

Prayer:

Slide # 1

Theme: God is Sovereign over History

Outline:

- A. The personal history of the prophet Daniel – Chapter 1
- B. The prophetic history of the Gentiles – Chapters 2-7
- C. *The prophetic history of Israel – Chapters 8-12***

We as Bible believers have a prophetic faith. Prophecy is the ability of God to foretell history in advance. What is given as prophecy becomes history – just as God said it would happen.

28% of the Bible as originally given was given as prophecy. There are about 1000 prophecies in the Bible of which about 500 have been fulfilled literally. Because half of all the Bible prophecies have already been literally fulfilled we can trust God that the other half will literally be fulfilled as well.

There are about 333 Messianic prophecies in the Bible. At His first coming Christ literally fulfilled 109 of those specific prophecies. Again, because 1/3 have already been literally fulfilled to the letter we can believe the remainder will likewise be literally fulfilled.

There is no other truly prophetic faith in the world. It is God’s glory alone to know the future, to predict the future, and then bring it to pass. Prophecy has two major hubs. 1) The nation of Israel, and 2) The Jewish Messiah.

Daniel is a book of prophetic visions and dreams. In these prophecies God gives an overview of world history from the time of the Babylonian Captivity until the Second Coming of Christ. It builds to the climax of the coming of Christ and His kingdom.

Daniel makes a major point of the coming Antichrist in contrast to the coming Christ. The whole of prophetic history is funneled down to this climactic contrast between the true Christ and the Antichrist – which is why we are given all this background in Daniel. This is the climactic high point that the whole of history is moving towards.

The whole of history is building to this climactic contrast in which the world will have to decide between the Christ and the Antichrist with eternity in the balance.

In our study in Daniel 7 and 8 we find two separate little horns represented. The one in chapter 8 is a TYPE of Antichrist and the one in chapter 7 is the actual Antichrist. The Antichrist is such a MAJOR figure in history – albeit coming on the scene only for a short time before the Second Coming. The NT shows that this is the great issue the whole of history is building towards.

Slide # 2

1 John 2:18 (NKJV)

18 Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the **Antichrist is coming**, even now **many antichrists** have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

Antichrist means “Against Christ” or “Instead of Christ”. Even now there are MANY antichrists (small a) but they are preparing the way for THE Antichrist. And Daniel gives us a prophetic outline of history that leads us there.

He gives us prophecy that prefigures the Antichrist which has already been fulfilled as seen in the person of Antiochus Epiphanes which is what our study is largely about today. And again, just as sure as the TYPE has literally been fulfilled we can be assured that the anti-type (fulfillment of the type) will also literally be fulfilled yet in the future.

I titled this message: “Gabriel Interprets Daniel’s Vision” but I could have titled it “Antichrist Prefigured” because that is the BIG idea in the text.

In Daniel 7 we have a prophetic overview of the four kingdoms that will successively be in place until the Second Coming of Christ who will then set up a permanent kingdom when He comes.

Slide # 3

Daniel 7

Lion – Babylon
 Bear – Medo-Persia
 Leopard – Greece

Nondescript – Rome

*Beast

(Dormant) -> Church Age!

*10 Horns

* Little Horn

Son of Man – KINGDOM

Here Daniel traces the BIG PICTURE of world history from Babylon all the way to the Kingdom of Christ. He funnels it down to the little horn (who is Antichrist) who will then be overtaken by the true Christ when He comes to set up His kingdom.

Now in chapter 8 he backs up a little and deals with only the two middle players in the outline – namely that of Medo-Persia and Greece. In this case he funnels history down to another little horn who is a TYPE of Christ as seen in Antiochus Euphrates.

So, as God develops this revelation, we see a MAJOR emphasis on history building to the TYPE of Antichrist (Dan. 8) and then to the real Antichrist (Dan. 7).

