

# SALVATION IN SYMBOLS & SIGNS

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Corresponds to Program 109

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are from the NKJV and KJV.

## Daniel 11 – Part 5 STUDY GUIDE

### Daniel 11:40

Now we come to a major shift in prophetic history. Verse 40 takes us to an amazing era designated as the “time of the end.” We will find this is the very time in which we live. (More on this in a later study.)

### THE KING OF THE SOUTH

The word “south” is derived from a Hebrew word that occasionally translates as “Egypt” (Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance #5042). It is also biblically referred to as the country of Egypt (Isaiah 30:1-7). Egypt denotes an atheistic power that denies the existence of God (Exodus 5:2). In the “time of the end” (1793-1798), an atheistic power emerged in the country of France:

“On the 23rd November atheism in France reached its extreme point, by a decree of the municipality ordering the immediate closing of all the churches, and placing the whole priests under surveillance.”<sup>1</sup> “Infidelity and atheism reigned supreme. The National Convention abolished the Sabbath, and the leaders of the Paris Commune declared that they intended ‘to dethrone the King of heaven as well as the monarchs of the earth.’”<sup>2</sup> Thus at the “time of the end,” the power of the “south” (atheism) took hold of the government in France, fulfilling Bible prophecy. Manifesting as the French Revolution, this power eventually evolved into modern communism.

### SHALL PUSH AT HIM

Daniel was told that the king of the south “shall push at him” (the king of the north). The word “push” means “to gore” or

“war against.” It is a simple definition, but it holds a key to unlocking Daniel 11:40. It describes the conflict that has been taking place between the “king of the south” (atheism) and the “king of the north,” since the “time of the end” began in 1798.

Giving a historical account of the French Revolution, Alexander Keith wrote of how atheism arose in France and turned upon the Papacy. “Of the horrors of the French Revolution, it were needless to write. It is enough to say that the blood of the saints began to be avenged... Tithes were abolished; monasteries suppressed; church lands confiscated; the priests despoiled and beggared; and, at a time when every other form of faith was tolerated, and atheism itself esteemed rather a virtue than a vice, and religious liberty proclaimed, the clergy of France were required to abjure all allegiance to the See of Rome, and that church was ‘deprived of its earthly power; or the dominion forcibly taken from its hands.’”<sup>3</sup>

By the year 1798, the French army, under the command of General Berthier, entered Rome and took the pope captive. The pontiff later died in a French prison. From the overthrow of the “See of Rome” at the “time of the end,” into the 20th century, atheism has consistently warred against Papal Rome. Here is an account of the “spiritual war” given in a TIME magazine article: “Until recently, the battalions of Marxism seemed to have the upper hand over the soldiers of the Cross. In the wake of the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, Lenin had pledged toleration but delivered terror. ‘Russia turned crimson with the blood of martyrs,’ says Father Gleb Yakunin, Russian Orthodoxy’s bravest agitator for religious freedom. In the Bolsheviks’ first five years in power, 28 bishops and 1,200 priests were cut down by the red



“And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships....” **DANIEL 11:40**

### KEY SCRIPTURES

**Daniel 11:40** HE...SHALL OVERFLOW AND PASS OVER  
**Daniel 11:41** HE SHALL ENTER...THE GLORIOUS LAND

**Isaiah 11:15** THE LORD SHALL UTTERLY DESTROY  
**Daniel 11:44** TIDINGS OUT OF THE EAST

sickle. Stalin greatly accelerated the terror, and by the end of Khrushchev's rule, liquidations of clergy reached an estimated 50,000. After World War II, fierce but generally less bloody persecution spread into Ukraine and the new Soviet bloc, affecting millions of Roman Catholics and Protestants as well as Orthodox."<sup>4</sup> Bible prophecy speaks of the king of the south pushing against the king of the north. History confirms that since the beginning of the "time of the end" (1798), the "king of the south" (atheism) has pushed at or "warred against" the Catholic church as well as Protestantism. How does this history reveal the identity of the king of the north?

