



# RESOLVED

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL



But Daniel **made up his mind** **[resolved in his heart]** that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself. Daniel 1:8

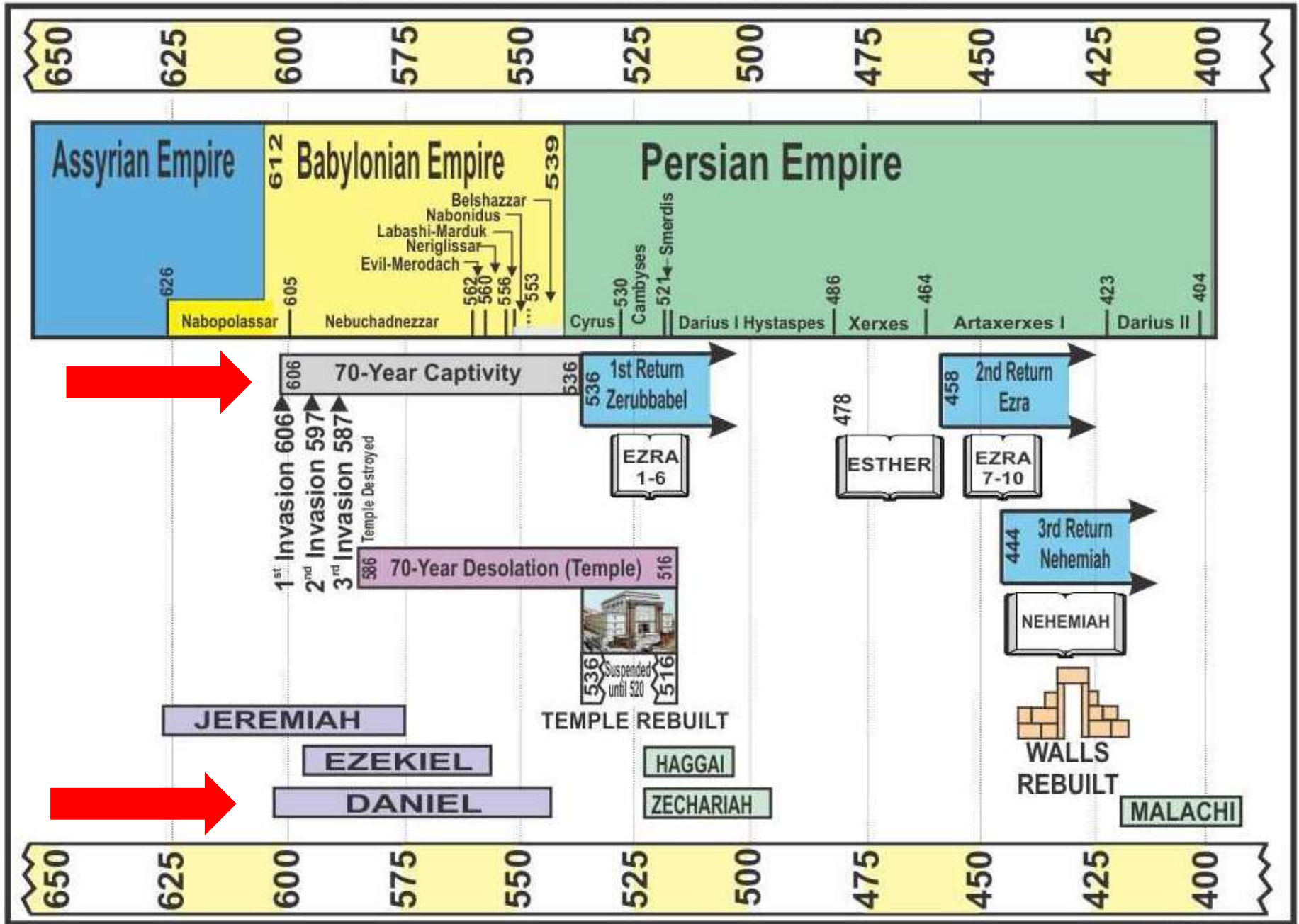


# Daniel

## 11:1-35



# ISRAEL'S EXILE & RETURN



<https://www.mie.org.uk/marks-blog/2020/9/11/timeline-for-the-return-from-exile>



Daniel describing his encounter with an angel...

