

Main Idea: As we look at the prophecy in Daniel 11:36-45, we learn that God wants us to know about two end time realities.

- I. The Lord wants us to know about the end-time conditions (36-39).
 - A. There will be a final world ruler (36).
 1. He will be obsessed with himself.
 2. He will blaspheme God.
 - B. There will be a final world religion (37-39).
 1. It will be characterized by modernism (37).
 2. It will be characterized by materialism (38).
 3. It will be characterized by militarism (39).
- II. The Lord wants us to know about the end-time conflict (40-45).
 - A. We see his aggression (40).
 - B. We see his anti-Semitism (41).
 - C. We see his ambition (42-43).
 1. He desires power.
 2. He desires money.
 - D. We see his alarm (44).
 - E. We see his abdication (45).

Take Inventory: Why does God tell us what's going to happen?

1. He wants us to know He has a plan for the world.
2. He wants us to know He has a plan for His people.
3. He wants us to live in light of His plan.

Scripture Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

9-11. That's all it takes, just two numbers to bring a host of images to mind. Many in this room remember exactly what you were doing fifteen years ago today when the events of 9-11 occurred.

But as my wife reminded me this week, this is the first high school freshman class to learn about 9-11 from the history textbook, since most weren't born until after it happened.

The History Channel's article details the event:

On September 11, 2001, 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al-Qaeda hijacked four airliners and carried out suicide attacks against targets in the United States. Two of the planes were flown into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania. Often referred to as 9/11, the attacks resulted in extensive death and destruction, triggering major U.S. initiatives to combat terrorism and defining the presidency of George W. Bush. Over 3,000 people were killed during the attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C., including more than 400 police officers and firefighters.²

In so many ways, 9-11 changed the way we look at the world. Even the way we look at what's going to happen to the world.

Many years ago I had an interesting conversation one night as my children were getting ready for bed. They asked me a curious question, "Will there be war when Jesus comes again?"

I answered that, yes, the Bible tells us there will be war in the world that will climax with Jesus' coming. To which they probed, "Will it be like the one that's happening in Iraq today (referring to the U.S. bombing of Iraq just a couple of weeks prior for violation of no-fly guidelines)? Could that war be the one?"

*** Note: This is an unedited manuscript of a message preached at Wheelersburg Baptist Church. It is provided to prompt your continued reflection on the practical truths of the Word of God.

¹ For an earlier development of this passage, see the Daniel series at WBC in 1996.

² <http://www.history.com/topics/9-11-attacks>

Now two decades later, we're still wondering what's going to happen to this world.

And while there's much we don't know, we can be thankful that God has told us exactly what *He* wants us to know about what's going to happen to this world. And we find one of the most strategic, prophetic texts in the Word of God in the last section of Daniel 11.

We're nearing the conclusion of our study in Daniel, a trek we embarked on back in January. The prophet Daniel was certainly a man of God, as we learned in the biographical section of chapters 1-6. He was also a man that God privileged to give a preview of world events, through a series of four visions which are recorded in Daniel 7-12.

In the fourth vision, the most detailed of the four, God revealed to Daniel what was going to happen from Daniel's day in the 6th century BC to the climax of the end time. The first section of chapter eleven (1-20), though future for Daniel, is actually history for us now, and is the prophetic record of what happened from roughly 535 BC to 175 BC. Last time, we considered the second section (21-35), which is the detailed prediction of the reign of Antiochus IV Epiphanes, the wicked God-hating, Jew-hating, Syrian ruler who plagued the world in the second century B.C.

The final section of the vision (36-45) is both climactic and controversial. Before looking at the text, I want you to realize biblical scholars offer three different interpretations of the material.

Possible Interpretations of Daniel 11:36-45

1. *It's already happened.* That is, the wicked ruler described in these verses is Antiochus Epiphanes, and as such, the verses merely record a historical event for us.

