

Prophecy

28% of the Bible is prophecy

The Mission

Practical Purpose of Prophecy in a Believers Life

- **Comfort** in God's sovereignty - your future is in God's hands. Relieve from **fear**, from **anxiety** and **worry**.
- **Counsel** - nothing that you turn to that diminishes your dependence upon God, even if it makes you feel better or has the best of intentions, will be able to help you or spare you from God's work. *Only God can help*. Prophecy helps teach you that, because God will show you what becomes of people that live their lives out in a certain way. He will show the end of the path that they've chosen, where it leads and how long it is. He will use it to give you **direction**.
- **Courage** - the only thing you ought truly to fear is the Lord your God. The enemies and forces you (I) tend to fear the most have already been defeated by God. Don't get caught in the snare of the fear of Man. **Prov. 29:25**
- **Confidence** - no other outcome, save God's desired outcome will come to pass. We can rest in peace knowing that God wins in the end!
- **Confirmation** - God will reassure and remind you of his love and his patience, as traces the thread of his care for you through the past and into the future. Sometimes we lose track of it, and God will remind us.

1 Cor. 14:3

The Messenger

Not a *before* speaker (pre)

An *out* speaker (pro) –

He who speaks out the counsel of God with the clearness, energy and authority which spring from the consciousness of speaking in God's name and having received a direct message from Him to deliver.

From meaning 'the interpreter of the gods or of God',
'*prophetes*' was in a more general sense, an interpreter.

Telling the future is almost accidental to the calling. It is one who, being taught of God, speaks out His will.

Another common word used at the time, 'soothsayer' has within it an idea of mania and raging fury about it, so it's rejected in scripture as the word for the work of what we now know as the prophet.

- 1st - Seer, a beholder of a vision from God.
- 2nd - Spokesman, a speaker.

The Prophets Roll Illustrated:

- Wall Builders - Ezekiel 13
- Watchmen - Ezekiel 33; 3:17. They were originally called "seers." (1 Sam. 9:9; Num. 12:6-8)

The Cost of Faithfulness to the Calling - the Price of being a Prophet

- Rejection, persecution
- Temptation to remain silent - Jeremiah 20:7-9
- Humiliation, dishonor - Isaiah 20, Hosea, Ezekiel lying on his side, wife's death, Jeremiah's sash

The more wicked the culture, the more extravagant the means God is willing to go to get the message across - or even just to get the attention of the people, to capture the heart and emotional engagement of the people He's trying to reach.

The first of the Old Testament prophets - Enoch (Gen. 4, Heb. 11; Jude 14)

The last of the Old Testament prophets - John the Baptist (Matt. 11:11-13)

The School of the Prophets was traditionally started by Samuel (1 Sam. 19:18-24)

But while the prophetic gift was thus exercised from the beginning, the prophetic order as such began with Samuel. Colleges, "schools of the prophets", were instituted for the training of prophets, who were constituted, a distinct order ([1Sa 19:18-24](#); [2Ki 2:3,15; 4:38](#)), which continued to the close of the Old Testament. Such "schools" were established at Ramah, Bethel, Gilgal, Gibeah, and Jericho. The "sons" or "disciples" of the prophets were young men ([2Ki 5:22](#); [9:1,4](#)) who lived together at these different "schools" (4:38-41). These young men were taught not only the rudiments of secular knowledge, but they were brought up to exercise the office of prophet, "to preach pure morality and the heart-felt worship of Jehovah, and to act along and co-ordinately with the priesthood and monarchy in guiding the state aright and checking all attempts at illegality and tyranny."

- Eastons

What qualified Samuel to this discipleship?

Note *his* calling (God called him by name, he answered as a servant) - 1 Samuel 3

Jeremiah's calling – Jeremiah 1:4-12

Ezekiel's calling – Ezekiel 2

Isaiah's calling – Isaiah 6

The Message

- **Metaphor and Allegory versus literal interpretation.**

The same rule stands: if it can be interpreted literally, we take it as literal. If it cannot be interpreted literally or if it directly says it's metaphor or allegory, we consider that it may be allegory or metaphor. I say that it may be, in the case that it seems that it's impossible for it to be taken literally but it is. Definitely give it every shot you can at it being literally interpreted.

