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DANIEL
Faith In Real Life



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THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW
THEIR GOD



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THE WORLD IS CHAOTIC



DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

¹ I have been standing beside Michael to support and strengthen him since the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede.)

Kings of the South and North

² "Now then, I will reveal the truth to you. Three more Persian kings will reign, to be succeeded by a fourth, far richer than the others. He will use his wealth to stir up everyone to fight against the kingdom of Greece.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

³ "Then a mighty king will rise to power who will rule with great authority and accomplish everything he sets out to do. ⁴ But at the height of his power, his kingdom will be broken apart and divided into four parts. It will not be ruled by the king's descendants, nor will the kingdom hold the authority it once had. For his empire will be uprooted and given to others.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

⁵ "The king of the south will increase in power, but one of his own officials will become more powerful than he and will rule his kingdom with great strength.

⁶ "Some years later an alliance will be formed between the king of the north and the king of the south. The daughter of the king of the south will be given in marriage to the king of the north to secure the alliance, but she will lose her influence over him, and so will her father. She will be abandoned along with her supporters.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

⁷ But when one of her relatives becomes king of the south, he will raise an army and enter the fortress of the king of the north and defeat him.

⁸ When he returns to Egypt, he will carry back their idols with him, along with priceless articles of gold and silver. For some years afterward he will leave the king of the north alone.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

⁹ "Later the king of the north will invade the realm of the king of the south but will soon return to his own land. ¹⁰ However, the sons of the king of the north will assemble a mighty army that will advance like a flood and carry the battle as far as the enemy's fortress.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

¹¹ "Then, in a rage, the king of the south will rally against the vast forces assembled by the king of the north and will defeat them. ¹² After the enemy army is swept away, the king of the south will be filled with pride and will execute many thousands of his enemies. But his success will be short lived.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

¹³ "A few years later the king of the north will return with a fully equipped army far greater than before. ¹⁴ At that time there will be a general uprising against the king of the south. Violent men among your own people will join them in fulfillment of this vision, but they will not succeed. ¹⁵ Then the king of the north will come and lay siege to a fortified city and capture it. The best troops of the south will not be able to stand in the face of the onslaught.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

¹⁶ "The king of the north will march onward unopposed; none will be able to stop him. He will pause in the glorious land of Israel, intent on destroying it. ¹⁷ He will make plans to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will form an alliance with the king of the south. He will give him a daughter in marriage in order to overthrow the kingdom from within, but his plan will fail.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

¹⁸ "After this, he will turn his attention to the coastland and conquer many cities. But a commander from another land will put an end to his insolence and cause him to retreat in shame. ¹⁹ He will take refuge in his own fortresses but will stumble and fall and be seen no more.

²⁰ "His successor will send out a tax collector to maintain the royal splendor. But after a very brief reign, he will die, though not from anger or in battle.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

²¹ "The next to come to power will be a despicable man who is not in line for royal succession. He will slip in when least expected and take over the kingdom by flattery and intrigue. ²² Before him great armies will be swept away, including a covenant prince. ²³ With deceitful promises, he will make various alliances. He will become strong despite having only a handful of followers. ²⁴ Without warning he will enter the richest areas of the land.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

Then he will distribute among his followers the plunder and wealth of the rich—something his predecessors had never done. He will plot the overthrow of strongholds, but this will last for only a short while.

²⁵ "Then he will stir up his courage and raise a great army against the king of the south. The king of the south will go to battle with a mighty army, but to no avail, for there will be plots against him.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

²⁶ His own household will cause his downfall. His army will be swept away, and many will be killed. ²⁷ Seeking nothing but each other's harm, these kings will plot against each other at the conference table, attempting to deceive each other. But it will make no difference, for the end will come at the appointed time.

²⁸ "The king of the north will then return home with great riches. On the way he will set himself against the people of the holy covenant, doing much damage before continuing his journey.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

²⁹ "Then at the appointed time he will once again invade the south, but this time the result will be different. ³⁰ For warships from western coastlands will scare him off, and he will withdraw and return home. But he will vent his anger against the people of the holy covenant and reward those who forsake the covenant.

³¹ "His army will take over the Temple fortress, pollute the sanctuary, put a stop to the daily sacrifices, and set up the sacrilegious object that causes desecration.

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DANIEL 11:1-32 (NLT)

³² He will flatter and win over those who have violated the covenant. But the people who know their God will be strong and will resist him.

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But the people who know
their God will be strong and
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DANIEL 11:33-45 (NLT)

³³ "Wise leaders will give instruction to many, but these teachers will die by fire and sword, or they will be jailed and robbed. ³⁴ During these persecutions, little help will arrive, and many who join them will not be sincere. ³⁵ And some of the wise will fall victim to persecution. In this way, they will be refined and cleansed and made pure until the time of the end, for the appointed time is still to come.

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DANIEL 11:33-45 (NLT)

³⁶ "The king will do as he pleases, exalting himself and claiming to be greater than every god, even blaspheming the God of gods. He will succeed, but only until the time of wrath is completed. For what has been determined will surely take place. ³⁷ He will have no respect for the gods of his ancestors, or for the god loved by women, or for any other god, for he will boast that he is greater than them all. ³⁸ Instead of these, he will worship the god of fortresses—a god his ancestors never knew—and lavish on him gold, silver, precious stones, and expensive gifts.