He said, “O man of high esteem, do not be afraid. Peace be with you; take courage and be courageous!” Now as soon as he spoke to me, I received strength and said, “May my lord speak, for you have strengthened me. Then he said, “Do you understand why I came to you? But I shall now return to fight against the prince of Persia; so I am going forth, and behold, the prince of Greece [another demon] is about to come.” ” Daniel 10:19-20



“However, I will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth. Yet there is no one who stands firmly with me against these forces except Michael your prince [Israel’s angel].”  
Daniel 10:21

The messenger was about to tell Daniel God’s plans for Israel under Persia and Greece (Daniel 11:2–35) and later in the Tribulation (11:36–45) and the Millennium (12:1–4). – Bible Knowledge Commentary




“In the first year of Darius the Mede, I arose to be an encouragement and a protection for him. 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.” Daniel 11:1-2



The angel informed Daniel in 536 BC that the present leadership in the Persian Empire (King Cyrus) would be succeeded by four rulers.

- The first was **Cambyses**, Cyrus' son, who came to the throne in 530 BC.
- He was followed by **Pseudo-Smerdis**, who reigned a short period in 522 BC.
- He was succeeded by **Darius I Hystaspes** who ruled from 521 to 486 BC.
- He was succeeded by **Xerxes**, known in the Book of Esther as Ahasuerus, who ruled from 485 to 465 BC. Xerxes was the most powerful, influential, and wealthy of the four. During his reign he fought wars against Greece.



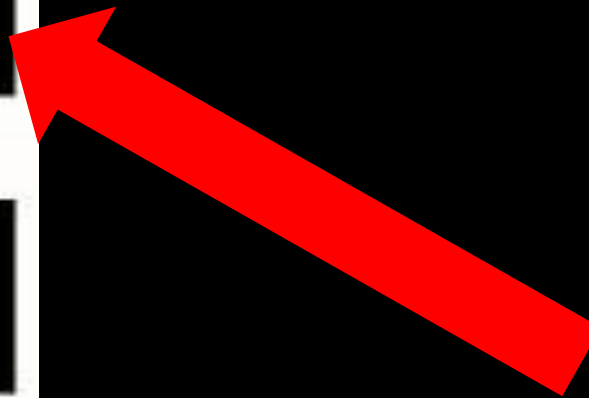


“And a mighty king will arise, and he will rule with great authority and do as he pleases.” Daniel 11:3

Between 334 and 330 BC, Alexander the Great of Greece conquered Asia Minor, Syria, Egypt, and the land of the Medo-Persian Empire. His conquests extended as far as India before Alexander’s death at the age of 32 in 323 BC from malaria with complications from alcoholism. – Bible Knowledge Commentary



