

Daniel 11:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain.

Analysis

Ptolemy VI's own courtiers betrayed him, leading to defeat. The phrase 'they that feed of his meat' indicates trusted advisors' treachery. Such specific political intrigue, predicted centuries beforehand, demonstrates supernatural knowledge.

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 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

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

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|--------------------|------------|----------------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|
| וְאֵכֶל | פָּת | בְּגַז | וְיִשְׁבַּר | וְהוּא | וְחַיל |
| Yea they that feed | H0 | of the portion of his meat | shall destroy | him and his army | |
| H398 | | H6598 | H7665 | H2428 | |
| וְזָפַל | וְנִפְלֵל | וְמַלְלֵל | וְנִשְׁטֵט | וְזָפַק | וְנִפְלֵא |
| shall overflow | shall fall | down slain | and many | | |
| H7857 | H5307 | H2491 | H7227 | | |

Additional Cross-References

Daniel 11:10 (Parallel theme): But his sons shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces: and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress.