

THE BOOK OF DANIEL

"The Coming Antichrist"

Daniel 11:36-39

Introduction

1. The entire universe will fulfill the eternal design for our sovereign and eternal God decreed it.

2. Following the historical interlude of 11:2-35, Daniel prophecies that which concerns the end time. Specifically, here is something related to the 70th week of Daniel, the Great Tribulation period. But this demands a gap between vv. 35, and 36. The gap is supported by: a. The fact that the history so distinctly set forth is now concluded. b. "The king" of v. 36 is a notable person already mentioned in the book (cf. the "little horn" of chapter 7). c. What is described here relates to the consummation of the age (cf vv. 36, 40, 45). d. Between the historical events noted and the activities of these verses, the Church Age comes in. It is never designated as an "indignation" (v. 36), but the Tribulation is!

3. But there will be a dominant person in that Tribulation Period. He will be the Antichrist. His description is provided in the verses of our text:

1. HIS PERSON

a. His volition. v. 36.

Everything is done in self-will. No submission to God here. As with Satan, there is nothing but the will of the creature!

b. His exaltation. vv. 36, 37.

No earthly god is satisfying to him. The Antichrist takes precedence over all.

c. His expression. v. 36.

As blasphemy, he strikes out against Almighty God. To actively level threats against heaven is fearful!

2. HIS RELIGION.

a. Disregard for paternal God. v. 37.

This has been felt by many to identify him as

a Jew. Nowhere, however, is he explicitly identified racially.

b. Disregard for passion of woman. v. 37

Here is a reference to some peculiar concern of women or perhaps to their desire to be the vehicle of the Messiah. In any case, women have no special place with him.

c. Disregard for deities. vv. 37, 38.

No supreme being, true or false, is of any concern to him. Rather, a god of forces (maybe military prowess) is deified. Cf. current trusts in military power!

d. Disregard for money. v. 38

He will not withhold any expenditure to support his own religious ends.

e. Disregard for enemies. v. 39.

Those who support him will have an acknowledgement in sharing rule and spoils with him.

NOTE: His person and religion are substitutes for the true and living Christ of God!

3. HIS ACTIVITY.

a. Prosperity v. 36.

But this is for a time which is described as the "indignation". This is the Tribulation Period (cf. 8:19; 9:24-27).

b. Promotion. v. 36.

He will be on the prowl till God's determined end has been realized.

CONCLUSION: There was a spirit of antichrist in the apostolic era (I John 4:3). Others have prefigured a personal antichrist (cf. Num. 22-24; Dan. 8:9-26; 11:21-35). The one in our text is the real one. He is the last to stand up but he will fall (11:45).

Oh, worship Christ the Lord!