

KINGS OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH

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8.10.16

We spent most of last week in Revelation chapters 13 and 17.

Revelation 13 ... 2 Beasts. The First Beast has 7 heads and 10 horns. Appears to be a composite of the Beasts of Daniel 7 ... we see the Lion ... Bear ... Leopard ... 10 Horns.

My speculation is that it's an end-time Islamic Empire comprising 10 Islamic Nations. They make war with the saints for 42 months.

(There is a traditional view the Roman-European Interpretation. It applies to Rome from 554 AD to Napoleon in 1814)

Then in Revelation 13 there is a Second Beast ... looks like a lamb ... has 2 horns ... encourages worship of the 1st Beast ... includes a reference to the Mark of The Beast.

The Vatican ... Roman Catholic Church ... using the beast empire to enforce Sunday-Worship. Or ... end-time Islamic Antichrist? The end-time Islamic Caliph ... over 1.7 billion Muslims ... who is the supreme ruler over religion and government.

Then Revelation 17 ... Great Harlot riding a Scarlet Beast. Chapter 18 ... its destruction. No chapter breaks between chapters 17 and 18.

The Great Harlot is said to be in the wilderness ... desert place ... to have International influence over peoples ... multitudes ... nations and tongues and also said to be a Great City. I have suggested Mecca. The Holy City of Islam. Its most holy city. The birthplace of Islam. 1.7 billion Muslims praying towards it every day.

Mecca and Saudi Arabia Royal family have worldwide influence (and corruption) through their oil wealth and trading agreements with Presidents ... Prime Ministers ... CEO's ... who trade and get rich while Saudi gets rich and uses its fortune to finance Terrorism. Spiritual and Economic Fornication ... with this "woman". Oil symbolised by "wine" ... that makes nations drunk.

Chapter 18 describes its destruction. She ... this woman ... is utterly burned with fire ... all her plagues come in one 24 hour day. It may include nuclear weapons.

And their main enemy is the other islamic nations. The 10 horns turn against her and destroy her.

The other main alternative is Rome-Europe with 10 European nations. I don't see it!! But it's a popular view.

So ... a suggestion ... watch the nations of the Middle East ... watch Islam. Watch Turkey and Iran (He-Goat and Ram of Daniel 8). Watch President Erdogan ... watch for the possible restoration of the historic Ottoman Empire (the Beast whose deadly wound was healed). Watch Iran and its IRGC (which might be one of the 2 horns?). There is lots of hostility and jostling for power.

Historically ... bear in mind that the Islamic Empires ... Caliphates ... have ruled huge areas of the world ... through North Africa ... Middle East ... Palestine ... Syria ... Iraq ... Turkey ... Pakistan ... Afghanistan ... Southern Russia ... Eastern Europe ... even as far as Spain and France. They are not a bunch of amateurs riding around on camels! No! They were a major-world ruling Empire for about 1400 years ... from about 600 ish to 1922. They pulverised and crushed those that came before it ... Babylon ... Persia ... Asia Minor (Javan). Unlike

many war-making Empires ... Islam conquers "in the Name of God (Allah)".

Today. There are very powerful armies to be found across the Middle East. Very modern military technology (from the US and Russia).

I will cover or review one further key passage today ... the King of The North ... fighting the King of The South ... to be found in Daniel 11.

Who is the King of The North? Traditionally the Holy Roman Empire ... led by Germany? Believed by the WWCG ... UCG ... Living ... RCG. They will tell you that is the case. But probably not!

What about The King of The South? Vague ... most believe it's a collection of Islamic countries. PCG is absolutely blunt and clear: Iran (even though it's actually due East ... and its capital, Tehran is North East of Jerusalem!)

They play a major role at the very end-time ... so it is good to know who they are ... and what we should expect? We are supposed to be watching the signs of the times.

Daniel 11:40-41 (NKJV)

40 "At the time of the end the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through.

41 He shall also (the King of The North) enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.

This is the time of the end ... so relevant to us.

We have often been instructed to “turn to Daniel 11:40”. But ... we can't understand prophecy on this basis! We can't understand the entire story picking it up in the middle. The story is continuous through chapters 10-11-12. All one passage.

There are/were no chapter breaks in the original Bible (it was Stephen Langton in 1200s AD who did that). They sometimes interrupt the flow of the meaning. Don't let the chapter breaks make you think you have finished one topic and then you are on to the next.

Let's start where it begins.

Daniel 10:1-14 (NKJV)

1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia (Iran) a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision.

2 In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks.

3 I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

4 Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris,

5 I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz!

6 His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in colour, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.

7 And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

8 Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigour was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength.

9 Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground.

10 Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands.

11 **And he said to me, (the angel) "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you."** While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.

12 Then he said to me, **"Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words."**

13 **But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; (a powerful spirit being) and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.** *(Other spirit beings over Persia ... and probably still there today)*

14 Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people *(the Jews essentially)* **in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come."** (70 AD? ... no ... the end of the end-time)

Daniel 11:2 (NKJV)

2 **And now I will tell you the truth: Behold, three more kings will arise in Persia, and the fourth shall be far richer than them all; by his strength, through his riches, he shall stir up all against the realm of Greece.** *(Javan)*

The explanation of the vision begins and runs through to the end of Daniel 12 ... unbroken!

Most commentators say verses 2-32 are all history (some people say up to verse 35 is history). If so ... it wouldn't be very relevant to us?

Question: Possibly more about the future ... than past? No one currently teaches that ... but you do wonder!

Despite the commentators views ... that it's all historical ... I'd like to suggest we get to the future no later than verse 21. And what the angel then gives us is a clear description of the end-time Antichrist. There should be enough to help us recognise him. We can watch better!

I said earlier that Daniel 11 (really 10 through 12) is about the King of The North and the King of The South.

I'm not going into detail about the historical aspects ... but we can get a "feel" for the key players in the chapter.

Daniel 11:5-15 (NKJV)

5 "Also **the king of the South shall become strong, as well as one of his princes; and he shall gain power over him and have dominion. His dominion shall be a great dominion.**

6 And **at the end of some years they shall join forces, for the daughter of the king of the South shall go to the king of the North to make an agreement;** but she shall not retain the power of her authority, and neither he nor his authority shall stand; but she shall be given up, with those who brought her, and with him who begot her, and with him who strengthened her in those times.

7 **But from a branch of her roots one shall arise in his place, who shall come with an army, enter the fortress of the king of the North, and deal with them and prevail.**

8 And he shall also carry their gods captive to Egypt, with their princes and their precious articles of silver and gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the North.

9 "Also the king of the North shall come to the kingdom of the king of the South, but shall return to his own land.

10 However his sons shall stir up strife, and assemble a multitude of great forces; and one shall certainly come and overwhelm and pass through; then he shall return to his fortress and stir up strife.

11 "And the king of the South shall be moved with rage, and go out and fight with him, with the king of the North, who shall muster a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into the hand of his enemy.

12 When he has taken away the multitude, his heart will be lifted up; and he will cast down tens of thousands, but he will not prevail.

13 For the king of the North will return and muster a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come at the end of some years with a great army and much equipment.

14 "Now in those times many shall rise up against the king of the South. Also, violent men of your people shall exalt themselves in fulfillment of the vision, but they shall fall.

15 So the king of the North shall come and build a siege mound, and take a fortified city; and the forces of the South shall not withstand him. Even his choice troops shall have no strength to resist.

We get the general picture! The King of The North fighting the King of The South. Lots of pushing and shoving ... competition for power and rule! Over centuries.

Historians tell us these details are very accurate about centuries after Daniel. They're so accurate ... some sceptics think Daniel is a mythical character ... and the book was written 100's of years after the historical events. (They don't believe the Bible is inspired).

Historically: The Kings of North/South rose up from the break-up of Alexander the Great's Empire.

KING OF NORTH: Seleucid (dynasty) ... made up of:
Syria ... Iraq ... Iran ... Pakistan ... Turkey

KING OF SOUTH: Ptolemy (dynasty) ... made up of:
Egypt (and Libya and Sudan)

Today ... all of these nations are Islamic.

If you look at a map: Syria ... Iraq ... Iran ... Turkey ... Pakistan ... are all in the northern area geographically. Equally ... down below them ... Egypt ... Libya ... Sudan ... geographically are in the south.

If we take Jerusalem ... the future world capital ... as Ground Zero ... then north and south of Jerusalem works.

Identifying the king of The North or South is no more complicated than that.

What they were before ... is what they are now ... and what they'll be in the very end-time.

