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!

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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 Two** 

# "Preface" to the King of the North Prophecy!

Earth's last <u>antichrist</u> era is unfolded in Daniel 11:30-45. Through these brief verses we see its <u>progressive rise</u> in power. AND – as the eschatological end approaches, <u>it</u> assumes world domination and economic control.



This final period is called by some the "little time of trouble." In turn, that heralds the anticipated onset of a very brief "Great Tribulation," when the antichrist comes to its end!

# This is sequentially how our "king" study will proceed. But first note:

1929 – Onset and rise of a world-recognized church—state power! Ambassadors were quickly appointed.

King of the North enters this "time of the end" prophecy!

Rev. 17:10

Dan. 11:36-45 begins

Dan. 11:30-45

The "appointed time" of 3½ years begins. The "little horn," "sea beast" or "vile person" rises in power.

This is when that papal power will assume control of many world affairs.

Little Time of Trouble

That appointed time occurs shortly before Jesus' Second Coming. Daniel 12 (a different study) shows this period of persecution to last 3½ years. The "king" story now begins:

"And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done." (Dan. 11:36)

## Daniel <u>assumes</u> in the phrase:

"And the king shall do according to his will" (vs 36)



that we already know who this "king" actually is. A power was recently mentioned in verses 21-28, called a "vile person."

At the end of that discourse it says: "And at the appointed time <u>he</u> shall return." (vs 29)

This means that "he," the "vile person" has <u>another</u> "rise" to power, which is what we have just noted in Daniel 11:30-45.

In Daniel 11:30-35, that antichrist is referred to as "he," again, always assuming that we know it is the same as the "vile person" (KJV) ["contemptible person" (NIV), "despicable person" (NET)].



As we have just seen here in verse 36, the "he" is now redefined as a "king." He is the "little horn" of Daniel 8:9-12 and the "man of sin" noted in II Thessalonians 2:3-12.

What is this timing period, called the "appointed time," that begins this study?

In verse 29 notes that this "king" or "he" would rise again to power at the "appointed time."

This period is announced as the "time of the end" in Daniel 8:19. That was further embellished by noting that it would be when God's wrath began (vs 19) and when a "king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, would stand up" [rise in power]. (Dan. 8:23) They are all linked together.

The same Daniel 8 verses say that this all occurs when sin reaches it peak! That's also defined as the "time of the end."

Therefore, the "appointed time" of this "king" is when:



- 1. God's wrath begins
- 2. An "antichrist" king arises
- 3. Sin has reached it "zenith"
- 4. The characteristics of this "king" are the same as the "little horn" (Dan. 8)

The "end" now moves quickly forward!

## Our study verse continues:

"and he shall exalt <u>himself</u>, and magnify <u>himself</u> above every god" (vs 36)

This sounds as though it could be Satan.

(Isa. 14:11-14) But – the context is of an earthly antichrist power.

This is <u>willful arrogance</u>, previously described in the Little Horn prophecy of Daniel 8:

"he magnified himself even to the <u>prince</u> <u>of the host</u>" (8:11); "he shall also stand up against the <u>Prince of princes</u>" (8:25)

## Embellishing this further:

"and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods" (vs 36)

That's "blasphemy!" No wonder this "king" is seen as the "antichrist!"

Could this upside down cross have anything to do with this type of blasphemy (against the very God of gods)?

Fascinating is the record of Nebuchadnezzar's judicial stance 60+ years previously:

"Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort." (Dan. 2:29)

Prophecy says that this <u>other</u> "king" will arise at the end of time, speaking against that God!

The "antichrist king," who claims to be a Christian, won't even respect the true God as that pagan king did!

Nebuchadnezzar publically stood for what was right when conviction came into his heart!

"speak marvellous things against the God" (vs 36)

The Hebrew word for "marvelous things" is *niplaot,* from the root word *pele*. This root refers to God acting supernaturally.

However, here it is rhetorical, revealing that this "king" acts as though he has divine power through his words and acts!

A similar parallel occurs in the book of Revelation in another antichrist prophecy regarding the "sea beast." (Rev 13)

Signs and wonders will be evident.

"And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

"And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven." (Rev. 13:5-6)

Yet, it is stunning – Scripture notes that "the world will wonder" after that power (beast). (Rev. 13:3) It is mesmerizing.

Daniel finally summarizes this introductory "king" verse:

"and he shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done." (vs 36)

This is the same language used for the "little horn" of Daniel 8: he "practiced and prospered" (Dan. 8:11)

God, however, placed a <u>limit</u> on his arrogance, power and defiance!

Notice that this antichrist, centered in Rome, is successful <u>till</u> the "indignation" is completed.

