

Daniel 11:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And shall also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the north.

Analysis

Ptolemy III carried Egyptian idols and vessels to Egypt, fulfilling the prediction. The phrase 'he shall continue more years than the king of the north' accurately describes Ptolemy III outliving Seleucus II. Such specific details, written centuries before fulfillment, demonstrate divine inspiration.

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

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

וְגֵם H1571	אֱלֹהֵיהֶם their gods H430	עִם H5973	נְסִיכֵיהֶם with their princes H5257	עִם H5973	כֵּלֵי י vessels H3627	חֲמֻדָּתָם and with their precious H2532
כֶּסֶף of silver H3701	וְזָהָב and of gold H2091	בְּשָׁבִי captives H7628	וְגַם And shall also carry H935	מִצְרַיִם into Egypt H4714	וְהָיָה H1931	
שָׁנִים more years H8141	וְיַעֲמֵד and he shall continue H5975	מִמֶּלֶךְ than the king H4428	הַצָּפוֹן of the north H6828			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 37:19 (References God): And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

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