The results of their preaching will be extraordinary: an innumerable company of Jews and Gentiles will be saved (Revelation 7:9) by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, (John L. Benson, *Daniel: Dreams and Destiny*, p. 91).

⁶ Wood, *A Commentary on Daniel*, p. 321

When the church is removed at the rapture, judicial blindness will be removed from Israel (Romans 11:25; 11 Corinthians 3:14-16). The people, instructed by "the wise," will read the prophetic Scriptures (which are now closed to them) and, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, will come to a knowledge of the truth. They will be born again by the incorruptible seed of the Word and the omnipotent ministry of the gracious Spirit, (John L. Benson, *Daniel: Dreams and Destiny*, p. 92).

the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven (emphasizing the tremendous solemnity of the oath about to be shared [*cf.*, *Gen. 14:22; Deut. 32:40*]), **and swore by Him who lives forever** (by God Himself [*cf.*, *1 Tim. 6:16; Deut. 32:40*]), **that** (first), **it** (the duration of these wonders), **shall be for a time, times, and half a time** (the last three and one half years of the 70th week [*Dan. 7:25*]); **and when** (at which time), **the power** (i.e., the supposed self-sufficiency), **of the holy people** (the remnant of Israel), **has been completely shattered** (when Israel has no place to turn as a result of their persecution and in their state of complete vulnerability and humiliation, they respond to God's wrath upon them in repentance, and as a nation, recognize Jesus Christ as their Messiah; then), **all these things** (these wonders), **shall be finished**, (God's purpose having been fulfilled).

⁸ **Although I** (Daniel), **heard** (all of this), **I** (still), **did not understand. Then I said, "My lord,** (not how long as the angel asked, but), **what shall be the end** (the final event), **of these things,"** (how will the final deliverance of Israel be concluded)?⁷

⁹ **And he said, "Go your way, Daniel** (our conversation is over), **for the words are closed up and sealed** (concluded and to be preserved), **till the time of the end,** (for another time period, another generation).⁸

¹⁰ (You asked about the events that would conclude the 70th week, I will not answer your question, but it will encourage you to know that), **"Many** (Jews), **shall be purified, made white, and refined** (many will be saved at the latter half of the tribulation [*same verbs as those used in Dan. 11:35*]), **but the wicked** (Jews who refuse to repent of their rebellion), **shall** (continue to), **do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand** (these words I have given you [*cp.*, *1 Cor. 2:14*]), **but the wise** (those who turn from their rebellion and are saved), **shall understand,** (them).⁹

⁷ It would seem that Daniel had understood the meaning of "time, times, and a half-time," and also the idea that the strength of the Jews would have to be broken; but he did not understand the character of the events which would bring this period to an end. He may have been puzzled as to the degree of severity of this time of persecution, especially at its climax, or he may have wondered as to how the deliverance from the Antichrist's power would be effected, having been told that it would happen (12: 1; *cf.* 7:26, 27), (Wood, *A Commentary on Daniel*, p. 325).

⁸ "Go your way," not physically, but in the sense of ending the conversation. These God-given words would not evaporate with time and circumstances but would be preserved for the people who will experience their ultimate fulfillment (*cf.* 12:4). "The end time" generation will possess, and will be comforted by, these very words in the book of Daniel. Daniel's questions were not ignored by God but were answered more fully six hundred years later to John on the isle of Patmos. God's people must learn to be content with mastering and obeying truth God has already revealed (*cf.* Deut. 4:2; 12:32; Prov. 30:5-6; Rev. 22:18-19), (Whitcomb, *Daniel*, p. 166, 167).

⁹ Antichrist's persecuting activity will purge out their rebellion and prompt them to turn to Christ. But the rest of the Jews will be characterized by wickedness - they will continue in their wickedness. Those who get saved during that time will understand the revelation that was given to Daniel, but the wicked Jews of that time will not understand it (v. 10)," (Showers, *The Most High God*, p. 179).

