

— THE ROAD TO CHRIST: —
DANIEL'S PROPHECY OF THE WORLD
BETWEEN THE TESTAMENTS

PART II

RISE OF THE
DESOLATOR
— AND —
RESISTANCE
— OF THE —
FAITHFUL

DANIEL 11:20–35 | THE MACCABEAN STORY

KINGS OF THE SELUCID & PTOLEMAIC KINGDOMS IN DANIEL 11

"The vision of the evenings and mornings" (Daniel 8:14)

N



SELEUCID KINGDOM "King of the North"

After the death of
**ALEXANDER
THE GREAT**
323 BC



**DANIEL 11
REFERENCES**
(King of
the North)

**Seleucus I
Nicator**
312–281 BC

Dan. 11:3
*A mighty king shall
stand up...*



**Antiochus I
Soter**
281–261 BC

Dan. 11:4
*...another shall arise
after him...*



**Antiochus II
Theos**
261–246 BC

Dan. 11:6
*...after some years
they shall be
allied...*



**Seleucus II
Callinicus**
246–226 BC

Dan. 11:6
*The daughter of
the king of the South
comes to the king
of the North...*



**Seleucus III
Ceraunus**
226–223 BC

Dan. 11:6
*...but she shall not
retain the strength
of the arm...*



**Antiochus III
the Great**
223–187 BC

Dan. 11:10–19
*He shall do according
to his will, exalt and
magnify himself...
until his wrath is
accomplished...*



**Seleucus IV
Philopator**
187–175 BC

Dan. 11:20
*He shall send a
collector of taxes
through the glory
of the kingdom...*



**Antiochus IV
Epiphanes**
175–164 BC

Dan. 11:21–35
*A contemptible person
shall arise... he shall
exalt himself... until
the time of the end.
No one will help him.*

TIMELINE
(approx.)

323 BC ← 300 BC ← 275 BC ← 250 BC ← 225 BC ← 200 BC ← 175 BC ← 150 BC

S



PTOLEMAIC KINGDOM "King of the South"

**DANIEL 11
REFERENCES**
(King of
the South)



**Ptolemy I
Soter**
323–285 BC

Dan. 11:5
*The king of the South
shall be strong...*



**Ptolemy II
Philadelphus**
285–246 BC

Dan. 11:5
*...and one of his
princes... shall be
stronger than he...*



**Ptolemy III
Euergetes**
246–222 BC

Dan. 11:7–8
*Out of her root
shall one stand up...
He shall enter the
strong fortresses...
and prevail.*



**Ptolemy IV
Philopator**
222–204 BC

Dan. 11:8
*He shall also carry
captive into Egypt
their gods with their
images and their
precious objects...*



**Ptolemy V
Epiphanes**
204–180 BC

Dan. 11:9
*...He shall return
to his land.*



**Ptolemy VI
Philometor**
180–145 BC

Dan. 11:9
*But his sons shall be
stirred up and gather
a great multitude...
One shall come
and overwhelm...*



Daniel 11:36–45
*Looks beyond these kings
to the time of the end—
the rise and fall of the
final "king of the North."*



Daniel 11 records the historical conflict between the kings of the North (Seleucids) and the South (Ptolemies) from the time of Alexander the Great until the rise of Antiochus IV Epiphanes, foreshadowing events that point to the time of the end.



Key Fulfillment: Antiochus IV Epiphanes
(Dan. 11:21–35)



All references are from
the English Standard Version (ESV).

Dates are approximate.

DANIEL 11:5

“Then the king of the South shall be strong, but one of his princes shall be stronger than he and shall rule, and his authority shall be a great authority.”

After Alexander’s death (323 BC), his empire was divided among four generals. **Daniel** focuses on the **two whose conflicts repeatedly swept through the land of Israel**.