Slide # 4

Daniel 8:9-11 “**a little horn**” – Antiochus
Epiphanes

(Ruled over Syria 175 – 164 BC)

Comes out of the THIRD Empire

* **A TYPE of Antichrist**

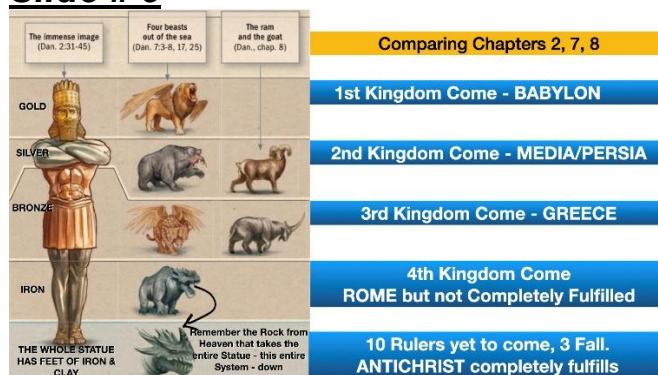
Daniel 7:8 “**horn, a little one**” – Antichrist

(Rules over Revived Roman Empire)

Comes out of the FOURTH Empire

* **The REAL Antichrist**

Slide # 5



As I say our text today builds prophetically to the TYPE of Antichrist as found in Antiochus Epiphanes who came out of the 3rd kingdom of Greece.

In Daniel 8:1-14 Daniel had a vision of a ram representing Medo-Persia which was then taken over by a goat representing Greece. The interpreting angel now fills in more details in Daniel 8:15-27.

Daniel 8:15–27 (NKJV)

15 Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man.

As we will see this one who appears is shown to be the angel Gabriel. Gabriel means “mighty one of God”. He came in the appearance of a man – which angels are occasionally found to do in the Bible.

16 And I heard a man’s voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, “Gabriel, make this man understand the vision.”

The voice of a man’s voice at this point is thought to be the voice of God. In other words he communicated in human language that Daniel could understand. The Ulai was a canal joining two rivers outside the city of the Persian city of Susa (also called Shushan).

The voice with authority told Gabriel to help Daniel understand the vision he had just had.

This is the first time in the Bible that a holy angel of God is named. The only other holy angel in the Bible that is named is Michael (cf. 10:13, 21; 12:1; Jude 9; Rev. 12:7).

The word “angel” means messenger and in the Bible occasionally we find Gabriel dispatched to bring very important messages (cf. Dan. 9:21; Lk. 1:19, 26).

17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, “Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end.”

In the presence of unveiled supernatural beings, mere mortals tend to experience overwhelming fear, as seen consistently in Scripture.

In Revelation 19:10 John fell before the feet of an angel to worship him only to be reprimanded to not do that. And then again in Revelation 22:8-9 he again had the same experience with an angel (cf. Judg. 6:22, 23; Job 42:5-6; Isa. 6:1-5; Ezek. 1:28; Rev. 1:17).

There is a great moral gulf separating the holy beings of heaven from mankind on earth. Yet today, some Christians who are really big on experiences claim to have angelic visitations regularly and even claim to see Christ on a regular basis without much trauma. Oh, to be sure they tell awe-inspiring stories, but most often nothing like Daniel's experience.

John MacArthur tells of having a meeting with a Charismatic acquaintance. This man said, "***John, often when I am shaving in the morning Jesus will come and put His arm around me. Do you believe that?***" John said, "***No, I don't believe that, but what concerns me is that I think you believe it. The real question is do you keep shaving – because if you keep shaving it isn't Jesus***".

Daniel here is called "son of man," which in this context emphasizes his humanness and weakness.

And then Gabriel introduces an interpretive KEY saying, "***the vision refers to the time of the end.***" Remember Gabriel was told to instruct Daniel in terms of helping him to "understand" (v. 16).

Most all commentators in the dispensational camp are essentially in agreement that the essential person in the surrounding context is the historical person of Antiochus Epiphanes. However, most also agree that he is not the end of the story, but rather portrays the ultimate Antichrist who is to come "at the end of time".

Slide # 6

There is no question among expositors that Antiochus is in view in this prophecy. What was prophesied was fulfilled literally through him. However, the prophecy looks beyond Antiochus to a future person (the Antichrist) of whom Antiochus is only a foreshadowing.

–The Bible Knowledge Commentary, p. 1359

The terminology of "the time of the end" elsewhere in the book of Daniel consistently refers to the end of the time of the Gentiles under Antichrist that culminates in the coming of Christ.

Slide # 7

“The time of the end” is actually a technical expression that refers to the events that will accompany the second coming of Christ to the kingdoms of this world and to establish His own everlasting kingdom... –**John Whitcomb**

As we will see, there are several reasons to believe that while applying to Antiochus Epiphanes, it also has application to the Antichrist of the last days, of which Antiochus is a TYPE.