- **Difference in Perspective**

1. Nebuchadnezzar's dream vs God's vision of animals
2. Ezekiel 38-39 still the same families and people groups of Genesis 10

- **Difficulty in Interpretation**

1. Not even the prophets always understood what they saw or what God was revealing. (1 Peter 1; Daniel 12, Joseph's dreams)
2. Never meant to be exhaustive, only given what's relevant to the main point of the work of God; usually specifically pertaining to how it affects His plan of salvation and His people.
3. Never God's fault that we don't understand it all.
4. Man's capacity limits understanding.
5. God is willing to use that limitation of man's capacity to regulate things according to His timing. (Joseph's dreams, Daniel's visions sealed, Jesus' revelation given to John)

- **Complication of Dual Fulfillment**

1. Antiochus and Antichrist in Daniel 9
2. Jesus' two comings

- **Precision of Fulfillment**

1. Zedekiah - see Nebuchadnezzar, die in Babylon, never see Babylon (Jeremiah 32:4; Ezekiel 12:13) – covering specific details
2. Jeconiah's blood curse – Jeremiah 22:28-30, Jesus was related to Jeconiah
3. Isaiah 61 (*read how Jesus divided it*) – Luke 4:17-21
4. Isaiah 44-45 – calling people out by name 150 years in advance
5. Daniel 9 – down to the specific day of fulfillment
6. Daniel 11 – giving specifics for 375 years in advance, spanning - years

Bringing Us to Glory Devo: February 16

Zedekiah

King Zedekiah will **see Nebuchadnezzar face to face.**

[Jer 32:4 NKJV] 4 "and Zedekiah king of Judah shall not escape from the hand of the Chaldeans, but shall surely be delivered into the hand of the king of Babylon, and **shall speak with him face to face, and see him eye to eye;**

King Zedekiah will leave in captivity to Babylon and will die there, **without seeing it.**

[Eze 12:13 NKJV] 13 "I will also spread My net over him, and he shall be caught in My snare. I will bring him to Babylon, [to] the land of the Chaldeans; yet he shall not see it, though he shall die there.

Jeconiah's Blood Curse

[Jer 22:28-30 NKJV] 28 "Is this man Coniah a despised, broken idol--A vessel in which [is] no pleasure? Why are they cast out, he and his descendants, And cast into a land which they do not know? 29 O earth, earth, earth, Hear the word of the LORD! 30 Thus says the LORD: 'Write this man down as childless, A man [who] shall not prosper in his days; For none of his descendants shall prosper, Sitting on the throne of David, And ruling anymore in Judah.' "

Jesus is related to him. How God resolved that in Matthew and Luke.

Matthew 1:1-16 – Joseph, through Solomon's line, through Jeconiah. Joseph was legally entitled to the throne of David; but was a descendant of Jeconiah.

Luke 3:23-38 – Mary, through Nathan's line, a different son of David. Totally bypassing the lineage of Jeconiah. Still a descendant of David, but not of Jeconiah. Fulfilling the promise.

Isaiah 61:1-3 Mid-Verse Division

[Isa 61:1-3 NKJV]

1 "The Spirit of the Lord GOD [is] upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to [those who are] bound;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn,

3 To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."

[Luk 4:17-21 NKJV]

17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

18 "The Spirit of the LORD [is] upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to [the] poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to [the] captives And recovery of sight to [the] blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."

20 Then He closed the book, and gave [it] back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him.

21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

Isaiah 44-45 | Daniel 5 – Persian Conquest of Babylon

Isaiah 44

21 "Remember these, O Jacob, And Israel, for you [are] My servant; I have formed you, you [are] My servant; O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me!

22 I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, your transgressions, And like a cloud, your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you."

23 Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done [it]! Shout, you lower parts of the earth; Break forth into singing, you mountains, O forest, and every tree in it! For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, And glorified Himself in Israel.

24 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, And He who formed you from the womb: "I [am] the LORD, who makes all [things], Who stretches out the heavens all alone, Who spreads abroad the earth by Myself;

25 Who frustrates the signs of the babblers, And drives diviners mad; Who turns wise men backward, And makes their knowledge foolishness;

Daniel 5:8-9, 15

26 Who confirms the word of His servant, And performs the counsel of His messengers; Who says to Jerusalem, 'You shall be inhabited,' To the cities of Judah, 'You shall be built,' And I will raise up her waste places;

Daniel 5:30

27 Who says to the deep, 'Be dry! And I will dry up your rivers';

28 Who says of Cyrus, '[He is] My shepherd, And he shall perform all My pleasure, Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," And to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid." '

Isaiah 45

1 "Thus says the LORD to His anointed, **To Cyrus**, whose right hand I have held--To subdue nations before him And **loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut:**

Isaiah 45:2 “loose the armor of kings”

Loosen (break forth, let go free, unstop, have vent) the loins (the loins, hips, the waist) of kings

Daniel 5

- Countenance – cheerfulness, brightness, countenance
- Changed – altered, changed
- Thoughts – “a grasp,” mental conception: - cogitation, thought
- Troubled – to terrify, hasten, trouble, frighten, alarm, dismay

Dismay – to deprive of that strength or firmness of mind which constitutes courage.

