Notes on Daniel 11

Marvin J. Effa, Th. M., D. Min.

September 2021

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Biblical Text | Historical Fulfillment |
| **Persian Issues** |  |
| Vs. 2 Present king | Cyrus (539-529) |
| “three more kings” | 1. Cambyses (529-522)
2. 2. Sperdis (522-521)
3. 3. Darius Hystaspes (521-486)
 |
| “fourth king” | Xerxes I (486-465) cf. Esther 1:1-12 for wealth references. Xerxes I gathered an army of 2,500,000 men, but lost to Greece at Salamis (480). |
| **Grecian Issues** |  |
| Vs. 3 “mighty king | Alexander the Great (336-323)  |
| Vs. 4 “four winds”  | Alexander’s four generals:* Cassander—Macedonia & Greece
* Lysimachus—Thrace (Asia Minor)
* Seleucus—Syria and Eastward
* Ptolemy—Egypt

Neither Alexander’s son, illegitimate son, nor his half-brother got the throne. |
| Vs. 5 “King of the South” | Ptolemy Soter (323-283) |
| “one of his princes” | Seleucus I Nicator (312-281) |
| “will gain …a great dominion” | Seleucus became stronger than Ptolemy and ruled all of Alexander’s empire except Egypt. |
| Vs. 6 “After some years…” | Ptolemy II and Antiochus II (Seleucus’s on) allied themselves. |
| “daughter of the south” | Berenice, daughter of Ptolemy II Philadelphus married Antiochus II Theos. He divorced Laodice his wife to do so.  |
| “not retain” | After 2 years Antiochus restored Laodice who murdered Berenice. |
| “nor remain with power” | Laodice also murdered Antiochus II Theos |
| Vs. 7 “branch of her roots” | Brother of Berenice, Ptolemy III Euergetes (246-221). The King of the North is Seleucus II Callinicus; Ptolemy occupied the whole Syrian realm during the reign of Seleucus II. |
| Vs. 8 “silver and gold into Egypt” | Ptolemy confiscated 40,000 talents of silver and 2500 idols. |
| Vs. 9 “King of the North” | Seleucus II Callinicus ventured an attack on the south (240), but failed. A storm defeated his fleet, so he returned home. |
| Vs. 10 “his sons “ | Seleucus III Ceraumus (227-223) was killed in a battle after a short reign, and Antiochus III the Great (223-187) became king at the age of 18. By 217 he had pushed the boundary of Syria back down to the southern Palestine frontier post of Raphia. |
| “his fortress” | Raphia |
| Vs. 11 “King of the South” | The King of the South was Ptolemy IV Philopator (221-203). In 217 Ptolemy IV fought Antiochus III. Antiochus III was defeated and fled through the desert. Both kings had multitudes, but the King of the North lost to the South. |
| Vs. 12 “when he will not prevail” | Ptolemy IV Philopator did not pursue his victory.  |
| Vs. 13 “the King of the North will return” | Antiochus III returned after Ptolemy IV Philopator had died and his four-year old son, Ptolemy V Epiphanes (203-181), was made king. This return was in 198. |
| Vs. 14 “many will rise up against the King of the South” | There was much internal strife in Egypt, and the Jews also joined the battle. Philip V of Macedonia agreed with Antiochus III to split Egypt. |
| “they shall fail” | The Jews did not achieve peace for their land. |
| Vs. 15 “the King of the North…city” | Antiochus III defeated the Egyptian army at Sidon. |
| Vs. 16 “He shall stand in the Glorious Land” | Antiochus captured all of Israel and despoiled it.  |
| Vs. 17 “daughter of women” | Antiochus III tried to gain an advantage in Egypt by giving his daughter, Cleopatra in marriage to Ptolemy V Epiphanes in 193. The marital arrangements were made in 197. Antiochus’s plan failed because Cleopatra sided with her husband against her father. |
| Vs. 18 “coastlands” | Antiochus III subjugated the coast of Asia Minor, but was defeated in 188 by Scipio. |
| “a ruler” | A Roman general named Lucius Cornelius Scipio, called Scipio Asiaticus. |
| Vs. 19 “he shall turn…own land” | Antiochus III the Great intended to have a reign like Alexander the Great, but was killed plundering a temple in Elam in 187. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Vs. 20 “one who taxes…not in anger or battle” | Seleucus IV Philopator (187-176), taxed everyone, including Israel. He died after 11 years, in contrast to his father’s 37-year reign. Seleucus IV sent his finance minister, Heliodorus, to plunder the temple treasury in Jerusalem. Heliodorus poisoned Seleucus and he died in 175. According to 2 Macc 3:7–40 Heliodorus was prevented by a vision from taking the money and was converted to Judaism. His alleged conversion did not extend to murder by poison.  |