Drawing  
of King  
Nebuchadnezzar's  
dream in  
Daniel chapter 2





# DANIEL CHAPTER 7



**Babylonian Empire**  
606BC -536BC



**Persian Empire**  
536BC to 332BC



**Grecian Empire**  
332BC to 63BC

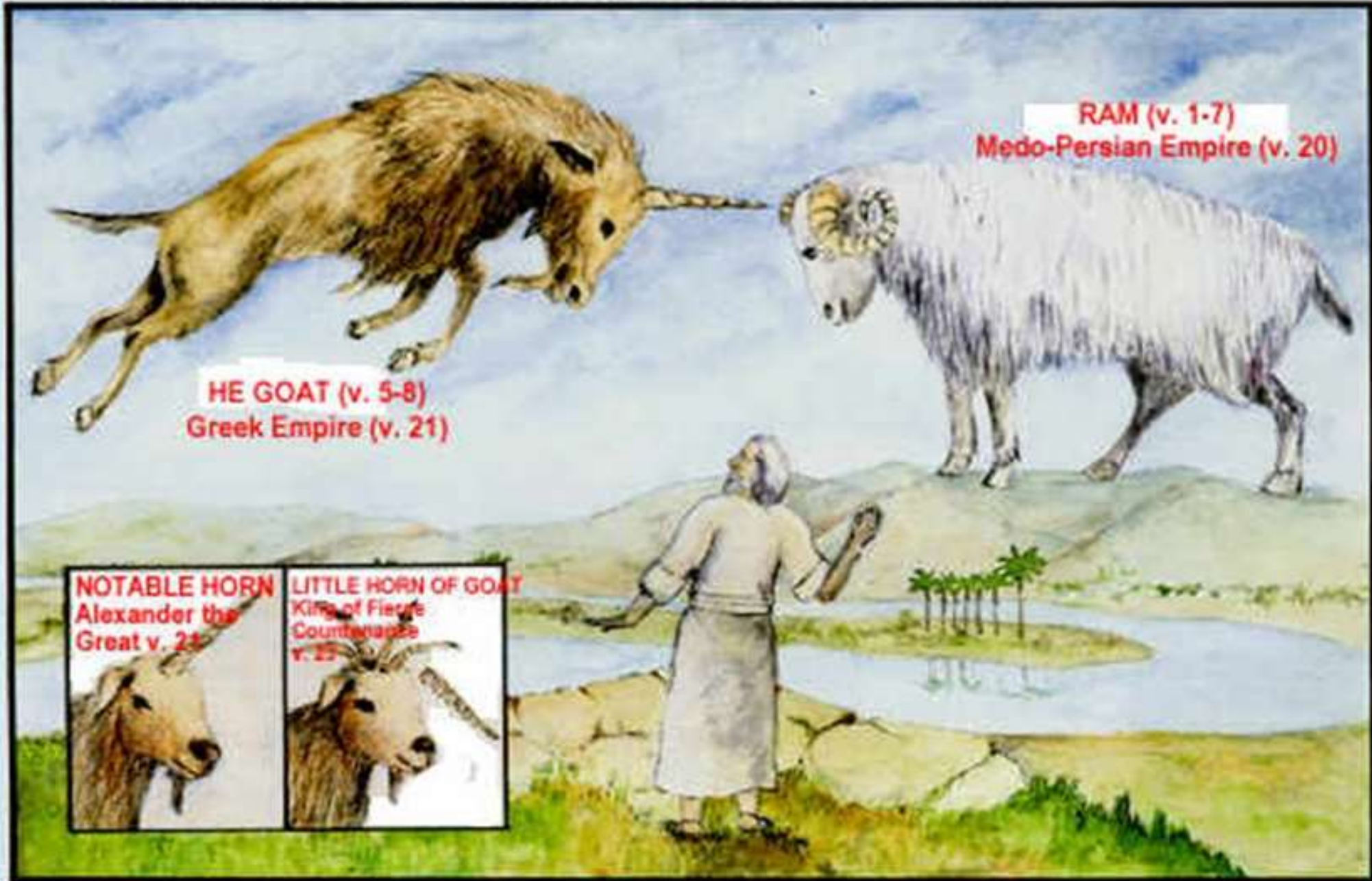


**Roman Empire**  
63BC till  
Christ Returns

Daniel's vision  
Daniel chapter 7

# DEVELOPMENT OF THE LITTLE HORN OF THE GOAT

Daniel 8



In Daniel chapter 8, Daniel has a vision from God describing a goat with one horn (Greece) defeating the ram with two horns (Medes and Persians).



**What is  
the  
common  
theme in  
all the  
visions?**

Jesus said, “Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon the land and wrath to this people; and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and **Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.” Luke 21:23-24**

The times of the Gentiles will end when Israel will permanently gain political control of Jerusalem at the second coming of Jesus to the earth. The tensions between Israel and the Gentile world cannot be finally resolved until Messiah Jesus returns to reign. - John F. Walvoord



“But as soon as he [Alexander the Great] has arisen, his kingdom will be broken up and parceled out toward the four points of the compass [N,S,E,W], 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.” Daniel 11:4

**Greek Empire under Alexander the Great ("first king" in Daniel 8:21)**

**336-323BC**



Alexander the Great became a world conqueror between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-six, overwhelming the Persian forces in a series of decisive battles between 334 and 331 BC.