¹¹ “**And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away** (by the Roman Prince), **and the abomination of desolation is set up** (a statue of himself is placed in the temple, [Dan. 9:27]), **there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days**, (to the final conclusion of the temple affair).¹⁰

¹² “**Blessed is he** (though), **who waits** (who earnestly keeps on waiting), **and comes** (perseveres), **to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days**, (to the final conclusion of the tribulation affair).¹¹

F APPLICATION:

What makes it so blessed to live during the Millennium? Lets look at what the Bible says:

- Christ will be ruling (Ps. 2:6).
- Satan will be captive (Rev. 20:1-3).
- The saints of the Old and New Testaments will have authority (Dan. 7:18; Matt. 19:27-28; 1 Cor. 6:2).

¹⁰ The number of days given in Daniel and Revelation for the duration of the Great Tribulation is 1,260 days. Any extension beyond that, our Lord stated (Matt. 24:22), would result in the total destruction of the human race. What, then, is the significance of the additional 30 days?

The answer lies within the verse itself. The additional thirty days are somehow connected with Antichrist's setting up of "the abomination of desolation" and termination of "the regular sacrifice" in the Temple of God in Jerusalem in the middle of the seventieth week. When our Lord returns to the earth exactly 1,260 days after that event, He will presumably initiate a 30-day cleansing and purification of the Temple of God (cf. 2 Thess. 2:4). Similarly, King Hezekiah postponed by one month the celebration of Passover "because the priests had not consecrated themselves in sufficient numbers, nor had the people been gathered to Jerusalem. Thus the thing was right in the sight of the king and all the assembly" (2 Chron. 30:2-4). Likewise, Judas Maccabaeus and his army went to great lengths to cleanse the Jerusalem Temple of the abominations of Antiochus Epiphanes in 164 B.C. (1 Macc. 4:36-51), (Whitcomb, *Daniel*, p. 168).

¹¹ The waiting period for survivors of the Great Tribulation is now extended another forty-five days beyond the cleansing of the Temple. Surely this period (and perhaps even the full seventy-five days following the return of Christ) is necessary for the judgment of the living nations to determine publicly who is qualified to enter Messiah's kingdom.

Prophetic Scripture has much to say about this confrontation. Joel placed this future judgment in "the valley of Jehoshaphat [Kidron]," where Gentile mistreatment of Jews will finally be dealt with (Joel 3:1-17). In the same Kidron Valley, Ezra supervised a purging of mixed marriages, a process that required several weeks of careful investigation (Ezra 10:9-17). Ezekiel foretold the ultimate purging of all "rebels" out of Israel before millennial blessing could begin in the Promised Land (Ezek. 20:33-38; also Isa. 4:3-4; Mal. 3:1-6).

The clearest New Testament passage describing this event is Matthew 25:31-46. Here Christ tells us that Gentiles will be judged in that day according to their treatment of Israelite witnesses ("these brothers of Mine," Matt. 25:40). The fate of those who reject God's messengers, and thus God Himself, is stated in terms of death and eternal judgment (Matt. 25:46); but believers among the Gentiles will be told: "Come, you who are blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom" (25:34). That, too, is the emphasis in God's answer to Daniel: "How blessed is he . . . !" (Whitcomb, *Daniel*, p. 168, 169).

- Truth will dominate (Isa. 11:9).
- Righteousness will flourish (Ps. 72:7).
- Peace will reign (Isa. 2:4; 32:17).
- Joy will abound (Isa. 12:3-4; 61:3, 7).
- Justice will pervade (Isa. 11:34).
- The Holy Spirit's power will be revealed in its fullness (Joel 2:28).
- There will be a new Temple (Ezek. 40-48).
- The earth will be purged (Matt. 25:31-33).
- The curse will be lifted (Isa. 11:6-9).
- There will be plenty of food (Joel 2:21-27).
- Good health and healing will be abundant (Isa. 35:5-6; 65:20).
- The city of Jerusalem will be exalted (Isa. 52:1-12). (John MacArthur, *The Future of Israel*, [CA: Grace to You, 1991], p. 144)

