

Events from the
Book of Truth

Daniel 11:2-35

The Outline

~~I. Introduction: The Divine Man (10:1-11:1)~~

I. Events from the “Book of Truth” (11:2-12:4)

- A. 11:2 – Three kings for Persia/the fourth stirs up Greece.
- B. 11:3-4: A warrior king from Greece will have his kingdom divided.
- C. 11:5-35 – The history of the kings of the north and of the south.
- D. 11:36-12:4 – Time of the end/St. Michael.

II. Epilogue: Final explanation of the “time of the end.”

The Divine Man (Jesus) continues to speak His prophecy to Daniel. He goes into further detail of what the vision means. The view of history in its entirety is presented. Accuracy for the centuries immediately following Daniel is perfect!

Daniel 11:2

**Three kings for Persia
the fourth stirs up Greece.**

The Lord tells Daniel that Persia will continue as a world power for a while. Three more Persian kings will reign. They are Cambyses (Cyrus' son) (530-522 BC); Gaumata (assassinated in 522); and Darius I (a.k.a. Darius the Great) (522-486). They will be of little significance; however, the fourth king (Xerxes I or Xerxes the Great, a.k.a., Ahasuerus, 486-465) will be the wealthy king and very powerful.

**Three kings for Persia
the fourth stirs up Greece.**

Daniel 11:2

Greece, at the time, was comprised of many “city-states” and many Greeks were pro-Persian, especially Athens. Yet, trouble was brewing in Asian Minor (Turkey). In 499, the Ionian Revolt began due to the tyranny of Persian appointed governors. This ultimately led to the burning of Sardis in 498 (the same Sardis of Revelation). Darius orders that the revolt be quelled, but his generals are ineffective, which results in a stalemate lasting until 495. The Persian military finally regroups and at the Battle of Lade (494) the Ionian Revolt is ended.

Daniel 11:2

**Three kings for Persia
the fourth stirs up Greece.**

The first conquest of Greece was begun by Darius the Great in 492 as he moves to punish all the city-states that supported the Ionian Rebellion. He assembles a huge army and navy and attacks the Greek mainland, but is defeated at the Battle of Marathon in 490 BC. With this defeat, the First Persian War against Greece ends.

Darius immediately begins preparations for a second invasion which he would command, instead of his generals; however, before the preparations were completed, in October, 486, Darius dies. Now the task is left to his son, Xerxes I (Xerxes the Great).

**Three kings for Persia
the fourth stirs up Greece.**

Daniel 11:2

Xerxes the Great is the king who will stir up the Greeks; since, the Greeks finally realize that they could unify and be an effective force against the Persians. Thus, under Philip of Macedon, the father of Alexander the Great, Greece unites and soundly defeats Xerxes at two major battles: Salamis (Sep 480, the Greek fleet defeats the Persian navy); and Plataea (Aug 479, the culminating land battle and final defeat of the Persians).

**Three kings for Persia
the fourth stirs up Greece.**

Daniel 11:2

A great hero-king will arise and defeat the last Persian king in 330. This king was *Alexander the Great*. Alexander suddenly dies in Babylon on 10/11 June, 323, he was 32 years old. Because of his untimely death, there was no heir to assume leadership. So after Alexander's death the kingdom would be split among his four generals.

Daniel 11:3-4

**A Warrior King from Greece
will have His Kingdom Divided**

(V.5) After Alexander's death *Ptolemy I Soter* took Egypt and called himself "king" in 323. Ptolemy is called the "King of the South" by our Lord. *Seleucus I Nicator* was named as the satrap of Babyon in 321. He was attacked by Antigonus, the ruler of Macedonia and Greece, in 316. He fled to Egypt and Ptolemy made him a general. Together they defeat Antigonus at Gaza in 312 and Seleucus was given Syria, Mesopotamia (a majority of the old Persian Empire), and the Levant and was known as the "King of the North" by our Lord.

Daniel 11:5

**A Warrior King from Greece
will have His Kingdom Divided**

(V.5) Finally, in 301 Antigonus is killed in battle at Ipsus and Secleucus takes control of Antigonus' territory. He takes so much territory that his kingdom becomes larger than Ptolemy's.

As shown on the map, Israel was trapped amid both and became a political football, at times controlled by the Ptolemies; and at other times by the Seleucids.



Daniel 11:5

**A Warrior King from Greece
will have His Kingdom Divided**

(V.6) The fighting and intrigue continues between the Ptolemies and the Seleucids until, finally, in 250, two kings (Ptolemy II and Antiochus II) agree to a peace treaty. As with most peace treaties of the day, it would involve a marriage! The daughter of Ptolemy II, Berenice, would marry Antiochus II. This resulted in Antiochus divorcing his first wife, Laodice. Thus, Berenice's son would become the next Seleucid king.