- Joints – “a knot (as tied up),” joint
- Hips – literally his loins (lower part of the back), hips
- Loosened – to free, to unravel, to loose; especially used of those who loosen the burdens of their beast once they turn aside at an evening to an inn after a long journey.

A polite, respectful euphemism for **soiling himself**.

2 I will go before you And make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze And cut the bars of iron.

3 I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, the LORD, **Who call [you] by your name**, [Am] the God of Israel.

4 For Jacob My servant's sake, And Israel My elect, **I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.**

Straddling the Euphrates, protected by its moat and 56 miles of 350-foot-high walls, wide enough at the top to accommodate houses and a road for four-horse chariots, it presented a formidable obstacle to any enemy.

But it was a prize of unsurpassed richness when, in 539 BC, the Persian king Cyrus besieged the city.

Herodotus tells us that Cyrus was on the point of giving up when a soldier suggested diverting the Euphrates north of the city until it became so shallow that the Persians could enter Babylon along the riverbed under its mighty walls.

Several Babylonian defectors told Cyrus that one of the Babylonian Queens had temporarily diverted the river to a lake upriver. He divided the Persian army into three companies. One goes to the southern area of Babylon where the river exits, another goes to the front where the river goes into the city of Babylon, the third goes north to divert the river into the lake/swamp by digging a canal. The water goes down to the middle of the thigh of the soldiers.

Belshazzar had left the iron gates open within the city.

1 million to 2 million people in the gates. It was weeks before some of the population realized that the city was taken.

Daniel 5

31 And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, [being] about sixty-two years old.

Darius was sub-king under Cyrus the Persian.

Rushed in crossed the room and ran to the table and killed Belshazzar.
Everyone at the feast was slaughtered.

2 weeks later Cyrus came in and made his official entrance into Babylon.

Daniel, 150 years before you were born.

Cyrus supposedly got off his horse and fell to his knees because of what he heard.

Daniel 9 – 70 Weeks Prophecy

22 And he informed [me], and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.

God can give you **skill to understand**.

Circumspect, intelligence, skill, wisdom to discern and understand perfectly.

23 "At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell [you], for **you [are] greatly beloved**; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision:

How far away is heaven?

Abraham called friend linked to God telling him what was going to happen.

John 15 disciples called friends as they are told what's about to happen.

Solomon is called beloved of God – Neh. 13:26

Jesus is His beloved son. – Mat. 3:7; Matt. 12:18

John called "the beloved." The writer of Revelation.

How often are YOU called God's beloved?

Let that settle in your heart.

24 "Seventy weeks are determined **For your people** and **for your holy city**, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy.

Seventy weeks, literally **seventy sevens**

Sabbatical years –

Lev 25:1-22

Lev 26

Deut. 15

Ex. 23

A “week” in Hebrew just referred to a grouping of seven – it could mean days (a week) or a group of seven years. 70 groups of 7 years.

490 years

For these things to take place:

1. To finish the transgression,
2. To make an end of sins,
3. To make reconciliation for iniquity,
4. To bring in everlasting righteousness,
5. To seal up vision and prophecy, And
6. To close up the authority of vision and prophecy
7. to anoint the Most Holy

Has that all happened yet?

No.

For whom?

For your people and for your holy city

Not the church.

25 "Know therefore and understand, [That] from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, [There shall be] **seven weeks and sixty-two weeks**; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.

Will deal with 69 of the 70 weeks.

