

DANIEL ELEVEN



This chapter of Daniel is the vision that Daniel saw and needed encouragement in chapter ten. This is a long chapter and it is often hard to follow who is who. This is the longest vision in the book—it fills the entire chapter. The chapter is better understood when broken into three segments. There are many different views concerning the end of the chapter from the beginning of Christianity, to the fall of Jerusalem, to the second coming.

The chapter is a historical look at several wars and kings. The details and accuracy are a testimony to the inspiration of Scriptures.

1. Verse 1 properly fits better at the end of chapter 10

Helpful Overview of Chapter

1. The Present to Antiochus Epiphanes (1-19)
 - King of South is Egypt ruled by Ptolemy
 - King of North is Syria ruled by Antiochus
2. Persecution by Antiochus Epiphanes (20-28)
 - ruled Syria from 175-164 B.C.
3. Romans (29-45)

- The word "king" is used 19x in this chapter
 - King of the South (7x)
 - King of the North (7x)

These events cover periods of time

- After some years (6)
- For some years (8)
- An interval of some years (13)
- Appointed time (27, 29, 35)

2. Verse 2-3 Darius is the current king of Persia

- after him will come four more kings (the fourth: Xerxes, from Esther is extremely wealthy)
- verse 3 is Alexander the Great (between vs. 2-3 are 150 years and 8 other Persian kings)
- after Alexander's death his kingdom was divided into four parts (none were descendants)- (4)
The vision focuses upon two of these: Egypt (South: Ptolemy) and Syria (North: Antiochus)

• Egypt grows strong (5)

- Ptolemy's daughter (Bernice) marries Antiochus (South and North) - (6)
- Antiochus' first wife poisons Bernice, her child and Antiochus
- Bernice's brother (7) leads Egypt into war with Syria (8-13)

• Syria (north) battles Egypt (south) (14-19)

- Antiochus Epiphanes ascends to the throne (20-28)
- he uses deception to trick other nations
- he sets his heart against the 'holy covenant' (28)

There seems to be a flow from **military conflicts** to **religious persecution** to **victory by the power of God**

3. Rise of Romans (29-39)

- ships of Kittim (30) is Rome
- the "king" refers to the Roman Caesars and the rise of persecution (33-39)
- the "Beautiful Land" is Jerusalem (41)
- Rumors from the East (Parthians) and the North (Germans) which overcome Rome (44)
- in the end he will "come to his end and no one will help him" (45)

Lessons for Us:

1. We see why Daniel was troubled with this vision (10:17). The vision was about "conflicts" (10:1)
 - Why all these details about wars? God is showing how the transitions from one kingdom to the next (dream of chapter 2) would be fulfilled
2. These conflicts point to God being in charge and knowing exactly what was going to happen
3. The sovereignty of God is seen in that during the Persians, Haman tried to extinguish the Jews.
 - later, during the Greeks, Antiochus Epiphanes tried to wipe out God's people
 - later, during the Romans, various Caesars tried to kill all of God's peopleAll of them failed. God was victorious. There is a kingdom which will never be destroyed and not left for another people. It will endure forever (Daniel 2:44)