



SAVED TO SERVE

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DANIEL THE PROPHET - DANIEL 11, PART 5

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study the last part of Daniel 11:40. We will analyze how the principles of France led to the rise and fall of communism, and see the experience that God's people will need just before Christ returns the second time.

“... **There are many precious truths contained in the Word of God, but it is “present truth” that the flock needs now.** I have seen the danger of the messengers running off from the important points of present truth, to dwell upon subjects that are not calculated to unite the flock and sanctify the soul. Satan will here take every possible advantage to injure the cause.” {EW 63.1}

“We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. **The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated. In the thirtieth verse a power is spoken of that “shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.”** [Verses 31-36, quoted.]” {13MR 394.1}

2. **Note:** Read Daniel 11:40. In our previous lesson, we discovered that the “time of the end” began in 1798 (compare Daniel 11:40; 12:6-7; Revelation 12:14, 6). We also discovered that the king of the north pointed to the Papacy. Lastly, we confirmed that the king of the south pointed to the two principles that were legalized in France during the French Revolution. Those two principles were legalized atheism and legalized sodomy. For emphasis, let us confirm this point.
3. Read Revelation 11:7-8. What principles from Sodom and Egypt did France adopt?
 - a) Genesis 19:4, 5 _____
 - b) Exodus 5:2; Psalm 14:1 _____
4. **Note:** Let us now read Revelation 11:10-12 to confirm that the French revolution came to an end in the time period of 1798. See also the the statements below for confirmation.

“And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.” Infidel France had silenced the reproving voice of God's two witnesses. The word of truth lay dead in her streets, and those who hated the restrictions and requirements of God's law were jubilant. Men publicly defied the King of heaven. Like the sinners of old, they cried: “How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the Most High?” Psalm 73:11.” {GC 274.2}

“God's faithful witnesses, slain by the blasphemous power that “ascendeth out of the bottomless pit,” were not long to remain silent. “After three days and a half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.” Revelation 11:11. **It was in 1793 that the decrees which abolished the Christian religion and set aside the Bible passed the French Assembly. Three years and a half later a resolution rescinding these decrees, thus granting toleration to the Scriptures, was adopted by the same body.** The world stood aghast at the enormity of guilt which had resulted from a rejection of the Sacred Oracles, and men recognized the necessity of faith in God and His word as the foundation of virtue and morality. Saith the Lord: “Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice, and lifted up thine eyes on high? even against the Holy One of Israel,” Isaiah 37:23. “Therefore, behold, I will cause them to know, this once will I cause them to know My hand and My might; and they shall know that My name is Jehovah.” Jeremiah 16:21, A.R.V. {GC 287.1}

“Concerning the two witnesses the prophet declares further: “And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.” Revelation 11:12. **Since France made war upon God's two witnesses, they have been honored as never before. In 1804 the British and Foreign Bible Society was organized.** This was followed by similar organizations, with numerous branches, upon the continent of Europe. **In 1816 the American Bible Society was founded. When the British Society was formed, the Bible had been printed and circulated in fifty tongues. It has since been translated into many hundreds of languages and dialects.** (See Appendix.)” {GC 287.2}

5. Where did these two principles (atheism and sodomy) come from that overthrew the papacy in 1798? Revelation 11:7

6. **Note:** The bottomless pit will be closed after the second coming of Jesus Christ and after the 1000 years. See Revelation

20:1-12. Even though the French Revolution came to an end in the time period of 1798, the characteristics of this power is alive and prevalent today. See news article below to confirm the point.

Supreme Court Declares Same-Sex Marriage Legal In All 50 States (June 26, 2015)

<https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2015/06/26/417717613/supreme-court-rules-all-states-must-allow-same-sex-marriages>

7. Read Daniel 11:40 again. Who is the "him" that the king of the north comes against? **Answer:** The principles that were legalized in France - atheism and sodomy.
 8. Where does the king of the north enter when he comes against the powers that overthrew him during the French Revolution? Daniel 11:40
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9. **Note:** This means after the French Revolution in 1798 other countries began to legalize atheism. After 1798, the principles of the king of the south (France) had spread throughout the various countries. In the next few points, our aim is to find out which countries had state-sponsored atheism.

One of the definitions of communism is as follows: "State promotion of atheism as a public norm was first practiced during a brief period in Revolutionary France. Since then, such a policy was repeated only in Revolutionary Mexico and in communist states. The Soviet Union had a long history of state atheism, in which social success largely required individuals to profess atheism, stay away from churches and even vandalize them; this attitude was especially militant during the middle Stalinist era from 1929-1939. The Soviet Union attempted to suppress public religious expression over wide areas of its influence, including places such as central Asia." http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_atheism

