

The end of your faith. You are receiving the end of your faith even the salvation of your souls, the NT says. You speak of the end of somebody's reign, the end of some situation. It means -- concerns something that is not in Daniel's time but is quite a distance forward a time of the end. There are many instances where it very obviously does not refer to the very end of the age.

So continuing in v.19, "I am going to tell you later what will happen in the time of wrath because the vision concerns the appointed time of the end." One commentary says, Nothing ended at the time of the Maccabees; so it must look forward to antichrist. Of course that is an erroneous statement--"nothing ended at the time of Antiochus. The great persecution that Antiochus began came to an end when the Maccabees gained their freedom and set up Judea as a separate state. Or if you want something bigger than that to come to an end the captivity began in the time of the taking of Jerusalem. The captivity began then and the exile began then.

The exile ended in 538 B.C. because Cyrus gave a decree that the people who desired could go back and could rebuild the city. So the exile ended there but not the captivity because they were still under the control of the Persians. They continued under their control until Alexander the Great ~~tried~~ destroyed the Persian empire and then Palestine was under the control of the Ptolemies after Alexander died === under the Ptolemies for 100 years. Then under the Seleucids and so the captivity continued until the time of the Maccabees. But the captivity ended with the Maccabees. They had c. 100 yrs. of being independent before the Romans took them over.

So it surely is the time of the end of a very vital development of the history of Israel.

There is more detail that is interesting in this ch. if we had considerable time. I would like to take the statements about Antiochus in the first part of the vision and parallel them with the statements in the interpretation and it is very interesting to see how each of them gives some information that is not given in the other. But I don't think we will take time for that now, since the semester is drawing so near to a close.

I will put on the board now a brief outline of these four different chs. It does not cover anything but what we have already looked at, but perhaps it makes it a little more vivid. In Daniel 2 the four parts of the statue. The five parts of which the last two are joined together.

In ch. 7 the four animals, followed by the little horn. An ch. 2 leading up to the complete destruction of the statue. Ch. 7 the beast of which the little horn is part being completely destroyed and his body given to the fire. Then the new kingdom in ch. 2, the Son of Man came in ch. 7.

One of the suggested questions I have put there is, What is said about saints in the book of Daniel? We found one place this morning where in ch. 8 he heard a saint ask another. That word *saint*, a holy one, -- we don't know exactly what it refers to there. But the word saint is used several times in ch. 7 where the antichrist fights