

The Book of Daniel⁵²

Lesson 11

Daniel Chapter 11:1-35

The Greek Empire 521 BC

Fifteen years after Daniel's last vision found in chapter 10, Darius I sits on the throne of the Medo-Persian Empire. Cyrus died in battle in 530 BC and his son, Cambyses took his place and served until March of 522 BC. Ancient history asserts that Cambyses faced an internal government threat from one of his satraps named Bardia who posed in the empire as his brother. He was trained as a magician and a Zoroastrian priest with the given name of Guamata. Cambyses tried to march against him but struggled to keep the empire in control. Herodotus says that Cambyses accidentally stabbed himself in the thigh while working on a woodcarving and died 11 days later from an infection in the wound in March of 522 BC.⁵³

Unfortunately, Guamata took the throne and during his short time in power, received the letter from the Sumerian people in Jerusalem who complained about the building of the temple.⁵⁴ Guamata issued the decree to stop the construction.

Within the year, Cambyses' lance-bearer, Darius I, gathered enough support from five prominent families in Persia to oust Guamata and take the throne in 521 BC.

Darius' First Year

Daniel 11:1 "And in the first year of Darius the Mede, I arose to be an encouragement and a protection for him.

The death of Cambyses and the usurping of power by Guamata must surely linger in the heart of Darius in his first year. For whatever reason, the Lord allows Daniel to assure the new king of his place in the plan of God. He also tells him that the kings of the empire will not see a

true threat until four more rulers serve on the Medo-Persian throne. Daniel's words prove true. Darius I serves



Picture 10: Tomb of Darius I

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⁵³ [The Histories by Herodotus](#) Complete English translation by George Rawlinson.

⁵⁴ When the Northern Kingdom fell in 722 BC, the Assyrians moved some of their Sumer people from the Mesopotamia area to the old Northern Kingdom as prophesied by Ezekiel, Amos and Isaiah. After identifying the Sumerians in the passages, all three prophets refer to them as cedars, plucked and planted where the beautiful Sycamore figs once stood, a reference to Israel. (1 Kings 10:27; Isa 2:13; 9; Ezek 17:3, 22, 23; Ezek 31:3-9; Amos 2:9 etc.) The cedars were considered strong and lofty even though they were plucked and replanted. The Sycamore figs were considered weak, inferior, and sickly because they could be killed by the frost. (Psalm 78:47) The Lord killed 90% of the Northern Kingdom in the fall, considered the weak and sickly, and sent most of the remaining 10%, the strong faithful believers of the Lord that lived in the Northern Kingdom, into exile in Assyria where they prospered. The transplanted cedars, into the old Northern Kingdom, inter-married with the remnant of figs left behind. Later, by the time of Jesus, the offspring of the Sumerians and Jews carry the name Samaritans.

as king for 35 years and dies a natural death in October of 486 BC. His son, Xerxes, buries him in the tomb prepared for him many years before his death.

Darius' Fourth Successor

Daniel ^{11:2} "And now I will tell you the truth. Behold, three more kings are going to arise in Persia. Then a fourth will gain far more riches than all of *them*; as soon as he becomes strong through his riches, he will arouse the whole *empire* against the realm of Greece.

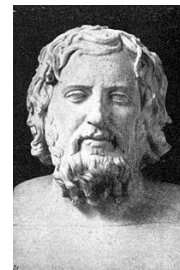
Darius I, the Mede, becomes the supreme ruler in 521 BC and Daniel delivers encouraging words to him. After Darius, four more kings will reign over Persia before a certain conflict occurs. Three will reign without struggle, but the fourth will arouse the empire of Greece against it. History proves this prophecy to be true. Darius I is followed by Xerxes I, Artaxerxes I, Darius the II, and Artaxerxes II who engages in battle with Greece for his entire reign.



Picture 11: Artaxerxes II

Artaxerxes II reigns from 404 BC - 359 BC. He rises to the throne in the Persian Empire in the year of Malachi's prophecy and it sets the stage for the fulfillment of Daniel's encouraging words to Darius. Artaxerxes II sets out to enlarge the Persian Empire by attempting to overtake the Greek areas.

