

Daniel 11	
What the Bible prophesies....	What History records....
The Persian Empire	(530 BC)
(2) "Now then, I tell you the truth: Three more kings will arise in Persia, and then a fourth, who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece.	The 4 th King is probably Xerxes (or Ahasuerus from Esther) The Persian Empire was massively wealthy but when it attacked the Greek Empire in 480 BC, they lost a great sea battle in the battle of Salamis (480BC). Xerxes went back to Persia with his tail between his legs
The Greek Empire	
(3) Then a mighty king will arise, who will rule with great power and do as he pleases. (4) After he has arisen, his empire will be broken up and parceled out toward the four winds of heaven. It will not go to his descendants, nor will it have the power he exercised, because his empire will be uprooted and given to others.	The Greek Empire then fights back in the form of the lightning quick Alexander the Great (the goat from Daniel 8). Alexander the Great achieves some remarkable victories but then dies at the age of 32 in Persia without heirs and so his 4 Generals divide up his kingdom 2 of these Generals become dominant. SeleucusNicanor and Ptolemy Lagos
The Egyptian Empire	South = Egypt and the Ptolemy Dynasty North = Greece and Seleucid Dynasty
(5) "The king of the South will become strong, but one of his commanders will become even stronger than he and will rule his own kingdom with great power. (6) After some years, they will become allies. The daughter of the king of the South will go to the king of the North to make an alliance, but she will not retain her power, and he and his power will not last. In those days she will be betrayed, together with her royal escort and her father and the one who supported her. (7) "One from her family line will arise to take her place. He will attack the forces of the king of the North and enter his fortress; he will fight against them and be victorious. (8) He will also seize their gods, their metal images and their valuable articles of silver and gold and carry them off to Egypt. For some years he will leave the king of the North alone. (9) Then the king of the North will invade the realm of the king of the South but will retreat to his own country. (10) His sons will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood and carry the battle as far as his fortress. (11) "Then the king of the South will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North, who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated. (12) When the army is carried off, the king of the South will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands, yet he will not remain triumphant.	The Ptolemys strengthen in Egypt A deal is struck in 250 BC when the Ptolemy Princess, Berenice, is offered to the Seleucid ruler, Antiochus II. The plan is that Ptolemy II's Grandson will be heir to Antiochus II's throne. Trouble is that Antiochus was already married. Antiochus quickly divorces Laodice and married Berenice. However, when Ptolemy II dies, Antiochus II then divorces Berenice and remarries Laodice, who apparently was holding a bit of a grudge and poisons Antiochus II and gets rid of Berenice as well! But Berenice's Big Brother (Ptolemy III) wants revenge for his sister's death and attacks the north and wins a big victory In 242 BC Seleucus II has a pop at Egypt but fails to achieve anything significant Seleucus's son, Antiochus III marches south with a powerful army. He captures Israel and keeps going towards Egypt. However, Ptolemy IV, completely against expectation, defeats Antiochus III. Almost certainly because he had some very astute underlings keeping his forces out of trouble. However, The balance of power is moving north!
The Greek Empire	
(13) For the king of the North will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years, he will advance with a huge army fully equipped. (14) "In those times many will rise against the king of the South. Those who are violent among your own people will rebel in fulfilment of the vision, but without success. (15) Then the king of the North will come and build up siege ramps and will capture a fortified city. The forces of	The Seleucids (Northerners) are now dominant and Antiochus III comes back with a massive army and the Egyptians are pushed right back into their own country In 198 BC, General Scopas and the Egyptian forces are surrounded in Sidon by Antiochus III, and after a siege,