10. **Note:** Let us go back and read Daniel 11:40. Let us interpret correctly the phrase that is under consideration: "and the king of the north [Popery] shall come against him [king of the south, the former Soviet Union] which primarily manifested atheism, the principle of Egypt through its governments like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships."
 11. Who is going to help heal the deadly wound of the Papacy, which leads her to come against the powers that gave her the deadly wound? Revelation 13:11, 12
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12. Read Daniel 11:40. What does the whirlwind represent? Proverbs 1:27; Isaiah 40:24; 41:16
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Of all the events that have shaken the Soviet bloc in 1989, none is more fraught with history -- or more implausible -- than the polite encounter that will take place this week in Vatican City. There, in the spacious ceremonial library of the 16th century Apostolic Palace, the czar of world atheism, Mikhail Gorbachev, will visit the Vicar of Christ, Pope John Paul II. Before delivering formal speeches in the presence of their entourages, the two East Europeans will sit down alone to chat in Russian without interpreters. The moment will be electric, and not only because John Paul helped inflame the fervor for freedom in his Polish homeland that has swept like brush fire across Eastern Europe. Beyond that, the meeting of the two men symbolizes the end of the 20th century's most dramatic spiritual war, a conflict in which the seemingly irresistible force of Communism battered against the immovable object of Christianity.

<https://content.time.com/time/subscriber/article/0,33009,959164,00.html>

13. What do chariots represent in the Bible? Exodus 14:9; Isaiah 43:17
 14. What do ships represent? Psalm 107:23; Proverbs 31:14; 2 Chronicles 9:21; Isaiah 60:9; Revelation 18:17-19
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Until Solidarity's legal status was restored in 1989 it flourished underground, supplied, nurtured and advised largely by the network established under the auspices of Reagan and John Paul II. Tons of equipment...were smuggled into Poland via channels established by priests and American agents and representatives of the AFL-CIO [trade unions] and European labor movements. Money for the banned union came from CIA funds, the National Endowment for Democracy, secret accounts in the Vatican and Western trade unions.

<http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,159069,00.html>

"Nobody believed the collapse of communism would happen this fast or on this timetable," says a cardinal who is one of the Pope's closest aides. "But in their first meeting, the Holy Father and the President committed themselves and the institutions of the church and America to such a goal. And from that day, the focus was to bring it about in Poland." Step by reluctant step, the Soviets and the communist government of Poland bowed to the moral, economic and political pressure imposed by the Pope and the President. Jails were emptied, Walesa's trial on charges of slandering state officials was abandoned, the Polish communist party turned fratricidal, and the country's economy collapsed in a haze of strikes and demonstrations and sanctions.

Gorbachev, who once said the collapse of the Iron Curtain would have been impossible without John Paul II, said the pope condemned communism the first time the two met in 1989, shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall. (World reaction)
<http://edition.cnn.com/2005/WORLD/europe/04/03/pope.gorbachev/>

15. Read Daniel 11:40 again (focus on the last phrase). The bible says that the king of the north shall “overflow and pass over.” What does it mean to “overflow and pass over”? Jeremiah 47:1-2; Jeremiah 46:25-26
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16. **Note:** Since the the king of the north (the Papacy) conquered and destroyed God’s faithful saints in the past, the Bible let’s us know that when her deadly wound is finally healed (Revelation 13:3, 12) she will again rise to world dominance in these last days and seek to conquer and destroy God’s faithful commandment-keeping people.

17. Let us now transition and see what the work of preparation is and the experience needed for the pass over that is to come.

18. Read Exodus 12:11, 13. What time period does the Bible say it was (last phrase of verse 11), and what was the Lord about to do to the people?
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19. The Bible lets us know that during the time of Moses, God passing over the people was connected with the 10 plagues that fell on Egypt, specifically the tenth plague (Exodus 11:1, 5). What event for us in these last days brings the 7 last plagues? Revelation 15:1-3
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20. What were the people to do just before God was about to pass over and how does it apply to us today?

a) Exodus 12:3 _____

b) Exodus 12:4 _____

c) Exodus 12:5; Ephesians 5:27 _____

“In a view given June 27, 1850, my accompanying angel said, “**Time is almost finished. Do you reflect the lovely image of Jesus as you should?**” Then I was pointed to the earth and saw that there would have to be a getting ready among those who have of late embraced the third angel's message. Said the angel, “**Get ready, get ready, get ready. Ye will have to die a greater death to the world than ye have ever yet died.**” I saw that there was a great work to do for them and but little time in which to do it.” {EW 64.1}

d) Exodus 12:8 _____

e) Exodus 12:11 _____

21. Read Matthew 26:39-42. When did Jesus have to drink the bitter cup? Matthew 26:17-19 _____

22. As we close, how can we, like Jesus have the bitter cup sweetened? See statement below.

“God has shown me that He gave His people a bitter cup to drink, to purify and cleanse them. It is a bitter draught, and they can make it still more bitter by murmuring, complaining, and repining. But those who receive it thus must have another draught, for the first does not have its designed effect upon the heart. And if the second does not effect the work, then they must have another, and another, until it does have its designed effect, or they will be left filthy, impure in heart. I saw that this bitter cup can be sweetened by patience, endurance, and prayer, and that it will have its designed effect upon the hearts of those who thus receive it, and God will be honored and glorified...” EW 47.1