

"Wars and Rumors of Wars"

Daniel 11:1-20

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Matthew 24:6-7a: And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all *these things* must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom...

1. _____:

A. Persia: Vs. 2: And now I will show you the truth. Behold, three more kings shall arise in Persia, and a fourth shall be far richer than all of them.

B. Greece: Vs. 3-4

Vs. 3: Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion and do as he wills.

Isaiah 40:7-8: The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Vs. 4: And as soon as he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken and divided toward the four winds of heaven...

C. Egypt and Syria: Vs. 5-20

Vs. 5-6: "Then the king of the south shall be strong, but one of his princes shall be stronger than he and shall rule, and his authority shall be a great authority. After some years they shall make an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the south shall come to the king of the north..."

Vs. 16b: And he shall stand in the glorious land, with destruction in his hand.

1 Peter 5:6-7: Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because **he cares for you.**

Luke 12:6-7: Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

2. _____:

Psalm 2:1-4: Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed... He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.

Vs. 4a: And as soon as he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken and divided toward the four winds of heaven...

James 4:1-2: Where do wars and fights *come* from among you?

Do *they* not *come* from your *desires for* pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

Psalm 147:10-11: His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the legs of a man, but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

3. _____:

A. Be _____. **James 4:6b:** "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

B. Depend on _____. **Psalm 46:1:** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C. Prioritize His _____! **Matthew 6:33a:** But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness....

Matthew 24:13-14: But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Discussion Questions:

1. What should be the Christian attitude toward war?
2. Where should we put our hope and confidence? Where do you put your hope and confidence?
3. How have you seen God work behind the scenes of hard and chaotic experiences in your life to bring about His kingdom work and your good?
4. Is God's mission to redeem people from every people group – including our own – a priority in your life?