

# Daniel Chapter Eleven

## Chapter Ten Review...

**1. In the tenth chapter, we saw the beginning of the final vision recorded by Daniel...**

**a. A vision that pertains to what will affect Daniel's people (i.e., Israel) – Daniel 10:14;**

**b. Describing what will occur "in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come" – Daniel 10:14;**

**c. Its words were to be closed and sealed "till the time of the end" – Daniel 12:9; -- For such reasons this vision has been called "The Vision Of The Time Of The End."**

**2. In the introductory remarks of the vision, we were given a glimpse of the spiritual warfare that was going on "behind the scenes"...**

**a. With angelic forces withstanding each other – Daniel 13:10a, 20;**

**b. With angelic forces helping each other -  
Daniel 10:13b, 21;11:1;**

**[Beginning with Daniel 11:2, "The Vision Of  
The Time Of The End" begins in earnest.  
The "glorious man" proceeds to tell Daniel  
what will happen "in the latter days" (Daniel  
10:14), beginning with...]**

## **I. THE PERSIAN-GREEK CONFLICT**

## **A. FOUR PERSIAN KINGS WILL ARISE...**

**1. Three more kings will arise in Persia, and then a fourth – Daniel 11:2;**

**a. The fourth shall be far richer than them all**

**b. By his strength and riches, the fourth shall stir up all against Greece.**

**2. As confirmed by history, these kings who followed Cyrus (Daniel 10:1) were:**

**a. Cambyses b. Smerdis c. Darius Hystaspis (Darius the Great) d. Xerxes (called Ahasuerus in the book of Esther – Esther 1:1)**

**B. A MIGHTY GREEK KING SHALL RISE AND FALL...**

**1. A mighty king shall arise – Daniel 11:3;**

**Daniel 11:3 “Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion and do as he wills.” (ESV)**

**a. He shall rule with great dominion and he shall do according to his will -- This was Alexander the Great.**

**2. His kingdom shall be broken and divided into four pieces – Daniel 11:4;**

**Daniel 11:4 “And as soon as he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken and divided toward the four winds of heaven, but not to his posterity, nor according to the authority with which he ruled, for his kingdom shall be plucked up and go to others besides these.” (ESV)**

**a. This was also prophesied in...**

**Daniel 8:21-22 “And the goat is the king of Greece. And the great horn between his eyes is the first king. As for the horn that was broken, in place of which four others arose, four kingdoms shall arise from his nation, but not with his power.” (ESV)**

**b. The kingdom will not be given to his posterity, nor will the dominion be as great.**

**c. As confirmed by history, Alexander's empire was eventually divided between his four generals after he died in 323 B.C.**

**1) Seleucus I - who began the Seleucid (Syrian) empire, from Turkey to India 2) Cassander - who took over Macedonia (Greece) 3) Lysimachus - who took Thracia (between Greece and Turkey) 4) Ptolemy I - who ruled over Egypt.**



[At this point, the "glorious man" begins to describe an extended conflict between "the kings of the North" and "the kings of the South" which will have a big impact upon the people of Daniel (Israel)...]

## II. THE EGYPTIAN-SYRIAN CONFLICT

### A. THE CONFLICT WILL BEGIN...

1. The "king of the South" will gain in strength -

**Daniel 11:5a “Then the king of the south shall be strong,...” (ESV)**

**a. This king is Ptolemy I who ruled Egypt (306-284 B.C.)**

**2. As well as "one of his princes", who will gain power over the other ...**

**Daniel 11:5b “...but one of his princes shall be stronger than he and shall rule, and his authority shall be a great authority.”**

a. This is thought to refer to one of Alexander's princes (generals).

b. In which case it is Seleucus I, who ruled Syria (312-280 B.C.)

-- Caught in the middle between Syria and Egypt, Israel will bear the brunt of much of the conflict between these two empires.

**B. THERE WILL BE A FAILED ALLIANCE...**

**1. The "daughter of the South" will go to the "king of the North";**

**Daniel 11:6a "After some years they shall make an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement..."**

**Historians state that this event occurred in the reigns of Ptolemy Philadelphus (284-246 B.C.) and Antiochus Theus (261-246 B.C.) Berenice, daughter of Ptolemy Philadelphus was given to Antiochus, upon the condition**

**that Antiochus divorce his wife Laodice. Hoping to make peace between Egypt and Syria.**

**2. But the "daughter of the South" will not retain her authority -**

**Daniel 11:6b “But she shall not retain the strength of her arm, and he and his arm shall not endure, but she shall be given up, and her attendants, he who fathered her, and he who supported her in those times.” (ESV)**

**Two years after the marriage, Berenice's father (Ptolemy Philadelphus) died and Antiochus put her away and restored his first wife Laodice who killed Antiochus, and Berenice fled, but was later put to death along with her children and attendants.**