It is during this "little time of trouble" that God's wrath or "indignation" (*zaam* – H) begins. His character will be vindicated.

When that wrath begins, the doom of this bold defiant papal power will be assured.

Though we have confirming prophecies elsewhere, God here notes that what "is determined [decreed] shall be done."

As we saw previously, the word "Babylon" represents a coalition of end-time "Christian" powers united with this "king."

Here are two prophecies which describe their "end:"

"And great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath." (Rev. 16:19)

"... whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:" (II Thess. 2:7-8)

Many *skeptics* question whether this Danelic "king" relates to the end of time. Scholar Steinmann addressed this when he notes:

"The clearest indication that this 'king' will live in the latter days is that the resurrection of the saints will take place immediately after God delivers His people from this individual's power. (12:2) Of course, the resurrection is an eschatological event." (Steinmann, Andrew E.; *Daniel*, p. 544 – Concordia University – 2008)

Daniel now continues with his narrative about this "king:"

"Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all." (Dan. 11:37)

This verse is filled with fearful statements regarding this end-time antichrist "king."

# "Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers," (vs 37)



The "God of his fathers" refers to *Elohiym* of the Old Testament. (Ex. 3:13, Josh. 18:3) Contextually, he is an apostate with an allegiance to <u>some</u> god!

Daniel observed previously that God's true people "know their God." (Dan. 11:32-33)

This means that this end-time apostate leader arises from a religious body that used to worship the one true God!

This "king" is in competition with God!

He claims to be a Christian! But Paul describes him as a "man of sin," taking his seat in God's temple — His church — and purporting to be its leader. (II Thess. 2:3-4) Paul even notes that this "son of perdition" exalts himself "above God."

No wonder Daniel continued:

"nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all." (vs 37)

This is amazing insight about the antichrist. It echoes Isaiah's description of Satan:

"I will exalt my throne above the stars of God ... I will be like the most High." (Isa. 14:13-14)



Another clue as to the identity of this "king" is tucked within this verse.

"Neither shall he regard ... the desire of women," (vs 37)

Many scholars (including reformers Luther and Calvin) understand this to mean this power looks with disfavor at normal marital relationships.

This reflects well the prohibition by the Catholic Church for nuns to marry.



## There are 57,000 nuns in the United States

**alone.** (http://usnews.msnbc.msn.com/\_news/2012/04/20/11306372-catholic-nuns-group-stunned-by-vatican-scolding-for-radical-feminist-ideas?lite)



On April 18, 2012, the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops launched a crackdown on the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (representing 80% of those USA nuns). They took them to task for their independent moves to have more freedom.

The Vatican said, "No!"

## Affirming once again:

"Neither shall he regard ... the desire of women," (vs 37)



Some conjecture that this could apply to the Islamic world. This is addressed here (the "king" once followed the true God), and in Revelation 17 He calls her a "harlot," having a state centered on seven hills (Rome). That <u>is</u> the Roman Catholic Church with her Vatican State.

## Daniel's "king" prophecy continues:

"But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things."

(Dan. 11:38)

"But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces:" (vs 38)

"God" should be "god." It comes from *eloah*. The word "forces" alludes to his reliance on civil power to further his objectives.

### We are reminded:

"The church appeals to the strong arm of civil power, and, in this work, papists and Protestants unite." (Mar. 172)

## Pope John Paul II noted in 1998:

"Therefore, also in the particular circumstances of our own time, Christians will naturally strive to ensure that <u>civil legislation</u> respects their duty to keep Sunday holy."

(Dies Domini, Section 76, 1998)

This king's "nation" authority (the Vatican – 108.6 acres) appeals to the civil and military power of other nations!

This global authority rests also with the relationship that exists through the exchange of 179 ambassadors.

But – what the papacy/Vatican lacks in military power, she makes up for in other ways. That is what the rest of the verse discusses.

Those coalitions have become a "god" to him. This "king" is a religious power, the Roman Catholic Church. Yet – she functions as a state on the world front.

She is represented in the United Nations, as we have seen, as the "Holy See" – the joint bond between church and state.



That authority has become her "god" to associate with the "forces" of the world.

On June 29, 2009, Pope Benedict XVI appealed to the world leaders in an encyclical, *Caritas en Veritate:* "Move away from capitalism to a world economy" that is "morally neutral" for the "common good."

