

Daniel 11:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land.

Analysis

Antiochus returned from Egypt with great riches and 'his heart against the holy covenant.' En route, he plundered Jerusalem's temple (170 BC), killing thousands and defiling the sanctuary. This began the intense persecution climaxing in the Abomination of Desolation.

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

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

וְשָׁב	לְאֶרְצוֹ:	בְּרִיכוֹת	גְּדוֹל	וּלְבָבוֹ	עַל
Then shall he return	into his land	riches	with great	and his heart	H5921
H7725	H776	H7399	H1419	H3824	

בְּרִית	קִדְשׁ	וַעֲשֵׂה	וְשָׁב
covenant	shall be against the holy	and he shall do	Then shall he return
H1285	H6944	H6213	H7725

לְאֶרְצוֹ:

into his land

H776