## **C. THE SOUTH WILL RISE IN ANGER...**

**1. A "branch of her roots" will come with an army -**

**Daniel 11:7 “And from a branch from her roots one shall arise in his place. He shall come against the army and enter the fortress of the king of the north, and he shall deal with them and shall prevail.” (ESV)**

**This was Berenice's brother, Ptolemy Euregetes (246-221 B.C.) who failing to save his sister, attacked Syria to avenge her death.**

**2. The avenger (Ptolemy Euregetes) will succeed -**

**Daniel 11:8 “He shall also carry off to Egypt their gods with their metal images and their precious vessels of silver and gold, and for some years he shall refrain from attacking the king of the north.” (ESV)**

**Euregetes took their gods, princes, and precious articles to Egypt and he ruled longer than the next Seleucid king, Seleucid Callinicus (246-226 B.C.)**

**D. THE CONFLICT WILL ACCELERATE...**



**1. The "king of the North" (Seleucid Callinicus) will try to invade the kingdom of the South ;**

**Daniel 11:9-10 "Then the latter shall come into the realm of the king of the south but shall return to his own land. "His sons shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall keep coming and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his fortress." (ESV)**

**He does not succeed, though his sons (Seleucid Ceraunus and Antiochus the Great) shall stir up strife and one son in particular, Antiochus the Great (225-187 B.C.), does succeed in overwhelming Egypt (actually, regain Syrian land taken by Egypt).**

**2. The "king of the South" will respond in rage -**

**Daniel 11:11-13 "Then the king of the south, moved with rage, shall come out and fight against the king of the north. And he shall**

**raise a great multitude, but it shall be given into his hand. And when the multitude is taken away, his heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands, but he shall not prevail. For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude, greater than the first. And after some years he shall come on with a great army and abundant supplies.”**

**a. This king of Egypt is Ptolemy Philopator (221-204 B.C.)**

b. Angry that Antiochus the Great regained control of Syrian territory, he gathered a great army and defeated Antiochus at Raphia.

c. His victory was short-lived, for Antiochus returned with a better-equipped army in 203 B.C.

**3. Others will contribute to the war against the South – Daniel 11:14;**

**Daniel 11:14 “In those times many shall rise against the king of the south, and the violent among your own people shall lift themselves up in order to fulfill the vision, but they shall fail.” (ESV)**

**a. This included Philip, king of Macedon, who aligned with Antiochus.**

**b. Also some violent Jews, prompted by what they perceived as the fulfillment of the vision, (Daniel 9:24) but they shall fall.**

#### **4. The "king of the North" shall prevail against the South, but then fall -**

**Daniel 11:15-19** "Then the king of the north shall come and throw up siege works and take a well-fortified city. And the forces of the south shall not stand, or even his best troops, for there shall be no strength to stand. But he who comes against him shall do as he wills, and none shall stand before him. And he shall stand in the glorious land, with destruction in his hand. He shall set his face to come with the strength of his whole kingdom, and he

**shall bring terms of an agreement and perform them. He shall give him the daughter of women to destroy the kingdom, but it shall not stand or be to his advantage. Afterward he shall turn his face to the coastlands and shall capture many of them, but a commander shall put an end to his insolence. Indeed, he shall turn his insolence back upon him. Then he shall turn his face back toward the fortresses of his own land, but he shall stumble and fall, and shall not be found.”**

a. Again, this is Antiochus the Great

The forces of the South were not able to resist him and he stood in the "Glorious Land" (Israel) with destruction in his power.

b. He tried to strengthen his kingdom by giving his daughter in marriage.

His daughter Cleopatra, (11) given to Ptolemy Epiphanes, (13) (204-180 B.C.) but she came to favor the purposes of her husband rather than her father.



**c. Antiochus then turned his attention to the coastlands (Mediterranean)**

**Making war with the Romans but was defeated by Scipio Asiaticus, a Roman military leader.**

**d. Defeated by the Romans, Antiochus the Great returned home and died soon after.**

**[At this point our attention is focused on one leader of the Seleucid (Syrian) empire, who would have a powerful impact upon the people of Daniel, Antiochus Epiphanes (175-164 B.C.)...]**

### III. THE RISE OF ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES

#### **A. PRECEDED BY A TAX COLLECTOR...**

**1. One who will impose taxes on the "glorious kingdom" (Israel?) -**

**Daniel 11:20 "Then shall arise in his place one who shall send an exactor of tribute for the glory of the kingdom. But within a few days he shall be broken, neither in anger nor in battle." (ESV)**

**a. This is Seleucus Philopator (187-175 B.C.) the oldest son of Antiochus, and his immediate successor.**

**2. Whose reign will be short-lived.**

**Compared to his father, who reigned thirty-seven years who died, not in battle, but was poisoned.**

**B. THEN WILL COME A VILE MAN WITH NO HONOR...**

**1. Held in contempt, the people will not give him honor –**

**Daniel 11:21 “In his place shall arise a contemptible person to whom royal majesty has not been given. He shall come in without warning and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.” (ESV)**