However, a most convincing argument is that the parallel passage in Daniel 11 puts the two (Antiochus and Antichrist) together. There, **Dan. 11:21-35 is speaks of Antiochus Epiphanes** and then immediately segues to talking about **Antichrist in Dan. 11:36-45**. The transition flows seamlessly from Antiochus to Antichrist – from type to antitype without interruption.

Martin Luther wrote, “This chapter in Daniel refers both to Antiochus and Antichrist.” In my view in this he was right. Antiochus Epiphanes is often called the “**Antichrist of the Old Testament**.” Thus, he prefigures the Antichrist of the end times.

Ultimately, what is being portrayed has application to “the time of the end” in reference to the Antichrist.

18 Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright.

As Gabriel was speaking to Daniel, he passed out, and then, the angel with one touch brought him back and stood him on his feet.

19 And he said, “Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be.”

“**Look**” is the idea of “**pay attention to this**”. Again, this is reflective of an interpretive KEY. The language here again is related to “**the end**” (cf. Dan. 9:26; 11:6, 27, 35, 40, 45; 12:4, 6, 9, 13). The term “**indignation**” consistently throughout Scripture denotes a time when God is indignant or angry with Israel, allowing the Gentiles to have their way with Israel (cf. Isa. 10:5, 25; Lam. 2:6; Zech. 1:12). The unparalleled time of trouble that is coming in Jeremiah 30:7 is called, “**the time of Jacob’s trouble**.”

The terms, **the end** and the indignation (cf. 11:36), suggest that there is more here than history relating to the time of Antiochus and the Maccabees. This observation lends support to the typical interpretation suggested above. It is not uncommon to find a near, literal view combined with a far, typical view within the scope of a particular prophecy. – **Wycliffe Bible Commentary**

Here in verse 19 he speaks of “the appointed time the end shall be” which underscores God’s sovereignty over history. He is Lord of history and this will come to pass in perfect harmony with what God has ordained. It on His time-schedule. It has an appointment in time. That was true of Antiochus Epiphanes and it will be true of the Antichrist as well.

In Daniel 11, which is a parallel passage to that here in Daniel 8, the career of Antiochus immediately segues into that of Antichrist, and there we have very similar language.

Slide # 8

Daniel 11:36 (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.

Some have thought that “the END” in verses 17 and 19 refers only to the reign of Antiochus, but most conservative commentators, looking at the language as used in the broader context of Daniel and the parallel text in Daniel 11, think that ultimately the Antichrist is prefigured in what is presented here about Antiochus Epiphanes. I, too, think this is most consistent with all the factors in view.

20 The ram which you saw, having the two horns—they are the kings of Media and Persia.

We noted last week in verses 3 and 4 that in the vision, the ram with two horns represents the kingdom of Media and Persia as plainly stated here by Gabriel. We noted that it says one horn would ultimately be HIGHER (more prominent) – which would be Persia. However, verse 3 specifically says this horn came up last -which historically is true. And then for a time the Medo-Persian empire was unstoppable and became great.

Slide # 9

Daniel's prophetic **vision** in Daniel 8 about Media-Persia took place in about **551 BC**, but then it was literally fulfilled from **539-331 BC**. What was originally given as prophecy was then literally fulfilled in HISTORY.

21 And the male goat is the kingdom of Greece. The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king.

We noted in the vision as presented in verses 5-8 that this goat with amazing speed overtook the ram (Persia) and conquered the known world in a short amount of time (c. 10 years). The first king represented by the large horn between the goat's eyes was Alexander the Great. This too was literally fulfilled in history.

22 As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its power.

And then suddenly, at the apex of his career, Alexander (the large horn) was broken. He suddenly died in 323 BC at about the age of 33. And then, after a power struggle, four of his generals took his place. The empire of Greece under Alexander the Great was divided into four parts. But none of those rulers ever ruled with the same power as Alexander.

Again, this was prophecy at the time of Daniel, but it was then fulfilled to the letter in history about 250 years later. Daniel was right about everything – about every detail. This is why unbelieving critics claim it was written later by a pseudo-Daniel as history. But they are **WRONG**. All the evidence is that Daniel wrote this in the 6th century BC and not someone else in the 2nd century BC.