| Vs. 21. “vile person” | Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-164) usurped the throne through political manipulation. He should not have had the throne, but promised great rewards to his supporters. He is a great illustration of the coming Antichrist. “Epiphanes” means the illustrious one, but in a play on words they called him the madman. |
| Vs. 22 “force of a flood…prince of the covenant” | Antiochus was militarily successful and he had Onias, the high priest, murdered in 172. |
| Vs. 23-24 “he will gain power…enter the richest places…disperse riches” | With a relatively small number of people, he came into power and took riches from the richest places of his countries and distributed them to the poorer places and to those who supported him. |
| Vs. 25 “he shall not stand” | The King of the South, Ptolemy VI Philometor (181-145), one of Cleopatra’s two sons and also the nephew of Antiochus. The battle took place at Pelusium, just east of the Nile delta. Although Ptolemy raised a huge army, he was defeated in 170. The plans against him were his counselors. |
| Vs. 26 “who eat of his delicacies” | His own counselors unwisely urged the king to recapture Syria.  |
| Vs. 27 “lies at the same table” | Although Antiochus captured Philometor, he treated him like royalty. A new king of Egypt had been installed at Alexandria, so Antiochus made Ptolemy the King of Memphis, hoping he would fight against the King of Alexandria. Antiochus left with a treaty of joint rule between the two Egyptian kings. Antiochus never ruled Egypt, and Ptolemy never regained his kingdom. |
| Vs. 28 “while returning…do damage” | A false rumor of Antiochus’s death caused Jason, the ex-high priest in Jerusalem who had been outbid by Menelaus, to overthrow Menelaus. This Antiochus regarded as an act of war, so he invaded Israel, did a lot of damage (murdered 1000s of Jews), and returned home to Syria. This is the important part of this history. |
| Vs. 29 “appointed time” | 168 was the time God had appointed. |
| Vs. 30 “ships from ‘Kittim’…return in rage against the holy covenant…show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant” | “Kittim” is the ancient name for western Mediterranean regions. Roman commander Gaius Popilius Laenas met Antiochus four miles outside of Alexandra and handed him a letter from the Roman Senate ordering him to leave Egypt or face war with Rome. The commander drew a circle in the sand around Antiochus and told him to respond before stepping out of the circle. Rather than face war with Rome, Antiochus withdrew in defeat and humiliation. He then poured out his wrath on the Jews as he returned home. He also rewarded those who sided with him. |
| Vs. 31 “defile the sanctuary…take away the sacrifices…abomination of desolation” | In 167 Antiochus IV sacrificed a pig on the temple altar, forbade the daily sacrifices, and set up an image of Zeus in the holy place. The altar was erected on December 15, 167 and on December 25, 167 swine were offered on the altar. |
| Vs. 32 “he shall corrupt…people who know their God…exploits” | The Maccabees revolted against Antiochus IV. This family lived 17 miles northwest of Jerusalem. Judas and his five sons overthrew Syria through a series of brilliant military victories. “Maccabee” which means “hammer” came to be used of the family, whose last name was Mattathias.  |
| Vs. 33 “those who understand…fall by the sword” | Although successful in rededicating the temple on December 25, 164, and even with teachers explaining the significance of the times, The Maccabees were not successful and many died.  |
| Vs. 34 “little help…intrigue” | The numbers of the Maccabees were insignificant to the Syrians. Other Jews joined for the wrong reasons. |
| Vs. 35 “time of the end…appointed time” | The persecutions by Antiochus IV Epiphanes refigure the time of the Antichrist. The Angel’s history has been quickly leading up to this point. |

