

Statement No. 9
Spirit of Prophecy on Daniel 11:30-36
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Statement: The power Ellen White speaks of in Daniel 11:30 is a civil power. This identified power carries through to verse 36 in order to help us identify the king of verse 36.

“We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. The prophecy in the eleventh of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated. In the thirtieth verse **a power is spoken of that ‘shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.’** [Verses 31-36, quoted.]”
{13MR 394.1}{Lt103-1904}

Notice what she says: “In the thirtieth verse a power is spoken of that shall . . .” and then she quotes verses 30-36 without further comment. It is as though this *power* of verse 30 is to be seen as being operative throughout the verses that she then quotes. If this is true, then the king of verse 36 would be related to the same *power* brought to view in verse 30.

Because of whom this *power* has “intelligence with” or is “united with”, as another translation puts it, we should be able to ascertain whether this *power* is a civil or a religious *power*.

This *power* has intelligence or unites with “*them* that forsake the holy covenant.” Uriah Smith says that this *them* is the Catholic Church. If that is true then this would be the verse where we see the beginnings of the church/state union that would persecute God’s people for the next 1260 years. Paul said that there would be a falling away or, said in another way, a forsaking of the holy covenant by the Apostolic Church. It is reasonable that this *power* that unites with this apostate church in verse 30 is not the Roman Catholic Church but is, rather, the state.

If I understand correctly the following verses that Ellen White quoted, the **orange lettering** would be pronouns referring to a civil power, **blue lettering** would be pronouns referring to the Catholic Church, and the **red lettering** would be pronouns referring to God’s people. Notice that a prominent number of the pronouns in these verses are referring to the state and to God’s people.

11:30 For the ships of Chittim shall come against **him** [civil power]: therefore **he** [civil power] shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall **he** do; **he** shall even return, and have intelligence with **them** [Catholic Church] that forsake the holy covenant.

11:31 And arms shall stand on **his** part [civil power - because the pronoun prior to *his* was the plural pronoun *them* which referred to the Catholic Church, the singular pronoun *his* could not refer to the church but would rather refer to the state which has previously been referred to by

singular pronouns], and **they** [arms of the state] shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and **they** [arms of the state] shall place the abomination that maketh desolate [it was the arms of the state that helped to put into place the supremacy of the papacy].

11:32 And such as do wickedly against the covenant [a reference to the Catholic Church] shall **he** [civil power] corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know **their** (God's people) God shall be strong, and do exploits.

11:33 And **they** that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet **they** shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, [many] days.

11:34 Now when **they** shall fall, **they** shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to **them** with flatteries.

11:35 And [some] of **them** of understanding shall fall, to try **them**, and to purge, and to make [**them**] white, [even] to the time of the end: because [it is] yet for a time appointed.

11:36 And the king shall do according to **his** will; and **he** shall exalt **himself**, and magnify **himself** above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.

Notice that the last first-person personal pronoun before the *king* of verse 36 would be the *he* in verse 32 which was referring to a civil power. Then the rest of the pronouns in verses 34 and 35 are all plural pronouns referring to God's people. So when we come to the *king* in verse 36, the last singular pronoun individual spoken of was a leader of a civil power. So it is most likely that the word *king* would be speaking of a specific individual from the same civil power last spoken of in verse 32, which was the power of verse 30. And if the power Ellen White references in verse 30 was a civil power and if that power was to extend to verse 36, then we can be certain that the *king* of verse 36 is a civil power and not a religious power. And the fact that the *king* represents a civil power has profound implications regarding the interpretation of Daniel 11:40-45.