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**The Rise of the Kings of
the North and the South**

(V.6) The intrigue continues as Antiochus takes Laodice back and then suddenly dies in 246. Historians speculate that Laodice poisoned him. But Laodice does not stop there! She arranges for the murder of Berenice and her son, which results in Laodice's son, Seleucus II, ascending to the throne! Since he was still a young man of 19, Laodice declares herself to be the co-regent and takes the title Laodice I.

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**The Rise of the Kings of
the North and the South**

So verse 6 reads: “...*she [Berenice] shall be given up [murdered along with her son, late summer 246], and her attendants [her royal escorts were also murdered], he who fathered her [Ptolemy II dies on 28 January 246], and he who supported her in those times*” [*Antiochus II dies in July 246*].

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**The Rise of the Kings of
the North and the South**

(V.7) “And from a branch from her roots one shall arise in his place [*Berenice’s brother, Ptolemy III, succeeds his father in January 246*]. He [*Ptolemy III*] shall come against the army and enter the fortress of the king of the north [*Ptolemy captures Antioch in late autumn 246*], and he shall deal with them and shall prevail” [*Ptolemy takes Antioch, captures Laodice I and has her executed*].

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(V.8) “He [*Ptolemy III*] shall also carry off to Egypt their gods [*the Egyptian idols that Cambyses took back to Babylon in 525*] with their metal images and their precious vessels of silver and gold [*which he did in 243; thus, the Egyptians gave him the name Euergetes (the Benefactor)*], and for some years he shall refrain from attacking the king of the north” [*since Ptolemy III was busy in Egypt quelling a rebellion, which allowed Seleucus II to consolidate his power*].

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(V.9) “Then the latter [*Seleucus II attempted to invade Egypt in 242*] shall come into the realm of the king of the south [*Ptolemy III*] but shall return to his own land” [*Seleucus’ attack was repulsed*].

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the North and the South**

(V.10) “His sons [*Seleucus III & Antiochus III also called “the Great”*] shall wage war and assemble a multitude of great forces, which shall keep coming and overflow and pass through, and again shall carry the war as far as his [*Ptolemy IV*] fortress” [*In 219-218, Antiochus III campaigned in Syria and Palestine against Ptolemy IV and captured the fortress and port city of Seleucia Pieria.*”

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**The Rise of the Kings of
the North and the South**

(Vv.11-12) “Then the king of the south, moved with rage, shall come out and fight [*Ptolemy IV counterattacks in 217*] against the king of the north [*Antiochus III*]. And he shall raise a great multitude [*Antiochus III raised an army of 62,000 infantry and 6,000 cavalry*], but it shall be given into his hand” [*Ptolemy IV wins the Battle of Raphia with a much larger force, 70,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry. He now controls Palestine & Syria*].

The Rise of the Kings of the North and the South

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(Vv.11-12) ¹²And when the multitude is taken away [*Antiochus' military*], his [*Ptolemy IV*] heart shall be exalted, and he shall cast down tens of thousands [*Ptolemy IV cruelly attempts to put down a number of rebellions*], but he shall not prevail” [*Ptolemy IV dies in July 204 and the Egyptian rebels capture vast areas of southern Egypt*].

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The Rise of the Kings of the North and the South

(Vv.13-19) “¹³For the king of the north
[Antiochus III] shall again raise a multitude,
greater than the first. And after some years
[200] he *[Antiochus III]* shall come on with
a great army and abundant supplies.”

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**The Rise of the Kings of
the North and the South**

(Vv.13-19) ¹⁴“In those times [200-196] many shall rise against the king of the south [Ptolemy V], and the violent among your own people shall lift themselves up in order to fulfill the vision [*pro-Seleucid party in Judaea revolts and attempts to gain their independence from Ptolemy in order to fulfill the vision of Daniel 10-12*], but they shall fail [*Ptolemy V and his military quell the revolt*].”

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The Rise of the Kings of the North and the South

(Vv.13-19) ¹⁵ “Then the king of the north [*Antiochus III*] shall come and throw up siege works and take a well-fortified city [*the capture of Sidon in 198 that resulted in the starvation of many*]. And the forces of the south shall not stand or even his best troops [*Aeolian mercenaries under the command of Scopas, a general of Ptolemy V, surrenders*], for there shall be no strength to stand [*they were starved into surrendering*].