7 sevens and 62 sevens, or
69 sevens or
483 years

When does this clock start:

Temple Decrees:

- Cyrus made a decree giving the Babylonian captives the right to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple in 538 b.c. (Ezra 1:1-4 and 5:13-17).
- Darius made a decree giving Ezra the right to rebuild the temple in 517 b.c. (Ezra 6:6-12).
- *Artaxerxes made a decree giving Ezra permission, safe passage, and supplies to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple in 458 b.c. (Ezra 7:11-26).* – if you use 365.25 day years (to baptism)

But if you go back to the verse it says, “**the street shall be rebuilt again, and so will the wall**”

The wall wasn't rebuilt until Nehemiah when the command was given by Artaxerxes.

City and Wall Decrees:

- a. The angel had appeared to Daniel in the first year of the reign of Darius the king which was the year 538 B.C.
- b. ***This is not the commandment to rebuild the temple.*** That was given by **Cyrus** the king to **Ezra** about two years later in **536 B.C.**
- c. This is **the commandment to restore and rebuild the city of Jerusalem and was not given until almost 90 years later** when Artaxerxes in 445 B.C. gave to Nehemiah the commandment to restore and rebuild Jerusalem. It was on that day the countdown began of the 483 years until the Messiah the Prince.
- d. A note of interest, the Babylonian calendar was predicated on a 360-day year. So to be precise, from the day the

commandment was given to restore and rebuild Jerusalem to the coming of the Messiah the Prince would be **173,880 days**.

- e. Nehemiah records for us the month and the year that the commandment was given to him by the King.

NEH 2:1 And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, [that] wine [was] before him: and I took up the wine, and gave [it] unto the king.

- f. The **1st of Nisan in 445 B.C.** would be equivalent in the Julian calendar to the **14th of March**. In 445 B.C. the new moon began on March 13th at seven nine in the morning, so the new moon would have begun that evening which would have been the 14th of march.
- g. From March 14th 445 B.C., 173,880 days brings you to **April 6th, 32 A.D.** or **the day that Jesus made His triumphant entry into Jerusalem riding a donkey.**

- On that day, Jesus deliberately arranged the event to present Himself as Messiah (Mark 11:1-10)
- On that day, Jesus welcomed praise (Luke 19:38-40) instead of quieting it (Luke 5:14 and 8:56)
- On that day, Jesus made special reference to the importance of that day (Luke 19:41-42)

ZEC 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he [is] just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

[**Psa 118:22-27**] 22 The stone [which] the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. 23 This was the LORD's doing; It [is] marvelous in our eyes. 24 This [is] the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it. 25 Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity. 26 Blessed [is] he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD. 27

God [is] the LORD, And He has given us light; Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.

It's naturally divided up into 69 weeks (seven weeks and sixty two weeks) – **483 years** - and then a final week - **7 years**. There's a natural **pause** or break written into the narrative of the God's future plans for the nation of Israel. There remains in Daniel 9, one more week that has yet to be fulfilled - the **Seventieth Week**.

That natural **pause** was prophesied to begin when the Messiah would be cut off, or crucified (Dan. 9:26) and when the sanctuary would be destroyed (which happened in 70 AD under Titus Vespasian)

Within that break – in between the 69 week and before the commencement of the 70 week – is the church age, the 2,000 years or so in which we currently live.

God's clock on dealing with the nation of Israel will resume to complete the 70th week of Daniel's prophecy once the rapture has snatched away the Bride of Christ to heaven. This is referred to in Romans 11:25, speaking of the fulfillment of the times of the Gentiles. The Holy Spirit's presence on the earth, in the Church, is what restrains the Lawless One (the Anti-Christ) from being fully revealed and from the God's plan for Israel to begin actively moving forward again. (**Romans 11:25**; 2 Thess. 2:7)

For those who want the math (if not, skip to):

THE SEVENTY WEEKS OF DANIEL
AS UNDERSTOOD BY SIR ROBERT ANDERSON IN THE COMING PRINCE

Daniel 9:24-25 says that from the decree to rebuild Jerusalem to the coming of the Messiah there will be 483 years.

$7 + 62 \text{ "weeks"} = 69 \text{ groups of seven years. } 7 \times 69 = 483 \text{ years}$

Anderson sees a prophetic year as 360 days. This is based both on ancient history

Anderson, using a **360-day year** [which Israel (and everyone else: Assyrians, Egyptians, Persians, Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Mayans, etc.) used in Daniel's day "It is customary for the Jews to have twelve months of 360 days each and then to insert a thirteenth month occasionally when necessary to correct the calendar." (Walvoord)

and on Revelation 11:2, 13:5, 11:3, and 12:6 which indicate that 42 months 3 ½ years are equal to 1,260 days.