Alexander the Great took the throne in 336 BC. After his death in 323 BC, his generals took territories:

- **Ptolemy** was given Egypt and parts of Asia Minor.
- **Cassander** was given the territory of Macedonia and Greece.
- **Lysimachus** was given Thrace and parts of Asia Minor.
- **Seleucus** was given Syria, Israel, and Mesopotamia.

Phrase “four winds of heaven” in Daniel 8:8 refers to the four directions... Cassander to the west, Lysimachus to the north, Seleucus to the east, and Ptolemy to the south.

Sources: Bible Knowledge Commentary, Teacher's Commentary



**The history  
of the  
Ptolemies  
and the  
Seleucids  
as  
prophesied  
in Daniel  
11:5–35**

**Seleucids**

(Kings “of the North,” Syria) Daniel 11:5

- Seleucus I Nicator (312–281 BC)
- Antiochus I Soter (281–262)  
Daniel 11:6
- Antiochus II Theos (262–246)  
Daniel 11:7–9
- Seleucus II Callinicus (246–227)  
Daniel 11:10
- Seleucus III Soter (227–223)  
Daniel 11:10–11, 13, 15–19
- Antiochus III the Great (223–187)  
Daniel 11:20
- Seleucus IV Philopater (187–176)  
Daniel 11:21–32
- Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175–163)

**Ptolemies**

(Kings “of the South,” Egypt) Daniel 11:5

- Ptolemy I Soter (323–285 BC)  
Daniel 11:6
- Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285–246)  
Daniel 11:7–8
- Ptolemy III Euergetes (246–221)  
Daniel 11:11–12, 14–15
- Ptolemy IV Philopator (221–204)  
Daniel 11:17
- Ptolemy V Epiphanes (204–181)  
Daniel 11:25
- Ptolemy VI Philometer (181–145)



“Then the **king of the South** [Ptolemy I Soter] will grow strong, along with one of his princes [Seleucus I Nicator] who will gain ascendancy over him and obtain dominion; his domain will be a great dominion indeed. 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 [alliance was sealed by the marriage of Ptolemy II’s daughter Berenice to Antiochus II in 252 BC]. 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.” Daniel 11:5-6



“But one of the descendants of her line [Berenice’s brother, Ptolemy III Euergetes, comes to power in 246 BC] will arise in his place, and he will come against their army and enter the fortress of the king of the North [Syria], and he will deal with them and display great strength. 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. Then the latter will enter the realm of the king of the South, but will return to his own land.”

Daniel 11:7-9



“His sons [Seleucus III and Antiochus III] 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. The king of the South [Ptolemy IV Philopator] 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.” Daniel 11:10-11



“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. For **the king of the North will again raise a greater multitude** than the former [Antiochus III comes to power in 223 BC], and after an interval of some years he will press on with a great army and much equipment.” Daniel 11:12-13



“Now in those times many will rise up against the king of the South; the violent ones among your people [Jews] will also lift themselves up in order to fulfill the vision, but they will fall down. Then the **king of the North** [Antiochus III] will come, cast up a siege ramp and capture a well-fortified city [Sidon in Phoenicia]; 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. 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.**” Daniel 11:14-16



“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. Then he will turn his face to the coastlands and capture many. But a commander [Cornelius Scipio, Roman general who defeated Hannibal in 202 BC] will put a stop to his scorn against him [Antiochus III]; moreover, he will repay him for his scorn. So he will turn his face toward the fortresses of his own land [Syria in 188 BC], but he will stumble and fall and be found no more [Antiochus III dies in 187 BC].” Daniel 11:17-19



“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 not in anger nor in battle [Antiochus III’s son Seleucus IV Philopator was poisoned by his treasurer Heliodorus in 176 BC]. In his place a **despicable person** [Antiochus IV Epiphanes, a son of Antiochus III the Great] will arise [in 175 BC], on whom the honor of kingship has not been conferred [he was not the rightful heir, Demetrius Soter was], but he will come in a time of tranquility and seize the kingdom by intrigue.”

