A special commentary that goes along with this King of the North series is *The Battle Between Two Apostate Powers – Again!*, which can be obtained by:

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THE COMING BATTLE BETWEEN TWO APOSTATE POWERS – AGAIN!

DANIEL 11:36-45

Figure 11:36-45

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We now continue our studies on:

The King of the North



A Daniel Eleven Verses 36-45 Study

The King of the North Enters the World Scene

Lesson Four



Earlier in Daniel 11 – insightful reports noted:

The Papacy – vile person – king of the north

- Forsook God's holy covenant (vs 30)
- Polluted His church (vs 31)
- Set up an abomination against God (vs 31)
- Corrupted the wicked world through flatteries (vs 32)
- Persecuted God's people (vs 33)

This all occurs during the "appointed time," named also the "time of the end," as we have seen in Daniel.

While that is going on, <u>another group</u> of people are alluded to that Rome hates.

The "people that do know their God" (vs 32):

- Shall be strong (vs 32)
- Will do "exploits" or witness for Him (vs 32)
- Will instruct many (vs 33)
- Yet some will be put into prison,
 some killed by weapons or even fire (vs 33)
- Some may backslide in their faith (vs 34)
- But it will purify and make many "white" (clothed with Christ's righteousness) (vs 35)



This was remarkably described by the inspired writer E. G. White:

"When the storm of persecution really breaks upon us, the true sheep will hear the true Shepherd's voice. Self-denying efforts will be put forth to save the lost, and many who have strayed from the fold will come back to follow the great Shepherd. The people of God will draw together, and present to the enemy a united front.... Then will the message of the third angel swell to a loud cry, and the whole earth will be lightened with the glory of the Lord." (6T 401 – 1900)



The people who know God give the last warning message the world will ever hear.

Daniel talks about this group in the eighth chapter of his book. There, a "ram" standing by the Ulai River, representing Jesus (and the 144,000), has "two horns."

That Ram was coming out of the "east." "East" means the direction of deliverance or from where Christ comes!



Daniel saw something unusual about this Ram. He watched the horns grow. The larger one grew last. Horns give power to a "beast" or "kingdom." Since Gabriel told Daniel that that prophecy was also for the "time of the end," we now know it was a parallel message to the "king of the north."

One horn represents the 144,000; the other, the great multitude. Both will be "witnesses" for Jesus at this time!

The "east" represents where the final gospel message will emanate from! It will be earth's last "deliverance" message.

"... greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King." (Psa. 48:1-2)

Though the "north" (via the "king of the north") is where apostasy emanates from, it is where God's throne resides. "East" is symbolic of the direction the great redemptive invitation is heard from. It is so loud, it is called a loud cry. Everyone will hear!

This is where our final study on Daniel 11 begins. What is heard out of the "east" and the "north" terrorizes the antichrist!!!

"But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many." (Dan. 11:44)

This verse is most informative:

"<u>Tidings</u>" (*shema* – H) is best translated "<u>reports</u>" (NET, NIV). News bulletins have reached Rome – the center of Christian apostasy – and they are troubling.

But even more:

"shall trouble him:" (vs 44)

This addresses another unique message!
The word "trouble" (bahal – H) denotes
"terrorize." The success of God's witnesses
is so profound, including publicly identifying
Rome as the antichrist, that this "king of the
north" and his cohorts become very fearful!

That coalition, named "Babylon" in Revelation, well should be terrorized! God will shortly thereafter destroy them! (Rev. 16:19)

"A message will soon be given by God's appointment that will swell into a loud cry.... We are standing upon the borders of the greatest event in the world's history, and Satan must not

have power over the people of God, causing them to sleep on. The papacy will appear in its power.... The time of trouble is near, and we are to awake to a realization of this." (Letter 54 – 1906, 4MR 330)

Paul prophesied about this time!

