

lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.²¹ But I will show thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

11 Also I, in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him.² And now will I show thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.³ And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.⁴ And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided towards the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those.⁵ And the king of the south shall be strong, and one of his princes; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion.⁶ And in the end of years they shall join themselves together; for the king's daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement: but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm: but she shall be given up, and they that brought her, and he that begat her, and he that strengthened her in these times.⁷ But out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate, who 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: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.⁹ So the king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land.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.¹¹ And the king of the south shall be moved with wrath, 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.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.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

verse 13.

The prince of Grecia. This is a fallen angel or demonic power assigned by Satan to participate in the affairs of the Greek kingdom (see [note on v. 13](#); see [Jn 14:30](#); [Eph 6:12](#)). Although both Persia and Greece would conquer God's people, Daniel was to understand that their power would be limited by the power of God, whose purposes always prevail.

10:21 The scripture of truth. A metaphor for God's knowledge and control over all of history.

None ... but Michael. Michael's interest in protecting Israel (see [note on v. 13](#); cf. [12:1](#)) corresponded with that of the messenger, who was directly concerned about God's purposes.

11:1 In the first year of Darius the Mede. Earlier the angel who was speaking to Daniel had given assistance to Michael (see [note on 10:13](#)), perhaps in connection with the Persian decree to permit the Jews to return to their homeland.

11:2-20 From Daniel Until Antiochus IV Epiphanes. The revelation given to Daniel in 11:2-20 concerned ancient Near Eastern history from the time of Daniel until the time of Antiochus IV Epiphanes. The prophet's vision was unusually detailed, describing intricate interconnections among events far beyond that normally given to an Israelite prophet. Such details drew the attention of early readers of this book and demonstrated Daniel's reliability.

11:2 Three kings in Persia. Cambyses (529-523 B.C.), Pseudo-Smerdis or Gaumata (523-2 B.C.) and Darius I (522-486 B.C.).

The fourth. Xerxes I (485-464 B.C.).

His riches. See [Est 1:4](#).

He shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia. Xerxes waged a number of campaigns against Greece, beginning in 480 B.C.

11:3 A mighty king shall stand up. Alexander the Great (336-323 B.C.). See [notes on 7:6](#) and [8:5](#) and [8](#).

11:4 His kingdom shall be broken ... toward the four winds of heaven. See [notes on 7:6](#) and [8:8](#).

11:5 The king of the south. Ptolemy I Soter (323-285 B.C.).

One of his princes; and he shall be strong above him. Seleucus I Nicator (311-280 B.C.). Seleucus broke with Ptolemy, became king of Babylon and controlled territories from the Indus River in the east, to Syria in the west.

11:6-20 Verses 6-20 contain detailed predictions of relations between the king of the North (the Seleucid kingdom) and the king of the South (the Ptolemaic kingdom). This section may be divided into three parts: (1) events concerning Laodice and Berenice ([vv. 6-9](#)), (2) the career of Antiochus III ([vv. 10-19](#)) and (3) the reign of Seleucus IV ([v. 20](#)).

11:6 The king's daughter of the south. Berenice, the daughter of Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285-246 B.C.).

To make an agreement. Refers to a marriage alliance (c. 250 B.C.) between Antiochus II Theos (261-246 B.C.) of Syria and Ptolemy II of Egypt.

She shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm. Laodice, the former wife of Antiochus, instigated a conspiracy that resulted in the poisoning deaths of Berenice, Antiochus II and their infant son.

11:7 Out of a branch of her roots. Ptolemy III Euergetes (246-221 B.C.), the brother of Berenice (see [note on v. 6](#)).

Shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north. Ptolemy III attacked the Seleucid kingdom, had Laodice (see [note on v. 6](#)) put to death and returned to Egypt with considerable booty.

11:9 The king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land. This refers to the unsuccessful campaign of Seleucus II Callinicus (246-226 B.C.), the son of Laodice, against the Ptolemaic kingdom in 240 B.C.

11:10 His sons. Seleucus III Ceraunus (226-223 B.C.) and Antiochus III the Great (223-187 B.C.).

Shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces. Antiochus III fought with the Ptolemies from 222-187 B.C. and for a time gained control of Canaan, as well as western Syria.

His fortress. This probably refers to Raphia, a Ptolemaic fortress in southern Canaan. A major battle was fought there in 217 B.C.

11:11 The king of the south. Ptolemy IV Philopator (221-203 B.C.). **Fight with him, even with the king of the north.** Antiochus III. He suffered great losses (over 14,000 men) at the battle of Raphia in 217 B.C.

11:13 Shall set forth a multitude greater than the former. In alliance with Philip V of Macedon, he raised an even larger army to invade the