In 400 BC, Artaxerxes II attacks and defeats Xenophone at Cunnoax, causing over 10,000 Greek troops to retreat. In 387 BC, Artaxerxes II captures all the Greek cities in Asia Minor.



Picture 12: Xenophone

In 386 BC, the Spartan ruler, Antalacedos, negotiates a peace treaty with Artaxerxes II and Antalacedos forces all the Greek states to agree to it. All of the people of Greece become subject to the control of Artaxerxes II and they do not like it. The unsettling arrangement causes the Greeks to call for a leader from their own people who can free them from Persia oppression.



Picture 14: Artaxerxes III

In 359 BC, Artaxerxes II dies and his son Artaxerxes III takes the throne in Persia. That same year, in Greece, Phillip II becomes the king of Macedon. Phillip's power increases over the Greek states and in 355 BC he has a son whom he names Alexander.



Picture 13: Phillip II

In 351 BC, Artaxerxes III attempts to invade Egypt and claim it for the Persian Empire, but he fails. Once again, he invades and succeeds, becoming the Pharaoh and establishing the 31st dynasty in Egypt.



Picture 15: Darius III

In 338 BC, Artaxerxes III dies and Darius III becomes the Persian ruler. Two Years later, in 336 BC, Phillip II, king of Macedonia, dies and his son, Alexander III, also called Alexander the Great, becomes the king.

Mighty King's Authority

Daniel 11:3 "And a mighty king will arise, and he will rule with great authority and do as he pleases.



Picture 16: Alexander the Great

Two years after becoming king of Macedon, Alexander begins his first campaign against the Persians in 334 BC. That campaign places all of Persia's control over Asia Minor, now modern day Turkey, in Alexander's hands.

In 333 BC, Alexander runs Darius III out of the Syrian area. From there, Alexander takes over Syria and moves south to destroy Sidon.

He then destroys Tyre, taking the old city first, and uses the stones from the buildings to construct a land bridge across the water where the new city of Tyre sits, destroying it, just as prophesied.

Alexander then marches to the Gaza Strip and destroys four of the five major cities in that area. In the city of Gaza, he bores holes in the feet of the king, attaches ropes and drags him through the streets to fulfill prophecy. From the Gaza Strip, Alexander attacks Egypt and becomes Pharaoh in 332 BC. On his way back to the Euphrates, which flows through the Syrian area, he completely bypasses by Jerusalem, fulfilling the prophecy that the city will not be harmed. Alexander fulfills the prophecy of the one-horned goat in Daniel's vision.⁵⁵ Alexander hits Darius III, the ram of Daniel's prophecy, very hard.

In 331 BC, Alexander defeats Darius III at Arbella, essentially ending the Persian Empire. Within the year, with Darius' murder in 330 BC, the total Persian Empire rests securely in Alexander's control. The fulfillment of Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the statue continues. The empire of the silver chest and arms now passes to the belly of bronze.⁵⁶ Daniel's dream of the bear with three ribs passes to the leopard with four heads. Alexander continues his campaign to the east, capturing eight more nations with their lands and engulfs them in his empire.

In 327 BC, Alexander, determined to cross the Hindus-Kush Mountains and enter the valley of the Indus River and conquer India, finds that his battle weary troops refuse to move forward. Alexander returns to Babylon to make it his capital.

Mighty King's Demise

Daniel 11:4 "But as soon as he has arisen, his kingdom will be broken up and parceled out toward the four points of the compass, though not to his own descendants, nor according to his authority which he wielded; for his sovereignty will be uprooted and *given* to others besides them.