THE OTHER KINGDOMS
(LESS FOCUSED IN DANIEL 11)

Cassander (Macedonia)
Lysimachus (Thrace/Asia Minor)

MACEDONIA
(CASSANDER)

THRACE / ASIA MINOR
(LYSIMACHUS)

Black Sea

Mediterranean Sea

Alexandria •

KING OF THE SOUTH
PTOLEMY I SOTER
(PTOLEMAIC EMPIRE)

- Ruled Egypt
- Extremely wealthy
- Controlled trade and the Mediterranean

EGYPT

**JUDEA
(ISRAEL)**

CAUGHT BETWEEN
THE TWO KINGDOMS

Red Sea

Antioch

SYRIA

MESOPOTAMIA

Susa

Babylon

PERSIA

Persian Gulf

TO INDIA →

ONE OF HIS PRINCES WHO BECOMES
STRONGER THAN HE
SELEUCUS I Nicator
(SELEUCID EMPIRE)

- Once a commander under Ptolemy
- Later became independent
- Ruled a far larger empire
- From the Mediterranean to India



For nearly 150 years, the kings of the North (Seleucids) and South (Ptolemies) fought for dominance—and **Israel was the battleground between them**.

DANIEL 11:18

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.



DANIEL 11:19

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.



DANIEL 11:20

Then he shall arise in his place
one who shall send a **tribute**
to the king of the South,
but one of his officials shall
come against him and
obtain for himself glory,
but within a few days
he shall be broken,
neither in anger
nor in battle.



PAYMENTS TO ROME

IMPOSED BY THE TREATY OF APAMEA (188 BC)



500 TALENTS
PAID IMMEDIATELY



2,500 TALENTS
PAID WHEN THE TREATY WAS RATIFIED
≈ 1,150 DONKEYS



12,000 TALENTS
12 ANNUAL PAYMENTS OF 1,000 TALENTS
≈ 459 DONKEYS PER YEAR



TOTAL: 15,000 TALENTS OF SILVER
≈ 6,879 DONKEYS IN ALL

SELEUCUS IV

KING OF THE SELEUCID EMPIRE
WATCHES HIS KINGDOM'S WEALTH
FLOW TO ROME



2 MACCABEES 3:23–26

- 23 But Heliodorus executed that which he had resolved on, himself being present in the same place with his guards about the treasury.
- 24 But the spirit of the Almighty God gave a great evidence of his presence, so that all that had presumed to obey him, falling down by the power of God, were struck with fainting and dread.
- 25 For there appeared to them a horse, with a terrible rider upon him, adorned with a very rich covering: and he ran fiercely and struck Heliodorus with his fore feet, and he that sat upon him seemed to have armour of gold.
- 26 Moreover there appeared two other young men beautiful and strong, bright and glorious, and in comely apparel: who stood by him, on either side, and scourged him without ceasing with many stripes.



2 MACCABEES 3:29–33

29 And he indeed by the power of God lay speechless, and without all hope of recovery.

30 But they praised the Lord, because he had glorified his place: and the temple, that a little before was full of fear and trouble, when the almighty Lord appeared, was filled with joy and gladness.

31 Then some of the friends of Heliodorus forthwith begged of Onias, that he would call upon the most High to grant him his life, who was ready to give up the ghost.

32 So the high priest considering that the king might perhaps suspect that some treachery had been committed against Heliodorus by the Jews, offered a sacrifice of health for the recovery of the man.

33 And when the high priest was praying, the same young men in the same clothing stood by Heliodorus, and said to him: Give thanks to Onias the priest: because for his sake the Lord hath granted thee life.

32 So the high priest... offered a sacrifice of health for the recovery of the man.

30 But they praised the Lord... the temple... was filled with joy and gladness.

29 ...lay speechless, and without all hope of recovery.

33 ...Give thanks to Onias the priest: because for his sake the Lord hath granted thee life.

31 Then some of the friends of Heliodorus begged of Onias... that he would call upon the most High to grant him his life...



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.