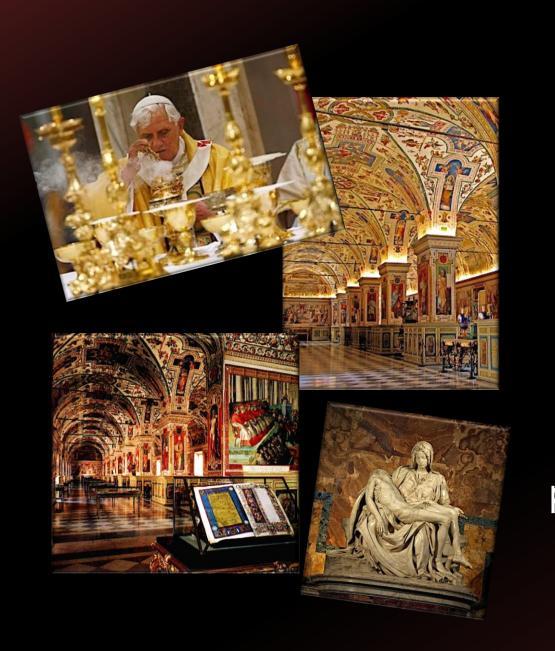
He strongly hinted that <u>he</u> could function, with their help, as the world's moral authority to bring about that "good."

This is a blaring illustration of this prophecy! His world identity is so strong, he can take the <u>risk</u> to make such a suggestion!

#### Daniel continues:

"a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things." (vs 38)

We just saw that using his "international authority base" to execute his will was referred to as a "god." Here, that "god" is honored or strengthened through its wealth and pleasant things it can do!



Gold, art work, precious stones, costly buildings, unsurpassed architecture, are all part of the mesmerizing imagery of the papacy. No other place in the world is like this!

The Holy See allures the world by its wealth, power and perceived goodness. It is, in turn, highly honored.







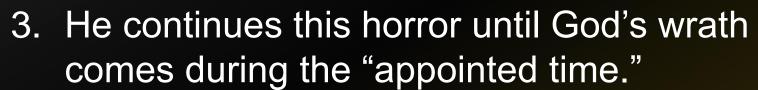
This honor returned to the papacy/pope suggests that earth's major powers sympathize with its leadership and work on her behalf.

This is detailed in Revelation: "With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication." (Rev. 17:2)

"Fornication" relates to an illicit relationship, based on religious falsehood. In Revelation 17 the "harlot," or this apostate church, has a golden cup filled with abominations, with which she deceives the world.

#### Interim review:

- 1. Daniel reports on a "king" who is promoting himself above all gods.
- 2. He even speaks against the God of heaven.



- 4. This "king" has little respect for women.
- 5. His "god" is the global authority he has through the Vatican State.
- 6. He hypnotizes the world through his wealth, opulence and power.



As we have seen, there are many links to other apocalyptic prophecies related to this "king."

Here, Daniel is opening up a unique block of information to show how this antichrist will work to promote itself and counter endtime influences of God and His people!

How daring is this "king" or world leader? He has recently suggested the possibility of becoming a "moral authority" for mankind.





He has also gone on record to "magnify" his "spiritual" authority!

"All the names which are attributed to Christ in Scripture, implying His supremacy over the church, are also attributed to the Pope."

[Robert Bellarmine, "On the Authority of Councils," *Disputationes de Controversiis*, book 2, ch. 17 (against Eph. 5:23)]

"We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty." (Pope Leo XIII)

Through this antichrist, spiritual arrogance is soon to be on full display. The world will defensively "adore" the personage and power of the pope.

[Praeclara Gratulationis Publicae (The Reunion of Christendom), Encyclical promulgated on June 20, 1894; <a href="http://www.users.qwest.net/~slrorer/ReunionOfChristendom.htm">http://www.users.qwest.net/~slrorer/ReunionOfChristendom.htm</a>]

#### Daniel continues:

"Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain." (Dan. 11:39)

Though the translation here is challenging, this verse partially reviews what we have just gone over.

"Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory:" (vs 39)

The antichrist "king" will enrapture the nations or "strong holds" of the world with his diplomatic abilities.

This prophecy says that it will strengthen and bring increasing glory to the papacy!

That is exactly what John notes later about a "beast," which is the same as this king:

"And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months....

"And power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

"And <u>all that dwell upon the earth</u> shall worship him" (Rev. 13:5, 7-8)

Long ago expositor White warned:

"Romanism as a system is no more in harmony with the gospel of Christ now than at any former period in her history. The Protestant churches are in great darkness, or they would discern the signs of the times. The Roman Church is far-reaching in her plans and modes of operation. She is employing every device to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for a fierce and determined conflict to regain control of the world ... and to undo all that Protestantism has done. Catholicism is gaining ground upon every side." (GC 565)

John talks about that "beast" in other areas. Speaking of its ten horns, he notes:

They "have one mind and shall give their power and strength unto the beast." (Rev. 17:13)

Those ten horns are ten world powers that will soon be part of the "New World Order."
This has already been partially implemented.

John has much to say about this!