2. *It's yet to happen.* This view says the section refers not to a historical figure at all, but to a future character, the coming Antichrist. Luther, for instance, identified him with the Antichrist. In fact, centuries ago (400 AD), Jerome commented, "The Jews believe that this passage has reference to Antichrist...We, too, understand this to refer to the Antichrist."³

3. *It mingles the past and the future.* Remember, we're using the term "past" in a relative sense, since it was all "future" to Daniel. Antiochus was a historical, evil leader. He was also a foreshadowing of the yet future, vilest-of-all leaders, the Antichrist.

Here's where the confusion enters. Verse 35 is clearly talking about events during the days of Antiochus. And verse 36 seems to continue speaking of him, "The king will do as he pleases."⁴

Who is this king? Antiochus? Some of the details that follow sound like him, but many do not.

For instance, verse 36 says "he shall magnify himself above every god (AV)." Antiochus, though a blasphemer, did not place a statue of himself, but of Zeus Olympius in the Jerusalem temple. Another detail that doesn't fit Antiochus is seen in verse 37, "He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers." Yet to the contrary, Antiochus's policy was to force his Jewish subjects to worship the god of his fathers or be killed.

So then what's going on in Daniel 11? The answer, apparently, is that it mingles the past and the future. Commentator Joyce Baldwin remarks, "Biblical prophecy regularly exhibits this characteristic of telescoping the future, so that the more distant event appears to merge with the nearer so as to become indistinguishable from it."⁵

³ In Walvoord, 270

⁴ AV, "And the king shall do accordingly to his will."

⁵ Baldwin, p. 202.

The best-known passage in which we see such "telescoping" is Jesus' teaching in Matthew 24, where Jesus speaks both of the coming fall of Jerusalem (which occurred in 70 AD) and of the end of the world (which obviously is removed by at least 1900+ years to date). And He does not clearly distinguish the two events, but lumps them together.

So I believe that Daniel 11 contains an important message for us about what is yet coming. As we look at the prophecy in Daniel 11:36-45, we're going to learn that God wants us to know about two end time realities. One, end time conditions in verses 36-39. And two, the end time conflict in verses 40-45.

I. The Lord wants us to know about the end-time conditions (36-39).

Our text indicates we should anticipate two things.

A. There will be a final world ruler (36). Notice his description in verse 36, "The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place."

What kind of man will this coming ruler be? We learn two of his characteristics here.

1. *He will be obsessed with himself.* He will do "according to his will," says the AV, "as he pleases," in the NIV. He will "exalt himself." He will "magnify himself" to the point that in his presumption, he will claim to be god.

By the way, Genesis 3:5 reveals that this is at the root of all human sin. We sin because we want to call the shots, to be "god" in life. The difference between us and this ruler is that he will have the power to work out his egotistic pretensions.⁶

2. *He will blaspheme God.* He will promote an anti-God campaign. In fact, he will speak "against the God of gods."

Will Rogers once remarked that there are two eras in American history--"the passing of the buffalo and the passing of the buck." Someone else has said, "To err is human; to blame it on the divine is even more human."⁷ This coming ruler will not only blame it on the divine; he will blaspheme the divine.

You say, "That doesn't seem right. How is it that an ungodly, God-defying ruler like this fellow can prosper in his wicked pursuits?" The answer is the same one the Bible gives as to why ungodly people prosper in our day. Their day is coming.

Verse 36 is clear. This coming ruler's heyday will come to an end. "He will be successful *until* the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place." This ruler will be living on borrowed time. God alone is sovereign. God has determined exactly when this wicked one shall come to his end. He shall prosper only until the end of the day of God's wrath, "the time of Jacob's trouble" (Jer 30:7).

The truth is, God will use the Antichrist in that day, just like He used Antiochus Epiphanes in the past to discipline His wayward people, the Jews. And ultimately, rescue a remnant for the glory of His Son, Messiah Jesus.

Daniel 12:1 elaborates, "There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered."