**His official name was Antiochus "Epiphanes" (the Illustrious) whose people referred to him as Antiochus "Epimanes" (the Insane)**

## **2. He shall take the kingdom peaceably, but with intrigue –**

**Daniel 11:21-24 “In his place shall arise a contemptible person to whom royal majesty has not been given. He shall come in without warning and obtain the kingdom by flatteries. Armies shall be utterly swept away before him and broken, even the prince of the covenant. And from the time that an alliance is made with him he shall act deceitfully, and he shall become strong with a small people. Without warning he shall come into the**

**richest parts of the province, and he shall do what neither his fathers nor his fathers' fathers have done, scattering among them plunder, spoil, and goods. He shall devise plans against strongholds, but only for a time.” (ESV)**

**This may refer to his dealings with the Egyptians (or perhaps Israel) After making a league with them, he will act deceitfully and become strong with a small number of people through peaceful means he will plunder the riches places of the province.**

### **3. He will provoke the "king of the South" -**

**Daniel 11:25-28 “And he shall stir up his power and his heart against the king of the south with a great army. And the king of the south shall wage war with an exceedingly great and mighty army, but he shall not stand, for plots shall be devised against him. Even those who eat his food shall break him. His army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain. And as for the two kings, their hearts shall be bent on doing evil. They shall speak lies at the same table, but to no**

avail, for the end is yet to be at the time appointed. And he shall return to his land with great wealth, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will and return to his own land.” (ESV)

Two times Antiochus invaded Egypt. The Egyptian king, Ptolemy Physcon, sought to oppose him, but was betrayed by his own people. Both kings were deceitful liars, but their plotting was subject to the times and manner appointed by God. On his return



**home, Antiochus passed through Israel, and was moved against the holy covenant (the institutions of the Law of Moses).**

**C. HE WILL BRING BLASPHEMIES AGAINST ISRAEL...**

**1. Once again Antiochus Epiphanes will head toward the South -**

**Daniel 11:29-30 “At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south, but it shall not be this time as it was before. For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and**

**he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and pay attention to those who forsake the holy covenant.” (ESV)**

**This was his third invasion, but he was not as successful as before because Roman ships from Cyprus (Kittim) threatened reprisal.**

**2. Frustrated, he will take out his rage against "the holy covenant" -**

**Daniel 11:30-32a “For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and pay attention to those who forsake the holy covenant. Forces from him shall appear and profane the temple and fortress, and shall take away the regular burnt offering. And they shall set up the abomination that makes desolate. He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant, ...” (ESV)**

**By showing regard for those who forsake the holy covenant. By defiling the sanctuary fortress (i.e., the temple). By taking away the daily sacrifices. By placing there “the abomination of desolation”. By flattering those who do wickedly against the covenant.**

**3. In the years 169-167 B.C., Antiochus Epiphanes:**

**Took the city of Jerusalem and plundered the temple. Commanded the Jews to worship the Greek idol which he set up in the temple. Put**

**an end to daily sacrifices and polluted the altar by offering swine flesh on it. Forbad circumcision, the observance of the Sabbath, and possession of a copy of the law.**

**D. THOSE WHO KNOW GOD WILL RESIST VALIANTLY...**

**1. They shall be strong -**

**Daniel 11:32b-33 “..., but the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action. And the wise among the people shall make many understand, though for some**

days they shall stumble by sword and flame,  
by captivity and plunder.” (ESV)

**2. When they fall, they shall receive aid -**

Daniel 11:33b-34 “...When they stumble, they shall receive a little help. And many shall join themselves to them with flattery,” (ESV)

**3. When those of understanding fall, it will be to refine them -**

**Daniel 11:35 “and some of the wise shall stumble, so that they may be refined, purified, and made white, until the time of the end, for it still awaits the appointed time.”**

**To purge them, and make them white. Until "the time of the end; because it is still for the appointed time.” -- The events described here, I believe were fulfilled during the Maccabean period, which began in 168 B.C. with the revolt of Mattathias (an elderly priest) and his five sons.**

# CONCLUSION

**1. Up to this point, there is little controversy over the content of the vision...**

**It describes the conflict between the Persians and the Greeks, followed by the conflict between the Syrians and the Egyptians. The latter described in detail, because Israel was caught in the middle and Israel in particular would suffer the blasphemies of one Syrian king, Antiochus Epiphanes.**



**2. From Daniel 11:36 on, there is quite a diversity of opinions...a. Some believe Antiochus Epiphanes is still the subject b. Others suggest that a Roman emperor is being described c. Still others believe it refers to someone yet to come.**

**We shall examine the remaining portion of this chapter and the final chapter in our next study...If the LORD tarries.**

**Note: The historical information in this lesson was taken from Albert Barnes' commentary on Daniel.**

QUESTIONS And/or  
OBSERVATIONS

# Prayer Time

