

# The Coming Conflict and Warfare

## Daniel 11:1-20

**BIG Idea:** The Lord reveals that the centuries leading up to the coming of the Messiah will be filled with conflict and warfare for Daniel's people.

### The Unseen Battle

- 1 "In the first year of Darius the Mede [539 BC], I arose to be an encouragement and a protection for him.

### Kings of Persia (539-336 BC)

- 2 "And now I will tell you the truth. Behold, three more kings are going to arise in Persia. Then a fourth [Xerxes I] will gain far more riches than all of them; as soon as he becomes strong through his riches, he will arouse the whole *empire* against the realm of Greece.

### A Mighty King Arises (336-323 BC) But Is Replaced by Four Rulers

- 3 "And a mighty king [Alexander the Great] will arise, and he will rule with great authority and do as he pleases.
- 4 "But as soon as he has arisen, his kingdom will be broken up and parceled out toward the four points of the compass, though not to his *own* descendants, nor according to his authority which he wielded, for his sovereignty will be uprooted and *given* to others besides them.

### Conflict Between the Kings of the South and the North

- 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 and obtain dominion; his domain *will be* a great dominion *indeed*.
- 6 "After some years they will form an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the South [Bernice] will come to the king of the North [Antiochus II] to carry out a peaceful arrangement. But she [Bernice] will not retain her position of power, nor will he [Antiochus II] remain with his power, but she will be given up, along with those who brought her in and the one who sired her as well as he who supported her in *those* times.
- 7 "But one of the descendants of her line [Ptolemy II] will arise in his place, and he will come against *their* army and enter the fortress of the king of the North [Seleucus II], and he will deal with them and display *great* strength.
- 8 "Also their gods with their metal images *and* their precious vessels of silver and gold he [Ptolemy III] will take into captivity to Egypt, and he on his part will refrain from *attacking* the king of the North [Seleucus II] for *some* years.

- 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.
- 10 "His sons [Seleucus III and Antiochus III] will mobilize and assemble a multitude of great forces; 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 "The king of the South [Ptolemy IV] will be enraged and go forth and fight with the king of the North [Antiochus III]. Then the latter will raise a great multitude, but *that* multitude will be given into the hand of the *former*.
- 12 "When the multitude is carried away, his heart [Ptolemy IV] will be lifted up, and he will cause tens of thousands to fall; yet he will not prevail.
- 13 "For the king of the North [Antiochus III] will again raise a greater multitude than the former, and after an interval of some years he will press on with a great army and much equipment.
- 14 "Now in those times many will rise up against the king of the South [Ptolemy V]; the violent ones among your people [Jewish Revolutionaries] will also lift themselves up in order to fulfill the vision, but they will fall down.
- 15 "Then the king of the North [Antiochus III] will come, cast up a siege ramp and capture a well-fortified city; and the forces of the South [Egyptians] will not stand *their ground*, not even their choicest troops, for there will be no strength to make a stand.
- 16 "But he who comes against him will do as he [Antiochus III] pleases, and no one will *be able to* withstand him; he will also stay *for a time* in the Beautiful Land [Israel], with destruction in his hand.
- 17 "He [Antiochus III] will set his face to come with the power of his whole kingdom, bringing with him a proposal of peace which he will put into effect; he will also give him [Ptolemy V] the daughter of women to ruin it. But she will not take a stand *for him* or be on his side [Antiochus III].
- 18 "Then he [Antiochus III] will turn his face to the coastlands and capture many. But a commander [Roman General] will put a stop to his scorn against him; moreover, he will repay him for his scorn.
- 19 "So he [Antiochus III] will turn his face toward the fortresses of his own land, but he will stumble and fall and be found no more.
- 20 "Then in his place one will arise [Seleucus IV] who will send an oppressor through the Jewel of *his* kingdom; yet within a few days he will be shattered, though not in anger nor in battle."

1. The prophecies of Scripture will all be fulfilled precisely as given.
2. Spiritual warfare rages among the nations.
3. Even the most powerful are destined to die.