

# THE PANORAMA OF WORLD LEADERS IN DANIEL 11

## THE KINGS OF PERSIA

three more kings shall arise in Persia (11:2a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cambyses (529-522 B.C.)</li> <li>• Pseudo-Smerdis (522-521 B.C.)</li> <li>• Darius I (521-486 B.C.)</li> </ul>
a fourth shall be far richer than all of them ...he shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece (11:2b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Xerxes I (486-465 B.C.)</li> </ul>

## THE KINGS OF GREECE

A mighty king shall arise (11:3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alexander the Great (336-323 B.C.)</li> </ul>
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 (11:4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Macedon and Greece went to Cassander</li> <li>• Thrace and Asia Minor went to Lysimachus</li> <li>• Syria and Babylon went to Seleucus</li> <li>• Judah and Egypt went to Ptolemy</li> </ul>

## THE KINGS OF THE SOUTH (EGYPT) AND NORTH (SYRIA)

king of the south shall be strong (11:5a)	Ptolemy I Soter (323-285 B.C.)
but one of his princes shall be stronger than he and shall rule, and his authority shall be a great authority (11:5b)	Seleucus I Nicator (312-281 B.C.) who took over Babylon and other areas
the daughter of the king of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement (11:6a)	Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285-246 B.C.) sent his daughter Berenice to marry Antiochus II Theos (261-246 B.C.) to form an alliance
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 (11:6b)	Antiochus's first wife, Laodiceia, conspired to have Antiochus and Berenice killed. Ptolemy II died at about the same time
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. He shall also carry off to Egypt their gods (11:7-8a)	Berenice's brother, Ptolemy III Euergetes (246-221 B.C.), defeated Seleucus II Callinicus (246-226 B.C.), and returned to Egypt with his spoil.
for some years he shall refrain from attacking the king of the north (11:8b)	From 241 to 223 B.C., the two nations were at peace
Then the latter shall come into the realm of the king of the south but shall return to his own land (11:9)	Seleucus II hoped to retake part of his kingdom from Ptolemy III but was not successful

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 (11:10)	Antiochus III the Great (223-187 B.C.) recaptured territory in Phoenicia from Ptolemy IV Philopater (221-204 B.C.)
Then the king of the south, moved with rage, shall come out and fight with 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 (11:11-12)	Ptolemy IV defeated Antiochus's forces at the Battle of Raphia in 217 B.C. According to Polybius, Antiochus lost nearly 10,000 footmen and had another 4,000 captured (Polybius, <i>Histories</i> 5.86.5)
For the king of the north shall again raise a multitude, greater than the first (11:13)	Antiochus launched a second invasion of the coastal region of Syria following the death of Ptolemy IV
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 (11:14)	Some pro-Seleucid Jews joined forces with Antiochus to fight against Egypt
the king of the north shall come and throw up siegeworks and take a well-fortified city. And the forces of the south shall not stand, or even his best troops (11:15)	Antiochus's forces defeated the forces of Ptolemy V at the battle of Paneas near Mt. Hermon and captured the city of Sidon
he shall stand in the glorious land, with destruction in his hand (11:16)	Following the battle of Paneas in 198 B.C., Antiochus controlled the Promised Land
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 (11:17)	Antiochus sent his daughter Cleopatra I to marry Ptolemy V in 197 B.C., as part of the peace treaty with Egypt
he shall turn his face to the coastlands and shall capture many of them, but a commander shall put an end to his insolence (11:18)	Antiochus attacked Asia Minor and Greece, but Rome intervened and defeated him at Thermopylae and later at Magnesia, forcing Antiochus to abandon these conquests
he shall turn his face back toward the fortresses of his own land, but he shall stumble and fall, and shall not be found (11:19)	One year after the treaty with Rome, Antiochus was killed while seeking to rob the temple of Bel in Elam
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 (11:20)	Seleucus IV Philopater (187-175 B.C.) succeeded Antiochus. He sent Heliodorus his finance minister to Jerusalem to seize the temple treasury. Later, Heliodorus apparently assassinated Seleucus

## ANTIOCHUS IV EPIPHANES

<p>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 (11:21)</p>	<p>Following the death of Seleucus IV, his brother seized the throne with the help of the king of Pergamum. The new king adopted the name Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-164 B.C.), which means "glorious"</p>
<p>Armies shall be utterly swept away before him and broken, even the prince of the covenant (11:22)</p>	<p>Antiochus defeated the forces of Heliodorus and the army of Ptolemy VI Philometor of Egypt (181-146 B.C.). He also deposed the Jewish high priest Onias and sold the office to Onias's brother Jason</p>
<p>from the time that an alliance is made with him he shall act deceitfully, and he shall become strong with a small people (11:23)</p>	<p>Antiochus took advantage of a power struggle in Egypt and sided with Ptolemy VI Philometor in a way that helped him consolidate his power</p>
<p>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 (11:24)</p>	<p>Unlike his predecessors, Antiochus used his wealth to buy favor and secure the loyalty of individuals and groups</p>
<p>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.... They shall speak lies at the same table, but to no avail, for the end is yet to be at the time appointed (11:25-27)</p>	<p>Antiochus's ultimate goal was to conquer Egypt. The Egyptians tried several times to defeat him in battle but were unsuccessful. Each nation tried to deceive the other</p>
<p>And he shall return to his land with great wealth, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant (11:28)</p>	<p>After his victory in Egypt Antiochus stopped in Jerusalem to loot the temple</p>
<p>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. (11:29-30)</p>	<p>Antiochus led a second attack on Egypt but was forced by the Romans to withdraw. On his return home he vented his anger against Jerusalem and the Jewish people, joining forces with the Hellenized Jews and seeking to eliminate all Jewish religious customs</p>
<p>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 (11:31)</p>	<p>Antiochus profaned the temple and the altar, turning the temple into a worship center for Zeus</p>

He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant, 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...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 (11:32-35)

Antiochus's violent persecution brought about a Jewish uprising led by the Maccabees. Thousands were killed during this time before the temple was recaptured and purified. These events became the precursor to the activities of the final ruler – the Antichrist – which begin in verse 36