On May 29th, 323 BC, Alexander attends a function in honor of his admiral, Mericus, and he drinks heavily at the party. When that party ends, his friend, Medius, persuades him to attend another party where he continues to drink wine diluted with water. Drunk, he is carried home by his friends. By morning, he burns with fever having contracted malaria. He spends the day and night in the bathhouse trying to

⁵⁵ Daniel 8

⁵⁶ Daniel 2

cool off. The next day he spends time in his bedroom playing dice with some of his men. He makes a valiant effort to conduct business, but on June 6th, he hands his ring to Perdicus, his senior officer, and gives him the authority to continue the business of the empire. The upper echelon of his organization gathers around his bed and one of his men asks, "Who should have the kingdom?" Alexander answers, "the strongest." History records these words, "I foresee a funeral contest over me," as his last words. They will come true over the next 20 years.⁵⁷

Early in the morning of June 10th, 323 BC, Alexander dies at the age of 32, reigning just 12 years and 8 months. He had led his troops over 20,000 miles. They prepare him for burial and attempt to transport him to Macedonia for burial with his father but one of his generals captures the body as they carry it through the city of Damascus and buries it back in Babylon.

Alexander's empire falls into anarchy. At his death, Philip Arrhideus, his half-brother takes control of the empire. Olympias, Alexander's mother, successfully instigates the murder of Philip and his wife in the sixth year of his reign (318 BC). Olympias organizes the death of Alexander's mistress, Barsine and the son she gave him named Hercules to prevent them from inheriting the throne. Roxanne, another of Alexander's wives who bore him a son after his death and named him Alexander IV, murders Stateira, Darius III's daughter, whom he married when he took the Persian Empire. When Alexander IV turns 13, Olympias, Alexander's mother, orders his and his mother's deaths and general Cassander kills both of them. Finally, the murders of Olympias, Alexander's mother, and his sister, Cleopatra, occur. Within 15 years of his death, the world contains no living relatives of Alexander the Great, fulfilling the prophecy. With the shaggy, one-horn of the goat of Daniel's vision broken off, the four horns grow in soon. Alexander's Empire divides, "parceled out toward the four points of the compass, though not to his *own* descendants, nor according to his authority which he wielded; for his sovereignty will be uprooted and *given* to others besides them." As it divides to the north, south, east and west, each part ultimately falls under the control of four of Alexander's faithful generals. The generals include Selucius I, Ptolemy I, Ptolemy (son of Selucius I), Cassander, Lysmauchus, Antigonus, Perdiccas, Hephaestion, Philotas, Cleitus the Black, Menander, Leonnatus, Laomedon of Mytilene, Neoptolemus, Erigyus, Meleager, Craterus, Polyperchon, Antigenes, and Coenus,

South King's Prince

Daniel 11:5 "Then the king of the South will grow strong, along with *one* of his princes who will gain ascendancy over him and obtain dominion; his domain *will be* a great dominion *indeed*."



Picture 18: Selucius I

Selucius I's authority in the east does not come easily even though he represents the horn of Daniel's vision that grows longer.⁵⁸ Selucius I serves as vice-regent of Babylon, but Antigonus, another of Alexander's generals and the other vice-regent, drives him out of the Babylonian Empire.



Picture 17: Antigonus

⁵⁷ [A Bibliography of Alexander the Great](#) by Waldemar Heckel

⁵⁸ Selucius I (Nicator)

Selucius I journeys to Egypt where he becomes a general for Ptolemy I.⁵⁹ In the Battle of Ipsus, Selucius defeats Antigonius in 301 BC and captures most of Alexander's Empire. He takes Cappadocia, Phrygia, Upper-Syria, Mesopotamia, Euphrates Valley and rules from the Indus Mountains to Hellspoint and becomes the Scriptural king of the north.

Now in control of the major part of Alexander's kingdom, "a great dominion," Selucius becomes the larger horn of Daniel's vision.

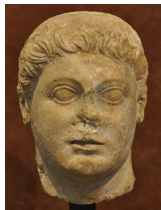
Ptolemy I, the king of the South exhibits great strength, but now his prince, his friend and general, Selucius I, reigns stronger in the North, just as prophesied in Daniel.

South King's Daughter

Daniel 11:6 "And after some years they will form an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the South will come to the king of the North to carry out a peaceful arrangement. But she will not retain her position of power, nor will he remain with his power, but she will be given up, along with those who brought her in, and the one who sired her, as well as he who supported her in *those* times.