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition." (II Thess. 2:3)

"It is then [at time of anti-Sabbath laws] that the final work of the man of sin will be revealed. Protestants will throw their whole influence and strength on the side of the Papacy ... reviving her tyranny and oppression of conscience. (ST, June 12, 1893)



God's people have been advised: "We should be filled with the spirit of the message of warning and mercy which

we are to bear to a dying world. We have only begun to drink of the fountain of life. As we follow on to know the Lord, increasing light will shine upon us, and our path will grow brighter and brighter unto the perfect day." (RH, May 28, 1889)

"The messengers that God sends are as <u>light in a dark</u> <u>place</u>.... As they work under



Christ's counsel, and bear a <u>living testimony</u> to the truth, <u>they will be sustained</u> against the power and craft of Satan, which <u>will increase</u> as we near the time of Christ's second appearing. God's <u>witnesses</u> are to hold firmly to the word of the Lord, which is <u>to shine</u> amid the moral darkness till the very close of this earth's history." (PH116 23 – 1906)



The papacy then will be very fearful. A spirit of hatred and retaliation against God's people is provoked. This is how Daniel describes that reaction!

"therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many." (vs 44)



"to <u>destroy</u>, and utterly to <u>make away</u> many." (vs 44)

The papacy now makes determined moves, seething with hatred, to kill God's people.

- "destroy"
- "utterly make away many"

This <u>spirit</u> and literal <u>persecution</u> help us to link this narrative with other apocalyptic prophecies in the Bible.

Many call this the "time of trouble" or "little time of trouble" (in contradistinction to the "great tribulation").



This is the time when the Lamb breaks the fourth seal of John's apocalyptic scroll and the horse of "death" goes out! (Rev. 6:8)

It is when Lamb Jesus opens the fifth seal and John hears the cry of the martyrs: "How long, O Lord?"



Here are some of the other prophecies that describe the same event that Daniel unfolds in this "king of the north" narrative:

- "shatter the power of the holy people" (Dan. 12:7 – NAS)
- "it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them" (Dan. 8:10)
- "shall destroy the mighty and the holy people" (Dan. 8:24)

- "shall overcome them, and kill them" (Rev. 11:7)
- "under the altar were the souls slain for the word of God" (Rev. 6:9)
- Whoever does "not worship the image of the beast should be killed" (Rev. 13:15)

"Prior to the last closing conflict, many will be imprisoned, many will flee for their lives from cities and towns, and many will be martyrs for Christ's sake in standing in defense of the truth." (Mar. 199) In His Olivet discourse, Jesus noted that we must expect this:



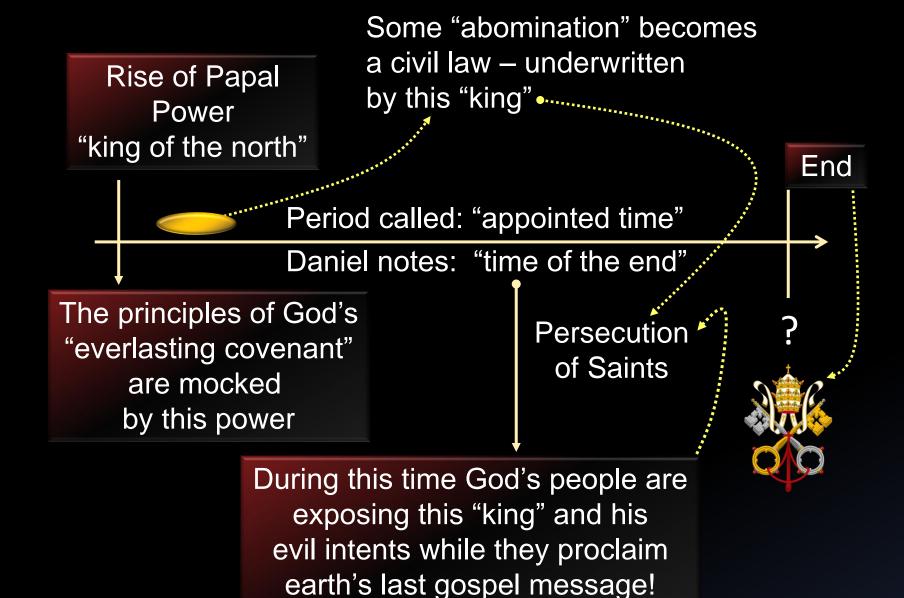
"Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake."