Daniel 11:20-21





“The overflowing forces will be flooded away before him and shattered, and also the prince of the covenant [Onias III, the Jewish high priest]. After an alliance is made with him he [Antiochus IV Epiphanes] will practice deception, and he will go up and gain power with a small force of people. In a time of tranquility [by using wealth redistribution and taxing the rich] he will enter the richest parts of the realm, and he will accomplish what his fathers never did, nor his ancestors; he will distribute plunder, booty and possessions among them, and he will devise his schemes against strongholds, but only for a time.” Daniel 11:22-24



“He [Antiochus IV] will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South [Egypt in 170 BC] 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. Those who eat his choice food will destroy him, and his army will overflow, but many will fall down slain. 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. Then he will return to his land with much plunder; but his heart will be set against the holy covenant [Torah of Moses], and he will take action and then return to his own land.” Daniel 11:25-28



“At the appointed time he will return and come into the South [Egypt in 168 BC], but this last time it will not turn out the way it did before. For ships of Kittim [Romans from the Mediterranean island of Cyprus] will come against him; therefore he will be disheartened [the Roman senate forbid him to engage in war with Egypt] and will return and become enraged at the holy covenant and take action; so he will come back and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant [renounce their faith].” Daniel 11:29-30

\* Antiochus sent his general Apollonius with 22,000 soldiers into Jerusalem on a purported peace mission. But they attacked Jerusalem on the Sabbath, killed many people, took many women and children as slaves, and plundered and burned the city. – Bible Knowledge Commentary

“Forces from him will arise, desecrate the sanctuary fortress [Temple in Jerusalem], and do away with the regular sacrifice. And they will set up the abomination of desolation. By smooth words [flattery] he [Antiochus IV] will turn to godlessness those who act wickedly toward the covenant, but the people who know their God [RESOLVED] **will display strength and take action.**” Daniel 11:31-32

\*In seeking to exterminate Judaism and to Hellenize the Jews, Antiochus IV forbade the Jews to follow their religious practices (including their festivals and circumcision), and commanded that copies of the Law be burned. On December 16, 167 BC he erected an altar to Zeus on the altar of burnt offering outside the temple, and had a pig offered on the altar. The Jews were compelled to offer a pig on the 25th of each month to celebrate Antiochus Epiphanes' birthday. – Bible Knowledge Commentary



The angel's revelation to Daniel continues...