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DANIEL 11:33-45 (NLT)

³⁹ Claiming this foreign god's help, he will attack the strongest fortresses. He will honor those who submit to him, appointing them to positions of authority and dividing the land among them as their reward.

⁴⁰ "Then at the time of the end, the king of the south will attack the king of the north. The king of the north will storm out with chariots, charioteers, and a vast navy. He will invade various lands and sweep through them like a flood.

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DANIEL 11:33-45 (NLT)

⁴¹ He will enter the glorious land of Israel, and many nations will fall, but Moab, Edom, and the best part of Ammon will escape. ⁴² He will conquer many countries, and even Egypt will not escape. ⁴³ He will gain control over the gold, silver, and treasures of Egypt, and the Libyans and Ethiopians will be his servants.

⁴⁴ "But then news from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in great anger to destroy and obliterate many.

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DANIEL 11:33-45 (NLT)

⁴⁵ He will stop between the glorious holy mountain and the sea and will pitch his royal tents. But while he is there, his time will suddenly run out, and no one will help him.

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How long?

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Daniel's vision enabled him to remain faithful when surrounded by evil:

- while still acknowledging the hopelessness of the moment.

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The world is chaotic,
BUT God is still sovereign.

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HOW LONG?

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HOW LONG?

- v. 12 After the enemy army is swept away, the king of the south will be filled with pride and will execute many thousands of his enemies. But his success will be short lived.

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HOW LONG?

- v. 12 After the enemy army is swept away, the king of the south will be filled with pride and will execute many thousands of his enemies. But **his success will be short lived.**
- v. 24 He will plot the overthrow of strongholds, but **this will last for only a short while.**

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HOW LONG?

- v. 27 But it will make no difference, for the end will come at the appointed time.

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HOW LONG?

- v. 27 But it will make no difference, for the end will come at the appointed time.
- v. 29 "Then at the appointed time he will once again invade the south, but this time the result will be different.

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HOW LONG?

- v. 35 And some of the wise will fall victim to persecution. In this way, they will be refined and cleansed and made pure until the time of the end, **for the appointed time is still to come.**

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HOW LONG?

- v. 35 And some of the wise will fall victim to persecution. In this way, they will be refined and cleansed and made pure until the time of the end, **for the appointed time is still to come.**
- v. 36 He will succeed, but **only until the time** of wrath is completed.

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HOW LONG?

- v. 40 Then at the time of the end, the king of the south will attack the king of the north.

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HOW LONG?

- v. 40 Then at the time of the end, the king of the south will attack the king of the north.
- v. 45 But while he is there, his time will suddenly run out, and no one will help him.

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Daniel's vision enabled him to remain faithful when surrounded by evil:

- while still acknowledging the hopelessness of the moment.
- reminding him to stay strong because God is Sovereign.

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Faith hold strong not
because evil fades, but because
God's victory is certain.



EPHESIANS 6:12 (NLT)

¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

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TEMPTATIONS ALONG THE WAY:

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TEMPTATIONS ALONG THE WAY:

- Looking for an earthly saviour

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TEMPTATIONS ALONG THE WAY:

- Looking for an earthly saviour

DANIEL 11:13-14 (NLT)

¹³ "A few years later the king of the north will return with a fully equipped army far greater than before. ¹⁴ At that time there will be a general uprising against the king of the south. Violent men among your own people will join them in fulfillment of this vision, but they will not succeed.

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TEMPTATIONS ALONG THE WAY:

- Believing we can control our future

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TEMPTATIONS ALONG THE WAY:

- Believing we can control our future

PSALM 147:10-11 (NLT)

- ¹⁰ He takes no pleasure in the strength of a horse or in human might.
- ¹¹ No, the Lord's delight is in those who fear him, those who put their hope in his unfailing love.

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The world is chaotic,
BUT God is still sovereign.
God's people must know their God.



DANIEL 11:32B (NLT)

But the people who know their God will be strong and will resist him.

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TRUTHS TO HOLD ONTO:

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TRUTHS TO HOLD ONTO:

- Evil will not last forever.

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TRUTHS TO HOLD ONTO:

- Evil will not last forever.
- God is with us.

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TRUTHS TO HOLD ONTO:

- Evil will not last forever.
- God is with us.
- God is for us.

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TRUTHS TO HOLD ONTO:

- Evil will not last forever.
- God is with us.
- God is for us.
- God's victory is certain.

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GOD WINS.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. In what ways am I inclined to live with a fatalistic view or a doomsday mentality?

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. In what ways am I inclined to live with a fatalistic view or a doomsday mentality?
2. What is the invitation from this passage when the darkness begins to overtake my thoughts?

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. In what ways am I inclined to live with a fatalistic view or a doomsday mentality?
2. What is the invitation from this passage when the darkness begins to overtake my thoughts?
3. Are there ways in which I put my trust in worldly leaders or in what I can control rather than in God?

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

4. What can I do to this week that would help me to move from knowing ABOUT God to KNOWING God?

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Our Father in Heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Your Kingdom come, Your will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For yours in the kingdom, the power,
and the glory,
Forever and ever.
Amen.