¹³ “**But** (as for), **you** (Daniel), **go your way** (get on with your life now, don't let this matter distress you any longer) **till the end** (of the Great Tribulation), **for you** (Daniel), **shall rest** (die before it comes), **and** (your body), **will arise** (be resurrected at its conclusion, at the first resurrection), **to your inheritance at the end of the days**,” (as you enter into the final and millennial kingdom of Jesus Christ [*Dan. 2:44; 4:3, 34; 6:26; 7:14, 27*])

F APPLICATION:

All believers should be able to live their lives without being filled with anxiety in this lifetime. If our future eternity is secure, obviously our present existence is just as secure. God's will will not be frustrated, thus everything about us and around us has a purpose. God tells us in Ephesians 1:4 that *"He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love."* The Apostle Paul says in 2 Timothy 1:12, *"For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day."* Believers are to live everyday in this certainty.

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THE SAINTS IN THE LAST DAYS, (Daniel 12)

1. The Defense of the Saints in the Last Days (12:1) *--angelic defense*
2. The Distress of the Saints in the Last Days (12:1) *--trouble*
3. The Deliverance of the Saints in the Last Days (12:1) *--shall be delivered*
4. The Destiny of the Saints in the Last Days (12:2) *--resurrection*
5. The Diligence of the Saints in the Last Days (12:3)
 - Diligent to influence souls *--turn many to righteousness*
 - Diligent to investigate Scripture *--search it through and through*
6. The Dividends for the Saints in the Last Days (12:3) *--shine forever*
7. The Dilemma of the Saints in the Last Days (12:6, 8)
 - Not knowing how long (12:6)
 - Not understanding (12:8)

- 8. The Development of the Saints in the Last Days (12:10) -- *sanctified through trials*
- 9. The Devotion of the Saints in the Last Days (12:12-13) --*they wait it out to the very end.* (Durability)

Every statement above is just as applicable to the church saints now as to the tribulation saints later. All of the saints of all of the Ages have much in common, and we need to emphasize more their similarities. (Dr. John L. Benson)

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THE DIVINE PURPOSE IN FUTURE EVENTS

Everything that will occur contributes to the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose--namely, to establish a righteous government on earth, administered by a representative of the human race from the dynasty of David, who will wrest earth and its inhabitants from Satan's control.

I. PURPOSE FOR THE RISE OF WORLD EMPIRES

A. To give the Gentile powers ample opportunity to demonstrate their ability:

1. To reverse the effects of the Fall
2. To reclaim earth from diabolical control
3. To introduce a righteous government on earth.
 - *Babylonian wealth and magnificence could not do it.*
 - *Persian moderation and generosity could not do it.*
 - *Greek culture, philosophy, language could not do it.*
 - *Roman law, justice, order, administration, and unity coal not do it.*
 - *In the future the combination of all of these cannot do it.*

B. To bring to light the utter godlessness of the Gentile powers and how much they deserve judgment for their idolatry and blasphemy.

When at last God destroys these powers, no one will question the justice of it. When God elevates Israel and restores the monarchy of David, and grants political, governmental sovereignty to Israel, Gentile powers will have no reason to object; they have been weighed in the balances and found wanting.

II. PURPOSE FOR THE INVASION FROM THE NORTH

A. To prove that centuries of advance in civilization, culture, refinement, and human rights cannot rid the nations of anti-Semitism.

B. To bring about the destruction of false, rival religions: ecumenical Christendom, the Muslim faith, Judaism, and Communism.

C. To convince everyone that the Middle East will never have permanent peace until Israel's Messiah establishes it by His personal presence and power. Until then all attempts to get peace are futile.

D. To chastise apostate Israel for becoming involved in idolatry and godless alliances.

III. PURPOSE FOR THE PERILOUS CONDITION OF ISRAEL

A. God allows IDOLATRY

To prove that centuries of monotheism in the nation have not really cured Israel of idolatrous tendencies. Under the right conditions, it will surface again.

