

HISTORICAL FULFILLMENT OF DANIEL 11:21-35 PROPHECIES

HISTORICAL FACTS

PROPHECY

Seleucus' brother, Antiochus Epiphanes,** seized the throne as king of the North by acting as guardian over the young heir to the throne.	<i>And in his place a despicable person will arise, on whom the honor of kingship has not been conferred,..he will seize the kingdom by intrigue. - (v. 21)</i>
Antiochus Epiphanes* practiced deception and bribery within the military ranks of the Egyptian army in order to gain military strength.	<i>And after an alliance is made with him he will practice deception...and gain power...and distribute plunder, booty, and possessions among them. – (vv. 23,24)</i>
Antiochus Epiphanes* launched his first campaign against Egypt. Egypt's great army could not stand because of disloyalty within its leadership.	<i>And he will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South with a large army. So the king of the South will mobilize an extremely large and mighty army, but will not stand, for schemes will be devised against him. – (v. 25)</i>
Antiochus Epiphanes* returned from his first campaign against Egypt with great wealth. But he also desired the wealth in the temple of Jerusalem and so attacked it.	<i>Then he will return to his land with much plunder, but his heart will be set against the holy covenant and he will take action and return to his own land. – (v. 28)</i>
Antiochus Epiphanes* made a second attack on Egypt but this time a Roman fleet led by Popillus appeared in Alexandria demanding Antiochus to return home.	<i>At the appointed time he will return and come into the South...ships of Kittim will come against him... - (vv. 29,30a)</i>
Antiochus Epiphanes* reluctantly returned home. But on his way back he became enraged and attacked Jerusalem, desecrating the temple, persecuting faithful Jews but favoring the unfaithful Jews.	<i>He will return and become enraged at the holy covenant and take action; so he will come back and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant. – (v. 30)</i>
Antiochus Epiphanes* had an idol of Zeus erected in the temple, had a pig sacrificed on the altar, and prohibited sacrifices to the Lord. This caused the unfaithful Jews to lose faith in the Lord, since they saw Antiochus as more powerful than the Lord. The unfaithful Jews sided with Antiochus.	<i>And forces from him will arise, desecrate the sanctuary fortress, and do away with the regular sacrifice. And they will set up the abomination of desolation. And by smooth words he will turn to godlessness those who act wickedly toward the covenant, - (vv. 31,32a)</i>
The faithful Jews took a stand against Antiochus Epiphanes* under the leadership of Judas Maccabaeus, by warring against Antiochus. They became known as the Maccabees.	<i>But the people who know their God will display strength and take action. And those who have insight among the people will give understanding to the many; yet they will fall by sword and by flame, by captivity and by plunder for many days. – (vv. 32b,33)</i>
The Maccabees had such great success that many unfaithful Jews switched back to their side.	<i>When they fall, they will be granted a little help, and many will join them in hypocrisy. – (v. 34)</i>
Many faithful Jews died in this revolt against Antiochus Epiphanes* but their revolt was successful. The temple was rededicated three years after its desecration.	<i>And some of those who have insight will fall, in order to refine, purge, and make them pure, until the end time; because it is still at the appointed time. – (v. 35)</i>