(Matt. 24:9)

This all means that God's people will have a convicting message, be knowledgeable regarding the Biblical issues and have indicting reports against the scurrilous intents of Rome!

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed." (II Thess. 2:3)

As we convey this truth to the world, the papacy is "troubled" – terrorized.



Daniel continues ...

"And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him." (Dan. 11:45)

"And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace" (vs 45)



This actually means he "pitched the tents of his palace." There are many opinions among scholars as to what this refers to.

Whatever it is – it is the last "move" of the antichrist! It appears that this is an idiomatic expression, meaning that <u>he</u> becomes the "central power" – <u>religiously and</u> geopolitically. It is strategically "set up."

Paul made this insightful comment:

"He as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God." (II Thess. 2:4)

The "king of the north" – the papal head – assumes such a prominent place as head of the world's religions, he authoritatively assumes a place which only God Himself has the prerogative to hold!

Catholic documents support this claim:

"The Church is above the Bible."

(*The Catholic Record;* London, Ontario, Canada; Sept. 1, 1923, Diocese of Bishop Most Rev. Michael F. Fallon, D.D., LL.D.)



"The Pope is of so great dignity, and so exalted that he is not a mere man, but as it were God and the vicar of God."



[Ferraris Ecclesiastical Dictionary – 1899 (original 1746)]

"All names which in the Scriptures are applied to Christ, by virtue of which it is established that He is over the church, all the same names are applied to the Pope."

(On the Authority of the Councils, book 2, chapter 17)

"The Pope and God are the same, so he has all power in Heaven and earth."
(Barclay, Cities Petrus Bertanous, ch. XXVII, p. 218 – attributed to Pope Pius V)

He has coalesced his church/state power and taken this authoritative seat. But he doesn't do this alone. John notes:

The world powers "have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast." (Rev. 17:13) and "the dragon ... gave power unto the beast." (Rev. 13:4)

"he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain" (vs 45)

The phrase "between the seas" is understood by most expositors, to geographically mean:

"between the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean Sea."

This would cover the area of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv in Israel.



This area was called the "pleasant land" by Zechariah:

"But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations whom they knew not. Thus the land was desolate after them, that no man passed through nor returned: for they laid the pleasant land desolate." (Zech. 7:14)

Daniel had previously used this description in another association with the papacy — the "little horn."

"And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land." (Dan. 8:9)

This papal power comes from the "north," and goes toward the east, the south and the "pleasant land," referring to the west.

"the glorious holy mountain" (vs 45)

This refers to Mount Zion, the temple mount, where Abraham was told to sacrifice his son (at which time it was called Mount Moriah).

Zion was where David prophesied that God would place the Messiah. (Psa. 2:6) There His kingdom would have its center. (Mic. 4:8)

This mount is also sacred to the world of Islam.



There are many who interpret this to mean that one of its "military" objectives includes the creation of a papal administrative center in Palestine. This may be true.

But the greater message, based upon its global "takeover" as "head" of the religious world, suggests something deeper.

This description means that not only will the papacy control the Christian Church, but the religious structure of the Jewish and Islamic people.



Much groundwork has already been laid toward that objective!

How might this prophecy be fulfilled?

When the world feels politically the need for a moral compass; when the world senses that it must get back to God because of its helpless state – THEN – its power and leadership will be coveted.

Stephen L. Carter, distinguished professor of law at Yale University, notes:



"The effort to banish religion for politics' sake has led us astray. In our sensible zeal to keep religion from dominating our politics, we have created a political and legal culture that presses the religiously faithful ... to act publically ... as though their faith does not matter to them." (The Culture of Disbelief: How American Law and Politics Trivialize Religious Devotion, 1993)

The same year, the late Leslie M. Lipson, professor at the University of California, Berkeley, and an expert in political theory observed:

"We are at a critical stage in our history. It is clear that there has been a lowering of <u>ethical</u> <u>standards</u> in many sectors of our society. Both promise and peril confront humanity at this time." He called ... for [a] <u>revolution</u> in our ethical practices. (*The Ethical Crises of Civilization: Moral Meltdown or Advance*, 1993)

Lipson noted that a crisis in societal ethics is burgeoning. Erosion of moral standards that define how people relate to each other has become an unavoidable trend.

