

Daniel 11:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

Analysis

The 'time of the end' language introduces eschatological dimension—the prophecy shifts from clear historical fulfillment (Antiochus Epiphanes) to end-times events. Some interpreters see verses 40-45 as moving beyond Antiochus to final Antichrist, using Antiochus as type. The 'king of the south' and 'king of the north' engage in final conflict, possibly referring to end-times geopolitical alignments.

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

בָּעֵד	וְעַת	יְמִינְךָ	עַמּוֹ	מִלְּגָד	בָּעֵד
And at the time	of the end	push	H5973	at him and the king	of the south
H6256	H7093	H5055		H4428	H5045
וַיָּשַׁׁפֵּעַ רֹ	עַל יְ	מִלְּגָד	מִלְּגָד	בָּאָגָם	בָּאָגָם
shall come against him like a whirlwind	H8175	H5921	at him and the king	of the north	H6828
with chariots	and with horsemen	ships	and with many	and he shall enter	
H7393	H6571	H591	H7227	H935	
בְּאַרְצֵךְ וְתִ	וַיָּשַׁׁפֵּעַ	וְיַעֲבֹרָ			
into the countries	and shall overflow	and pass over			
H776	H7857	H5674			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 5:28 (Parallel theme): Whose arrows are sharp, and all their bows bent, their horses' hoofs shall be counted like flint, and their wheels like a whirlwind:

Daniel 11:10 (Parallel theme): But his sons shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces: and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress.

Daniel 11:35 (Parallel theme): And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.

Revelation 16:12 (Kingdom): And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.

Isaiah 21:1 (Parallel theme): The burden of the desert of the sea. As whirlwinds in the south pass through; so it cometh from the desert, from a terrible land.

Jeremiah 4:13 (Parallel theme): Behold, he shall come up as clouds, and his chariots shall be as a whirlwind: his horses are swifter than eagles. Woe unto us! for we are spoiled.

Zechariah 9:14 (Parallel theme): And the LORD shall be seen over them, and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning: and the Lord GOD shall blow the trumpet, and shall go with whirlwinds of the south.

Ezekiel 38:4 (Parallel theme): And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:

Daniel 12:4 (Parallel theme): But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.