So the coming ruler will come. And go. God's plan is certain.

We learn of a second end-time condition beginning in verse 37.

B. There will be a final world religion (37-39). What exactly will this final world ruler do? He will set up a final world religion which is described in verses 37-39.

⁶ Baldwin, 197

⁷ as told by K. Hughes, 44

“He will show no regard for the gods of his ancestors or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all.³⁸ Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his ancestors he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts.³⁹ He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honor those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price.”⁸

The reign of this final world ruler will have religious overtones to it. What kind of final world religion will he install? It will be characterized by three things: modernism, materialism, and militarism.

1. *It will be characterized by modernism (37).* Verse 37 says he will show no regard for the gods of his fathers. He will be like Stalin in this sense. Stalin began as a candidate for the priesthood in the Russian Orthodox church before defecting to Marxism and atheism.⁹ And the bloodbath he caused after that is history.

The coming ruler will be a non-traditionalist who abandons the gods of his fathers and shows no regard for the "desire of women," in the AV, "the one desired by women," in the NIV. What does this latter phrase imply? One suggestion is that the "desire of women" refers to Tammuz, whose cult was popular in ancient Syria, especially among women. Another possible interpretation, especially in light of Daniel's Jewish background, is the one suggested by John Walvoord.

The natural desire of Jewish women was to become the mother of the promised Messiah, the seed of the woman promised in Genesis 3:15. The expression, "desire of women," becomes a symbol of the Messianic hope in general.

So the Lord Jesus is in view, Israel's Messiah and the hope of the nations. This future leader will hate not only God, he will also hate the Messiah God will send.

What's more, not only will he downplay the Messianic hope, he will seek to eliminate any honor given to the Messiah. His will be a Christ-less, man-centered religion.

That's modernism. Take the once-for-all-faith of the Bible and make it fit the desires of modern man. Redefine terms. The problem is no longer sin, but lack of personal fulfillment. And God's solution is no longer a Savior who takes care of our sin problem, but a Self-improvement coach.

2. *It will be characterized by materialism (38).* Listen again to verse 38, this time in the AV, "But in his estate shall he honor the god of fortresses; and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honor with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things."

There is no evidence that Antiochus ever went this far. This verse describes a man who will eliminate all previous gods except his own, a "god of fortresses." It's possible that the god of fortresses is not a personal god so much as the power to make war, as symbolized by the term "fortress".¹⁰

Simply put, the only thing this ruler trusts in is himself and his own military power. As John Walvoord observes, "He is a complete materialist in contrast to all previous religions and all previous men who claimed divine qualities. This is blasphemy to the ultimate, the exaltation of human power and attainment. He is Satan's masterpiece, a

⁸ Here's how the LB paraphrases, "He will have no regard for the gods of his fathers, nor for the god beloved of women, nor any other god, for he will boast that he is greater than them all. Instead of these he will worship the Fortress god--a god his fathers never knew--and lavish on him costly gifts! Claiming his help he will have great success against the strongest fortresses. He will honor those who submit to him, appointing them to positions of authority and dividing the land to them as their reward."

⁹ Archer, 144

¹⁰ Observation by Walvoord.

human being who is Satan's substitute for Jesus Christ, hence properly identified as the Antichrist."¹¹

3. *It will be characterized by militarism (39).* Verse 39 further describes his assault, "He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god [perhaps demonic assistance?] and will greatly honor those who acknowledge him [build a coalition]. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price [give land incentives to entice a following]."

This is the coming final world religion of the Antichrist, a combination of modernism, materialism, and militarism. His only god will be might. His will be a totalitarian rule in which might makes right. He will attack all who stand in his way, and reward those who side with him.

Those will be the end-time conditions, and the Lord wants us to know it. A final world ruler, and a final world religion.

We learn more about this *beast* of a ruler (that's the term used of him) in Revelation 13:5-8, "The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise its authority for forty-two months. ⁶ It opened its mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. ⁷ It was given power to wage war against God's holy people and to conquer them. And it was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. ⁸ All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the Lamb's book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world."