<p>the South will be powerless to resist; even their best troops will not have the strength to stand.</p> <p>(16) The invader will do as he pleases; no one will be able to stand against him. He will establish himself in the Beautiful Land and will have the power to destroy it.</p> <p>(17) He will determine to come with the might of his entire kingdom and will make an alliance with the king of the South. And he will give him a daughter in marriage in order to overthrow the kingdom, but his plans will not succeed or help him. (18) Then he will turn his attention to the coastlands and will take many of them, but a commander will put an end to his insolence and will turn his insolence back on him.</p> <p>(19) After this, he will turn back toward the fortresses of his own country but will stumble and fall, to be seen no more.</p> <p>(20) "His successor will send out a tax collector to maintain the royal splendour. In a few years, however, he will be destroyed, yet not in anger or in battle.</p>	<p>they surrender.</p> <p>Antiochus III now rules the whole of that area, including Israel.... But he still eyes Egypt longingly!</p> <p>Having failed to take Egypt by force, he tries a new tactic. He gives his daughter (Cleopatra) to Ptolemy V with a view to gaining influence in Egypt. However, the plan totally backfires when she falls hopelessly in love with her new husband and starts making overtures to the up and coming power of Rome in order to rescue Egypt from her father, Antiochus III!</p> <p>Frustrated, Antiochus III starts attacking the coastal cities of Turkey, but the Roman Commander Lucius Cornelius Scipio sends him packing</p> <p>Antiochus III is a spent force (not to mention bankrupt!) Seleucus IV succeeds Antiochus III and tries to replenish his bank balance by sending his chancellor, Heliodorus, to raid the temple in Jerusalem. But this doesn't work and Heliodorus is later instrumental in the murder of Seleucus IV</p>
<p>V21-35 An even worse ruler!</p> <p>(21) "He will be succeeded by a contemptible person who has not been given the honour of royalty.</p> <p>He will invade the kingdom when its people feel secure, and he will seize it through intrigue.</p> <p>(22) Then an overwhelming army will be swept away before him; both it and a prince of the covenant will be destroyed.</p> <p>(23) After coming to an agreement with him, he will act deceitfully, and with only a few people he will rise to power.</p> <p>(24) When the richest provinces feel secure, he will invade them and will achieve what neither his fathers nor his forefathers did. He will distribute plunder, loot and wealth among his followers. He will plot the overthrow of fortresses—but only for a time.</p> <p>(25) "With a large army he will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South. The king of the South will wage war with a large and very powerful army, but he will not be able to stand because of the plots devised against him.</p> <p>(26) Those who eat from the king's provisions will try to destroy him; his army will be swept away, and many will fall in battle.</p> <p>(27) The two kings, with their hearts bent on evil, will sit at the same table and lie to each other, but to no avail, because an end will still come at the appointed time.</p> <p>(28) The king of the North will return to his own country with great wealth, but his heart will be set against the holy covenant. He will take action against it and then return to his own country.</p> <p>(29) "At the appointed time he will invade the South again, but this time the outcome will be different from what it was</p>	<p>(175 – 162 BC)</p> <p>This is Antiochus IV Epiphanes. We saw him in Daniel 8v9. "The little horn"</p> <p>He has no royal line, and he has little military power. But he is sneaky and scheming. He takes the throne by deceit and slight of hand after he hears of the death of his brother (Seleucus IV)</p> <p>His reign was devious, brutal and cowardly, when beaten by the power of Rome he turned to the tiny Israel and caused havoc</p> <p>His greatest battles were against Egypt</p> <p>But his real hatred was for Israel and Jerusalem</p> <p>(165 BC) He tried to take Egypt and looked like he was going to succeed, only for the Roman General PopilliusLaenas to pitch up with a sizeable army, several</p>

<p>before.</p> <p>(30) Ships of the western coastlands will oppose him, and he will lose heart. Then he will turn back and vent his fury against the holy covenant. He will return and show favor to those who forsake the holy covenant.</p> <p>(31) "His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation.</p> <p>(32) With flattery he will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, but the people who know their God will firmly resist him.</p> <p>(33) "Those who are wise will instruct many, though for a time they will fall by the sword or be burned or captured or plundered.</p> <p>(34) When they fall, they will receive a little help, and many who are not sincere will join them.</p> <p>(35) Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined, purified and made spotless until the time of the end, for it will still come at the appointed time.</p>	<p>ships and a decree from the Roman Senate stating that Antiochus must abandon his designs on Egypt of be considered an enemy of Rome. Furious, but with no option but to comply, he kicks the nearest, weakest nation, Israel, viciously and repeatedly</p> <p>For 3.5 years he does unspeakable things in Israel and Jerusalem</p> <p>The worship of God is stopped in Jerusalem. The walls of Jerusalem are torn down, and the temple is desecrated</p> <p>The population of Jerusalem is divided Those who bow to Antiochus are rewarded Those who refuse are persecuted</p> <p>Judas Maccabeus led a rebellion in 164 AD and when it was clear he was winning, many who had bowed to Antiochus swapped sides again</p>
<p>(36) "The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place.</p> <p>(37) He will show no regard for the gods of his ancestors or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all.</p> <p>(38) Instead of them, he will honour a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his ancestors he will honour with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts.</p> <p>(39) He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honour those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price.</p> <p>(40) "At the time of the end the king of the South will engage him in battle, and the king of the North will storm out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships. He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood.</p> <p>(41) He will also invade the Beautiful Land. Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand.</p> <p>(42) He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape.</p> <p>(43) He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Cushites in submission.</p> <p>(44) But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many.</p> <p>(45) He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.</p>	<p>From here on, it gets a bit muddy! These events don't seem to tie in with what we know of Antiochus!</p>