

1. Last week we analyzed Dan 11:3-6 and when time expired I was teaching Dan 11:7, 8 and 9.

2. Before we continue that study, I want to give you an expanded translation of Dan 11:1-6.

Dan 11:1 Gabriel began his lesson from the Book of the Futures: "In the first year of Darius the Mede, I supported and protected him. I worked to get him to respect and foster your people Israel but

Dan 11:2 I have more to teach: Three more kings after Darius the Mede will appear in Persia (Cambyses, Pseudo-Smerdis and Darius I) and then a fourth (Xerxes I) the fourth king will be much richer and more powerful than all the others. When he reaches his zenith both in power and wealth, he will stir up all of Persia against the kingdom of Greece. He will authorize a military expedition (480 B.C.) to attack both Macedonia and the city states of Achaia."

Dan 11:3 After the four Persian Kings, another king will appear, He, Alexander the Great, will consolidate all of Greece under His rule. Then he will move west conquering Anatolia, Israel, Persia and India in twelve years.

Dan 11:4 Alexander will die unexpectedly at age 32. His heirs will be murdered and his Kingdom will be divided ultimately among Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy and Seleucus. It will not go to his descendants, nor will the new Grecian hegemony have the power Alexander exercised.

Dan 11:5 "Ptolemy ruling in Egypt will become strong, but one of his princes, Seleucus will become stronger; he will rule a vast Kingdom from Asia Minor to India.

Dan 11:6 After several years (in about 252 B.C.) the daughter of the king of Egypt, Berenice, will be given in marriage to the king of Syria, Antiochus II Theos. Ptolemy II, King of Egypt will push the marriage in order to strengthen his ties with Syria. He will offer his daughter to the already married Antiochus II. Neither the marriage nor the alliance will last. Ptolemy II will soon die and then a traumatic set of events will occur causing great harm to many in Antiochus' household.

3. Now let's continue Dan 11:7, 8 and 9.

KJV

Dan 11:7 But out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate, which shall come with an army, and shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and shall deal against them, and shall prevail:

Dan 11:8 And shall also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the north.

Dan 11:9 So the king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land.

NIV

Dan 11:7 "One from her family line will arise to take her place. He will attack the forces of the king of the North and enter his fortress; he will fight against them and be victorious.

Dan 11:8 He will also seize their gods, their metal images and their valuable articles of silver and gold and carry them off to Egypt. For some years he will leave the king of the North alone.

Dan 11:9 Then the king of the North will invade the realm of the king of the South but will retreat to his own country.

Principles:

1. Later, a new king of Egypt known as Ptolemy III Euergetes (246-221 B.C.) will prevail militarily over the king of Syria, Seleucus Callinicus (246-226 B.C.).

1.1 As the prophecy indicates, he entered "into the fortress of the king of the north," and carried into Egypt certain princes as hostages, many of their idols, and much of their silver and gold.

2. The expression out of a branch of her is, literally, "the sprouting of her roots." This phrase signifies lineage; her roots refers to the roots of Berenice.

3. The one who takes her place is none other than her own brother, Ptolemy III Euergetes, the successor of Ptolemy Philadelphus.

4. The Hebrew word translated "princes" in Dan 11:8 can be rendered "molten images," and the transportation of the idols indicates the total subjugation of the northern kingdom.

5. In commemoration of his deed, Ptolemy Euergetes erected the monument Marmor Adullitanum, upon which is transcribed certain boastings of how Euergetes subjugated Mesopotamia, Persia, Susiana, Media, and all the countries as far as Bactria.

6. The expression shall continue more years than the king of the north is best understood as meaning, "for some time he shall refrain from attacking directly the king of Syria."

7. The phrase in verse nine translated in the KJV: "So the king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land" has been better translated in the NIV where we have "Then the king of the North will invade the realm of the king of the South but will retreat to his own country."

8. John Walvoord concludes:

"A better translation however, would indicate that he, Seleucus Callinicus, king of the north is the subject of the verb shall come into his kingdom and refers to the fact Seleucus several years after the Egyptian invasion was able to mount an attack on Egypt in about 240 B.C. Seleucus, however, was defeated completely and was forced to "return into his own land. This was only the beginning ..."

9. This is a reference to an aborted attempt to attack Egypt by Seleucus Callinicus king of Syria. No doubt Seleucus was upset with the aggressive acquisition of the vast eastern hegemony.

10. The inclusion of this background material will help us to better understand verses 10-19 where we will see the ascendancy of Syria over Egypt and a return of the Holy Land to Syrian control in approximately 198 B.C.

11. This sets the stage for the persecutions of Israel under Antiochus Epiphanies which is the major thrust of Dan 11:21-35.

12. I certainly don't want us to get ahead of ourselves for you see we are going to get an extensive description of the struggle between Seleucus and Antiochus the Great against Ptolemy Philpator in Dan 11:10-19.

