Daniel 65 – War: South and North – Old and New

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Daniel 11:5-13

Prologue: Hellenism Vastly Improved – But Centralized Personality a Failure

- Alexander was successfully used by the demonic general against Persian forces but Alexander's excesses were not <u>effectively</u> Controlled
 - Alexander adopted Persian and Hellenized deification and opulent Oriental forms that offended his army and supporters back home: Be as god (Ge 3:5; Pr 16:18)
 - Alexander exhibited classic displays of uncontrollable lusts exhibiting the qualities of Satan: Violence and Degradation even against his own forces-friends (Ez 28:14-18)
 - Alexander ruled through <u>force</u> of personality, when immersed in Persian excesses his personality turned on his supporters possibly resulting in his death (Ga 5:19-21)
- Alexander's empire fell apart on his death; Vision details two parts:
 - Seleucids eventually HQ in Syria but retained <u>Hellenized</u> practices
 - Ptolemies HQ in Egypt adopted Egyptian practices; copied Alexander's mistakes

Prologue: 19th-20th Century Warfare – Struggle Between Two Revolutions

- Modern history details Satan's scientific centralized governmental control
 - Franco-German socialism <u>relied</u> primarily on force: Failed because poor source of moral guidance; man demands morality beyond self – Religion
 - English socialism <u>relies</u> primarily on persuasion, backed by force prn, to secure agreement of the governed to their own enslavement; Religion (2Th 2:3-12)
 - European 19th-20th century {World} wars mirrored Seleucid-Ptolemy wars
 - As Antiochus IV mirrored Antichrist, Napoleon's rise to power from war's crises mirrored how Antichrist will be embraced by people as savior of peace
- I do not say these modern examples <u>complete</u> the meaning of this vision
 - These examples mirror truth of how Satan works: His goal never changes (Ec 1:9-11)
 - These examples will repeat until Antichrist's appearing; each cycle bringing the world ever closer to embracing Antichrist and his False Prophet (Re 13)

Points of the Compass: Their Meanings

- Daniel describes each kingdom by their location to Israel and Jerusalem: Glorious Land – Glorious Mountain {Zion} (Ps 48:1-2; Da 11:41, 45)
 - North { צָפוֹן; sap_on} Region of Darkness (Jn 1:1-18)
 - South { גֶגֶב ; negeb} Parched Wilderness {Hebrews wandered in Sin for their sin}
 - West { מַעָרָב; ma'arab –Setting Sun {Mirrored Christ leaving Kosmos} (Jn 9:4-5)
 - East { מִזְרָח; mizrah Rising of the Sun {Sun shall Rise with Healing} (Mal 4:1-2)
- This applies to Daniel's two kingdoms
 - Northern {Seleucid Empire} Forerunner of Antiochus IV/Antichrist who brought/brings Satan's darkness into God's Temple (2Th 2:3-12)
 - Southern {Ptolemy Empire} Embraced Egypt's very ancient kingdom with Hellenistic forms: Mixing old & new – Gnosticism to scorch men's minds (Ez 20:6-26; Amos 8:11-9:6; Ro 1:18-28)

Satan's Central Truth: Survival of the Fittest {Evolution}

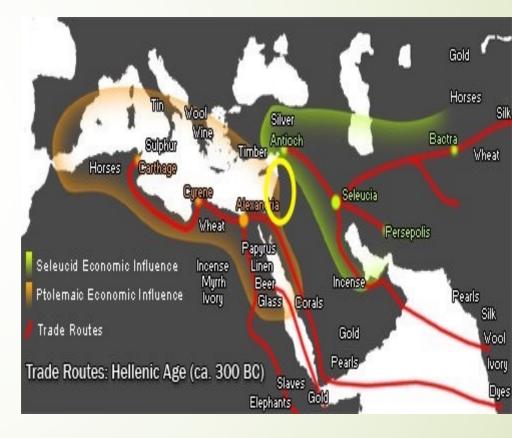
- Daniel details tactics and techniques of Satan's grasping for Control over Man to gain Control over Christ; i.e., cause God to violate His nature
- Southern Empire begins as the stronger empire
 - Northern Empire does not prevail but neither does the Southern Empire defeat its internecine rival: Both have significant weaknesses
 - Each Empire attempts to gain Control through deception, diplomacy, and war
 - Rulers use family to extend Control, promotes strength over love; family members are pawns in the quest: Love is fruit of the Spirit; not a quality of Satan or the Flesh (Ga 5:17-24)
 - Sons take up the father's quest for their <u>own</u> gain even eliminating brothers who may kill them; honor is one way, fealty to the leader <u>for</u> the Empire: Socialism is centralized Control so <u>all</u> elements achieve the goal: Satan's Control – <u>No</u> Honor