DANIEL 11:22

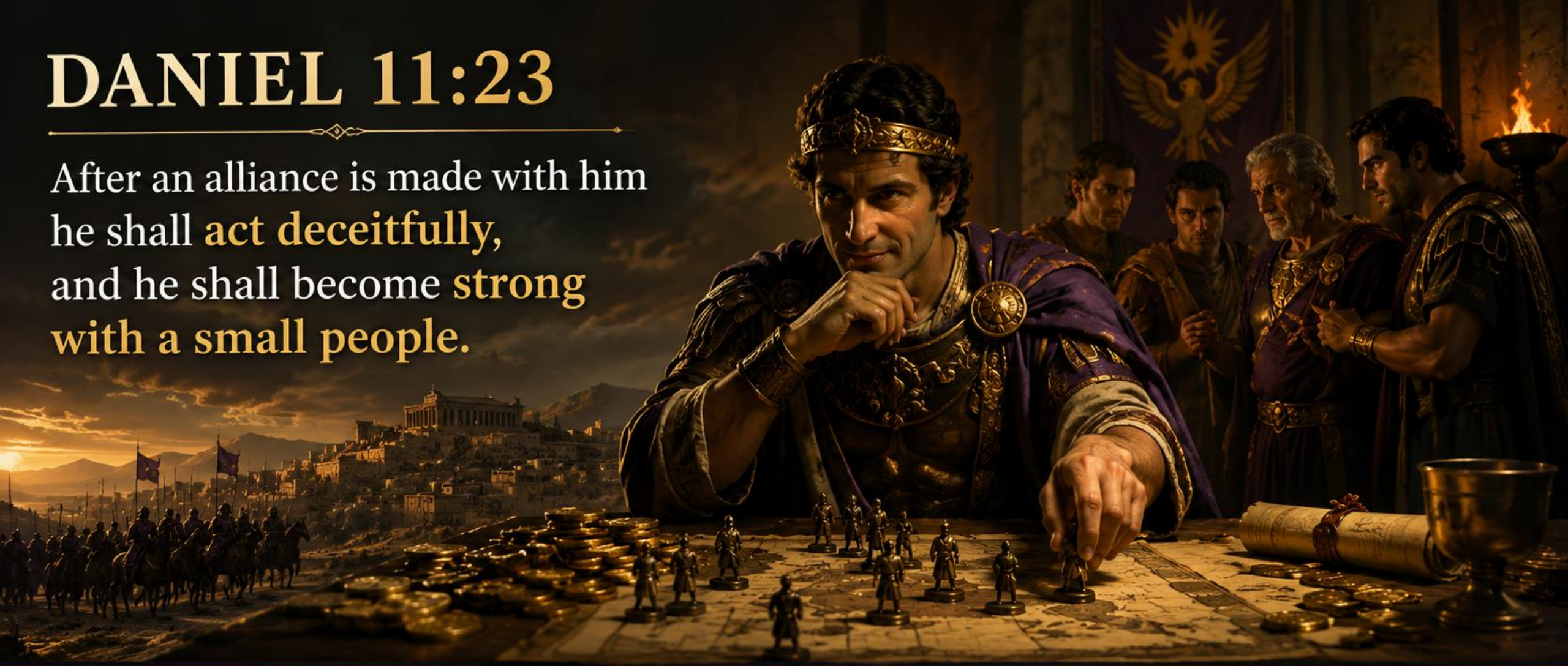
Armies shall be
utterly swept away
before him and broken,

even the
**prince of
the covenant.**



DANIEL 11:23

After an alliance is made with him
he shall **act deceitfully**,
and he shall become **strong**
with a small people.



1. ALLIANCE

He makes agreements
and gains their trust.



2. DECEIT

He acts deceitfully—
with hidden motives.



3. SMALL PEOPLE

He begins with a few
loyal and trusted men.



4. BECOMES STRONG

Through strategy and
intrigue he grows in power.



5. A GREATER KINGDOM

From a small beginning,
he rises to great authority.

DANIEL 11:24

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**: he shall **scatter** among them **plunder, spoil, and goods**, and he shall **devise plans** against strongholds—but **only for a time**.



1. WITHOUT WARNING

He enters quietly and unexpectedly while all feels secure.



2. UNPRECEDENTED

He does what none of his fathers or grandfathers ever did.



3. SCATTERS PLUNDER, SPOIL, AND GOODS

He distributes wealth to win loyalty and secure support.



4. DEVISES PLANS AGAINST STRONGHOLDS

He strategizes against fortified places and nations.



5. ONLY FOR A TIME

His power and success are limited by God's appointed time.

DANIEL 11:25

And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the **king of the South**, with a **great army**; and the king of the South shall engage him in battle with a **great and mighty army**, but he shall **not stand**, for they shall **devise plans** against him.

KING OF THE NORTH
ANTIOCHUS IV

KING OF THE SOUTH
PTOLEMY IV



1 ANTIOCHUS STIRS HIS POWER

He prepares and strengthens himself for war against Egypt.



