

דניאל

Daniel, Chapter 11

- **The vision of the great warfare spoken in 536 BC, “the third year of Cyrus King of Persia” (10:1) [375 years before Antiochus Ephiaphanes, the focus of this chapter].**

1. "In the first year of Darius the Mede, I [*Gabriel*] arose to be an encouragement and a protection for him."
2. "Now then, I tell you the truth: Three more kings will appear in Persia [*Cambyses, son of Cyrus, Gaumata and Darius I Hystaspes*], and then a fourth [*Xerxes I*], who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece [*Xerxes I sought to conquer Greece in 480 B.C.*].
3. Then a mighty king [*Alexander the Great*] will appear, who will rule with great power and do as he pleases.
4. After he has appeared, his empire will be broken up and parceled out toward the four winds of heaven [*at Alexander's death at age 33 in 323 B.C., see map*]. It will not go to his descendants [*the line of his little son, Alexander IVth who was murdered*], nor will it have the power he exercised, because his empire will be uprooted and given to others [*to Alexander's generals – the WEST: Macedon & Greece to Antipater & his son Cassander; The NORTH: Thrace & Asia Minor to Lysimachus; the EAST: Syria & Seleucus I; the SOUTH: Palestine and Egypt to Ptolemy I*].
5. "The king of the South [*Ptolemy I of Egypt*] will become strong, but one of his commanders [*Seleucus I*] will become even stronger than he and will rule his own kingdom [*the Northern-Babylonian-Syrian Empire; hereafter called “the king of the North, because Syria is north of Egypt*]with great power.
6. After some years, they will become allies. The daughter of the king of the South [*Berenice, daughter of the Egyptian king Ptolemy II*]will go to the king of the North [*Antiochus II of Syria*] to make an alliance [*viz: a treaty sealed by the marriage of Berenice to Antiochus II who divorced his wife Laodice to marry Berenice*], but she will not retain her power [*for Laodice had plotted a coup d'etat*], and he and his power will not last [*Antiochus II was poisoned to death*]. In those days she [*Berenice*] will be handed over, together with her royal escort and her father and the one who supported her [*Berenice and her infant son were assassinated and Berenice's father Ptolemy II died*].
7. "One from her family line [*Berenice's brother, Ptolemy III of Egypt*] will arise to take her place [*he avenged Berenice's death by deposing Laodice and her son Seleucus II at Antioch in Syria after a bitter 5 year war after which*] he will attack the forces of the king of the North and enter his fortress [*Antioch*]; he will fight against them and be victorious.
8. He [*Ptolemy III*]will also seize their gods [*2,000 costly idol statues*], their metal images and their valuable articles of silver and gold and carry them off to Egypt. For some years he [*Ptolemy III*]

will leave the king of the North [*Seleucus II*] alone [*a temporary treaty of peace was made between Ptolemy III and Seleucus II in 240 B.C.*].

9. Then the king of the North [*Seleucus II*] will invade the realm of the king of the South [*the 230 B.C. invasion of the Egyptian held parts of Syria and Phoenicia*] but will retreat to his own country.
10. His [*Seleucus II's*] sons [*Seleucus III and Antiochus III*] will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood [*invading Phoenicia and Palestine*] and carry the battle as far as his fortress [*at Raphia in southern Palestine, where Antiochus III was then defeated by the Egyptian armies of Ptolemy IV*], for then
11. "The king of the South [*Ptolemy IV*] will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North [*Antiochus III*], who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated [*at Raphia in 217 B.C.*].
12. When the army is carried off, the king of the South [*the Egyptian Ptolemy IV*] will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands [*10,000 of Antiochus III's infantrymen were lost at Raphia*], yet he [*Ptolemy IV*] will not remain triumphant.
13. For the king of the North [*the Syrian Antiochus III*] will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years [*in 203 B.C.*], he will advance with a huge army fully equipped [*striking the Egyptian Empire just after the death of Ptolemy IV and the succession of Ptolemy V, his young son*].
14. "In those times many will rise against the king of the South [*Ptolemy V of Egypt*]. The violent men among your [*Daniel's*] own people [*Jew's who were pro-Antiochus III*] will rebel in fulfillment of the vision [*this prophecy*], but without success [*they were crushed in 200 B.C. by the Egyptian General Scopas*].
15. Then the king of the North [*Antiochus III*] will come and build up siege ramps and will capture a fortified city [*the port of Sidon*]. The forces of the South [*the Egyptian armies of Scopas*] will be powerless to resist; even their best troops will not have the strength to stand [*Scopas finally surrendered to Antiochus III at Sidon and the Holy Land was permanently annexed by the Antioch government of Syria*].
16. The invader [*Antiochus III who invaded the Holy Land in 197 B.C.*] will do as he pleases; no one will be able to stand against him. He will establish himself in the Beautiful Land [*Israel*] and will have the power to destroy it [*Antiochus exacted reprisals from the pro-Egyptian Jewish party leaders*].
17. He [*Antiochus III*] will determine to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will make an alliance with the king of the South [*Egypt*]. And he will give him a daughter in marriage [*Antiochus III gave his daughter Cleopatra I in marriage to the twelve year old king Ptolemy V in 194 B.C.*] in order to overthrow the kingdom [*Antiochus III hoped by this alliance to overthrow the line of Ptolemy and gain control of the Egyptian Empire*], but his plans will not succeed or help him [*his daughter Cleopatra I became very loyal to the Egyptian monarchy. Ptolemy V died in 181, and Cleopatra I died in 187 B.C. leaving no Seleucid influence over the Egyptian Empire*].
18. Then he will turn his attention to the coastlands [*of the Aegean*] and will take many of them [*such as Cyprus & Crete*], but a commander [*the Roman Lucius*] will put an end to his insolence [*Lucius with only 30,000 soldiers defeated Antiochus III and his 70,000 troops in Asia Minor in 190 B.C.*] and [*turned*] his insolence back upon him.