## THE KING OF THE NORTH

Most Bible scholars would agree that prophecy is history foretold and history is prophecy fulfilled. History verifies Babylon, Medo Persia, Greece, and Rome as the four kingdoms symbolized in Daniel 2, 7, and 8. It is interesting to note that Rome is the fourth and last power in these Bible prophecies prior to the establishment of God's everlasting kingdom (Daniel 2:36-45; 7:7-11, 19-22, 25-27; 8:9-12, 23-25). Rome is also the last power in Daniel 11, and the prophetic visions in these four chapters are understood as cumulative and closely connected with each other. More interesting still is that in Daniel 11:40, the king of the south, which biblically represents atheism, is overthrown by this last power brought to view—the king of the north, or Papal Rome. Thus the headline of the December 11, 1989, U.S. News & World Report article: "GORBY'S BOW TO THE ROMAN LEGIONS," was a profound historical statement of deep prophetic significance. First, it describes a facelift that took place in our world through the removal of political and religious lines in Eastern Bloc communist countries. But more importantly, this speaks of the Roman power identified in Daniel 11:40 as the king of the north. The fall of communism at the hand of Rome is a direct fulfillment of end-time prophecy. The historical record cited above stated further, "The rush to freedom in Eastern Europe is a sweet victory for John Paul II." Papal Rome is identified in Daniel 11:40 as the king of the north, the power to which atheistic communism has bowed. In Daniel 11:40, the king of the north is depicted as coming against the king of the south "like a whirlwind." Here is one of the most significant confirmations of this prophecy, found in the description of the fall of the king of the south, or atheism. A December 25, 1989, Newsweek article describing the fall of communism was entitled:

"DAYS OF THE WHIRLWIND."

Amazing! The Bible carefully delineates, thousands of years in advance, what is a historical fact to our world today. The words used in these modern historical accounts describe the fall of communism as the end of a "dramatic spiritual war." John Paul II is credited with helping to inflame a fervor for freedom that "swept like brush fire" across atheistic countries. Gorbachev is said to have bowed to "Roman legions," attributing to John Paul II a "sweet victory." The demise of communism is referred

to as the "Days of the Whirlwind." All of this speaks with the unerring accuracy of Bible prophecy fulfilled.

## WITH CHARIOTS AND HORSEMEN

Used in the Bible to describe arms and power, this phrase points to the military strength and support that the king of the north allied to himself (1 Kings 1:5; 1 Kings 20:1). This prophesied strength and support came from the Western allies of the Vatican and vitally affected the crumbling of communism. A March, 1990, *Reader's Digest* article gave a detailed account of the military support for the king of the north in an article detailing the demise of the U.S.S.R.: "In 1981, the communist bloc got another shock. A new American President, Ronald Reagan, began fulfilling his promise to challenge the Soviets, not placate them. Over the next few years, he accelerated the military buildup and announced the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), a space-based system for protecting against missile attack. He backed anti-communist rebels in Nicaragua, Angola, Cambodia and Afghanistan. And with American troops, he liberated the island of Grenada from communist thugs." The article further stated, "The Soviets' confidence was shaken," and goes on to say, "The Western Europeans also pressured the Soviets. NATO forged ahead with military modernization. German voters spurned Soviet 'peace overtures' and elected a government that voted to deploy new intermediate-range missiles..." And then states, "Military pressure from America and its Western allies had caused the Soviets to flinch." This strong military pressure, symbolized in Bible prophecy by the "chariots and horsemen," is an interpretation further substantiated by abundant historical facts. As another example, the February 24, 1992, front cover of *TIME* magazine, heralding the title, "HOLY ALLIANCE." The inside special report uncovered to the public eye that the United States and Papal Rome secretly worked together to bring down Communism. The subtitle read:

"How Reagan and the Pope conspired to assist Poland's Solidarity movement and hasten the demise of Communism." The main thrust of the alliance began with a meeting on June 7, 1982. This was the first time the two leaders had met, and immediately they "agreed to undertake a clandestine campaign to hasten the dissolution of the communist empire." President Reagan's first National Security Adviser, Richard Allen, described the agreement as "one of the great secret alliances of all time."

