

Appendix C

Why I Do Not Believe that Atheistic Secularism from Rev. 11 is the King of the South

Many believe that the king of the South in Daniel 11:40-45 is atheistic secularism. They remember that the atheistic perpetrators of the French Revolution attacked the Roman Catholic Church (the king of the North) and, like Pharaoh said, “I don’t know God.”

According to such a view, the king of the South in Daniel 11:40-45 denies knowing God. Those who hold such a perspective go on to say that atheistic secularism, revealed in Communism and today’s political left are all rooted in, and take the place of the French Revolution as the king of the South. Some of these also assume that the Roman Catholic Church overcame the king of the South in the late 1980s with the fall of Communism at the hands of the United States and the Vatican.

This leads them to conclude that Revelation 11 describes the French Revolution. I agree with them in their understanding of Revelation 11. Communism and the largely atheistic secular political left are described in Revelation 11. However, the power of Revelation 11 is not the king of the South of Daniel 11, but it IS like it!

- Daniel 11 is literal/geopolitical from the beginning while Revelation uses place names symbolically. This is especially true in Revelation 11 where it says, “which **spiritually** (or symbolically) is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.” When Daniel uses the name Babylon he means the literal nation of Babylon. When John uses the term Babylon he uses it as a symbol for a power that is like Babylon. When Daniel uses the term Egypt he means the literal country of Egypt. When John uses the term Egypt he uses it as a symbol for a power that is like Egypt.
- We have no reason to interpret the powers of Daniel 11 as only religious or only spiritual because Daniel 11 already describes them as both geopolitical and religious.
- The historical fit of Islam as the king of the South from verses 25 to 43 is too great to ignore. It fits each of the details throughout the prophecy.
- We should not change the identity of the powers partway through the period between the Roman Empire and the second coming of Jesus Christ. Both viewpoints understand the king of the North to be the Roman Catholic papacy.

Daniel 2, 7, and 8; 2 Thessalonians 2; and Revelation 13 all indicate that the king of the North covers the period from the fall of Rome to the second coming of Christ. If this is so, then the king of the South should also extend from the fall of the Roman Empire and last until just before the second coming of Christ.

We would expect, based on Daniel 11:29, three eras of conflict between these same two powers in the time period between the collapse of Rome and the Second Advent. When we understand Islam to be the king of the South, we do not need to change the identity of the king of the South partway through the prophecy—Islam fits all the way through.

- Some have said that after Christ's death, the prophecies become only symbolic or spiritual. If this is true of Daniel 11, why do we find such a good description of the Crusades and the Reformation, which are literal and geopolitical and yet occur after the time of Christ's death?

It is not wise to spiritualize a prophecy when it makes sense literally. On the other hand, Revelation 11:8 does say that the power referred to as "spiritually called Egypt" is not literal, but symbolic. By not differentiating the styles of the writers, those of the atheistic secularism viewpoint have mixed apples and oranges.

- The context of Daniel 11:40-43 lends itself to interpreting the king of the South as Islam. When the king of the North launches its final attack against the king of the South, Daniel mentions nations by name. They are Egypt, Libya, Ethiopia, and western Jordan (Ammon, Edom, and Moab).

These are all predominantly Islamic, not secular atheistic or communist. The question should be asked, How does the context of Daniel 11:40-45 indicate Communism? Answer: It doesn't. Those who believe this must find support for their view from outside Daniel 11:40-45.

- Geopolitical consistency: After the demise of the Roman Empire, the papacy takes the northern part of the empire, and Islam takes the southern part. For 1,400 years this has been true, even to this day.

Christian nations are predominately to the north of Israel and Islamic nations are predominately to the south of Israel. Those who believe that atheistic Communism is the king of the South find themselves forced to explain how the king of the South got so far north into Russia. In short, the atheistic Communism view is not geopolitically consistent with the prophecy.

Because the literal explanation fits so well, I am exceedingly reluctant to look for any other supposed meaning. So, I firmly believe Islam to be the king of the South in Daniel 11:25-43.