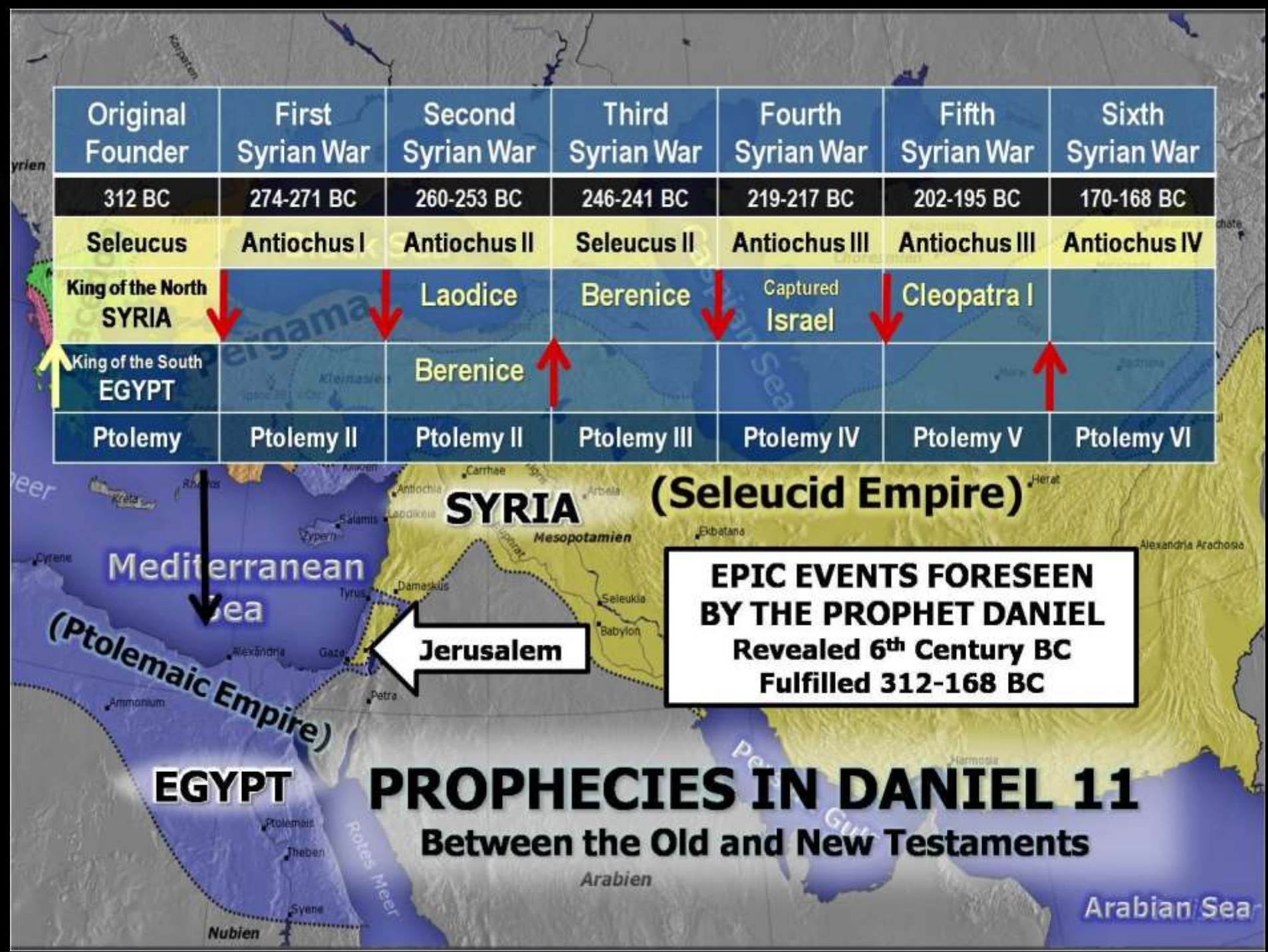
“Those who have insight among the people [Maccabean revolt led by Jewish priest Mattathias and his five sons] will give understanding to the many; yet they will fall by sword and by flame [severe suffering], by captivity and by plunder for many days [those who refused the false religious system of Antiochus IV].” Daniel 11:33




“Now when they fall they will be granted a little help, and many will join with them in hypocrisy. Some of those who have insight will fall, in order to refine, purge and make them pure until the end time; because it is still to come at the appointed time.” Daniel 11:34-35

Demonstrating God's **complete knowledge** of all things, the angelic being explains to Daniel in amazing detail what will happen militarily and politically over the following 400 years.

By looking at historical events, we see it occurred exactly as was prophesied.





In the study of Bible prophecy, there are often instances of near-term fulfillment and long-term fulfillment.

That concept is true in the prophecies regarding the man who will be described as “antichrist.”



**Antiochus IV** was the near-term fulfillment of the prophecy of Daniel 9:27, which will have its long-term fulfillment in the life of the still future demon-possessed man who will be “antichrist.”

“And he [antichrist] will make a firm covenant with the many for one week [seven years], but in the middle of the week [after 3.5 years] he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.” Daniel 9:27



“There was given to him [antichrist] a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months [3 ½ years] was given to him. And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven. It was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him.” Revelation 13:5-7

In 175-164 BC, a Seleucid (Greco-Syrian) emperor named Antiochus IV rose to power across the Middle East. As prophesied in portions of Daniel 7-12, he sought to rule the known world as one people. Antiochus Epiphanes made it illegal to preach or teach the Word, on punishment of death. With widespread murderous tortures, he aimed to destroy the worship of Israel's God and biblical faith. The crisis reached its tipping point when Antiochus Epiphanes committed an abomination of desolation in the Holy Temple (see Daniel 9:27).