The two kingdoms live in relative peace with each other while Ptolemy I and Selucius I reign. Ptolemy I bears a son, Ptolemy II, who will take his place one day and likewise, Selucius I bares a son to take his place, Antiochus I.⁶⁰

In 285 BC, Ptolemy I, due to his health, allows Ptolemy II to co-reign in the South.⁶¹



Picture 20: Ptolemy I

In 283 BC, Ptolemy I dies and Ptolemy II becomes the sole ruler. In the north, Selucius I's fate does not match Ptolemy I's. Men attack and assassinate Selucius I in 281 BC. His son, Antiochus I, takes the throne and shows little favor to Egypt; therefore, war breaks out between the North and the South. When Antiochus I dies twenty years later in 261



Picture 19: Antiochus II



Picture 21: Bernice II

BC, his son, Antiochus II, takes the throne and continues to war with Egypt.⁶²

In an effort to negotiate peace between the two empires, Ptolemy II offers Antiochus II his daughter, Bernice II, as a wife, but the offer requires that Antiochus divorce his first wife, Laodice, and disown the two children that he has had with her. Antiochus II accepts the deal and Ptolemy II gives him a great dowry with his daughter, Bernice II in 256 BC. Antiochus sends his first wife to live in her family home in Ephesus and Bernice II moves to Antioch as the queen.

South's Invasion of North

Daniel 11:7 "But one of the descendants of her line will arise in his place, and he will come against *their* army and enter the fortress of the king of the

⁵⁹ Ptolemy I (Soter I)

⁶⁰ Antiochus I (Soter)

⁶¹ Ptolemy II (Philadelphus)

⁶² Antiochus II (Theos)

North, and he will deal with them and display *great* strength. ⁸ "And also their gods with their metal images *and* their precious vessels of silver and gold he will take into captivity to Egypt, and he on his part will refrain from *attacking* the king of the North for *some* years. ⁹ "Then the latter will enter the realm of the king of the South, but will return to his *own* land.



Picture 22: Ptolemy III

In 246 BC, Ptolemy II dies in Egypt and his son, Ptolemy III, takes over.⁶³ That same year, in Syria, Antiochus II leaves Bernice II and their infant son, to visit Laodice in Ephesus. Laodice devises a plan. She poisons Antiochus II and sends word to Antioch to have Bernice II and her son murdered. The news travels to Antioch but it also

arrives in Egypt. Ptolemy III hears the report and rushes to Antioch too late to save his sister. Bernice and the infant lie dead. Selucius II takes the throne in the north after Antiochus II's death.⁶⁴ Ptolemy III makes Selucius II and Syria subject to Egypt and he travels to Ephesus to kill Laodice. He then moves toward Babylon in a rage, seeking revenge for five years. Dissension arises in Egypt during his five-year hiatus even though he has left his wife in charge. Word reaches him before he crosses into India and he returns to Egypt as quickly as he can. He takes with him 4,000 talents of gold, 40,000 talents of silver, 2,500 molten idols and Egypt's sacred vessels, many of which Cambyses had taken 300 years before when he, as the king of Persia, overran Egypt. He makes no further attack on Syria. Ptolemy leaves Selucius II on the throne with a peace treaty that lasts about 10 years.

In 236 BC, the foolish northern king, Selucius II, attempts to take Egypt but Ptolemy sinks his ships, scatters his troops, and drives him back to Syria, humiliated.

Son's Great Forces

Daniel ^{11:10} "And his sons will mobilize and assemble a multitude of great forces; and one of them will keep on coming and overflow and pass through, that he may again wage war up to his very fortress.



Picture 23: Selucius III

In 225 BC, Selucius II dies and his son, Selucius III follows but he is assassinated in 223 BC.⁶⁵ Selucius II's brother, Antiochus III, takes the throne that year and plans to overthrow Egypt, but that must wait. To the west, enemies capture Syria's land in Asia Minor. The king of Pergamum grows strong.



