

The Time of the End

Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Daniel 11.

B. Daniel was able to see what happens when a person prays.

II. The immediate future from Daniel's day on.

A. There will be three more kings following Cyrus.

B. Alexander the Great's empire is prophesied including the Roman takeover.

III. The course of history.

IV. The career of the king of the North—Antiochus Epiphanes.

A. The Romans sent a fleet and insisted that this king return to his own land and offer allegiance to Rome.

B. The king took his angst out to the Jews and made an unclean offering in the Temple.

C. This event is called the Abomination of Desolation.

V. The career of the Maccabees.

A. These men did great things including cleansing the Temple.

B. They are ultimately responsible for the Roman presence during the time of Jesus.

VI. The last days of a greater fulfillment.

A. The events of the Abomination of Desolation will be repeated in the last day.

B. This king will magnify himself against every God.

1. He blasphemes God.

2. He magnifies himself.

3. He shall prosper until the Great Tribulation has been accomplished.

4. He shall rule by military power.

5. He shall be in league with a foreign God.

6. He will settle the issue of the divided land.

C. The campaign of Armageddon will occur.

1. It will begin with an attack against Syria from Egypt.
2. This is because Syria makes a covenant with the Jews.
3. The king of the North will strike back.
4. The king of the North conquers Egypt and North Africa.
5. This conquest will only end through the coming of Jesus with His armies.

VII. The purposes of these predictive passages.

A. They are not given to frighten us.

B. They are given to guide us in order that we would not be part of the international delusion of the last days, which is the worship of man—humanism.

C. Reasons for the prophetic passages.

1. That we would have a realistic view of man and the problem of man.
2. That we would learn to employ spiritual weapons instead of pressure tactics.
3. That we would view persons as more important than programs.
4. That we would manifest a spirit of trust and confidence in God.
5. That we would build deep ties of love and consideration with other Christians.

Application questions:

1. What struck you the most about Daniel's prophecies and their fulfillments throughout the course of history?

2. Who is the Abomination of Desolation historically? Who is his future referent?

3. Which one of the reasons for the prophetic passages do you find the most helpful? Explain.