B. God allows TREATIES

To show that the nation has learned nothing from the past--that she will trust her devices rather than the covenant-keeping God of promise.

C. God allows A FALSE MESSIAH

To demonstrate that national Israel still has no spiritual discernment to recognize her true Messiah.

To show that Israel still depends upon signs and wonders and is, therefore, a wicked and adulterous generation.

D. God allows TERRIBLE -AFFLICTIONS

To provide proof positive that calamities and tragedies in themselves cannot turn Israel to God.

To purify the saints of the dross of sin so that they will be reckoned worthy of the kingdom.

- + *God will wait until Israel has lost all resources to save herself; then He will intervene dramatically to save her.*
- + *Through the future troubles God will bring into existence a remnant of regenerate Jews to whom He will fulfill the promises.*
- + *God will demonstrate by a long history that only the New Covenant can implement the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants. Until He implements that New Covenant with Israel, the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants will remain unfulfilled.*
- + *God will supply abundant evidence that no human agency can bring in the kingdom. Only an intrusion from the supernatural order can set up the kingdom and maintain it. (Dr. John L. Benson)*

Which of the titles refer to the Roman prince, which refer to the Jewish antichrist, and which refer to the Russian destroyer?

THE JEWISH ANTICHRIST

1. The bloody and deceitful man (Ps. 5:6; cf. Rev. 13:15, 18; 2 Jn. 7)
2. The wicked one (Ps. 10:2-4; cf. 2 Thess. 2:8)
3. The man of the earth (Ps. 10:18; cf. 2 Thess. 2:3; Rev. 13:11)
4. The mighty man who works deceitfully and loves lying (Ps. 52:1; cf. 2 Thess. 2:9; 2 John 7; Rev. 13:14)
5. The enemy who works wickedness, deceit, guile; a familiar friend (Judas); one who goes down alive into Sheol (Ps. 55:1-15; cf. Rev. 19:20)
6. The adversary who produces signs as a prophet (Ps. 74:8-10; cf. Rev. 13:14)
7. The violent man who is like a serpent, is wicked, and succeeds by setting traps (Ps. 140:1-5)
8. The willful king (Dan. 11:36-39)
9. The idol shepherd (Zech. 11:15-17)
10. One coming in his own name (John 5:43)
11. The hireling shepherd (John 10:12, 13)
12. The man of sin (2 Thess. 2:3)
13. The son of perdition (2 Thess. 2:3)
14. The lawless (wicked) one (2 Thess. 2:8)
15. The antichrist (I John 2:18, 22; 4:3; 2 John 7)
16. The liar (1 John 2:22)
17. The deceiver (2 John 7)
18. Wormwood (Rev. 8:11)
19. Beast out of the earth (Rev. 13:11-18)
20. The false prophet (Rev. 19:20)

TYPES OF THE ANTICHRIST

21. Cain-the man of the earth (Gen. 4:1-17)
22. King Saul-the rebel king of Israel
23. King Hezekiah-the fiery, flying serpent (Isa. 14:29)
24. Shebna, the nail (Isa. 22:15-19, 25)
25. King Zedekiah-the wicked, profane prince (Ezek. 21:25-27)
26. Judas Iscariot (John 17:12; cf. 2 Thess. 2:3)
27. Simon Magus (Acts 8:9-24)
28. Herod the Great, builder of the Jewish temple
29. Herod Antipas
30. Herod Agrippa

TITLES FOR THE RUSSIAN DESTROYER

1. The king of Assyria (Isa. 8:4)
2. The Assyrian (Isa. 10:5)
3. The spoiler (Isa. 16:4)
4. Gog and Magog (Ezek. 38:2, 3)
5. Prince Rosh, Meshech, Tubal] (Ezek. 38:2)
6. Little horn of Daniel 8:9
7. The king of fierce countenance (Dan. 8:23)