And that brings us to Antiochus Epiphanes, who came on the scene later in the 3rd kingdom – that is, the kingdom of Greece, which in its latter form was broken up into four parts. Verses 23-25 provide a detailed portrait of the character of Antiochus Epiphanes, the forerunner of Antichrist.

23 “And in the latter time of their kingdom, When the transgressors have reached their fullness, A king shall arise, Having fierce features, Who understands sinister schemes.

The general consensus is that this is descriptive of Antiochus Epiphanes who came out of the Syrian branch of the kingdom of Greece. And he came on the scene later ruling from 175 – 164 BC with Rome largely conquering Greece by 146 BC.

Slide # 10

Babylon

Medo-Persia

Greece (Alexander the Great)

(Four arise out of... 8:22)

*(Later – Antiochus Epiphanes,
175 – 164 BC - 8:23-25)*

Rome

When apostasy had reached the point of “fullness” on the part of God’s people, Israel, He would allow this to happen (cf. v. 12).

Again, while this is clearly speaking in reference to the time of Antiochus Epiphanes, the language here would also seem to have ultimate application to the climactic end of the age in reference to Antichrist (cf. Gen. 15:16; Mt. 23:32; 1 Thess. 2:16).

“When the transgressors are come to the full”...is language not otherwise used of Antiochus’ time. It is significantly employed, however, in respect to the days of the great tribulation, when the Antichrist will rule (see Matt. 23:32; Luke 18:7, 8; 1 Thess. 2:16; 2 Tim. 3:1-9). – **Leon Wood**

Slide # 11

Near/Partial Fulfillment (Antiochus Epiphanes)

-the time of the end – v. 17

-the indignation – v. 19

- at the appointed time the end shall be. – v. 19

-When the transgressors have reached their fullness – v. 23

Distant/Complete Fulfillment (Antichrist)

- the time of the end – v. 17
- the indignation – v. 19
- at the appointed time the end shall be. – v. 19
- When the transgressors have reached their fullness – v. 23

The principle of Type and Antitype (the fulfillment of the type) is a common feature used in the Bible to illustrate a particular truth.

For example in Hebrews 4:8 Joshua is presented as a type of Christ. In Hebrews 7 Melchizedek is shown to be a type of Christ. So, the use of type and antitype is not foreign to the Scriptures.

Daniel now presents some distinguishing features about this coming king (Antiochus Epiphanes) who is a type of Antichrist – showing us what the character of Antichrist will be like.

He will have “fierce features” meaning he will be forceful, bold, assertive, harsh, and cruel.

He will be a man “who understands sinister schemes”. He will be a master at deception and intrigue – skillful in trickery and double dealing. He will be very intelligent but also very crafty in a sinister way (cf. Dan. 5:12).

24 His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.

He shall by mighty, but not by his own power suggests that he will be empowered by Satan. And for a time he would be allowed to prosper and thrive.

He shall destroy “fearfully,” meaning “extraordinarily”. It would be astounding the things he would accomplish.

He would destroy the mighty, meaning formidable challengers or foes that would try to stop him. Being empowered by Satan, he will roll right over them.

Also, he will be allowed to destroy “***the holy people***,” which is a reference to Israel. It seems that Antiochus Epiphanes killed more Jews in the OT than any other individual. Fittingly, he is a type of Antichrist.

Greg Thurston writes...

- In 169 BC, Antiochus IV (who called himself Theos Epiphanes- lit., “God Incarnate”) travelled to Jerusalem where he replaced the high priest with a man of his own choosing. He then invaded Egypt, and while there a rumor of his death circulated among the Jews (much to their joy). Not surprisingly efforts were made to reinstate the genuine high priest whom Antiochus deposed.
- Yet Antiochus wasn’t dead! When he received word Jerusalem was revolting against the high priest he installed, he accused the Jewish people of rebellion, savagely attacked and sacked Jerusalem, and executed tens of thousands of its inhabitants (it is said that 40,000 people were executed within the space of three days)! He then travelled back to Jerusalem where he entered the holy of holies in the temple. There he sacrificed a pig on the altar of burnt offering, defiled the temple precincts, took the sacred furniture, and re-established [an apostate] Menelaus as high priest.
- This understandably resulted in major rebellion on the part of the Jews to which Antiochus reacted with a religious persecution of unprecedented bitterness! More than 20,000 of his soldiers massacred the Jews assembled for worship on a Sabbath day. Sabbath-keeping and the practice of circumcision were forbidden under the pain of death. Unclean meat was mandatory fare, and the Sabbath and other feast days were profaned. Pagan sacrifices and prostitution were established in the Temple. And a statue of Zeus was placed in the temple to which human sacrifices were offered on the altar!