Lest we be unnerved, may I remind you that God is not intimidated by pagan leaders, nor will He be by this final one. The Lord is sovereign, the theme of the book of Daniel, and He tells us what's coming so we can rest in His control.

An old music teacher was once asked in greeting, "What's the good news today?" The old man, without saying a word, walked across the room, picked up a tuning fork, and struck it. As the note sounded, he said, "That is A. It is A today, it was A 5,000 years ago, and it will be A 10,000 years from now. The soprano upstairs sings off-key, the tenor across the hall is out of tune." He struck the note again and said, "That is A, my friend, and that's the good news today!"¹²

Again, beloved, the good news today and for all eternity is this. God is in control. So much so that 25 centuries ago, He revealed to Daniel the details of the time of the end. He wants us to know about the end-time conditions. That's verses 36-39. But that's not all.

II. The Lord wants us to know about the end-time conflict (40-45).

Whereas we could conjecture that some of the references in verses 36-39 pertain to Antiochus, at least in part, most commentators agree that we see a definite transition in verse 40. "At the time of the end." The final verses of Daniel 11 detail a massive end-time conflict. As well, they give us a picture of the strategy of the coming Antichrist. We can observe five phases which will characterize the conflict instigated by this wicked man.

A. We see his aggression (40). Remember, an angel sent from God has been speaking to Daniel since 10:20. In verse 40, he begins to describe a massive war effort that will occur in the end.

"At the time of the end the king of the South [in section one, a reference to Egypt; perhaps here to a bloc of nations allied with Egypt, including Libya and Nubia, or Sudan,

¹¹ Walvoord, p. 276.

¹² K. Hughes, 55, *James*

referred to in verse 43] will engage him in battle, and the king of the North [referring to a Syrian coalition; Archer suggests a league of Middle Eastern nations¹³] will storm out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships. He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood.”

At this point, speculation begins to abound in the commentaries. One suggestion is that the "king of the north" points to a Russian leader, since Russia lies to the far north of Israel, with Moscow situated at nearly the same longitude.¹⁴ Another suggests there will be an Italian leader, the "little horn" who comes out of the Roman Empire mentioned back in 9:26.

Whoever it will be is uncertain to us, but there can be no denying his aggression. He will "invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood." The terminology reminds us of *blitzkrieg* warfare that brought the Nazis success early on in World War II.

B. We see his anti-Semitism (41). “He will also invade the Beautiful Land¹⁵. Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand.”

The coming conflict will be horrible for the Jewish people. In fact, verse 45 indicates that the Antichrist will pitch his royal tents right in the midst of the promised land.

In 12:1, we're given a specific indicator concerning the severity of the anti-Semitism in that day, “...there will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people--everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered.”

The Jews have endured abuse from aggressors throughout history, from Haman to Hitler, from Antiochus to Stalin. And why? The first reason is that centuries ago, God chose this nation to be His peculiar people, yet because of their waywardness, He is using the deeds of pagan nations to restore them. The second reason the Jews have suffered such abuse is this. A world that is hostile against God will naturally be hostile against the people God has chosen.

And the most intense expression of anti-Semitism is yet to come.

C. We see his ambition (42-43). Charles Colson, in his book *Kingdoms in Conflict*, tells how he would influence diverse interest groups through White House visits to insure then President Nixon's reelection. He would escort guests past saluting guards, down a long corridor with dramatic photographs of the President in action. Then he would pause at the executive dining room, point to the door at the right and say in hushed tones, 'That's the situation room'--the legendary super-secret national security nerve center. (Actually it was just a crowded office. The real command center had been moved to the Pentagon.)

