

## Daniel 11.5-19

The Ptolemies and Seleucids (c. 310–200 BCE)

### Verses 5-9

#### Verse 5

**Ptolemy I** and **Seleucus I**: Seleucus served Ptolemy for a time, then was made king of Babylon and the east in 310; his dominion greater than Ptolemy's

#### Verse 6

**Ptolemy II** arranged a peace treaty with **Antiochus II**; Antiochus was to marry the daughter of Ptolemy, **Berenike**. Antiochus had to divorce his wife **Laodike**, who organized a successful conspiracy—Berenike and her infant son are murdered. Antiochus dies shortly after, and so does Ptolemy.

#### Verse 7

*“But one of the descendants of her line...”*, i.e. Berenike's brother **Ptolemy III**; Ptolemy III sacks and captures Antioch, 246-241 BCE. He also invaded the eastern territories of the Seleucids—a monument testifies to this.

#### Verse 8

Ptolemy III recovered Egyptian treasures that were taken by **Cambyes** in 524; other than this, he left the Seleucids alone—more interested in Aegean adventures. (Note that Egypt is specifically mentioned as the king of the South—“Syria” as a title for the North would be confusing.)

#### Verse 9

Records a subsequent invasion of **Seleucus II**, just into north Syria and Phoenicia.

### Verses 10-13

#### Verse 10

The rise of Seleucus III, who only reigned 3 years; his brother **Antiochus III** became king in 223. The invasion of Antiochus III—retakes Antioch and proceeds south.

#### Verse 11

**Ptolemy IV** repels Antiochus III at Raphia, 217; Ptolemy had a much smaller force.

### Verse 12

Ptolemy IV's pride is magnified, but he will not prevail for very long; Antiochus III was compelled to concede all of Phoenicia and Palestine.

(Antiochus III reconquers Sardis, and puts down the rebellion of his general, Achaeus, 216-213.)

(Antiochus' expedition to the east in the spirit of Alexander the Great—after his conquests he is called **Antiochus III the Great**, 212-205)

### Verse 13

After the death of Ptolemy IV, and **Ptolemy V** is just 5 years old, Antiochus III invades with a larger, better-trained and better-equipped army.

## Verses 14-19

### Verse 14

Many Jews will rise up against Ptolemy V at this time—to fulfill the vision of Daniel 8 and 9; but they will fall.

### Verse 15

Antiochus III lays a siege against the Egyptians at Sidon; the Egyptian general **Scopas** surrenders—had been defeated at Gaza and Panion, 201 and 200.

### Verse 16

Antiochus III “...*will do as he pleases...*”—it will be in his power to destroy Jerusalem, but he will not; he is welcomed into Jerusalem as a savior, 198.

### Verse 17

Antiochus III approaches Ptolemy V with a peace treaty in 197—he seeks to marry his daughter, **Cleopatra**, to young Ptolemy V. Antiochus thought her son would be heir to both kingdoms to the glory of the Seleucids—but she took the side of Egypt.

### Verse 18

Antiochus III invades Greece in wars against Pergamum and Rhodes; **Hannibal** is his admiral; Antiochus was asked for help by the Aetolian League. He withdraws from Thermopylae in the face of the advancing Romans; defeated by the Romans at Magnesia, east of Sardis, by **Scipio Asiaticus**, 189.

### Verse 19

Antiochus III is repaid for his scorn—the treaty of Apameia in 188 and the humiliating terms: 20,000 talents, out of Asia Minor, and turn over all of his elephants. He died pillaging the Temple of Bel in Elymais—the locals overwhelmed his small army and killed him.