Picture 25: Ptolemy IV

In the south, in 222 BC, Ptolemy III dies, and Ptolemy IV ascends to the throne.⁶⁶ Because he is a weak king, his power over Egypt begins to decline. Antiochus III begins reclaiming the land captured by Bernice II's



Picture 24: Antiochus III

brother in revenge, taking Tyre, rolling over Palestine, and seizing the major fortress north of Caesarea in Dora. Ptolemy IV's ministers negotiate a truce causing Antiochus III to stay in Selucia for the winter, but in the spring,

⁶³ Ptolemy III (Euergetes I)

⁶⁴ Selucius II (Callinicus)

⁶⁵ Antiochus III (Ceraunus)

⁶⁶ Ptolemy IV (Philopator I)

Antiochus III begins his campaign again, taking Phoenicia, Sidon and Eastern Palestine in 218 BC.

The next year, in 217 BC, Antiochus III arrives at the fortress of the southern king, the boundary set in the prophecy.

South's March to North

Daniel 11:11 "And the king of the South will be enraged and go forth and fight with the king of the North. Then the latter will raise a great multitude, but *that* multitude will be given into the hand of the *former*.

Enraged, Ptolemy IV marches to his Egyptian border in Raphia, not far from Gaza. Antiochus III readies his infantry of 70,000 men and cavalry of 5,000. But Ptolemy IV defeats Antiochus III in an unexpected victory, although not unexpected to the Lord because He had prophesied it through Daniel. As foretold, Ptolemy IV fails to follow through, annexing Palestine but failing to annex Syria, making peace with Antiochus III instead.

South's Revenge

Daniel 11:12 "When the multitude is carried away, his heart will be lifted up, and he will cause tens of thousands to fall; yet he will not prevail.

Victorious, Ptolemy IV does not go straight home, intending to profane the Temple in Jerusalem on his way. Demanding entrance into the Holy of Holies, he is forced to the ground and rendered speechless before he can enter. He leaves and returns to Egypt, believing that the Jews used a magic spell upon him.



Picture 26: Ptolemy V

Back in Egypt, Ptolemy IV kills over 40,000 Jews in the country for revenge. Thus he "cast down myriad," as foretold in the prophecies.

In 205 BC, Ptolemy IV dies. His son, Ptolemy V only four years old, rules and the Southern Kingdom of Egypt falls into disarray.⁶⁷

North's Greater Army

Daniel 11:13 "For the king of the North will again raise a greater multitude than the former, and after an interval of some years he will press on with a great army and much equipment. ¹⁴ "Now in those times many will rise up against the king of the South; the violent ones among your people will also lift themselves up in order to fulfill the vision, but they will fall down. ¹⁵ "Then the king of the North will come, cast up a siege mound, and capture a well-fortified city; and the forces of the South will not stand *their ground*, not even their choicest troops, for there will be no strength to make a stand. ¹⁶ "But he who comes against him will do as he pleases, and no one will *be able to* withstand him; he will also stay *for a time* in the Beautiful Land, with destruction in his hand.

Fourteen years later, after the Battle of Raphia, in 203 BC, when Ptolemy V turns seven, Antiochus III attacks Egypt, this time with the support of the apostate Jews. He recovers Asia Minor from Pergamum and the rest of Syria's former kingdom all the way back to the Indus River. The apostate Jews represent the "violent ones" of

⁶⁷ Ptolemy V (Epiphanes)

the people found in the prophecy. Their actions allow Greek customs to infiltrate Jewish life.

In the move towards Egypt, Antiochus III entrenches his entire army in Sidon. Three famous Egyptian generals attempt to take him in Sidon, but they fail. The south cannot withstand the north just as the prophecy states. The Jews have welcomed Antiochus III into the Promised Land, the Beautiful Land, and his eyes focus on Egypt, but Egypt appeals to Rome. By this time, Rome is rejoicing in her defeat of Hannibal in the Second Punic War. Rome controls Macedonia as well as Greece, stealing them from Syria. Facing the interference soon to arrive on Roman ships, Antiochus III retreats and attempts a diplomatic solution.