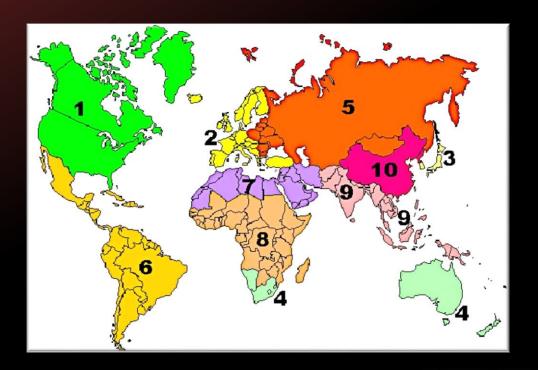
#### The last part of verse 39 says:

"and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain." (vs 39)

The weight of evidence suggests that this "king," or the papacy, will have power over how these ten world division leaders rule.

They give "their total allegiance and support" to the papacy. They surrender everything "to the Antichrist, forming a united front."

(Osborne, Grant R., Revelation, p. 622)



They "shall divide the land for gain." (vs 39)





The first coins were struck in 2009

# Recently the Club of Rome posted what it calls "critical areas of world affairs."

## A New Path for World Development

- Environment and Resources "energy security"
- 2. Globalization redistribution of wealth and income, "economic restructuring"
- 3. International Development poverty and food production
- 4. Social Transformation social change and values religious influences
- 5. Peace and Security solidarity



While in Cuba at Revolution Square, Pope Benedict XVI spoke about "Social Transformation."

"The church lives to make others sharers in the one thing she possesses, which is none other than Christ, our hope of glory." The "path to a true social transformation" is "to form virtuous men and women... to bring to the world needed change."

continued:

"... but this will occur only if each one is in a position to seek the truth and chooses the way of love, sowing reconciliation and fraternity.

"Dear friends, do not hesitate to follow Jesus Christ," he exhorted. "In him we find the truth about God and about mankind. He helps us to overcome our selfishness, to rise above our ambitions and to conquer all that oppresses us."

Sounds spiritually elevating?



"The Catholic Church is one of the most ancient and extensive institutions in the modern age to exert a significant influence on

diverse world affairs. From the heights of the Papacy to regional conferences of bishops to individual clergy and lay members alike, the Catholic Church remains active in its commentary and critique on modern political, economic, social, and religious issues."

(Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University – 2012)

Could that *commentary* ever imply coercion or threats from Catholic leaders?

Before becoming the Pope, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger noted:

"The 'absolute good' [and this means building a just <u>socialist</u> society] becomes the <u>moral</u> <u>norm</u> that justifies <u>everything</u> else, including – if necessary – violence, homicide, mendacity." (Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, *US News & World Report*, Dec. 2, 1985)

"Socialist" = Marxism
"Homicide" = murder
"Mendacity" = lying

The papacy returned to the "world stage" in 1929 with the signing of the Lateran Treaty.

Its power base came into global focus during the reign of Pope John Paul II. He is the sixth "head" of the beast described in Revelation 17 – the one that "is."

On several apocalyptic fronts, he begins to fulfill prophecy for the last generation.



Daniel's prophecy adds even more specific timing information to this "king" story.

Leading up to the narrative of how the papacy wields its end-time power, there are several fascinating messages:

- "At the time appointed he shall return" (11:29)
- "the time of the end" ... is for "a time appointed" (11:35)
- "at the time appointed the end shall be" (8:19) (defined when sin reaches its peak)

Daniel has much more to say about this endtime period. It is the last  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years of earth's history.

That is the "appointed time" that mirrors what Habakkuk said follows the "tarrying time." (Hab. 2:2-3)

God's apocalyptic "clocks" had been put on hold at the Cross. He didn't have a "select people." All end-time prophecy brings into focus when a "holy people" will emerge.

But in His mercy, He explicitly shows how Satan will do everything to prevent that from occurring.

That is why the study of prophecy is so valuable. We get important insight as to the Satanic opposition we will see and experience very soon.

The story of this "king" is there so we won't be deceived!

"Protestants will throw their whole influence and strength on the side of the papacy. By a national act enforcing the false sabbath they will give life and vigor to the corrupt faith of Rome, reviving her tyranny and oppression of conscience." (Mar. 179 – 1893; LDE 128)

"Protestantism will in this act join hands with the Papacy; it will be giving life to the tyranny which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into active despotism." (ST, November 28, 1900) The final history of the papacy/pope is outlined in the last six verses of Daniel 11.

In our next lesson we will focus in greater detail on those events, which we are about to be immersed in!



Let's pray that we will be spiritually ready for what lies just ahead.

## The End

## Next Lesson:

# **Acquiescing to the Papacy**



PRI Headquarters



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