It would appear that Satan empowered him supernaturally as a tool as Satan tried to annihilate the Jews to prevent the Messiah from coming. – ***Renald Showers***

Yes, for a time he prospered in destroying the Jews!

Yet, try as hard as he could, Antiochus could not totally destroy the Jews. In the parallel passage of Daniel 11 it speaks of a holy rebellion led those who became known as the Maccabees.

Slide # 12

Daniel 11:32–33 (NKJV)

32 Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.

33 And those of the people who understand shall instruct many; yet for many days they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering.

Hebrews 11:35-38 is a memorial to the faithful remnant in the OT including many who thus suffered and died under the cruel reign of Antiochus Epiphanes.

Slide # 13**Hebrews 11:35–38 (NKJV)**

.... Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. ... were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

25 “Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; But he shall be broken without human means.

There is a double emphasis on him prospering as seen in verses 24 and 25. Cunning means shrewdness. He will be deceitful, cunning, and using this, he will prosper, for a time.

And it will definitely go to his head. He will have a HUGE ego – thinking very highly of himself. Note this is a HEART problem!

No one will be safe or off limits as he will destroy many in their time of prosperity when they think all is going well.

He will get so cocky as to even dare to rise “against the Prince of princes”.

This language may be the strongest evidence of all that ultimately Antiochus prefigures the Antichrist.

There is no question among expositors that Antiochus is in view in this prophecy. What was prophesied was fulfilled literally through him. However, the prophecy looks beyond Antiochus to a future person (the Antichrist) of whom Antiochus is only a foreshadowing. This coming one is said to “stand against the Prince of princes” (v. 25). This can be none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus the prophecy must go beyond Antiochus and look forward to the coming of one whose ministry will parallel that of Antiochus.

– ***The Bible Knowledge Commentary***

The word “Prince” means principle leader or ruler. The word by itself is used in reference to various leaders including Antichrist who is called “the prince who is to come” in Daniel 9:26. Also Satan is called “the prince of the power of the air” in Ephesians 2:2.

However, when the superlative is used such as “***Prince of princes***” consistently the Lord Jesus Christ is in view (cf. Dan. 11:36; Rev. 19:16). He is called “Messiah the Prince” in Daniel 9:25. He is called “the Prince of Peace” in Isaiah 9:6; “the Prince of Life” in Acts 3:15; a “Prince and Savior” in Acts 5:31. This “***Prince of princes***” here in verse 25 corresponds to “***the Prince of the host***” in verse 11.

The title “Prince” is clearly used by Daniel to speak of the Messiah and I think that is what is most likely in view here in verse 25, which would strongly imply a future application in relation to Antichrist.

There are FOUR strong reasons to believe that Antiochus Epiphanes foreshadows and prefigures the Antichrist.

Slide # 14

1. The language of “the time of the end”, “the indignation”, and “at the appointed time the end shall be” are all normally used in reference to the END in relation to Antichrist.
2. The language of “the Prince of princes” is Messianic who will climactically be defied by Antichrist.
3. The typical little horn (Antiochus) and the antitypical little horn (Antichrist) appear in immediate succession in Daniel 11 (see Daniel 11:21-45).
4. The similarities between Antiochus and Antichrist are striking and numerous.

Slide # 15**Antiochus IV as a Type of the Antichrist**

- Antiochus (8:9) and antichrist (7:8) are symbolized by horns that were “little” or small at the beginning.
- Antiochus was “an insolent king” (8:23); antichrist will have an imposing look (7:20).
- Antiochus was a master of intrigue (8:23); the brilliance of antichrist is suggested by the “eyes” of the horn (7:8, 20).
- Antiochus had great power (8:24); antichrist will have even greater power (11:39; 2 Th. 2:9; Rev. 13:7-8).

Slide # 16

- Antiochus was energized by Satan (8:24), just as antichrist will be empowered by Satan (2 Th 2:9, Rev. 13:2).
- Antiochus destroyed thousands (8:25); antichrist will destroy more (Rev. 13:15; 16:13-16).
- Antiochus prospered for a short time (8:25); likewise with antichrist (11:36; Rev. 13:7).
- Antiochus persecuted the Jews (8:24); as will antichrist (7:21, 25; Rev. 12:13).