However ... our traditional view (which is common to many Bible scholars) ... is because we've considered Rome to be the key player ... that the king of the North = the Holy Roman Empire.

The King of the South ... probably accept as Egypt ... maybe Ethiopia ... though Gerald Flurry identifies it as Iran. (That doesn't work for me: Iran is due East of Jerusalem. Its capital, Tehran, is north of Jerusalem!! Historically ... Iran was part of the Empire of Seleucus, King of The North).

My view is to simply carry forward the historic Kings of the North/South into the future. To be consistent. I think that's being responsible? (The King of the South used to be Egypt. But ... Mr Flurry changes it to be Iran ... capital is over 1000 miles away from Cairo!! North East! Irresponsible!?). Saying Rome is King of the North is just as bad.

Back to Daniel 11. Future prophecy may begin at verse 21.

Daniel 11:21-24 (NKJV)

21 **And in his place shall arise a vile person, to whom they will not give the honour of royalty; but he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue.** (*Devious individual*)

22 With the force of a flood they shall be swept away from before him and be broken, and also the prince of the covenant.

23 **And after the league is made with him he shall act deceitfully, for he shall come up and become strong with a small number of people.**

24 **He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province;** and he shall do what his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but only for a time.

He is vile ... others translations say he is contemptible ... despicable. Appears peaceful ... but is an expert deceiver ... underhanded ... that will fool people. He will fool Presidents ... Prime Ministers ... the United Nations.

Daniel 11:25-27 (NKJV)

25 **"He shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the South with a great army. And the king of the South shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand, for they shall devise plans against him.**

26 Yes, those who eat of the portion of his delicacies shall destroy him; his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.

27 **Both these kings' hearts shall be bent on evil, and they shall speak lies at the same table; but it shall not prosper, for the end will still be at the appointed time.**

The Kings of the North/South at war again. If Islamic countries ... fight each other ... no surprise! Iran hates Saudi Arabia. Syria ... all sorts of Islamic groups fighting. "Iron and Miry Clay" ... don't adhere.

Daniel 11:30 (NKJV)

30 **For ships from Cyprus/Kittim shall come against him;** (*King of North*) therefore he shall be grieved, and return in rage against the holy covenant, and do damage.

"So he shall return and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.

What you've got here is ... The King of the North is on the march ... pushing and bullying ... temporarily thwarted by naval armies from Kittim.

Who are these armies that come against the King of The North? Kittim refers generally to the Mediterranean area.

NIV: **"ships of the Western coastlands"**

CEV: **"ships from the West"**

GNB: **"the Romans will come in ships and oppose him"**

There is a bit of a clue here? If (as is traditionally thought) the King of The North is Western Europe ... why would naval forces from Western Europe come against themselves?!

This is where many see a subtle shift from history to the future (some see it half-way through verse 32).

God's people will fall ... be refined ... made white. (See that description again in chapter 12 ... will identify the timing)

Before reading the rest of Daniel 11 ... let's see how Daniel 12 identifies this whole passage as end-time. Remember: Daniel 10-12 is all one vision! Nothing has changed ... the conversation is unbroken ... same angel!

Daniel 12:1 (NKJV)

1 "At that time (*events just described in Daniel 11*) Michael shall stand up,

The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people;

And there shall be a time of trouble,

Such as never was since there was a nation,

Even to that time. (*The Great Tribulation*)

And at that time your people shall be delivered,

Every one who is found written in the book.

This time is a time of unequalled trouble. Jesus said in Matthew 24 when you see the Abomination of Desolation spoken of by Daniel standing in the Holy Place ... flee ... for then there will be great tribulation such as never before.

There is no question that Daniel 12:1 is end-time.

Verse 2. Resurrection. End-time!

Verse 4. Seal up till this very, very end (Sorry Hippolytus in 200 AD who says the 4th Beast is Rome ... Jerome ... Issac Newton ... great and sincere scholars couldn't understand)

Then two Angels start a conversation about this end end-time. They quote parts of chapter 11 as the end-time.

Daniel 12:5-7 (NKJV)

5 Then I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others, one on this riverbank and the other on that riverbank.

6 And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, "How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?"

7 Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished. *(Complete)*

Three and a half years to shatter the power of God's people ... then it's all over. Finished.

Daniel 12:10 (NKJV)

10 Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.