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**The Rise of the Kings of
the North and the South**

(Vv.13-19) ¹⁶“But he who comes against him shall do as he wills, and none shall stand before him [*Antiochus III was now in complete control of Syria and Judaea*]. And he [*Antiochus III*] shall stand in the glorious land [*Israel*], with destruction in his hand [*Antiochus has total control*].”

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**The Rise of the Kings of
the North and the South**

(Vv.13-19) ¹⁷“He shall set his face to come with the strength of his whole kingdom [*Antiochus III can now do anything he desires*], and he shall bring terms of an agreement and perform them [*Antiochus decides to make peace with Ptolemy V, 197*]. He [*Antiochus III*] shall give him [*Ptolemy V (16)*] the daughter of women [*Antiochus’ daughter, Cleopatra I (10), they marry in 193*] to destroy the kingdom [*Antiochus wanted his daughter to undermine Ptolemy V and deliver Egypt into Seleucid hands*], but it shall not stand or be to his advantage” [*Cleopatra was very much in love with Ptolemy V*].

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(Vv.13-19) ¹⁸“Afterward he [*Antiochus III*] shall turn his face to the coastlands and shall capture many of them [*his army took many islands in the Aegean and he also captured Thrace in 196*], but a commander [*a Roman general Lucius Cornelius Scipio*] shall put an end to his insolence [*Scipio drove Antiochus’ army out of Greece and pushed him eastward back into Asia Minor with a final victory at the Battle of Magnesia in 190*]. Indeed, he [*Scipio*] shall turn his insolence back upon him” [*Antiochus III now retires to Susa, never to campaign again*].

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(Vv.13-19) ¹⁹“Then he [*Antiochus*] shall turn his face back toward the fortresses of his own land, but he shall stumble and fall [*Antiochus attempts to pillage a temple of Bel for its gold and jewels in Elymais (present day Iran), but the townspeople revolt and capture Antiochus*], and shall not be found” [*Antiochus III dies on 3 July 187 in Elymais*].

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the North and the South**

(V.20) “Then shall arise in his [*Antiochus III*] place one [*Seleucus IV*] who shall send an exactor of tribute for the glory of the kingdom [*Heliodorus, Seleucus’ finance minister was sent to Jerusalem to seize the wealth of the temple treasury, so that Seleucus IV could pay tribute money to Rome*]. But within a few days he [*Heliodorus*] shall be broken, neither in anger nor in battle” [*According to 2 Macc 3, Heliodorus was turned back by angels sent by God*].

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(Vv.21-24) ²¹“In his place shall arise a contemptible person [*Antiochus IV Epiphanes*] to whom royal majesty has not been given [*Antiochus seized the throne after his nephew, Demetrius I, died under suspicious circumstances*]. He shall come in without warning and obtain the kingdom by flatteries [*Antiochus seized the throne via intrigue and bribery*].

²²Armies shall be utterly swept away before him and broken [*every force that came against him was soundly defeated*], even the prince of the covenant” [*Antiochus IV removes the high priest, Onias III, and later has him murdered due to his resistance in regard to Hellenization of Jerusalem (cf. 2 Macc 4:7-33)*].

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(Vv.21-24) ²³“And from the time that an alliance is made with him [*a treaty made between Antiochus IV and the new high priests, Jason and later, Menelaus*] he shall act deceitfully [*Antiochus received many bribes and would deceive the citizens of Jerusalem*], and he shall become strong with a small people” [*this refers to Antiochus’ influence and power amongst the Hellenized Jews*].

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**The Rise of the Kings of
the North and the South**

(Vv.21-24) 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 [*Antiochus was known for plundering provincial and temple treasuries and oppressing religious freedom*], scattering among them plunder, spoil, and goods [*Antiochus would also give lavish gifts and bribe officials*]. He shall devise plans against strongholds, but only for a time” [*Antiochus’ plan to attack and take Egypt, yet his treachery will be limited*].

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(Vv.25-28) ²⁵“And he [*Antiochus IV*] shall stir up his power and his heart against the king of the south [*Ptolemy VI*] with a great army. And the king of the south shall wage war with an exceedingly great and mighty army, but he shall not stand, for plots shall be devised against him [*Ptolemy’s plans were leaked to Antiochus, which allowed Antiochus to prepare. At the Battle of Pelusium (169), Ptolemy was captured*]. ²⁶Even those who eat his food shall break him [*the treachery of Ptolemy’s court officials was his downfall*]. His army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain” [*Ptolemy’s army was thoroughly routed*].