13. First however let me give you an expanded translation of Dan 11:7-9.

Expanded Translation

Dan 11:7 "Berenice's brother Ptolemy Euergetes takes over as King of Egypt. He will then attack Syria defeating the eastern forces of Seleucus Callinicus. Ptolemy by successfully defeating the eastern armies of Seleucus will acquire vast territories east of the Holy Land.

Dan 11:8 He will also seize their idols, their metal images and their valuable articles of silver and gold and carry them off to Egypt.

Dan 11:9 In response the king of the North, Seleucus will invade Egypt but will suffer defeat and retreat to his own country.

14. Now let's see what we can learn from Dan 11:10-19

KJV

Dan 11:10 But his sons shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces: and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress.

Dan 11:11 And the king of the south shall be moved with arrogance, and shall come forth and fight with him, even with the king of the north: and he shall set forth a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into his hand.

Dan 11:12 And when he hath taken away the multitude, his heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down many ten thousands: but he shall not be strengthened by it.

Dan 11:13 For the king of the north shall return, and shall set forth a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come after certain years with a great army and with much riches.

Dan 11:14 And in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall.

Dan 11:15 So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand.

Dan 11:16 But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed.

Dan 11:17 He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him.

Dan 11:18 After this shall he turn his face unto the isles, and shall take many: but a prince for his own behalf shall cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he shall cause it to turn upon him.

Dan 11:19 Then he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found.

NIV

Dan 11:10 His sons will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood and carry the battle as far as his fortress.

Dan 11:11 "Then the king of the South will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North, who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated.

Dan 11:12 When the army is carried off, the king of the South will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands, yet he will not remain triumphant.

Dan 11:13 For the king of the North will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years, he will advance with a huge army fully equipped.

Dan 11:14 "In those times many will rise against the king of the South. The violent men among your own people will rebel in fulfillment of the vision, but without success.

Dan 11:15 Then the king of the North will come and buildup siege ramps and will capture a fortified city. The forces of the South will be powerless to resist; even their best troops will not have the strength to stand.

Dan 11:16 The invader will do as he pleases; no one will be able to stand against him. He will establish himself in the Beautiful Land and will have the power to destroy it.

Dan 11:17 He will determine to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will make an alliance with the king of the South. And he will give him a daughter in marriage in order to overthrow the kingdom, but his plans will not succeed or help him.

Dan 11:18 Then he will turn his attention to the coast lands and will take many of them, but a commander will put an end to his insolence and will turn his insolence back upon him.

Dan 11:19 After this, he will turn back toward the fortresses of his own country but will stumble and fall, to be seen no more.

Principles:

1. Although Seleucus Callinicus was unsuccessful in his attack on Egypt, his successors described as "his sons" will be successful.

Dan 11:10 His sons will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood and carry the battle as far as his fortress.

2. Seleucus III (226-223 B.C.) came to an untimely end, having perished in battle in Asia Minor, but the task was ably carried on by Antiochus III the Great (223-187 B.C.).

3. Antiochus the Great was able to mount a campaign against Egypt; but largely because of his lack of aggression and failure to pursue to the death the Egyptians, he restored only that territory south as far as Gaza.

3.1 The Egyptian army was able to escape and regroup.

4. The realization that the Syrian armies had approached the border of Egypt aroused the Egyptians. Ptolemy IV Philopator assembled a large army to combat Antiochus (Dan 11:11).

Dan 11:11 "Then the king of the South will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North, who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated.

5. In 217 B.C., Antiochus the Great met the Egyptian army at the Palestinian border. The Egyptian army was directed by Ptolemy IV Philopator accompanied by his sister-wife, Arsinoe. There were about 70,000 soldiers on each side.

6. The battle resulted in a complete victory for Egypt (Dan 11:11-12); and as Jerome comments, "Antiochus the Great lost his entire army; he was almost captured as he fled to the desert.

Dan 11:12 When the army is carried off, the king of the South will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands, yet he will not remain triumphant.

7. The prophecy was fulfilled that the multitude of the Syrians was given into the hand of the Egyptians. However, the victory was not complete because Antiochus had escaped.

8. As Dan 11:12 indicates, the Egyptian monarch was too indolent to pursue his advantage; and although the battle was disastrous for the Syrians it tended to bring peace between the two nations, at least temporarily.

9. Recall the Biblical principle once more seen, a lasting peace can only come through complete military victory.

10. Meanwhile, Antiochus the Great turned his attention to conquests in the east, in which he was quite successful, gathering strength and wealth.

11. In the period 212-204 B.C. he advanced east to the borders of India and as far north as the Caspian.

12. In Egypt Ptolemy Philopator and his queen died mysteriously in 203 B.C. and were succeeded by their infant son, Ptolemy V Epiphanes.

13. In 201 B.C. Antiochus the Great managed to assemble another great army; he launched a series of attacks against Egypt; these are described in Dan 11:13-16.

Dan 11:13 For the king of the North will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years, he will advance with a huge army fully equipped.