Therefore, 483 years x 360 days = 173,880 days

Artaxerxes started his reign in 465 B.C. The decree to rebuild Jerusalem was given on the first day of Nisan, in the 20th year of Artaxerxes. In our calendar system (the Julian calendar) that date is March 14, 445 B.C. (Nehemiah 2:1)

Jesus started His ministry in the 15th year of Tiberius (see Luke 3:1).

Luke 3:1 – Tiberius was appointed in 14 AD and it was in the 15th year of Tiberius 29 AD.

Tiberius started his reign in 14 A.D., so Jesus' ministry started in 29 A.D. Anderson believes that Jesus celebrated four Passovers during His ministry, one each in 29, 30, 31 and His final Passover in 32. With the help of lunar charts, we can calculate the exact date of ancient Passovers, so it is possible to calculate the exact day of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as April 6, 32 A.D.

From 445 B.C. to 32 A.D. there are 476 years on the Julian calendar (not 477 years, because there is no year zero)

476 years x 365 days = 173,740 days

Adjusting for the difference between March 14 and April 6 adds 24 days
Adjusting for leap years over a period of 476 years adds 116 days

The total number of days from March 14, 445 B.C. to April 6, 32 A.D.

$$173,740 + 24 + 116 = 173,880 \text{ days}$$

Luke 19:28-44

“Others of the Jewish scholars have by these very words been compelled to confess that the Messiah has already come and that he was Jesus, whom their forefathers crucified.”

- Jewish scholars

This prophecy cannot be fulfilled today. It's time sensitive. It can't be fulfilled any more.

26 "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it [shall be] with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

After the 62 years is the same as saying after the 69 years.

“cut off”

Biblical phrase often referred to judicial execution

Then there is an interval before the fulfillment of the last and final week

“the people of the prince who is to come destroy the city and the sanctuary”

Titus Vespasian destroyed both in 70 AD.

We have one more week left.

Daniel 11

This prophecy is being revealed in 597 BC.

Cyrus the Great is in his third year (Dan. 10:1).

Future history predicted for about 375 years ahead

1 "Also in the first year of Darius the Mede, I, [even] I, stood up to confirm and strengthen him.)

2 "And now I will tell you the truth: Behold, three more kings will arise in Persia, and the fourth shall be far richer than [them] all; by his strength, through his riches, he shall stir up all against the realm of Greece.

Cyrus

Cambyses II

Smerdis (Bardiya)

Either ruled for a seven months in 522 BC

Or was impersonated by a magus until toppled by Darius

(according to Darius and Herodotus, he was secretly killed and a pretender to the throne took advantage of that to assume the throne until Darius took care of him)

Darius I

Xerxes I

Either four not counting Smerdis the imposter, or four not counting Cyrus.

The **fourth king** is Xerxes I

Also the same as Ahasuerus from Esther.

The Battle of Thermopylae – where Greek Spartans lost to Persia (300), followed by...

The Battle of Salamis – turning point from Persian Conquest to Greek Independence

Greek General Themistocles, who lured Xerxes into the straits

3 "Then a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.

Alexander the Great, son of Phillip of Macedon

4 "And when he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken up and divided toward the four winds of heaven, but not among his posterity nor according to his dominion with which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be uprooted, even for others besides these.

He died at 32. Left his kingdom to his four generals.

Not to his posterity, though he did have family, a brother, a mentally handicapped son, and an illegitimate son called Hercules.

It was left to:

Lysimachus

Cassander

Ptolemy I - Egypt

Seleucus I Nicator – Syria

2 out of the 4 are focused on because the land of Israel was sandwiched between them and largely influenced by the battles between them. Whoever was the most powerful of the two, gained control over Israel.

5 "Also the king of the South shall become strong, as well as [one] of his princes; and he shall gain power over him and have dominion. His dominion [shall be] a great dominion.

King of the South – **Ptolemy I of Egypt**

“As well as one of his princes” – **Seleucus I** was an Admiral under Ptolemy after Babylonian exile, and was put by Ptolemy over Syria, but then became more powerful than he.

They warred for 130 years.

6 "And at the end of [some] years they shall join forces, for the daughter of the king of the South shall go to the king of the North to make an agreement; but she shall not retain the power of her authority, and neither he nor his authority shall stand; but she shall be given up, with those who brought her, and with him who begot her, and with him who strengthened her in [those] times.

