

Daniel 11:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries.

Analysis

During persecution, Jews received 'little help'—the Maccabean revolt provided relief but wasn't complete deliverance. Many joined the cause through flatteries rather than genuine commitment. This military success, while providing breathing room, wasn't the ultimate deliverance—that awaited Messiah.

Historical Context

Daniel chapter 11 contains some of Scripture's most detailed predictive prophecy, written c. 536 BC and fulfilled with remarkable precision 200-160 BC during Ptolemaic-Seleucid conflicts. The prophecies served multiple purposes: encouraging Jewish exiles that God controls history, providing roadmap for future generations facing Hellenistic pressures, and typologically pointing to end-times Antichrist. Reformed theology sees dual fulfillment: near historical events (Antiochus Epiphanes) typifying far eschatological realities (final Antichrist). This pattern validates divine inspiration—only God knows future details with such precision. For believers under persecution, these prophecies demonstrated that tyrannical opposition is temporary, God's sovereignty absolute, and ultimate victory certain. The historical fulfillment encourages trust that eschatological promises will similarly fulfill exactly as prophesied.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does the remarkable precision of fulfilled prophecy strengthen faith in Scripture's divine origin?
2. What does the dual fulfillment pattern (historical Antiochus typifying eschatological Antichrist) teach about biblical prophecy's layered meaning?
3. How should these prophecies encourage believers facing persecution or opposition today?

Interlinear Text

וְכֵן יִפְּלוּ	יִעֲזְרוּ	עֵזֶר	מְעַט	וְנִלְוּ
Now when they shall fall	they shall be holpen	help	with a little	shall cleave
H3782	H5826	H5828	H4592	H3867
עַלֶּיהָ	רַבִּים	בְּחִלְקִלְקוֹת:		
H5921	but many	to them with flatteries		
	H7227	H2519		

Additional Cross-References

Romans 16:18 (Parallel theme): For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

Matthew 7:15 (Parallel theme): Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

1 John 4:1 (Parallel theme): Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.