

## **"The End and Eternity"** **Daniel 11:36-12:3**

1. As we saw in last week's message, all of the prophesied things in the first 35 verses of chapter 11 were fulfilled, even down to the smallest detail. As we compared the prophecies, with history, we saw the literal fulfillment of what God revealed through the marriages and conflicts between the Seleucids and the Ptolemies. So precise were the things that God revealed, that some critics claim the Book of Daniel had to have been written after the events took place. How does seeing all that God revealed in the past, give you peace and confidence when it comes to the prophecies we saw in the second half of chapter 11, which are yet to be fulfilled? How does knowing that we serve a God, who knows the beginning from the end and holds the future in His hands, help you with what you may be facing in the times in which we live?
2. The events recorded in verses 36-45 will take place during the final seven of the 70 sevens (see 9:24-27). In Daniel 11:36 a leader is described as "the king". Earlier in Daniel we were introduced to this future king (the little "horn" of Daniel 7:8 and "the ruler" of 9:26). He is called a "beast" in Revelation 13:1-8 and he will rise to prominence by satanic power. We see in Revelation 17:12-13 that he will gain authority not by military might, but by the consent of the 10 kings who will submit to him. As you read 2 Thessalonians 2:4, Daniel 7:25, and Revelation 13:11-15, what else do we learn about this ruler?
3. This Gentile king's rule will be successful (v. 36) during the first 3 ½ years of the Tribulation. He will set aside all organized religion (he will show no regard for any other god) and he will set himself up as the sole object of worship. He will depend upon his own power (as received from Satan). Who is this ruler that we are referring to in Daniel 11?
4. In Daniel 11:40, we see that the king of the South and the king of the North will fight against the antichrist. In response, antichrist will move quickly into Israel ("the Beautiful Land" of 11:16 and 8:9). What is the antichrist's response when he hears disturbing rumors from the "East" and "North" (perhaps of another attack or invasion)?
5. Antichrist will come to occupy Israel as he pitches "the tents of his royal pavilion between the seas and the beautiful Holy Mountain". Where is it that antichrist sets up his throne as he tries to rule? What do we learn about his fate at the end of chapter 11 (v.45)?
6. What excites you most as you consider Heaven and Eternity with the Lord?