



Series: Daniel, Living for God in a Pagan World
Passage: Daniel 11:20-39, Matthew 10:28
Title: God's Sovereignty Over the Nations, Part 2
Speaker: Pastor David Menard, 11/17/2024

Discussion Starter – What is meant by the term “sovereignty”? How does it apply to concepts like freedom, power, will, destiny, or control? Restate the title, “God’s Sovereignty Over the Nations” considering your expanded understanding of this term.

Read Daniel 11:20-30

1. What are the 2 reasons that this chapter has narrowed its focus to Antiochus Epiphanes?
2. These verses introduce the final Seleucid king, Antiochus Epiphanes. What historic details are revealed in these verses that describe how his “heart is moved to do damage against the holy covenant”? (Did he set out to destroy the Jewish Temple?)
3. Verse 27 describes 2 kings, both of whose hearts are set on evil, that lie to each other. Is this practice relevant to our day? How?
 - a. How has the insertion of a “new dictionary” corrupted the use of “right words” such as “unity”, “love”, or “inclusion”?
 - b. How can we practice clear and meaningful conversation when discussing issues that have been cast with re-purposed definitions?

Read Daniel 11:31-35

4. Why did God provide such detail concerning the reign of Antiochus Epiphanes and his conflicts with the Ptolemies in Egypt?
5. How did his practices target the faith of the Jewish people?
6. What role did Mattathias Maccabeus and his son Judas play in the Jewish response?
 - c. How does Mattathias response encourage us to stand firm in our faith today?
 - d. What direction does Isaiah 5:20-21 provide? How does this passage apply in your life?

Read Matthew 10:28

7. What does this passage teach us about our priorities, values, and allegiances?
 - e. What fears (if any) hinder your stand for biblical truth?
 - f. What steps can you take to overcome these fears and enter into conformance with this passage?
8. What results and outcomes should we expect if we stand strongly for biblical truth?

Read Daniel 11:35-39

9. What important time indicators are given to us in verses 35b, and 36 that indicate how this verse is to be understood?
10. How are we to understand verse 36, “the king shall prosper until the wrath has been accomplished”?