Next, if the visitors still seemed unsupportive of the President, Colson would treat them to a walk upstairs to the Oval Office. If the President was there, Colson would ask (always by pre-arrangement) if the visitor would like to see the President. Colson writes:

"Nixon was master at the game. He always gave his dazzled visitor gold-plated cuff links with the presidential seal. The person would be overwhelmed as he left, almost bowing, not more than sixty seconds later. It's not easy to resist the allure of the Oval Office....Invariably, the lions of the waiting room became the lambs of the Oval Office. No one ever showed outward hostility. Most, except the labor leaders, forgot their best-rehearsed lines. They nodded when the President spoke, and in those rare instances when they disagreed, they did so apologetically, assuring the President that they personally respected his opinion. Ironically, none were more compliant than the religious leaders.

¹³ Archer, p. 147.

¹⁴ Wood

¹⁵ AV, “the glorious land,” a reference to Israel.

Of all people, they should have been the most aware of the sinful nature of man and the least overwhelmed by pomp and protocol. But theological knowledge sometimes wilts in the face of worldly power."¹⁶

Ambition is a blinding force. The coming Antichrist will be a master-manipulator. What will drive him? A twofold ambition.

1. *He desires power.* We're told this in verse 42, "He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape." So he's after power. He wants to extend his power over many countries. But not just power.

2. *He desires money.* Verse 43 says, "He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Cushites in submission." Gold and silver and riches. That too is what he is after.

Power and money. Money and power. Those double ambitions drive many a leader in our day, too. Finally, phase 4. After his aggression, anti-Semitism, and aggression...

D. We see his alarm (44). The tide changes for the ruler in verse 44, "But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many."¹⁷

Commentator John Walvoord suggests the *reports from the east* probably refers to the gigantic invasion described in Revelation 9:13-21, where an army of 200 million mounted troops crosses the Euphrates and descends on the Holy Land.

I found some interesting information on *World Atlas*, a 2016 article entitled "The 29 Largest Armies in the World."¹⁸ China is first with 2,333,000 active military. The USA is next with nearly 1.5 million, India third with 1.3 million, North Korea fourth with nearly 1.2 million, then Russia with 845,000, Pakistan with 643,000, then South Korea, Iran, and Turkey, each with over one-half million.

Other than the USA each of those armies is either east or north of where this end time ruler will be fighting. Listen again to verse 44, "But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many."

But the final words of verse 45 are telling, "He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him." So here...

E. We see his abdication (45). The ESV says, "And he shall pitch his palatial tents between the sea and the glorious holy mountain." That is, between the Mediterranean Sea and literally, "the mountain of the holy ornament," or the hill of Zion, which is in Jerusalem.

So the Antichrist and his conquest will end.

Daniel 11 is not the only place in the Bible we are told about the Antichrist. The apostle John wrote, "You have heard that antichrist shall come (1 John 2:18)." Paul describes the same person in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, "That day shall not come except there come the falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped, so that he, as God, sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

No mere man will be a match for the Antichrist. But the Lord Himself will bring him down. We're told this in 2 Thessalonians 2:8, "And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming."

¹⁶ Charles Colson, in his book *Kingdoms in Conflict*, p. 307.

¹⁷ AV, "But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him; therefore, he shall go forth with great fury to destroy and utterly to sweep away many."

¹⁸ <http://www.worldatlas.com/articles/29-largest-armies-in-the-world.html>

Take Inventory: Why does God tell us what's going to happen?

Let's consider three reasons.

1. *He wants us to know He has a plan for the world.* He told us ahead of time so we wouldn't be surprised or alarmed. In his plan, He said He would use wicked rulers, and even the ultimate wicked ruler to accomplish His purposes. He warned us that things will get bad, but we need not lose heart. Jesus said that he who stands firm to the end will be saved (Matt 24:13).

2. *He wants us to know He has a plan for His people.* While others I respect would disagree, I believe the Bible teaches that God is not done with the Jews, that the time of the Gentiles will end with the destruction of the Antichrist, and that God will fulfill His kingdom-age promises to a redeemed Israel in the coming millennial kingdom.

