

"THE ANTICHRIST: PART 1"

Daniel 11:36-45

Daniel 11 is an amazing chapter of Scripture. It contains a detailed preview of world history broken into two parts. Ray Pritchard wrote . . .

Verses 1-35 were prophecy to Daniel but are history to us.
These verses contain over 100 specific predictions that have already been fulfilled. They mostly describe war and intrigue in the Greek empire following the death of Alexander the Great.

Verses 21-35 describe the horrific antisemitic actions of Antiochus IV Epiphanes. His atrocities against the Jews are also delineated in Daniel 8. Pritchard also included this insightful explanation . . .

Beginning in verse 36 we come to a section that was prophecy to Daniel and is still prophecy to us today. The last ten verses of Daniel 11 describe events that have no parallel in world history. Since the early days of the Christian church, most expositors have seen in these verses a description of the final end-time ruler known as the Antichrist.

So, who is this Antichrist? David Jeremiah observed:

There are over one hundred passages of Scripture that describe the Antichrist, and yet the word *antichrist* itself is mentioned in only four verses in the New Testament—each time by the apostle John (1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3; 2 John 7). As the word suggests, the Antichrist is a person who is against Christ. The prefix *anti* can also mean "instead of" and both meanings will apply to this coming world leader. He will overtly oppose

Christ and at the same time pass himself off as Christ. (The Book of Signs: 31
Undeniable Prophecies of the Apocalypse, p.247.)

I can't identify him—right now. Eventually he will be recognizable. Generally speaking, he is a man who will make his appearance in the world approximately 7 years before the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ (the tribulation period). With this sketchy portrayal in mind, let's get into the text we've chosen to cover tonight.

There is a gap of undetermined time between verses 35 and 36. We have moved from "appointed times" (vv. 27, 29, 35) in the past to the designation "at the end time" (11:40, 12:4, 6–7, 9, 13) in the future.

Daniel 11:36–37... "Then the king will do as he pleases, and he will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will speak monstrous things against the God of gods; and he will prosper until the indignation is finished, for that which is decreed will be done. 37 "He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the desire of women, nor will he show regard for any *other* god; for he will magnify himself above *them* all.

It's clear that the angelic messenger stops talking about Antiochus at this point (verse 36) and the Antichrist steps into the scene. Daniel previously had described this diabolical person as the "little horn" of Dan 7:8 and "the prince who is to come" of Dan 9:26.

Daniel 7:8... "While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great *boasts*."

Daniel 9:26... "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end *will come* with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined."

2 Thessalonians 2:3... Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and *the man of lawlessness* is revealed, *the son of destruction*....

Revelation 13:1... And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw *a beast coming up out of the sea*, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns *were* ten diadems, and on his heads *were* blasphemous names.

- This coming world ruler will be charismatic, cunning, and cruel.
- He will be an anarchist—*He will do as he pleases*.
- He will exercise *political power* given to him by 10 kings (Rev.17:12-13).
- He will *exert power in the religious realm*, magnifying himself above all gods and blaspheming the true God (Daniel 7:25; 2 Thess. 2:4).
- The world will be persuaded to worship him by the miracles the false prophet will perform in his name (Rev. 13:11–15).
- He will be the final ruler in the Roman world, the little horn of the fourth beast (Dan. 7:8, 24b). Therefore, he must be a Gentile.
- He will demand that the whole world worship him alone.
- He shows no regard for the *desire of women*. Jewish women hoped to be the mother of Messiah, the nation’s Savior and King.
- He will succeed in spreading his influence around the world, both politically and religiously (Rev. 13:7–8).

Daniel 11:38–39... “But instead he will honor a god of fortresses, a god whom his fathers did not know; he will honor *him* with gold, silver, costly stones and treasures. **39** “He will take action against the strongest of fortresses with *the help of* a foreign god; he will give great honor to those who acknowledge *him* and will cause them to rule over the many, and will parcel out land for a price.”

- He will promote military strength, *honor a god of fortresses.*

- Though this king will come to power offering peace through a covenant with Israel (9:27) he will use military power to expand his dominion.

- He will honor and enrich those who submit to his authority.

A simple comparative chart makes plain what we have in King Jesus as opposed to the Antichrist.

Antichrist	King Jesus
Despised (11:20)	Desired
Deceitful (11:23)	Truthful
Hates the holy covenant (11:28)	Loves God's holy covenant
Desecrates the temple (11:31)	Cleanses the temple
Abolished sacrifices (11:31)	Made sacrifice once for all
Persecutes God's people	Refines and purifies God's people
Willful (11:36)	Submissive
Exalts himself (11:36)	Humbles himself
Magnifies himself as god (11:36)	Incarnated himself as God
Blasphemes God (11:36)	Glorifies God
Worships the god of war (11:38)	Is the God of Peace
His kingdom will end (11:45)	His kingdom endures forever ¹

¹ Daniel L. Akin, [*Exalting Jesus in Daniel*](#) (Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2017), 157.