North's Peace Proposal

Daniel 11:17 "And he will set his face to come with the power of his whole kingdom, bringing with him a proposal of peace which he will put into effect; he will also give him the daughter of women to ruin it. But she will not take a stand *for him* or be on his side.

Antiochus III proposes to Egypt that his child, Cleopatra of Sepia, (Cleopatra I), marry the new Pharaoh, Ptolemy V, of Egypt, a boy only seven years old at the time. Antiochus III promises a huge dowry and so the marriage occurs in Raphia but the dowry never arrives. Antiochus III expects Cleopatra I to betray her husband, but she loves



Picture 27: Cleopatra I

her boy husband. Antiochus III's plans fail again. He assembles a fleet of 300 ships to attack the coast land of Asia Minor and Greece. A Roman envoy tries to reason with Antiochus III, but he refuses to negotiate.

Commander's Interference

Daniel 11:18 "Then he will turn his face to the coastlands and capture many. But a commander will put a stop to his scorn against him; moreover, he will repay him for his scorn.

The Romans attack Antiochus III at the pass of Thermaphaly, defeating him and expelling him from Greece. Rome defeats him again near Smyrna in 190 BC and forces him to renounce all claims in Europe.

North's Stumble and Fall

Daniel 11:19 "So he will turn his face toward the fortresses of his own land, but he will stumble and fall and be found no more.

A few months later, Antiochus III attempts to plunder a temple of Zeus in Eastern Asia Minor but forces kill him in a raid. "... he will stumble and fall and be found no more," just as the prophecy foretells. Antiochus III's oldest son, Selucius IV, fills the position in 187 BC but inherits an enormous yearly tax burden demanded by Rome set against his father, so Selucius spends most of his twelve years on the throne trying to raise money to pay the tax.⁶⁸



Picture 28: Selucius IV

⁶⁸ Selucius IV (Philopator-Livius)



Picture 29: Ptolemy VI

In 181 BC, Ptolemy V dies and his six-year-old son, Ptolemy VI, begins to co-reign with his mother, Cleopatra I.⁶⁹

North's Oppression of the Jewel

Daniel 11:20 "Then in his place one will arise who will send an oppressor through the Jewel of *his* kingdom; yet within a few days he will be shattered, though neither in anger nor in battle.

Late in his reign, Selucius IV sends a treasurer to Jerusalem, called in Daniel's prophecy, the "Jewel of the Kingdom," to raise money to pay the taxes demanded by the Romans. The treasurer tries to plunder the riches of the Temple, but something stops him before he can enter into the structure. The treasurer returns to Selucius IV in 175 BC and poisons the king. Thus, Selucius dies, "neither in anger nor in battle." The treasurer seizes the throne for himself but Ptolemy VI of Egypt disputes the claim to the throne and claims it for himself, saying Syria should be part of the Egyptian Empire because Antiochus III was the father of his mother, Cleopatra I.

North's Despicable Person

Daniel 11:21 "And in his place a despicable person will arise, on whom the honor of kingship has not been conferred, but he will come in a time of tranquility and seize the kingdom by intrigue.

Ptolemy VI's claim means nothing because Selucius IV's younger brother, Antiochus IV, also called Antiochus Epiphanes, a vile and evil man, claims the throne from the treasurer in 175 BC.⁷⁰ The prophecy says, "the honor of kingship has not been conferred," because the kingdom really belongs to his brother, Demetrius I, now in Rome and exactly where Antiochus IV wants him to stay. Through flattery,



Picture 30: Antiochus IV

Antiochus IV takes the throne peacefully using friends in Pergamum to keep Demetrius I in Rome in prison.

North's Shattering

Daniel 11:22 "And the overflowing forces will be flooded away before him and shattered, and also the prince of the covenant. ²³ "And after an alliance is made with him he will practice deception, and he will go up and gain power with a small *force of* people.

