

Kings of the North and South

Daniel 11:5-12

⁵ "Then the king of the South (**Ptolemy I**) will grow strong, along with one of his princes (**Seleucus I**) who will gain ascendancy over him (**began rule in Babylon about 312**) and obtain dominion; his domain will be a great dominion indeed.

⁶ "And after some years (**around 252 BC, following the end the Second Syrian War**) they will form an alliance, and the daughter (**Bernice**) of the king of the South (**Ptolemy II**) will come to the king of the North (**Antiochus II**) to carry out a peaceful arrangement (**Antiochus divorced his wife Laodice to marry Bernice, promising Bernice that her progeny would sit on his throne**). But she will not retain her position of power, nor will he remain with his power, but she will be given up (**killed by Laodice, along with her infant son Antiochus**), along with those who brought her in, and the one who sired her (**either her father, Ptolemy II, or her child**), as well as he who supported her in those times (**Antiochus II**).

⁷ "But one of the descendants of her line (**Ptolemy III, Bernice's brother**) will arise in his (**Ptolemy II**) place, and he will come against their army and enter the fortress of the king of the North (**Antiochus II**), and he will deal with them and display great strength (**revenge attack in 246, killed Laodice, took much booty, went as far as Babylon**).

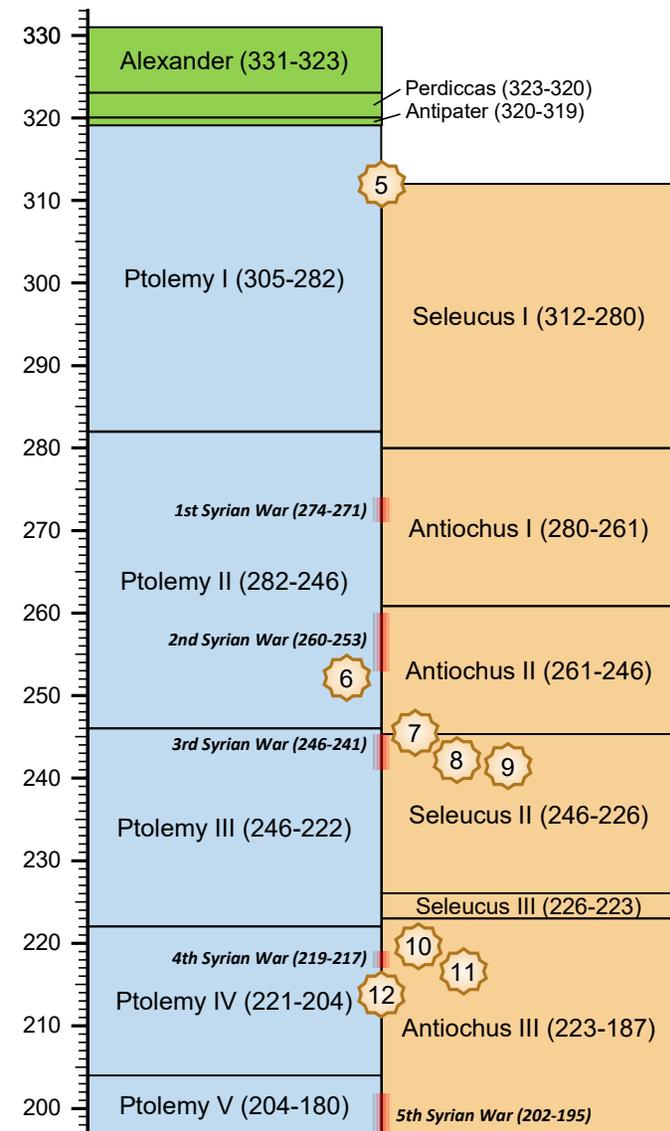
⁸ "And also their gods with their metal images and their precious vessels of silver and gold he (**Ptolemy III**) will take into captivity to Egypt (**some 2,500 idols, including Egyptian ones previously stolen from Egypt**), and he on his part will refrain from attacking the king of the North (**Seleucus II**) for some years (**244-242**).

⁹ "Then the latter (**Seleucus II**) will enter the realm of the king of the South (**Ptolemy III**), but will return to his own land (**aborted attempt in 242**).

¹⁰ "And his sons (**Seleucus III and Antiochus III**) will mobilize and assemble a multitude of great forces (**the Fourth Syrian war, starting in 221**); and one of them (**Antiochus III**) will keep on coming and overflow and pass through, that he may again wage war up to his very fortress.

¹¹ "And the king of the South (**Ptolemy IV**) will be enraged and go forth and fight with the king of the North (**Antiochus III, at the Battle of Raphia**). Then the latter (**Antiochus III**) will raise a great multitude (**62k infantry, 6k cavalry, 102 elephants, vs. 70k infantry, 5k cavalry, 73 elephants**), but that multitude will be given into the hand of the former (**lost the Battle of Raphia, 217 BC**).

¹² "When the multitude is carried away, his heart (**Ptolemy IV**) will be lifted up, and he will cause tens of thousands to fall (**the Seleucids lost about 14,000**); yet he will not prevail (**Ptolemy IV made peace despite his win**).



Points to Ponder

- Some knowledge of history is absolutely necessary to appreciate this kind of prophecy.
- These prophecies are given in a way that is so veiled that they cannot be used to predict events as they occur.
- These prophecies are so accurate that much of modern scholarship considers them to have been written after the fact.