Slide # 17

- Antiochus was a deceiver (8:25); antichrist will be a master deceiver (2 Th 2:9; Rev. 13:4, 14; 19:11).
- Antiochus was proud (8:25); antichrist will be megalomaniac (7:8, 11, 20, 25; Rev. 13:5).
- Antiochus blasphemed God (8:25); as will antichrist (7:25; 11:36).
- Antiochus was not killed by human hands (8:25); the antichrist will not be either (2 Th. 2:8; Rev. 19:19-20).

(Source: HCSB Study Bible)

Verse 25 concludes with “***But he shall be broken without human means.***” In the end, Antiochus died in 163 BC of some sort of physical malady that came upon him suddenly, and he seemed to be out of his mind. Antichrist will be destroyed by the Lord Himself at His second coming (2 Thess. 2:8).

26 “And the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true; Therefore seal up the vision, For it refers to many days in the future.”

This refers to the 2,300 evenings/mornings mentioned in verse 14. In Jewish days this amounts to about 6 and 1/3 years. This identifies the time period that the Jews would be under the cruel persecution of Antiochus Epiphanes which was fulfilled to the letter from 171 to 164 BC.

However, from the time Daniel was writing, this was still about 380 years away – “many days in the future.”

Therefore, Daniel was told to **“seal up the vision,”** which is the idea of securing or preserving it for safekeeping. When the pious Jews went through this persecution under Antiochus Epiphanes, they no doubt depended heavily upon Daniel’s revelation for encouragement and stood strong, as testified about in the Hall of Faith chapter of Hebrews 11.

But it is an encouragement to stand strong for God, no matter what God’s people are going through. It reminds that God is always sovereign and tyrants can only do their thing in terms of what is “appointed” (cf. v. 19, 23).

27 And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king’s business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it.

It was not easy being a prophet. What he saw and heard shocked and overwhelmed him, and he passed out and was sick for many days. But then he arose and resumed his palace duties.

Evidently, Daniel knew enough of what the vision meant to be very disturbed, realizing that very difficult times lay ahead for his people (cf. v. 16). And yet it seems that some of the details remained hidden, and no one was able to completely figure it out.

At a later date, God added more details to this vision as seen in Daniel 11, but until then, Daniel continued to ponder these perplexing things.

Slide # 18

Prophetic Themes...

Prophetic Truth – History

Near/Partial Fulfillment – Distant/Complete Fulfillment

Type – Antitype (Fulfilment of type)

I don't think the average professing Christian has any idea how IMPORTANT prophetic truth is to our faith.

How do you know that the course of world history will come to the end as prophesied in the Bible?

You know so because of prophesy that has already been fulfilled! God's record is impeccable! Every part of the outline prophesied has been fulfilled exactly to the letter.

Thus, what was prophetic is now history. This is what a large part of Daniel is all about! And just as that which has already been fulfilled – so also will that be which is as yet unfulfilled.

How do you know that the antichrist will come as prophesied in the Bible? You know it will be fulfilled because what was prophesied about the TYPE of antichrist as seen in Antiochus Epiphanes has already been fulfilled to the letter.

What was prophecy is now history! This is the pattern of God as revealed in the prophetic Scriptures.

How do you know that what the Bible says about the Second Coming will come to pass?

Well, you know it because what was prophesied about His first coming has already been fulfilled to the letter. What was prophecy concerning Christ's death, burial, and resurrection is now history. And on that basis, we KNOW what is predicted about Christ's Second Coming will likewise be fulfilled perfectly.

Our faith is a prophetic faith! Fulfilled prophecy is the great proof of our faith. When Paul reiterated the gospel in 1 Corinthians 15, he did so by showing that the gospel is fulfilled prophecy according to the OT Scriptures.

Slide # 19**1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (NKJV)**

3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

Our gospel is a prophetic faith that is also a historic faith and when we believe it we are saved.

As Paul says in Romans 1:16...

Romans 1:16 (NKJV)

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

God is on record concerning the Lord Jesus Christ!

Slide # 20

At the ***“appointed time,”*** it will happen exactly as prophesied! What is **PROPHECY** is about to become **HISTORY!**

Live Ready!