This said, I will agree that there are amazing similarities between Islam and French Revolution rooted atheistic secularism, including Communism and the political left. As I mentioned in the chapter on Islam in prophecy, I believe Islam to be the king of the South, but I also believe that

from the late 1790's to the present, Satan used the atheistic French Revolution/ secular atheistic communism/political left to fight against the papacy and Israel.

Both dislike the papacy. For centuries Islam tried to take down the papacy. In 1798, the French overthrew the papacy. Then the Islamic Ottomans became a de facto protectorate of the British in 1840. That meant that the Protestant mission movement had its two major restrictions removed, and the Mission and Bible Societies flourished. With Islam and the papacy weakened, Satan used the rising Communist movement to hold back the spread of Christianity.

At the same time that Communism was collapsing in the 1980s, Islam and Islamic terrorism was on the rise. It is interesting to note that the papacy and the United States apparently worked together to bring down Communism, and as I mention in the chapter on the United States in Prophecy, I expect that they will crush Islam at the end. Now that Communism is not holding back Christianity as it was, Islam is once again strong and resisting Christianity in much of the world.

So I see Islam as the real Daniel 11 king of the South, but atheistic Communism, as in Revelation 11, being a temporary substitute for the king of the South that took the leading role while Islam and the papacy were recovering from their wounds. However, now the political leftists with roots in the French Revolution are working in a kind of alliance with radical Islam. Note the similarities:

Islamists

Dislikes Israel
Dislikes Papacy
Dislike Capitalism
Dislike Conservative Politicians
Jesus just a good man
Bible not authoritative
Supports Social Justice
Dislike Strong America
Chants "Death to America"
Encourages rioting/violence
Destroy historical artifacts

Political Leftists

Dislikes Israel
Dislikes Papacy
Dislike Capitalism
Dislike Conservative Politicians
Jesus just a good man
Bible not authoritative
Supports Social Justice
Dislike Strong America
Chants "Down with America"
Encourages rioting/violence
Destroy historical artifacts

A group of Catholics publish **Crisis Magazine**. Here, in their own words, they describe the crisis on their about page.

"The word "crisis" comes from the ancient Greek krisis—"decision".

The West has arrived at a crisis point. We must decide: Do we serve the City of God or the City of Man? Does our first allegiance lie with the Church or with the State? Do we profess the ancient and immutable Faith or the latest fashionable secular dogmas?

Not since the Cold War have we experienced such violent political, cultural, and spiritual unrest. Not since the Civil War has our country been divided so bitterly against itself. Our civilization is under attack from the far-left within and radical Islam without.”¹ Believe it or not they then suggest that Sunday laws, called Blue laws, are a part of the answer. “America, for the sake of its own emotional and spiritual welfare—for the sake of its own sanity—needs to restore the blue laws.

There was a time, surprising as it may be, when Amazon did not deliver on Sunday, and Americans somehow survived. There was a time when citizens had to do their shopping at the hardware store on a weekday, or early Saturday morning, in order to complete their home projects.

To preempt accusations of “theocracy,” I am not advocating mandatory church-going (though it wouldn’t be the worst idea), but rather simple restrictions on which businesses remain open on Sunday. Political and cultural leaders could “opt-out” of things like social media: as de Tocqueville rightly notes, leaders who set the standard should “act every day as if they believed in it themselves.”

Blue laws may limit “freedom,” but only the freedom to limitless consumption. If promulgated in a prudent and focused way, they can cultivate virtue, strengthen neighborliness, and protect small businesses. Most importantly, they can help promote prayer and peace—now, when America needs them most.”²

So, I believe that the Islamist and the political leftist will push too far and there will be an overwhelming counter attack from the Judaeo/Christian world and papal-led Christianity will take control, use force themselves, and then Jesus will rescue His people and set up His everlasting Kingdom.

Please check the resources page on our website [IslamAndChristianity.org](https://www.IslamAndChristianity.org) for an expanded and updated paper on this subject.

¹ <https://www.crisismagazine.com/about-us>

² <https://www.crisismagazine.com/2020/bring-back-the-blue-laws> June 17,202K