



Daniel 68 – Fear: Foundation of Violence

Dr. Leon L. Sanders

Daniel 11:29-35



Prologue: Cultural Decay – Prey to Other Powers

- ▶ Our previous lesson showed Northern King deterred by another force (Da 11:18)
 - ▶ As Northern and Southern kings are weakened, draining ability to project power, they become prey to an empire rising in power {Rome-Revived Roman Empire}
 - ▶ Northern King coming to power is so weakened that his tribute collecting emissaries are ignored; he quickly falls prey to baser men whose only rule is to win
 - ▶ One comes who has no authority to rule; however, he takes control via lies supported by those who will gain from his deceptions; even in Southern Kingdom
 - ▶ He secures his base in the Levant by defeating those who oppose him including the Jews who have sided with Ptolemaic king; they begin to join him for gain
- ▶ Rise of Antiochus IV, Antichrist, is via continual crises wherein people believe his flatteries, deceptions, or succumb to his violence
 - ▶ He does not rise because of strength, at first, but due to lies {Victory and Peace?}



Prologue: Spiritual Warfare – Determines Physical Warfare

- ▶ Antichrist-type ruler's influence out of proportion to his power-resources
 - ▶ He gains allies behind the scenes via bribery who work against the Southern king: Rebellion, Satan's *modus operandi*
 - ▶ When he does wield power, he brings horrific violence to engender fear
 - ▶ When his base is secure, he comes against the Southern king defeating him in a large battle
 - ▶ Both kings use deception in negotiations; Northern King has spiritual advantage
- ▶ Northern King returns to his empire with great plunder but leaves Southern empire intact for continual tribute
 - ▶ Antiochus IV despises Jewish culture; not Hellenism nor paganism
 - ▶ He exerts power over the *False Jews* as Satan directs (Re 12:17a)



At the Appointed Time: Restrained Sin Strains to Control-Destroy

- ▶ Appointed Time { $\tau\upsilon\chi\eta$; $m\sigma^{\prime}e\acute{\delta}$ } – This phrase dominates Daniel; in fact, it dominates ALL Scripture: Genesis-Revelation
 - ▶ Sin strains to destroy, no {Self} Control even as it seeks to Control EVERYONE (Ga 5:19-24; Jude 6-10)
 - ▶ Bible written assuring Saved, God ALWAYS in Control despite Lost's deprecations (Hab 2:2-3)
 - ▶ Satan knows when Christ is {first} coming, whom he hates (Da 9:24-26; He 1:5-13)
- ▶ Appointed Time – Antiochus {IV} returns to plunder Egypt but encounters Rome
 - ▶ Herein is the hidden secret of Satan-Antichrist revealed: Lives in **FEAR** (1Jo 4:18)
 - ▶ Fear of Judgment drives EVERYTHING Satan {Sinner} does EVER (Re 12:7-12)
 - ▶ Antiochus'-Antichrist's-Satan's actions are to prevent Christ's coming, in the flesh, by removing His believers; and Temple



Rome Demands an Answer: Fear Begets Violence

- ▶ Roman consul, Gaius Popilius Laenas, drew a circle about Antiochus and demanded an answer to Rome's demand to leave Egypt: **Now** {168 B.C.}
 - ▶ Antiochus had no opportunity for deception: Yes or No
 - ▶ Fearing for his life he *voluntarily* withdrew from Egypt
 - ▶ Evidenced loss of Control {Roman spiritual influence stronger than Hellenism} (Da 2)
- ▶ To reaffirm his authority he cruelly secured Levant against Egyptian attacks
 - ▶ Jerusalem major stronghold and traditionally allied with Ptolemies
 - ▶ Sought to sway leaders, and thus people, to him by deceptions and intrigues
 - ▶ He sought to play the *False Jews* against the *True Jews* by lies and bribes (Jn 8:44)
 - ▶ He attacked their moral center, Temple, making it a shrine of demons; Christ not contained in any earthly {physical} edifice (De 32:17-18; Ac 7:44-50; 17:24-25; 1Co 10:20-21)



Resistance is Not Rebellion: Maccabees Not the Heroes

- ▶ Jewish elites bribed with promises of continuing in power if they changed sides and supported Hellenistic paganism as their moral source
 - ▶ Shows corruption of priesthood evident from nearly its inception (Le 10:1-9; Mk 11:15-18)
 - ▶ Warriors among the people sought to *defend* their culture though they violated one of its fundamental precepts: Rebellion = to Witchcraft {Luciferianism} (1Sa 15:23)
 - ▶ Bible refused to list their *exploits* so they bragged of their *victories* in their writings, 1 & 2 Maccabees, and even enshrined it in a holiday: Hanukkah {Lights??}
- ▶ *True Jews* among the people resisted the changes and desecration of the Temple; they were killed for their faithfulness (Ac 7:51-53)
 - ▶ Christ tells later generation that when they again see this abominable desolation they are to FLEE, not REBEL (Mt 24:15-22)
 - ▶ Battle not between us and Satan nor the Lost; victory is Christ's in the Father (Ro 12:19-21; Ep 6:10-14a; Ph 2:5-11)



Fear-Death-Chaos: Satan's Dystopian Reality

- ▶ Lost people see death as finality, annihilation; Save should view death as, *“falling asleep”*; we seek a city to come: *Eternity future*
(Lk 16:22-24; Ac 7:59-60; Ga 4:21-31; He 11:8-16, 39-40)
 - ▶ Satan knows death, separation from God forever, as ABSOLUTE reality; he greatly fears this end (Mt 25:41; Re 20:10)
 - ▶ For all his efforts to set aside his own judgment, Satan cares naught for those who die in sin; sin has no love (Ps 96; Pr 1:10-19 ; Ga 5:13-15)
- ▶ Because Sinners' moral core is sin it is unstable as sand evidenced by chaos
(Pr 1:22-33; Mt 7:24-27)
 - ▶ Kings of North {Darkness} and South {Scorched} fight for Control though they have no Control: Pawns under Control of Satan's demonic generals
 - ▶ Their empires descend in chaos due to war weakening them for Rome's Control
 - ▶ People look for stability but not from God: Religion – Philosophy = Luciferianism



“A Little Help” Now: At the Appointed Time – Victory

- ▶ The Saved receive *a little help* meaning this is not time of promised victory
 - ▶ God does not desert His people but assists them to be shining lights in the darkness viciously attacked by Satan and the Lost (Mt 5:14-16; 1Pe 2:12)
 - ▶ Separates wheat from *tares* for the day of judgment: Revealed by their fruit (Mt 13:24-30; Re 20:11-15)
- ▶ God's methodology immutable as Christians also receive *a little help* as He withdraws the Spirit's restraint so Satan – Antichrist – Lost revealed by fruits (Mt 7:15-20; 2Th 2:3-12)
 - ▶ Christians are to cling to the true doctrines and Christ our *first love* (Re 2:3-5; 3:15-19)
 - ▶ Christians are to reject false teachers who infiltrate the churches (Re 2:14-16, 20-23)
 - ▶ Christians are to **stand** while Christ wins the victory (Ep 6:10-13)
 - ▶ Christians will suffer for revealing society's lies while living God's truths, even by lost family members: One only stands when in Christ, not self (Mt 10:34-39; Re 2:8-11; 3:7-13)

Satan's – Antichrist's Deception: Promise of Peace-Reality of Control

Promise–Peace {Utopia}



Reality–Control {Hell on Earth}