Antiochus attacked Jerusalem in 167 BC and killed 40,000 Jews and sold another 40,000 into slavery. He banned all Jewish traditions, feast days, dietary laws, customs, study of Torah, circumcision, and anything else held holy by the Jewish people upon penalty of death. He set up a statue of Zeus in the Holy Temple, the first abomination of desolation, and defiled the Temple by sacrificing swine and other pagan offerings on the altar. Antiochus committed horrendous actions against the children of Israel and God. These actions gave rise to the Maccabean revolt, which was led by the five sons of the priest Mattityahu, and especially his son Judah "the Hammer" Maccabee.



Once the Temple was restored, Maccabees declared an eight day feast of dedication, which is what the word Hanukkah means – to dedicate. According to the Talmud, pure olive oil was necessary for the Temple menorah. Since the seven-branch menorah represented the presence of God, it was required to always stay illuminated. However, according to tradition, there was only one flask available with enough oil to only burn one day, and the priests needed eight days to prepare a fresh supply of kosher oil. Miraculously, the one flask of oil kept burning for eight days. To commemorate this miracle, the Jewish sages established the eight-day festival of Hanukkah.






At that time the Feast of the Dedication took place at Jerusalem; it was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple in the portico of Solomon.


John 10:22-23 (Around 29 or 30 AD)

- “Dedication” in Greek is the word egkainia ἐγκαίνια; in Hebrew the word is hanukkah חַנּוּכָּה
- This holiday is mentioned specifically in the Bible only in the New Testament in the context of the ministry of Jesus



About 200 years after the defeat of Antiochus IV, this conversation took place during Celebration of Hanukkah...

The Jews then gathered around Him [Jesus], and were saying to Him, “How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Christ [Messiah], tell us plainly.” John 10:24



Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father’s name, these testify of Me.” John 10:25

If Jesus really was the Messiah they reasoned, He had the power to preserve the Jewish people from the tyranny of the Romans, just as God had preserved them from evil Antiochus and the Greeks.





The popular picture of the Messiah in Jesus' time was that He would be a "super-Maccabee," a warrior who would destroy Israel's enemies and bring in everlasting peace. What better time than Hanukkah to ask Jesus to "come right out with it" if He were the Messiah, and to show it by His actions.

Jesus' response was that He already made it clear by His actions, which were not those of a super-Maccabee but of a healer and teacher. Jesus was the kind of Messiah who, rather than destroying Rome, went to His death to atone for our sins and subsequently rose from the dead.




# Next week...

- All the events described thus far in chapter 11 are past. The intricate details of the conflicts between the Seleucids and the Ptolemies were fulfilled literally, exactly as Daniel had predicted. So detailed are the facts that skeptics have denied that the book was written by Daniel in the sixth century BC. They conclude that the book must have been written during the time of the Maccabees (168–134 BC) after the events took place. However, the God who knows the end from the beginning was able to reveal details of forthcoming history to Daniel.
- Later in Daniel 11, a leader is described who is introduced simply as “the king.” Some suggest that this is Antiochus IV Epiphanes. However, the details given in these verses were not fulfilled by Antiochus. Antiochus was a foreshadowing of a king who will come. The two are not the same. One is past and the other is future.
- The coming king (the little “horn” of Daniel 7:8 and “the ruler” of Daniel 9:26) will be the final ruler in the Roman world. His rise to prominence by satanic power is described in Revelation 13:1–8 where he is called a “beast.” According to Apostle John (Revelation 17:12–13), he will gain authority not by military conquest but by the consent of the 10 kings who will submit to him.
- Starting with Daniel 11:36 the prophecy moves from the “near” to the “far.” The events will occur during the final seven years of the 70 sevens (Daniel



# Lessons from Daniel 11:1-35

1. The Lord's foreknowledge of events is not general or limited... it is specific and complete.
2. People RESOLVED to walk with God faithfully are prepared to learn truths about God's future plans.
3. Our world has had and will have leaders who reject the rule of the Creator God and seek power for themselves.
4. Ungodly human leaders will use deception, cruelty, ethnic division, economics, religion... whatever it takes to gain and maintain power.
5. Our God is not only always sovereign, He is always victorious.



“If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

Joshua 24:15