“for the daughter of the king of the South shall go to the king of the North to make an agreement”

The daughter of **Ptolemy II (Berenice)** shall go to the King of the North – **Antiochus II**, the grandson of Seleucus I

“she shall not retain the power of her authority”

Which resulted in peace, until Ptolemy II died; once he died, **Antiochus II put away Berenice and remarried his old wife Laodice**

“neither he nor his authority shall stand; but **she shall be given up, with those who brought her, and with him who begot her, and with him who strengthened her in [those] times.**”

Laodice didn’t trust Antiochus II and had him poisoned. Then she killed **Berenice, her attendants, and her son with Antiochus II.**

Then she set up her own son to rule, **Seleucus II.**

7 "But from a branch of her roots [one] shall arise in his place, who shall come with an army, enter the fortress of the king of the North, and deal with them and prevail.

“from a branch of her roots”

From Berenice’s roots

“[one] shall arise in his place, who shall come with an army, enter the fortress of the king of the North, and deal with them and prevail.”

Ptolemy III, brother of Berenice

8 "And he shall also carry their gods captive to Egypt, with their princes [and] their precious articles of silver and gold; and he shall continue [more] years than the king of the North.

Ptolemy III entered Syria and humiliated Seleucus II and lived 4 years longer than he did.

9 "Also [the king of the North] shall come to the kingdom of the king of the South, but shall return to his own land.

10 "However his sons shall stir up strife, and assemble a multitude of great forces; and [one] shall certainly come and overwhelm and pass through; then he shall return to his fortress and stir up strife.

“his sons”

Sons of **Seleucus II**

Antiochus III
Seleucus III

Seleucus III ruled only a short time, and was succeeded by Antiochus III who “overwhelmed and passed through” -

He conquered the Holy Land which was a buffer between the kings of the South and the North.

11 "And the king of the South shall be moved with rage, and go out and fight with him, with the king of the North, who shall muster a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into the hand of his [enemy].

"the king of the South shall be moved with rage"

Ptolemy IV

"go out and fight with him, with the King of the North"

Antiochus III

"who shall muster a great multitude;"

According to Polybius,

62,000 infantry

6,000 cavalry

102 elephants

"but the multitude shall be given into the hand of his [enemy]."

Ptolemy IV defeated Antiochus III, despite his greater numbers, in the battle of Raphia.

Ptolemy IV **acquired control of the Holy Land.**

12 "When he has taken away the multitude, his heart will be lifted up; and he will cast down tens of thousands, but he will not prevail.

13 "For the king of the North will return and muster a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come at the end of some years with a great army and much equipment.

Antiochus III defeats Scopos of Aetolia - the general of Ptolemy V's army (Ptolemy V was 11 years old at the time) - at the battle of Panium in 198 BC.

14 "Now in those times many shall rise up against the king of the South. Also, violent men of your people shall exalt themselves in fulfillment of the vision, but they shall fall.

"Now in those times many shall rise up against the king of the South."

When Ptolemy V ascended to the throne, Antiochus III made a pact with Philip V of Macedon to split up his territories.

Meanwhile **Agathocles, Sosibius and Tlepolemus** vied for regency (authority over the 11 year old Ptolemy V). They conspired together, then Agathocles killed Sosibius and Tlepolemus killed Agathocles. **Tlepolemus** succeeded.

"Also, violent men of your people shall exalt themselves in fulfillment of the vision, but they shall fall."

Jews from Israel helped Antiochus III defeat Ptolemy V. They resented Egypt's rule and hoped that in assisting Antiochus, he would treat them favorably. They were wrong."

15 "So the king of the North shall come and build a siege mound, and take a fortified city; and the forces of the South shall not withstand [him]. Even his choice troops [shall have] no strength to resist.

16 "But he who comes against him shall do according to his own will, and no one shall stand against him. He shall stand in the Glorious Land with destruction in his power.

After defeating the forces of Egypt, **Antiochus III** then proceeded to bring destruction on Israel.

17 "He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do. And he shall give him the daughter of women to destroy it; but she shall not stand [with him], or be for him.

Antiochus III hoped to exert power over the Ptolemaic kingdom by giving his daughter Cleopatra (not the famous one from 100 years later) to Ptolemy V as a wife; but it didn't work because she was unfaithful to him.

18 "After this he shall turn his face to the coastlands, and shall take many. But a ruler shall bring the reproach against them to an end; and with the reproach removed, he shall turn back on him.

