***DANIEL 11: 1-35 TEAGUE BIBLE CHURCH 2/23/2020***(notes on web page and audio)

**A Soap Opera Of The lowest Of Men ; A God Who Overrides It All For The Sake Of Those Seeking God.**

The point of Daniel is to show us, by predictive prophecy, that God allows human freedom; yet not to the point that His plan to prepare His people for eternity can be frustrated.

**Sovereignty -Psalms 76:10/ Psalms 75:4-8**

**Yet much free-will/ Zechariah 1: 13-15 Matthew 23: 37 II Peter 3:9**

One of the lessons of Daniel 11, specifically, is this --- Man may think he is in control, but God simply uses the worst man can do, in his lust for power and control, and uses it to save his chosen people. God can use the worst of situations to refine and purge and make them pure.

***QUESTION: Do you think God can accomplish His will for your life in view of how messy life can be? Even with all the set-backs and disappointments?*** ***Are you in a “learned-helplessness” state right now? “***

**INTRO:** In Daniel 11 we have no statues, animals, or exact time frames in weeks, but just straight-forward predicting of events, in great detail,years before they happened. Ch. 11 fills in the details of the framework of Ch. 8. It starts with the wars between the Persians and the Greeks, then moves to the effects of Israel by 2 of the 4 generals of the Greek army , after the death of Alexander The Great. The focus is on two of these generals. One is referred to as, “The king of the North” while the other is , “The king of the south.” Syria to the north and Egypt to the south. It also deals again with Antiochus Epiphanies from 8: 23 ff.

(Power Point 1 Map of Syria and Egypt here) @@@@@@@@

**Text Intro: 10:19- 11:1** Read and explain

A great unseen battle that affects all of us co-operatively, nationally, globally, and personally. Eph. 6:10-18

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**TEXT: 11: 1-2 “ Three kings then a fourth”**

(Power Point 2 of Persian kings here)@@@@@@@@@

**11:3-4** Alexander the Great -He did not leave an heir. It is reported that he said, “Whoever is strong enough will rule!”

Alex dies at 32 years old, at the height of his power, after having conquered the civilized world.

He had an illegitimate son; a brother; and infant son by his present wife. All were murdered after his death. His kingdom was at first parceled up into 30 parts and later 12 of his generals tried to rule. The Hebrew word, “Sar” can mean “Prince” or “General.” The conquered territories were then divided among 5 generals, and finally among just 4 generals.

**Remember 8:8 ? “ 1 horn broken suddenly and 4 came up to replace it.”**

(Power Point 3 here- division of the Greek kingdom)@@@@@@@@@)

**Ptolemy I Soter – Egypt – “King Of The South”**

**Seleucus I Nicator – Syria - “King Of The North”**

For nearly 300 years thy fight with each other and guess who is stuck in the middle? Israel!

DAVID DYKES – YELLOW SECTION

**11: 5-20 (Will not read)** Sounds like a soap opera!

**11: 21-35 READ**

DAVID DYKES – ORANGE SECTION

**11: 32-36 READ**

**QUESTION: How does God see our suffering according to this text? All suffering is not because of sin!**

**Lewis on prayer**: “,,, It would be even worse to think of those who get what they pray for as sort of court favorites, people who have influence with the throne. The refused prayer of Christ in Gethsemane is answer enough to that. And I dare not leave out the hard saying which I once heard from an experienced Christian; ‘ I have seen many striking answers to prayer and more than one that I thought miraculous. But they usually come at the beginning: or soon after it. As the Christian life proceeds, they tend to be rarer. The refusals, too, are not only more frequent; they become more unmistakable, more emphatic.” Does God then forsake those who serve Him best? Well, He who served Him best of all said, near His tortured death, ‘Why hast thou forsaken Me?’ When God becomes man, that Man, of all others , is least comforted by God, at His greatest need. There is a mystery here which, even if I had the power, I might not have the courage to explore. Meanwhile, little people like you and me, if our prayers are sometimes granted, beyond all hope or probability, had better not draw hasty conclusions to our own advantage. If we were stronger, we might be less tenderly treated. If we were braver, we might be sent, with far less help, to defend far more desperate post in the great battle.”