Dan 11:14 "In those times many will rise against the king of the South. The violent men among your own people will rebel in fulfillment of the vision, but without success.

Dan 11:15 Then the king of the North will come and build up siege ramps and will capture a fortified city. The forces of the South will be powerless to resist; even their best troops will not have the strength to stand.

Dan 11:16 The invader will do as he pleases; no one will be able to stand against him. He will establish himself in the Beautiful Land and will have the power to destroy it.

14. The expression the robbers of thy people (Dan 11:14) refers to persons who violate law and justice; hence, they are "robbers" or "men of violence" (RSV).

Dan 11:14 "In those times many will rise against the king of the South. The violent men (Jews) among your own people will rebel in fulfillment of the vision, but without success.

15. As Zockler says, "The oracle refers to the league against Egypt, into which a large number of Jews entered ... and to their participation in his warlike operations against that country, e.g., in his attacks on the garrison which the Egyptian general Scopas had left in the citadel of Jerusalem." Zockler further comments: "The theocratic writer sternly condemns this partial revolt on the part of many in Palestine as a criminal course or as common robbery, because of the many benefits conferred on the Jewish state by the earlier Ptolemies."

16. Walvoord writes, "The reference to establish the vision is probably a prophecy of the afflictions of the Jews under Antiochus Epiphanes already recorded in Daniel 8 and 9."

17. Encouraged by the rising power of Rome which threatened Syria, Egypt fought back. However the Egyptian armies led by Scopas were defeated at Paneas, near the head waters of the Jordan River.

18. Antiochus III subsequently forced Scopas to surrender at Sidon, it is referred to as "the most fenced cities," literally "a city of fortifications," which the Seleucid king captured in approximately 198 B.C.

Dan 11:15 So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand.

19. This victory resulted in the Syrian occupation of all of Palestine as far south as Gaza.

20. The allusion to "the arms at the south shall not stand" is a reference to the unsuccessful attempt by three Egyptian leaders, Eropas, Menacles, and Damoyenus to rescue the besieged Scopas from Sidon.

21. Threatened by Rome, however, Antiochus pulled off what he thought was a diplomatic settlement with Egypt by marrying his daughter Cleopatra to the young king, Ptolemy V Epiphanies in 192 B.C.

22. In so doing, he fulfilled the prophecy "he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him."

23. The expression corrupting her can be translated "to ruin the land," that is, Antiochus the Great purposed by this giving of his young daughter to the seven-year old Ptolemy V in hopes of destroying his former opponent and present ally.

Dan 11:17 He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him.

24. As Young states. "In this stratagem, however, Antiochus failed, because Cleopatra constantly sided with her husband rather than her father."

25. What we have just described fulfills the prophecies of Dan 11:13.

Dan 11:13 For the king of the north shall return, and shall set forth a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come after certain years with a great army and with much riches.

Dan 11:14 And in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall.

Dan 11:15 So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand.

Dan 11:16 But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed.

Dan 11:17 He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him.

26. Antiochus the Great soon begins to suffer a series of reverses, as indicated in verse 18, where "but a commander will put an end to his insolence" refers to the Roman consul Lucius Scipio Asiaticus, who, brought about the defeat of Antiochus.

Dan 11:18 Then he will turn his attention to the coast lands and will take many of them, but a commander will put an end to his insolence and will turn his insolence back upon him.

27. The reference to "and will turn his insolence back upon him," refers to Antiochus' scornful treatment of the Roman ambassadors, when he said contemptuously, "Asia did not concern them, the Romans, and he was not subject to their orders."

28. His defeat came about as follows.

28.1 Having successfully sustained his conquest against Egypt by defeating Scopas, Antiochus then turned his attention to the threat from the west and attempted to equal the conquests of Alexander the Great by conquering Greece.

28.2 In this he was notably unsuccessful, being defeated in 191 B.C. at Thermopylae north of Athens and again in 189 B.C. at Magnesia on the Meander River southeast of Ephesus by soldiers of Rome and Pergamum under the leadership of the Roman general Scipio.

29. This fulfilled the prophecies of verses 18 and 19, and from an historic viewpoint, was important in removing from Europe the control by Asiatic governments. This paved the way for Roman expansion later.

Dan 11:18 Then he will turn his attention to the coast lands and will take many of them, but a commander will put an end to his insolence and will turn his insolence back upon him.

Dan 11:19 After this, he will turn back toward the fortresses of his own country but will stumble and fall, to be seen no more.

30. Antiochus the Great, who could have gone down in history as one of the great conquerors of the ancient world had he been content to leave Greece alone, instead we find the prophecy of verse 19 fulfilled in that he had to return to his own land, defeated and broken. He was killed trying to plunder a temple in Elam.

31. In these prophecies, properly interpreted, is an accurate prophetic picture of this period, which would be remarkable even if it was history. As prophecy, it bears the unmistakable imprint of divine inspiration.

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