David P. Gushee, professor of Christian ethics at the Baptist Mercer University (Atlanta), said that the United States needs not only an economic recovery plan but also a "moral recovery plan."



John Quincy Adams, sixth president of the United States, said:

"Our Constitution was made <u>only for</u> a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

[quoted: Norman Cousins, *In God We Trust: The Religious Beliefs and Ideas of American Founding Fathers* (Harper and Brothers Publishers, NY – 1958)]

The Constitution is said to have become inadequate. Judges are even using foreign laws to help make decisions!

The degradation of the world is not only apparent in the entertainment industry, but advertisements often provoke lust from within man's nature to entice one to buy a product.

"Licentiousness is the <u>special sin</u> of this age. Never did vice lift its deformed head with such boldness as now. <u>The people seem to be benumbed</u>, and the lovers of virtue and true goodness are nearly discouraged by its boldness, strength, and prevalence." (AH 328)

Another kind of "moral sickness" is invading the Christian churches. It is being dubbed the "emergent church" or the "post-modern church."

Roger Oakland warns: "Unity" and what a person does have become more important than the gospel, the Bible or faith. This "form of Christianity" is replacing Biblical truth. Man is told he can find his own path to God. [Faith Undone (Lighthouse Trails Publishing – 2008)]

The papacy has been biding its time and watching these complex trends, especially within other "Christian" churches. Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI, spoke out.

While talking to fellow cardinals during a homily, on April 18, 2005, he said that the next pope would have to deal with an emerging "dictatorship of relativism" within the world.





Those words brilliantly expressed what was then becoming obvious – the world was "Slouching toward Gomorrah."
Relativism was invading not only the world but the minds of religious leaders.

Ratzinger signaled that the time had come to assume leadership over the secular and religious worlds. That was provocative and prophetic.

Evil spirits will direct the way leaders perceive devastating events:

"They will lament the great wickedness in the world and second the testimony of religious teachers that the <u>degraded</u> state of morals is caused by the <u>desecration of Sunday</u>. Great will be the indignation excited <u>against all who</u> refuse to accept their testimony." (Mar. 167)

Other "thought leaders" began to address similar concerns.



Gideon Rachman, chief columnist of foreign affairs, London Financial Times, noted:

"There is now [2009] an increasing possibility [for the need] to establish world government [based on moral concerns]."

The new administration in Washington had been in office for three years. Growing concern over its international leadership intensified. Within six months of Pope Benedict XVI's inauguration, he came out with his sweeping encyclical, *Caritas en Veritate* (*Charity in Truth*).

He outlined the Vatican's blueprint to rescue the world's economy and create geopolitical unity and expressed the need for a "central moral authority." Meaning?

This was a papal announcement that the Catholic Church was prepared to be that moral compass!

As the intensity for a strong moral leader is penetrating the global atmosphere, a "willing answer" is heard. "We are available."

Intriguingly, the Holy See is probably the world's most noticeable "world power" built around a religious ethic.

We reflect:

The late Jesuit writer and Catholic apologist Malachi Martin wrote the earth-shaking book, *The Keys of This Blood*. In it he said:

"[John Paul II] insists that men have no reliable hope of creating a <u>viable</u> geopolitical system, unless it is on the basis of Roman Catholic Christianity." [Malachi Martin, *The Keys of This Blood* (Simon and Schuster, N.Y. – 1990), p. 492]

Is that arrogance? Think! – Is anyone coming to society's "rescue" like the papacy? He went on to say: "No one is right enough to develop a *one-world system* except the Roman Catholic's brand of Christianity!"