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(Vv.25-28) ²⁷“And as for the two kings [*Antiochus IV & Ptolemy VII*], their hearts shall be bent on doing evil. They shall speak lies at the same table [*they both make an alliance under the guise that Ptolemy and his brother, Ptolemy VII, would be co-regents. Antiochus IV installs Ptolemy VI in power at Memphis and then returns to Antioch. It was a trick, since Antiochus planned to betray both Ptolemies, take Egypt, and declare himself Pharaoh*], but to no avail [*their sister, Cleopatra II, convinces both her brothers of Antiochus’ treachery; they reconcile and begin rebuilding their military*] for the end is yet to be at the time appointed” [*God’s plan, not man’s, will succeed; Antiochus IV will be allowed to do more evil, yet, he will come to an end!*].

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28“ And he *[Antiochus IV Epiphanes]* shall return to his land with great wealth *[this refers to the pillaging of the Temple]*, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant *[he plans to Hellenize Israel and prevent their worship]*. And he shall work his will and return to his own land.”

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the North and the South**

[1 Macc 1:20-24] - ²⁰After subduing Egypt, Antiochus turned back in the one hundred forty-third year [169] and went up against Israel and came to Jerusalem with a strong force. ²¹He arrogantly entered the sanctuary and took the golden altar, the lampstand for the light, and all its utensils. ²²He took also the table for the bread of the Presence, the cups for drink offerings, the bowls, the golden censers, the curtain, the crowns, and the gold decoration on the front of the temple; he stripped it all off. ²³He took the silver and the gold and the costly vessels; he took also the hidden treasures that he found. ²⁴Taking them all, he went into his own land.

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(Vv.29-30a) “At the time appointed [*ca. Sep 168*] he [*Antiochus IV*] shall return and come into the south [*his second campaign against Egypt, with the intent of destroying the Ptolemys*’], but it shall not be this time as it was before [*the Romans intervene*]. ³⁰For ships of Kittim [*these are descendants of Javan, son of Japheth, who settled in Cyprus and it’s capital was Kition. Later, Javan’s descendants fathered the Greek and Roman peoples*] shall come against him” [*a Roman ambassador, Gaius Popillius Laenas, met Antiochus in Pelusium and gave him an ultimatum; withdraw from Egypt, or be at war with Rome*].

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(Vv.30b-32) The following verses from 1 Macc 1:29-35 give us a clear picture of Antiochus' actions against Jerusalem in 167. First, our Lord's prophecy: ^{30b} “...and he shall be afraid and withdraw, and shall turn back and be enraged and take action against the holy covenant. He shall turn back and pay attention to those who forsake the holy covenant.

³¹Forces 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. ³²He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant, but the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action.”

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The fulfillment from 1 Macc 1:29-35: ²⁹“Two years later [October, 167] the king [Antiochus IV] sent to the cities of Judah a chief collector of tribute [Apollonius], and he came to Jerusalem with a large force. ³⁰Deceitfully he spoke peaceable words to them, and they believed him, but he suddenly fell upon the city, dealt it a severe blow, and destroyed many people of Israel. ³¹He plundered the city, burned it with fire, and tore down its houses and its surrounding walls. ³²They took captive the women and children and seized the livestock. ³³Then they fortified the city of David with a large strong wall and strong towers, and it became their citadel [Acra housed Hellenized Jews and Greek soldiers]. ³⁴They stationed there a sinful nation, men who were renegades. These strengthened their position; ³⁵they stored up arms and food, and, collecting the spoils of Jerusalem, they stored them there and became a great menace..., ”

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(Vv.33-35) ³³“And the wise [*those Jews who remained faithful to Yahweh*] among the people shall make many understand [*these faithful Jews will continue to teach the people from the Torah*], though for some days they shall stumble by sword and flame, by captivity and plunder” [*even so, the faithful will be horribly persecuted by Antiochus IV*].

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(Vv.33-35) ³⁴“When they stumble [*persecuted*], they shall receive a little help [*Yahweh will maintain His faithful remnant*]. And many shall join themselves to them with flattery [*flattery is actually a poor translation; a better word is “fine promises.” Many will promise to remain faithful; yet, they do not.*], ³⁵and some of the wise shall stumble, so that they may be refined, purified, and made white, until the time of the end [*Judgment Day*], for it still awaits the appointed time” [*Mark 13:32*] [*those who remain faithful will be vindicated and will be made white (saved and numbered amongst the saints’ of Heaven)*].

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The Rise of the Kings of the North and the South

Next Sunday

11:36-12:4 – Time of the end/St. Michael

Epilogue (12:5-13) – Final explanation of the
“time of the end”

Four Questions???