## WITH MANY SHIPS

Used in the Bible to describe economic trade, ships speak of the economic pressure that was brought against the king of the south (Psalm 107:23; Proverbs 31:14; Revelation 18:17-19). The March, 1990, *Reader's Digest* reported: "In the 1980s, communist economies, always inefficient, went belly up. Before, they had lacked consumer and luxury goods. Now perennial shortages of staples worsened as well. When Soviet

miners went on strike in 1989, their demands included soap, toilet paper, and sugar.” It is clear from Bible prophecy and current history that to a large degree, the cold war was lost on the economic front. The Soviet Union could not keep up its high military spending while continuing to neglect the basic, staple needs of its people. The February, 1992, *TIME* magazine reported: “during the first half of 1982, a five-part strategy emerged that was aimed at bringing about the collapse of the Soviet economy... Elements of that strategy included: The U.S. defense buildup already underway, aimed at making it too costly for the Soviets to compete militarily with the U.S. Reagan’s Strategic Defense Initiative—Star Wars—became a centerpiece of the strategy,” as well as “economic isolation of the Soviet Union.” Again, history confirms what Bible prophecy foretold: the power of the “north” as coming against atheism with “ships” or economic pressure.

## ENTER INTO THE COUNTRIES

How did the king of the north, Papal Rome, enter into the communist countries? Again, when we review history, the entering “into the countries” of atheism by the papacy begins to have its proper application. First of all, the fall of communism began with the country of Poland, the home country of Pope John Paul II. This country’s 90 percent Catholic population, once controlled by communism, immediately elected a Catholic leader, as well as opting for a democratic form of government. The Catholic Church was once banned in many of the U.S.S.R.’s satellite countries but that was soon changed, as observed in a December 11, 1989, *TIME* magazine article, which reported:

“Addressing the Pope as ‘Your Holiness’—no small gesture for the leader of a nation and party formally pledged to atheism,” in 1989 Gorbachev “promised that the Supreme Soviet would ‘shortly’ pass a law guaranteeing religious freedom for all believers.” The revival of religious freedom lifted an official ban on the five-million-member Ukrainian Catholic Church, “which has survived underground since 1946 when Stalin ordered it absorbed into the Russian Orthodox Church.” Winning legalization for the Ukrainian Church had been a primary aim of the pope. These policy changes by Gorbachev resulted in “hundreds of churches and tens of thousands of followers” returning to the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Though there was inner turmoil in the U.S.S.R. over Gorbachev’s decisions and doubts from onlookers of true and lasting change, it is clear that “Gorbachev’s choices” were “meager.” “Having embarked upon the road of radical reform,” Gorbachev stated, “the socialist countries are crossing the line beyond which there is no return to the past.”

## EXPLOITING THE FORCES OF HISTORY

The fulfillment of Daniel’s prophecies, supplemented by the news and historical information, finds its application in his-

tory today: “At the time of the end [1798 and onward] the king of the South [atheism/communism] shall attack [war against] him [Papal Rome]; and the king of the North [Papal Rome] shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen [military support, U.S.A.], and with many ships [trade or economic strength]; and he shall enter the countries [atheist-controlled countries], overwhelm them, and pass through” (Daniel 11:40, emphasis provided).

### Ezekiel 26:7

This verse in Ezekiel is describing Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, the king from the north, who comes with chariots and horses. Daniel 11:40 parallels Ezekiel 26:7, only Daniel 11:40 is talking about spiritual Babylon, and the horses and chariots are speaking of the help that spiritual Babylon would receive from the United States, which would support and make an image to the papacy according to Revelation 13:12, 13.