The Bible prophesied long ago:

"and power was given him over <u>all</u> kindreds, and tongues, and nations." (Rev. 13:7)

Whether Martin was a prophet or just knew the Bible, we won't debate. Scripture says that the papacy will control the world at the end. This is a geopolitical prophecy. The "New World Order" will be headed by Rome!

The magnetism of the present and last popes is unparalleled! The world is drawn to the Roman Catholic Church with its pomp, magnificent art and architecture. Its leaders symbolize "peace" and "unity."

Note the following pictures – with 1–1.5 million people in one emotional gathering to honor Rome's leader:

In 2002 Pope John Paul II drew 1.5 million people to the Toronto World Youth Day.







June 3, 2012, Pope Benedict spoke to one million people in Milan, Italy, at the International Family Conference. "God's word has given warning of the impending danger; let this be unheeded, and the Protestant world will learn what the purposes of Rome really are, only when it is too late to escape the snare.... Stealthily and unsuspectedly she is strengthening her forces to further her own ends when the time shall come for her to strike. All that she desires is vantage ground, and this is already being given her. We shall soon see and shall feel what the purpose of the Roman element **is.**" (GC 581)

Daniel closes this chapter with:

"yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him." (vs 45)

This reveals that the papacy, its leaders and the pope will come to a helpless "end." No one will be there to give it aid or block its demise.

There are other similar prophecies of the final history of Catholicism and its followers. For 3½ years the "little horn" – papacy – has been defying God and persecuting the saints. (Dan. 7:25) Then comes this prophecy:

"But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end." (Dan. 7:26)



When does this occur? When Jesus receives His kingdom (Dan. 7:14; cf. Phil. 2:10-11) and the saints reign with Him. (Luke 22:30; II Tim. 2:12) That "kingdom" will "be given to the ... saints." (Dan. 7:27) The papal "king" is destroyed at the Second Advent!

Another "terminal prophecy" of the papacy:

"And in the latter time of their kingdom [Holy See – papacy], when the transgressors are come to the full [sin has reached its peak], a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up." (Dan. 8:24)

After he persecutes God's "holy people" and stands up to the Prince of princes, it says:

"He shall be broken without hands." (Dan. 8:25)

When? At the zenith of sin – the very end.

Paul even talked about his demise:

"For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall <u>destroy with the</u> brightness of his coming:" (II Thess. 2:7-8)

Again, this "man of sin," that "Wicked," comes to his end at the Second Coming.

In summary, the "king of the north," also called the "little horn," the "king of fierce countenance," that "Wicked" and the "man of sin," will come to his end:

- When sin reaches it universal peak
- At the end of a 3½-year period, during the persecution of the saints
- When he blasphemes and arrogantly challenges the Prince of princes
- At Jesus' Second Coming

The "king of the north" is the ecumenical symbol in prophecy of "Babylon," also noted as the "great city" and the "harlot." These all reflect earth's final coalition of "apostate Christianity."

John the Revelator notes its three parts:

- Beast representing the papacy the king
- 2. False Prophet representing apostate Protestantism
- 3. Mysticism representing all other religions and powers

That "king of the north" has deeper prophetic implications than simply an earthly power! "North" is where "Zion" is located – the place of God's throne. This "king" has "taken over" "Zion" and assumed the prerogatives of God. He is an evil apostate.



God, therefore, announces his demise, with all his loyalists in a unique missive:

"And the great city [Babylon] was divided into three parts ... and great Babylon came in remembrance before God [meaning judicial decisions have now been made!], to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath." (Rev. 16:19)

God's mercy is longsuffering – but love demands that justice intervenes when rebellion becomes irrevocable. "He shall come to his end" without anyone to help.

John also notes another fascinating part of this terminal saga. Just before God judicially acts towards this "king," all his followers turn against him:

"And the ten horns [the key leaders of the whole world] which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, [the Roman Catholic Church] and shall make her desolate and naked" [she has been stripped of all her power and glory]."

(Rev. 17:16)



We must be personally challenged with these words:

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading Pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not His mercies Mercies for you and for me?

Come home! come home!
Ye who are weary, come home!
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
Calling, O sinner, come home!

The End



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