19. After this, he will turn back toward the fortresses of his own country but will stumble and fall, to be seen no more [*Antiochus III died in 187 B.C. slain at Elymais. His second son, Antiochus IV was among some twenty hostages taken by Lucius to Rome, where he spent the formative years of his life. He later became the dreaded persecutor of the Jews, Antiochus IV Epiphanes*].
20. "His successor [*Seleucus IV, son of Antiochus III*] will send out a tax collector [*Heliodorus*] to maintain the royal splendor. In a few years, however, he [*Seleucus IV*] will be destroyed, yet not in [*mob*] anger or in battle. [*Seleucus IV was poisoned by Heliodorus*].
21. "He [*Seleucus IV*] will be succeeded by a contemptible person [*Seleucus' younger brother Antiochus IV Epiphanes who had returned from Rome*] who has not been given the honor of royalty. [*Demetrius I, the young son of Seleucus IV was next in line to receive the crown, but the throne was seized by Antiochus IV Epiphanes in 175 B.C.*]. **He** will invade the kingdom [*the Holy Land*] when its people feel secure, and **he** will seize it through intrigue.
22. Then an overwhelming army will be swept away before **him**; both it and a prince of the covenant will be destroyed.
23. After coming to an agreement with him, **he** will act deceitfully, and with only a few people **he** will rise to power.
24. When the richest provinces feel secure, **he** will invade them and will achieve what neither his fathers nor his forefathers did. **He** will distribute plunder, loot and wealth among his followers. **He** will plot the overthrow of fortresses--but only for a time.
25. "With a large army **he** will stir up **his** strength and courage against the king of the South. The king of the South will wage war with a large and very powerful army, but he will not be able to stand because of the plots devised against him.
26. Those who eat from the king's provisions will try to destroy him; his army will be swept away, and many will fall in battle.
27. The two kings, with their hearts bent on evil, will sit at the same table and lie to each other, but to no avail, because an end will still come at the appointed time.
28. The king of the North will return to **his** own country with great wealth, but **his** heart will be set against the holy covenant. **He** will take action against it and then return to his own country.
29. "At the appointed time he will invade the South again, but this time the outcome will be different from what it was before.
30. Ships of the western coastlands will oppose **him**, and **he** will lose heart. Then **he** will turn back and vent **his** fury against the holy covenant. **He** will return and show favor to those who forsake the holy covenant.
31. "**His** armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the **abomination that causes desolation**.
32. With flattery **he** will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, but the people who know their God will firmly resist **him**.

33. "Those who are wise will instruct many, though for a time they will fall by the sword or be burned or captured or plundered.
34. When they fall, they will receive a little help and many who are not sincere will join them.
35. Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined, purified and made spotless until THE TIME OF THE END, for it will still come at the appointed time.
36. "The king [*the Antichrist, the Man of Sin*] 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.
37. **He** will show no regard for the gods of his fathers 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 [*Satan himself*]; a god unknown to his fathers **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.
40. "At the time of the end the king of the South will engage **him** in battle, and the king of the North 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.
41. **He** will also invade the Beautiful Land. Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand.
42. **He** will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape.
43. **He** will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Nubians in submission.
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.
45. **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**.
- 12:1 "At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. 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.