Now, while we may not fully understand the plan, God wants us to know He *has* a plan for His people.

Which leads to this. God also has a plan *for you*, my friend. In Daniel 11, He informs us what happens to a person who lives for himself, who dishonors his Maker, and refuses to live for His glory.

So here's the question. Are you living for the glory of God in your life? That's His plan for you.

We've talked this morning about the self-focused person the Bible calls the Antichrist. He will take from the world. That's just the opposite of what the Christ did for the world when 2,000 years ago, He came to give. He gave His perfect life as a ransom payment on a cross, to rescue sinners so they will live for God's glory.

Have you received Christ as your Savior and Lord? If not, will you do so right now? If you want to live for the glory of God, as He desires and deserves, we must put our total trust in Christ.

For those who know Christ as Savior, another question. Have you been living for the glory of God?

A general once sat at a table in a royal court, seated beside the court chaplain. In the course of the meal, the general turned to the chaplain and, to make conversation, asked, "Pastor, in this moment together here, could you tell me something about Heaven?" The court chaplain looked at him carefully and said, "Well, yes, I could. The first thing I would tell you, general, is that in Heaven you will not be a general."¹⁹

In heaven it's all about His glory, and that's His intent for us now too.

3. *He wants us to live in light of His plan.* Part of living in light of His plan, which means we're living for His glory, is longing to see Him and helping others do the same.²⁰

In 1837 the Scottish pastor Robert M. McCheyne wrote a poem entitled, "I Am Debtor."²¹ He was 24 years old at the time, and he died just five years later.

*When this passing world is done,
When has sunk yon glaring sun,
When we stand with Christ in glory,
Looking o'er life's finished story,
Then, Lord, shall I fully know—
Not till then—how much I owe.*

¹⁹ told by K. Hughes, 36

²⁰ The apostle Paul revealed there is a special reward for people who long for Jesus' second coming. He wrote in 2 Timothy 4:8, "There is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto *all them that love His appearing.*"

²¹ From The Cyber Hymnal. When This Passing World Is Done, by Robert M. McCheyne (originally a poem entitled "I Am Debtor," 1837

*When I hear the wicked call,
On the rocks and hills to fall,
When I see them start and shrink
On the fiery deluge brink,
Then, Lord, shall I fully know—
Not till then—how much I owe.*

*When I stand before the throne,
Dressed in beauty not my own,
When I see Thee as Thou art,
Love Thee with unsinning heart,
Then Lord, shall I fully know—
Not till then—how much I owe.*

*When the praise of Heav'n I hear,
Loud as thunders to the ear,
Loud as many waters' noise,
Sweet as harp's melodious voice,
Then, Lord, shall I fully know—
Not till then—how much I owe.*

*Even on earth, as through a glass
Darkly, let Thy glory pass,
Make forgiveness feel so sweet,
Make Thy Spirit's help so meet,
Even on earth, Lord, make me know
Something of how much I owe.*

*Chosen not for good in me,
Wakened up from wrath to flee,
Hidden in the Savior's side,
By the Spirit sanctified,
Teach me, Lord, on earth to show,
By my love, how much I owe.*

*Oft I walk beneath the cloud,
Dark, as midnight's gloomy shroud;
But, when fear is at the height,
Jesus comes, and all is light;
Blessed Jesus! bid me show
Doubting saints how much I owe.*

*When in flowery paths I tread,
Oft by sin I'm captive led;
Oft I fall—but still arise—
The Spirit comes—the tempter flies;
Blessed Spirit! bid me show
Weary sinners all I owe.*

*Oft the nights of sorrow reign—
Weeping, sickness, sighing, pain;
But a night Thine anger burns—
Morning comes and joy returns;
God of comforts! bid me show
To Thy poor, how much I owe.*

My friend, are you ready for the time of the end? Knowing what's coming gives us confidence in the present. We have the peace of God. Let's sing about it...

Like a River Glorious (#494)