Soon after taking the throne in 175 BC, Antiochus IV's nephew, Ptolemy VI, of Egypt, makes a futile effort to recover the land it lost to Syria, but Ptolemy fails. Antiochus IV murders the "prince of the covenant," Onius III, the Jewish high priest in Jerusalem. Onius' brother, Jason, stands next in line for the position, but Menelaus obtains the office of High Priest by paying a huge bribe to Antiochus IV. Antiochus' action begins the 2,300 day prophecy of Daniel 8:14 on that day.

North's Accomplishments

Daniel 11:24 " In a time of tranquility he will enter the richest *parts* of the realm, and he will accomplish what his fathers never did, nor his ancestors;

⁶⁹ Ptolemy VI (Philometor)

⁷⁰ Antiochus IV (Epiphanes)

he will distribute plunder, booty, and possessions among them, and he will devise his schemes against strongholds, but *only* for a time.

The treaty Antiochus IV has made with the rulers in Pergamum helps to keep Demetrius I in Rome. Soon Antiochus IV breaks the treaty for a stronger one with Rome. In the "time of tranquility" created by the treaties, Antiochus IV takes his army and enters Egypt making his way up the Nile River to the city of Memphis, distributing gifts (booty) as he goes. He plans to peacefully take four of the major stronghold cities in Egypt for himself, which include Alexandria and Memphis.

In the prophecy, Antiochus IV can go only so far. History records that he cannot capture Alexandria. Antiochus IV assembles a large army and marches on Ptolemy VI. In the first battle, he defeats Ptolemy VI. Antiochus wins the next battle as well. He then marches to Memphis and proclaims himself the ruler of Egypt.

South's Deception

Daniel 11:25 "And he will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South with a large army; so the king of the South will mobilize an extremely large and mighty army for war; but he will not stand, for schemes will be devised against him.²⁶ "And those who eat his choice food will destroy him, and his army will overflow, but many will fall down slain.



Picture 31: Ptolemy VIII

Ptolemy VI's advisors advise him wrongly. They secretly side with Antiochus IV, yet they remain as counselors to Ptolemy VI. By this time, many of the Egyptian population distrust Ptolemy VI, choosing to transfer their loyalty to his brother, Ptolemy VIII, who will soon successfully stop Antiochus IV from taking the stronghold of Alexandria.⁷¹

North and South's Lies

Daniel 11:27 "As for both kings, their hearts will be *intent* on evil, and they will speak lies *to each other* at the same table; but it will not succeed, for the end is still *to come* at the appointed time.

Antiochus IV returns to Memphis where he sits at a table with his nephew, Ptolemy VI, pretending to befriend him. He calls him the king of Egypt. Ptolemy VI pretends to go along with the banter of his cousin, Antiochus IV. They lie to each other just as Daniel foretells. As soon as Antiochus IV leaves the table, Ptolemy VI appeals to his brother, Ptolemy VIII, and they begin a co-rule of forces in Egypt.

North's Plunder

Daniel 11:28 "Then he will return to his land with much plunder; but his heart will be *set* against the holy covenant, and he will take action and *then* return to his *own* land.

As Antiochus IV journeys home, he hears rumors of rejoicing over his death coming from Jews in Palestine. Jason, the rightful High Priest, gathers 1,000 mercenaries and marches to Jerusalem, capturing the city. Antiochus IV perceives this action as a revolt and determines to teach the Jews a lesson. He attacks Jerusalem and kills 40,000 inhabitants. He sells another 40,000 into slavery and plunders the Temple,

⁷¹ Ptolemy VIII (Euregetes II)

carrying off many of its treasures. Jason flees. Menelaus, who had bought the High Priesthood from Antiochus IV, still serves in the High Priest position. Menelaus sacrifices a pig on the bronze altar for Antiochus IV and then makes a broth with the meat of that pig and spreads the juice all over the temple, defiling it.

North's Invasion of South

Daniel ^{11:29} "At the appointed time he will return and come into the South, but this last time it will not turn out the way it did before.

Antiochus IV returns to capture Egypt in a second campaign. After that attack, Egypt hires Greek mercenaries and asks Rome to help defend her against Antiochus IV.

In 168 BC, Antiochus IV attacks Egypt again, ordering the surrender of the province of Cyprus and other areas that belong to Egypt.