### Isaiah 14:12-14; Isaiah 66:15

Behind the counterfeit king of the north is Lucifer, who will appear as an angel of light, and deceive the world, including the atheists, and if it were possible, the very elect (Matthew 24:24). Satan will appear as the ultimate counterfeit of Jesus Christ, causing the world to follow the man of sin and receive the mark of the beast.

### Daniel 11:41

Here, the word “escape” in Hebrew is the same word that is used in Daniel 12:1, translated as “delivered.” So Edom, Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon are going to experience the same fate as those who are delivered when Michael stands up. Who do these tribes represent in this prophetic declaration? Let’s look at Isaiah 11.

### Isaiah 11:11-16

Historically speaking, Isaiah was talking about the exit of God’s people out of Babylon and all the countries to which they were scattered after the 70-year captivity. If we understand these verses in the context of eschatological or last-day prophecy, we’re looking at the loud cry. God’s people gather from all over the world, those who’ve been cast out of Israel and dispersed of Judah. Former believers, both young and old, come back to the church. This verse points to the end of envy and strife among God’s people while they present a united front to the world. And in the context of this ensign being raised up before the whole world, we see the same three tribes— Edom, Moab, and Ammon—obeying the call that is given by God’s people.

Isaiah 11:11-16 is a perfect parallel to the events taking place in Daniel 11:40-45, yet with a view to the spiritual revival taking place among God’s people. In this prophetic outline, these three tribes are described as escaping from the hand

of the king of the north's power. The three tribes of Edom, Moab, and Ammon are historically connected to God's people through Esau and Lot, and yet they became the enemy of God's people. The application to our time is to realize that there are many people who are connected to God and yet for various reasons are the enemies of God's church. Fortunately, in the crisis ahead they will obey the final call to come out of Babylon (Revelation 18:1-5).

### Daniel 11:44

Tidings are something we used to describe the everlasting gospel. It is a word that points us to the good news or glad tidings of salvation in Christ for all the world (Luke 2:10, 11). The east designates the direction from which the angel comes in Revelation 7, who has the "seal of God." Based on these Bible verses, the tidings have to do with the salvation of God and the sealing of God's people, symbolically depicted in Revelation 7:1-8.

The tidings also come from the north. The Bible tells us that God is the true king of the north (Psalm 48:2). Isaiah 41:25 tells us that when Christ returns the second time, He comes from the north and from the east. North is directly up on a compass or globe and east is the direction of the rising sun.

Those people who are pronouncing tidings out of the east and out of the north are talking about the salvation seal of God, which is wrapped up in the seventh-day Sabbath and the second coming, or advent, of Jesus Christ. They are Seventh-day (Sabbath) Adventists (the second advent of Jesus). They teach the gospel message of the Seventh-day Sabbath seal and the second advent or second coming of Jesus. The tidings of the Seventh-day Adventists trouble this power. Why? Because instead of going along with the world's narrative and receiving the mark of the beast, they point the world to God's forgotten Sabbath and the soon coming of Jesus. This completely unsettles the goals and deceptive purposes of the false king of the north. His earthly power, backed up by the devil and his deceptions, false miracles, and personation of Jesus, seeks to utterly destroy these faithful Seventh-day Adventists.

### Appeal

God had laid out Earth's history in Bible prophecy in advance so that as it takes place we will believe (John 14:29). Not so much in the prophecy itself, as we have little option when it takes place right in front of our eyes, but so Bible prophecy will lead us to believe that Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord (John 13:19). May this be our experience. Amen. ★

#### Footnotes:

1. Alison Bart, Sir Archibald, F. R. S. E., History of Europe, Vol. III, p. 23, 9th edition. Edinburgh and London: William Blackwood and Sons, 1854.
2. Library of Universal History, Vol. VIII. New York: Union Book Company, 1900, p. 2612.
3. Keith, Rev. Alexander, The Signs of the Times, Vol. II, 3d edition. Edinburgh: William Whyte & Co., 1833, pp. 114, 115.
4. Ostling, Richard N., "Religion: Cross Meets Kremlin: Gorbachev and Pope John Paul II," TIME, Monday, Dec. 04, 1989

