

E2E- Part 117b

Daniel 11

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1. Daniel 11 is historical, but it also foreshadows the future. What already happened gives us a window into what will happen at the end of the age.
2. God gives these details so we can see that He knows the beginning from the end. He is never surprised because He is sovereign.
3. The kingdoms of the North and South fought back and forth for years, and Israel was often caught in the middle.
4. The extreme detail in Daniel 11 reminds us that the events of this world, large or small, do not catch God by surprise.
5. Antiochus Epiphanes gained power through intrigue, deception, and smooth words. He gives us a picture of the Antichrist who is still to come.
6. No matter how much wealth, power, or cunning Antiochus had, he could not go beyond the limits God had set.
7. Antiochus set his heart against the holy covenant. He attacked Jerusalem, desecrated the Temple, and tried to stop the worship of God.
8. Even in a very dark time, there were still people who knew their God and remained faithful. They displayed strength and took action.
9. Those who had insight gave understanding to others, even when faithfulness came with suffering and loss. God used the hardship to refine, purge, and make them pure.
10. Some compromised their faith to gain approval and fit in, but God's people were called to trust in His promises and power instead of bowing to a godless ruler.
11. Israel's hope was in the people who stayed completely committed to God. Their faithfulness helped preserve the nation and prepare the way for Jesus.

GREEK & HEBREW WORDS

Bazah (baw-zaw´); to disesteem:— despise, disdain, contempt(-ptible), vile, loathsome person

Chalaq - to be slippery :— flatters, smoother, - faithless

QUOTES

“Many in Israel stood firm and were resolved... they chose to die rather than - ...profane the holy covenant; and they did die”.

- First Maccabees 1:62-63

TODAY'S WORSHIP

God of Wonders
Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)
The Stand

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- The teaching highlights that Antiochus Epiphanes acts as a historical forerunner or "type" of the Antichrist. What key character traits and tactics shown by Antiochus will help us recognize the spirit of lawlessness in our own day?
- In verse 35, we read that the faithful fall "in order to refine, purge, and make them pure until the end time." Biblically, why does God permit intense persecution and hardship to test and sift His people rather than shielding them from all suffering?
- During the Seleucid crisis, some Jewish leaders compromised their covenant identity simply to gain social approval, avoid friction, and blend in with Greek culture. When do you feel the subtle pull to compromise your Christian convictions just to fit in or avoid cultural reproach?
- Those who stood firm in the Maccabean era resolved to suffer loss rather than profane the holy covenant. What helps cultivate that level of deep-seated loyalty and wholehearted commitment to Christ before the trial actually arrives?
- The *maškilim* ("those who have insight") actively engaged in a ministry of teaching, encouraging, and giving understanding to their fearful neighbors. Who in your sphere of influence needs biblical clarity or spiritual encouragement right now, and how can you come alongside them this week?
- When societal norms directly oppose God's Word, faithful believers are called to "display strength and take action" (v. 32) and stand firm. What is one concrete area in your workplace, family, or community where you need to display quiet, uncompromising faithfulness to Christ?