8. The desolator (Dan. 9:27)
9. The vile person (more particularly points to the ancient king of the north-Dan. 11:21)
10. The king of the north (Dan. 11:40-45)
11. The northern army (Joel 1-2)
12. The rider on the white horse (Rev. 6:2)
13. Apollyon and Abaddon (Rev. 9:11)--likely a demon spirit that inspires the Russian invasion
14. The army of 200 million horsemen (Rev. 9:16)
15. The flood of armies that perish as the result of the earth opening up its mouth (Rev. 12:15, 16)

TITLES FOR THE ROMAN PRINCE

1. The king of Babylon, a type (Isa. 14:12-23)
2. The son of the morning, a type (Isa. 14:12)
3. The little horn of Daniel 7:8, 24, 25
4. The prince that shall come (Dan. 9:26)
5. The god of fortresses (Dan. 11:37)
6. The beast out of the sea (Rev. 13:1)
7. The head of many countries who receives a wound (Ps. 110:6)

TITLES THAT DO NOT REFER TO THE ROMAN PRINCE, THE JEWISH ANTICHRIST, OR THE RUSSIAN DESTROYER

1. The branch of the terrible ones (Isa. 25:5)
2. The king of the south (Dan. 11:40)
3. The abomination of desolation (Matt. 24:15)
4. The angel from the bottomless pit (Rev. 9:11)
5. The beast out of the bottomless pit (Rev. 11:7)
6. The vile person (Dan. 11:21)-- reference to Antiochus, who is a type of the king of the north to come.¹²

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DOCTRINE OF ANGELS IN DANIEL

1. Angels exist; they are real.
2. Angels communicate information and give knowledge, but they never communicate the gospel (8:19; 10:14). Angels are messengers (10:11).
3. There are good and bad angels (10:20); some are elect and some are evil.
4. Angelic warfare occurs in the invisible world (10:20).
5. Angels have names: Michael (10:13, 20) and Gabriel (8:16: 9: 21).
6. Angels influence and supervise world empires (10:13, 20); angels have charge of specific governments. Michael is Israel's defender and preserver (12:1).
7. Encounters with angels leave men weak (10:16-17).
8. Angels appear in human form (8:15; 10:18).
9. Angels strengthen human beings (10:19).

¹² (Benson, *Who Is the Antichrist*, pp. 123-125)

NOTES:

10. Angels have different ranks and powers (1 0:13, 21).
11. Angels give comfort to human beings (10:12, 19).
12. 2. God sends angels in response to man's prayers (10:12).
13. Angels watch; they are watchers and supervisors (4:13, 17, 21).
14. Angels are holy (4:13).
15. Angels issue commands (4:14); they execute God's will.
16. Angels are numerous--ten thousand times ten thousand (7:10).
17. Angels are ministers of God (7:10).
18. Angels fly; they are swift (9:21). (Dr. John L. Benson)

 **INTERPRETATION:**

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 **COMMENTARY:**

The Ptolemies and the Seleucids in Daniel 11:5-35

Ptolemies		Seleucids	
(Kings "of the South," Egypt)		(Kings "of the North," Syria)	
Daniel 11:5	Ptolemy I Soter (323-285 B.C.)*	Daniel 11:5	Seleucus I Nicator (312-281 B.C.)
11:6	Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285-246)		Antiochus I Soter † (281-262)
11:7-8	Ptolemy III Euergetes (246-221)	11:6	Antiochus II Theos (262-246)
11:11-12, 14-15	Ptolemy IV Philopator (221-204)	11:7-9	Seleucus II Callinicus (246-227)
11:17	Ptolemy V Epiphanes (204-181)	11:10	Seleucus III Soter (227-223)
11:25	Ptolemy VI Philometer (181-145)	11:10-11, 13, 15-19	Antiochus III the Great (223-187)
		11:20	Seleucus IV Philopater (187-176)
		11:21- 32	Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-163)

*The years designate the rulers' reigns.

†Not referred to in Daniel 11:5-35.