Capturing Forms of Strength: Purpose of Religion – Morality

- Southern King captures symbols of Morality of the Northern Empire (Idols)
 - Ptolemy demonstrated the strength of its very ancient forms over the newer forms of Hellenism: Deism of the Ruler
 - Religion the source of nation's morality: Each Empire differed little as godsgoddesses came from common source with ethnic differences - Babel
 - Capturing these symbols promoted weakness and doubt of national morality; however, over time this reversed with the rise of a different leader: Experimentation – What motivated the people best for Satan's goal
- Satan's purpose, as <u>all</u> false worship is directed to him, is to hone the skills of one empiric form over another (De 32:17; 1Co 10:20)
 - Satan's maxim: Bigger is better; until it is not: Each empiric overwhelms with larger forces – Until abrupt new smaller efficient forces develop {Bombers eclipsed by Rockets nearly overnight}

The Levant: Pathway Between South and North

- Jews were on the major road between these two Empires {Yellow}
- Armies foraged and extorted tribute as they marched {Taxes}
- Jews would take sides as it suited their ambitions
- Many Jews sided with Ptolemy though forbidden – Don't Return to Egypt
- Many would side with Seleucid for personal gain {Cold War Tactics}
- Few remained Faithful to God Died



Crusades: Medieval Power Projection Limitations

- Crusades ostensibly to free the <u>Promised Land</u> from Muslims, Jews were the enemy of both; but more to do with experiments in power projection
 - Franks stopped and rolled back Islamic power into France resulting in Charlemagne being crowned emperor by the Pope – New Roman Empire-ish
 - RCC sought to consolidate its political-religious power by having medieval kings prove their devotion by removing Ottoman {Muslim} control of Jerusalem which prevailed for a time; however, Crusades demonstrated weaknesses of medieval kingdoms to project power and maintain Control over time and distance
 - Later Eastern Europe nation-states proved more effective in stopping modernized Islam keeping Europe in the Greco-Roman tradition
 - However, nation-states require financiers who were increasingly Jewish due to RCC refusal to allow usury among Christendom due to bad hermeneutics
 - Thus, in the medieval period power shifted from ancient empires to tribes to nation-states to regionalism via corporatism and financiers behind the scenes

Historical Europe: Same Strategies – Same Confusions

- Satan's methodologies do not change; his strategies span the Old Testament to Europe's medieval period to the rise of nation-states to affect wars and strategies into the 20th-21st centuries
 - Marriages were forms of treaty alliances; England's rejection of Roman Catholicism (RCC) more to do with King Henry VIII's changing of wives, and alliances, than with Gospel truth {King James of KJV fame was Gay, not saved}
 - Each nation-state sided with its form of moral truth dividing between RCC or Protestantism: Success off secured via Mercantilism; early financiers
 - Modern European wars {WWI/WWII} guided by financiers' goals rather than national beliefs {Hidden History: The Secret Origins of the First World War}
 - Philosophers {<u>Marcuse's Liberation Philosophy</u> and <u>Bernays' Propaganda</u>} were enlisted to gain public support for these *hidden* agendas and soldiers to die for them
 - Proper Scriptural hermeneutics keeps one centered on Christ