2 A GREAT ARMY ADVANCES

The king of the North comes against the king of the South with a great army.



3 EGYPT ENGAGES HIM

The king of the South meets him in battle with a great and mighty army.



4 PTOLEMY SHALL NOT STAND

He is defeated in battle and cannot hold his position.



5 PLOTS AGAINST HIM

Plots are devised against him—his own officials and allies betray him.

DANIEL 11:26

“Even those
who **eat his food**
shall **break him**.”



1. AT THE ROYAL TABLE

Ptolemy is surrounded
by those he trusts most.



2. SECRET PLOTS

His officials conspire—
seeking power, wealth,
or favor from others.



3. TREACHERY WITHIN

Their counsel divides the king's
court and weakens his kingdom
from the inside.



4. THE KING IS BROKEN

Their betrayal leaves Egypt
vulnerable—its strength
collapses.



5. HE SHALL BREAK HIM

Those who eat his food
become the very ones who
destroy him.

DANIEL 11:27

“Both these kings’ hearts shall be set on **doing evil**, and they shall **speak lies** at one table; but it shall **not succeed**, for the end is still the **appointed time**.”



				
TWO KINGS, ONE PURPOSE Antiochus (king of the North) and Ptolemy VI (king of the South) set their hearts on doing evil .	LIES AT ONE TABLE They meet, smile, and speak lies —each pretending friendship while hiding their true intentions.	DAGGERS BEHIND THEIR BACKS Each plans to use the other for his own gain and then destroy him or break his power.	THE PLOT DOES NOT SUCCEED Their schemes unravel. Neither gets what he hoped for, and their plans fall apart.	GOD'S TIMING RULES HISTORY The end is still for the appointed time . God sovereignly governs the rise and fall of kings.

DANIEL 11:28

Then he shall return to his land with **great riches**; and his heart shall be **against the holy covenant**.
So he shall do and return to his own land.



At the time appointed
he shall return and
come into the south,
but it shall not be
this time as it was
before.

DANIEL 11:29





For ships of Kittim
shall come against him,
and he shall be afraid
and withdraw and
return and be enraged.

DANIEL 11:30

DANIEL 11:31

“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.”



PROFANE THE TEMPLE AND FORTRESS

Seleucid forces occupy Jerusalem. The temple and the fortress (Akra) are defiled.



TAKE AWAY THE REGULAR BURNT OFFERING

The continual daily sacrifice (*tamid*) is stopped. Worship of the LORD is forbidden.



SET UP THE ABOMINATION THAT MAKES DESOLATE

A pagan altar is set up in the sanctuary. Swine are sacrificed. The abomination of desolation stands in the holy place.

168–167 BC

ANTIOCHUS IV TURNS HIS RAGE AGAINST
THE COVENANT AND THE TEMPLE.



DANIEL 11:32

He shall **seduce with flattery**
those who **violate the covenant**,

but the **people who know their God**
shall **stand firm and take action**.



DANIEL 11:33

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**.



THEY TAUGHT
Preserving the Law,
strengthening the
hearts of many.



SOME TOOK UP ARMS
Resisting the enemy
and defending the
covenant.



SOME FLED
Seeking refuge in the
wilderness to remain
faithful.



SOME SUFFERED
Choosing faithfulness
even to the point of
martyrdom.



TOGETHER
They stood firm,
knowing their God
would prevail.

DANIEL 11:34

When they fall,
they will receive
a little help,

THE AKRA
Seleucid Fortress
still occupied



- The Temple defiled.
- The altar polluted.
- The sacrifices stopped.
- The people scattered.



They cleansed the sanctuary.
They rebuilt the altar.
They resumed the sacrifices.
But the victory was not complete.
The war was not over.

DANIEL 11:34

...AND MANY SHALL JOIN THEMSELVES
TO THEM WITH FLATTERY.



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.”



THE SANCTUARY
WAS DESECRATED



THE FAITHFUL WERE
PERSECUTED



THE RESISTANCE
STOOD FIRM



THE OPPRESSOR
FELL



THE ROAD
CONTINUES

SUFFERING
•
REFINING
•
PURIFICATION
•
WAITING
•
THE
APPOINTED
TIME

THE APPOINTED TIME IS STILL COMING.