**The Portrait of an Evil Man: Daniel’s Picture of the Antichrist**

Dr. Marvin J. Effa, September 2021

1. He conquers 3 kings of a 10-nation global management arrangement, Daniel 7:20, 24.
2. He has insight greater than the other 10 kings, Daniel 7:20.
3. He speaks pompous things, Daniel 7:20, 25.
4. He is stronger than the 7 remaining kings, Daniel 7:20.
5. He makes war with Israel, Daniel 7:21, 25.
6. His kingdom will be global, Daniel 7:23.
7. He will intend to change customs and law, Daniel 7:25.
8. He will persecute the saints for 3 ½ years, Daniel 7:25.
9. He will come to power when there are many rebels, Daniel 8:23
10. He will have a powerful presence (countenance), Daniel 8:23.
11. He will completely understand and utilize double-dealing, Daniel 8:23.
12. His power does not come from himself, Daniel 8:24.
13. His extraordinary double-dealing will cause great destruction, Daniel 8:24.
14. He will prosper, do what he wants, destroy mighty ones, including Jews, Daniel 8:24.
15. His amazing perception causes deceit to thrive, Daniel 8:25.
16. He makes himself out to be a great ruler, Daniel 8:25.
17. He destroys people when they think they are secure, Daniel 8:25.
18. He will arise against the Prince of Princes, Daniel 8:25.
19. He will be destroyed with human hand, Daniel 8:25.
20. The length of time of his terror is set, Daniel 8:26.
21. The Antichrist will confirm (make strong) a covenant with many Israeli leaders, Daniel 9:27.
22. The covenant (treaty) will last 7 years, Daniel 9:27.
23. Mid-way through the seven years he will break the treaty by bringing Jewish religious practices to an end, Daniel 9:27.
24. He will erect a vile idol in a portion of the temple
25. He will do exactly as he pleases, Daniel 11:36.
26. He will exalt himself, Daniel 11:36.
27. He will make himself greater than all other gods, Daniel 11:36.
28. He will make himself greater than the God of gods, Daniel 11:36.
29. He will speak atrocities, Daniel 11:36.
30. He will prosper until the wrath has been completed, Daniel 11:36.
31. The atrocities that were done require wrath, Daniel 11:36.
32. He pays no attention to the gods of his fathers, Daniel 11:37.
33. He pays no attention to the female idol, Daniel 11:37.
34. He pays no attention to any idols or pagan gods, Daniel 11:37.
35. He pays no attention to any gods because he makes himself greater than all of them, Daniel 11:37.
36. He honors the god for fortresses (strongholds), Daniel 11:38.
37. This god which his fathers did not know, he will honor with wealth, Daniel 11:38.
38. With his foreign god he will act over fortresses, Daniel 11:39.
39. He will cause his god to be glorified, Daniel 11:39.
40. He will appoint rulers over multitudes of people, Daniel 11:39.
41. He will parcel out the land for a price, Daniel 11:39.
42. The King of the South will engage him in battle, Daniel 11:40.
43. The Antichrist, who is called the King of the North, will storm against the King of the South, Daniel 11:40.
44. The Antichrist, with many armaments, will be victorious over the King of the South, Daniel 11:40.
45. He will enter into Israel, Daniel 11:41.
46. He will destroy multitudes of people there, Daniel 11:41.
47. Edom, Moab and part of Ammon will be unconquered, Daniel 11:41.
48. Egypt will be conquered by him, Daniel 11:42
49. He will rule over the great wealth of Egypt, Daniel 11:43.
50. Libya and Ethiopia will also be subjugated, Daniel 11:43.
51. Reports from the east and north will alarm him, Daniel 11:44.
52. Enraged by these reports he causes destruction and annihilation, Daniel 11:44.
53. He sets up a royal camp between Jerusalem and the Mediterranean, Daniel 11:45.
54. No one will help him when his time is up, Daniel 11:45.