"he shall turn his face to the coastlands"

Asia Minor and Greece

"and shall take many."

Of the coastlands. He succeeded, he was helped by **Hannibal of Carthage**.

19 "Then he shall turn his face toward the fortress of his own land; but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found.

He needed money for his treasuries, so he resorted to pillaging a Babylonian temple. The citizens were enraged and killed him.

20 "There shall arise in his place one who imposes taxes [on] the glorious kingdom; but within a few days he shall be destroyed, but not in anger or in battle.

Seleucus IV, eldest son of Antiochus III, sought to raise those funds by taxing his dominion, including Israel.

Heliodorus assassinated him when he returned from taxing Jerusalem.

21 "And in his place shall arise a vile person, to whom they will not give the honor of royalty; but he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue.

"in his place shall arise a vile person"

Antiochus Epiphanes

“to whom they will not give the honor of royalty; but he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue.”

Heliodorus appointed Seleucus’ younger son, **Antiochus** as king. His elder (Demetrius) was hostage in Rome at the time. Seleucus IV younger brother, Uncle of Antiochus, came in and threw out Heliodorus and co-ruled with Antiochus, until he had Antiochus himself killed 170 BC

This uncle was named Antiochus too. He gave himself the nickname, **Antiochus IV Epiphanes** – the Illustrious.

Others called him **Epimanes** – the Madman.

22 "With the force of a flood they shall be swept away from before him and be broken, and also the prince of the covenant.

23 "And after the league [is made] with him he shall act deceitfully, for he shall come up and become strong with a small [number of] people.

He flattered Eumenes II, king of Pergamum, and Attalus his brother.

The Romans sent ambassadors to court their favor and pay them the arrears of tribute that his kingdom owed from 173 BC.

He flattered the Syrians.

Pretending he wanted peace, he conspired for war against Egypt.

24 "He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province; and he shall do [what] his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but [only] for a time.

He launched a preemptive strike and took Ptolemy IV captive. Perfectly timed, because Rome (Ptolemy’s usual ally) was busy with the Third Macedonian War.

Allowed Ptolemy VI to continue ruling to not anger Rome; but Alexandria chose another Ptolemy to rule instead and they coruled.

25 "He shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the South with a great army. And the king of the South shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand, for they shall devise plans against him.

The Ptolemys brought Rome back to the table. Antiochus attacked Cyprus and was met by **Gaius Popillius Laenas**. Old, Roman Senator.

26 "Yes, those who eat of the portion of his delicacies shall destroy him; his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.

27 "Both these kings' hearts [shall be] bent on evil, and they shall speak lies at the same table; but it shall not prosper, for the end [will] still [be] at the appointed time.

28 "While returning to his land with great riches, his heart shall be [moved] against the holy covenant; so he shall do [damage] and return to his own land.

Coming back from his failure and humiliation

29 "At the appointed time he shall return and go toward the south; but it shall not be like the former or the latter.

He attempted to attack the Ptolemys again, but it didn't go like before.

30 "For ships from Cyprus shall come against him; therefore he shall be grieved, and return in rage against the holy covenant, and do [damage]. So he shall return and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.

Egypt got naval assistance from Rome and they were able to route Antiochus.

31 "And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily [sacrifices], and place [there] the abomination of desolation.

Slaughtered a pig on the altar spread the blood everywhere and set up an idol to Zeus in the Holy of Holies, demanding they sacrifice to it. It brought desolation because no one would perform sacrifices anymore, until it could be sanctified again.

Jesus says this was only partially fulfilled in Antiochus Epiphanes – **Matt. 24:15**

Because it is yet to come.

It was a precursor. A trailer to the movie.

The abomination that the Antichrist will set up will be a worship of himself.
2 Thess. 2:3-4

32 "Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out [great exploits].

33 "And those of the people who understand shall instruct many; yet [for many] days they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering.

He killed 80,000 Jews, took 40,000 captive and sold 40,000 as slaves.

If he was informed that anyone had circumcised their sons, he would have them slaughtered in horrific ways. Roasted on pans and such.

Plundered the temple of an estimated billion dollars worth of gold in today's money.

34 "Now when they fall, they shall be aided with a little help; but many shall join with them by intrigue.

35 "And [some] of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify [them], and make [them] white, [until] the time of the end; **because [it is] still for the appointed time.**

Apparent separation even within the text.