Many purified etc. This is the angel quoting chapter 11:32-35 ("shall fall, to refine ... purge ... make them white ... until the time of the end"). So ... chapter 11:32-35 must be the very end.

The angel gives Daniel some further information.

Daniel 12:8-9 (NKJV)

8 Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, what shall be the end of these things?" *(The end ... the outcome)*

9 And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end."

Daniel 12:11 (NKJV)

11 "And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. (30 days longer than times, time and half a time)

The Daily is taken away and the abomination set up. The angel is quoting chapter 11:31 "they (King of North) shall take away the *daily* sacrifices and place there the Abomination of Desolation.

Same words: TAMIYD ... SHIQQUTS ... SHAAMEM.

So ... it is clear that chapter 11:31 is still future. Angel says so. It's the very, very end-time. Not Antiochus in 168 BC. Much of Daniel 11 is future (I think from at least verse 21).

Daniel 9:26-27 (NKJV)

26 "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

27 Then he (*this vile prince ... despicable prince*) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; (*a peace treaty for 7 years*) But in the middle of the week. (*Then the true prince becomes apparent and he turns*)

He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolater."

A 7 year peace treaty ... but deception. Half way through ... the King of the North (Prince) turns ... takes away the sacrifices ... sets up the abomination (Shiqquts) ... makes desolate (Shamem). The final three and a half years = tribulation that Jesus mentioned in Matthew 24 ... equals times, time and half a time of Daniel 7 and Daniel 12 and 1290 days of Daniel 12.

Let's continue with the prophetic story of the Kings of North/South in end-time.

Daniel 11:36-39 (NKJV)

36 "Then the king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done.

37 He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all.

38 But in their place he shall honour a god of fortresses; and a god which his fathers did not know he shall honour with gold and silver, with precious stones and pleasant things.

39 Thus he shall act against the strongest fortresses with a foreign god, which he shall acknowledge, and advance its glory; and he shall cause them to rule over many, and divide the land for gain.

God of Fathers (If Fathers here relates to Abraham ... then they should be worshipping Jehovah. But they don't worship the God of Abraham. They worship Allah who is not the god of their fathers).

Daniel 11:40-45 (NKJV)

40 "At the time of the end the king of the South (*Egypt in alliance with Libya and Sudan*) shall attack him; and the king of

the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, (Turkey ... Iran ... Syria ... Pakistan) and with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through.

41 He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon.

42 He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

43 He shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians shall follow at his heels.

Verse 43 He shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians shall follow at his heels.

ESV, ISV, LEB, NIV, OTHERS = "Cushites" Hebrew. Today ... more likely Sudan.

GOD'S WORD TRANSLATION: "He will control gold and silver treasures and all Egypt's **treasuries. Libya and Sudan will surrender to Him.**"

WIKI: "Sudan used to be home of the kingdom of Kush".

Sudan: Islamic country. Its government is based on Sharia Law ... stoning and crucifixion are both legal.

Verse 44 But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many.

Verse 45 And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him.

King of South = Egypt in allegiance with Libya and Sudan. King of North = Turkey ... Syria ... Iraq ... Iran ... Pakistan in general ... with one key powerful individual from those regions.

Traditionally ... Egypt "pushing at" Western Europe ... maybe (vague) oil countries exerting economic pressure on Europe ... so German-led EU reacts ... invades. I'd suggest rather that this is Islamic nations competing (possibly Sunni/Shia split?). Probable (?) that the focal point may be for control of Jerusalem? After Mecca ... Medina ... Jerusalem is next: Al Aqua Mosque is the 3rd holiest site.

Back in Daniel 7 ... the 4th Beast has 10 horns. Then the Little Horn ... a Pompous Horn ... rises up and subdues 3 of the 1st 10 horns. Probably this is the event we are looking at here ... Egypt ... Libya and Sudan?

Once the King of the North has conquered them ... perhaps then he declares he's the Caliph ... whom all must obey ... as Allah's appointed representative? He's now the undisputed ruler of vast territories ... and 1.7 billion followers.

There are "interesting" times ahead of us! As this age comes to a violent end. We shouldn't become prophecy hobbyists ... but we should be familiar with signs of the times ... and be continually watchful and alert!

And ... looking forward!

Afterwards ... Jesus is here! The World Tomorrow has come.

