

## Daniel's Predictions: Something Worse Is Coming (Daniel 11:2-35)

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### INTRODUCTION

#### THE SETTING (10:1)

Daniel 1:1	The third year of Jehoiakim	605 BC	1
Daniel 2:1	Neb's second (accession) year	603–602 BC	2
Daniel 5:31	Darius conquered Babylon	early 539 BC	5
Daniel 7:1	First year of Belshazzar	553 BC	3
Daniel 8:1	Third year of Belshazzar	551 BC	4
Daniel 9:1	First year of Darius	late 539 BC	6
Daniel 10:1	Third year of Cyrus	536 BC	8
<b>Daniel 11:1</b>	<b>First year of Darius</b>	<b>late 539 B.C.</b>	<b>7</b>

#### PERSIA: FOUR KEY KINGS (11:2)

These kings would follow Darius and Cyrus. The vision does not discuss weaker Persian kings.

1. Cambyses 529–522 B.C. (Not otherwise mentioned by the OT)
2. Pseudo-Smerdis 522–521 B.C. (Not otherwise mentioned by the OT)
3. Darius I Hystaspes 521–486 B.C. (Ezra 5–6)
4. Xerxes I 486–465 B.C. (Ezra 4:6. Perhaps = King Ahasuerus of Esther 1)

Some conservatives delete Pseudo-Smyrdis and add Artaxerxes I as #4, but Artaxerxes I did not contend with Greece. He cannot be the fourth king.

#### GREECE: THE RISE AND FALL OF ALEXANDER: 356–323 B.C. (11:3-4)

Alexander

Cassander (Greece and Macedonia)

Lysimachus (Thrace, Bithynia, Asia Minor),

Ptolemy I Soter (Egypt) The first of the Ptolemies = King of the South

Seleucus I Nicator (Syria, Babylon) The first of the Seleucids = King of the North

#### EGYPT AND SYRIA: PERIOD 1: 323–246 B.C. (11:5-6)

Ptolemy I (325–285 B.C.), Seleucus I (312–281 B.C.), Berenice II = Ptolemy II's daughter.

Seleucus of Syria became stronger than Ptolemy of Egypt.

Ptolemy II of Egypt gave Berenice to Antiochus II of Syria. It did not end well.

#### EGYPT AND SYRIA: PERIOD 2: 246–240 B.C. (11:7-9)

Ptolemy III of Egypt (246-221 bc) invaded Syria

Seleucus II of Syria (246-225 bc) tried to invade Egypt. He fell off a horse and died.

### **EGYPT AND SYRIA: PERIOD 3: 223–187 B.C. (11:10-19)**

Antiochus III of Syria (223-187 bc) at first could not penetrate Egypt at Raphia, but took Israel away from Egypt at Panias, then later (with help from Jews and Grecians) had successes.

He gave his daughter to Ptolemy V

Antiochus tried to take more land in Asia Minor and Greece, but Rome won at Thermophylae. He had to sign the Treaty of Apamea in 188 BC. He then attacked a temple of Bel in Elam in an effort to pay tribute demanded by Rome.

### **EGYPT AND SYRIA: PERIOD 4: 187–176 B.C. (11:20)**

Seleucus IV raised taxes in an effort to pay tribute to Rome.

### **EGYPT AND SYRIA: PERIOD 5: 175–164 B.C. (11:21-35)**

Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-163 bc) usurped the throne from Demetrius Soter. (11:21)

He also deposed Onias III, the high priest in Jerusalem. (11:22)

He confiscated wealth from his enemies and redistributed it to his friends. (11:23-24)

Then he attacked Egypt at Pelusium (170 bc). Neither he nor Ptolemy Philometor (180-164, 163-145 bc) kept the treaty (11:25-27). He carried spoils back to his capital, Antioch. On his way, he desecrated the Temple in Jerusalem. (11:28)

Antiochus attacked Egypt in 168 BC. While there, Gaius Pompilius Laenas met him. (11:29-30a)

Antiochus returned to Jerusalem, made the Jewish religion illegal, sacrificed a pig on the altar, and erected a statue of Zeus in the Temple (11:30b-32)

Antiochus massacred pious Jews, Mattathias and his five sons began the Maccabean revolt (11:33-35)

## **CONCLUSION**