

Daniel 11:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him.

Analysis

Antiochus III gave daughter Cleopatra I in marriage to Ptolemy V (194 BC), hoping to control Egypt through her. However, she sided with her husband rather than father, so the plan failed—exactly as prophesied ('she shall not stand on his side'). Divine foreknowledge extends even to personal loyalties.

Historical Context

Daniel chapter 11 contains some of Scripture's most detailed predictive prophecy, written c. 536 BC and fulfilled with remarkable precision 200-160 BC during Ptolemaic-Seleucid conflicts. The prophecies served multiple purposes: encouraging Jewish exiles that God controls history, providing roadmap for future generations facing Hellenistic pressures, and typologically pointing to end-times Antichrist. Reformed theology sees dual fulfillment: near historical events (Antiochus Epiphanes) typifying far eschatological realities (final Antichrist). This pattern validates divine inspiration—only God knows future details with such precision. For believers under persecution, these prophecies demonstrated that tyrannical opposition is temporary, God's sovereignty absolute, and ultimate victory certain. The historical fulfillment encourages trust that eschatological promises will similarly fulfill exactly as prophesied.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does the remarkable precision of fulfilled prophecy strengthen faith in Scripture's divine origin?
2. What does the dual fulfillment pattern (historical Antiochus typifying eschatological Antichrist) teach about biblical prophecy's layered meaning?
3. How should these prophecies encourage believers facing persecution or opposition today?

Interlinear Text

וַיֵּשֶׁתּוּ He shall also set H7760	פָּנָיו his face H6440	לְבָבוֹ to enter H935	בְּתַקְוָה with the strength H8633	כָּל H3605	מַלְכוּתוֹ of his whole kingdom H4438
וְיֹשְׁרֵי יָם and upright ones H3477	עִמּוֹ H5973	וְעִשָּׂה with him thus shall he do H6213	וּבִתּוֹ him the daughter H1323	הַנָּשִׁים of women H802	
וַיִּתֵּן and he shall give H5414	לֹא H0	לְהַשְׁחִיתָהּ corrupting H7843	וְלֹא H3808	תַּעֲמֹד her but she shall not stand H5975	וְלֹא H3808
וְלֹא H0	תִּהְיֶה: H1961				

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 4:3 (Parallel theme): Moreover take thou unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and the city: and set thy face against it, and it shall

be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the house of Israel.

Ezekiel 4:7 (Parallel theme): Therefore thou shalt set thy face toward the siege of Jerusalem, and thine arm shall be uncovered, and thou shalt prophesy against it.

2 Kings 12:17 (Kingdom): Then Hazael king of Syria went up, and fought against Gath, and took it: and Hazael set his face to go up to Jerusalem.

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