

interior of Asia Minor while the army of Ptolemy III made an extensive foray through the eastern parts of his territory and carried back great amounts of booty to Egypt. At the same time Ptolemy's fleet harried the coast of Asia Minor. It is interesting to note that at this point in verse 8 the word "Egypt" is first used for the domain of "the king of the South."

Verse 9 describes an unsuccessful attempt to counter attack against Egypt by Seleucus II, who reigned from 246 227 B.C.

Antiochus III and Seleucus IV

(10) His sons will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood and carry the battle as far as his fortress. (11) Then the king of the South will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North, who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated. (12) When the army is carried off, the king of the South will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands, yet he will not remain triumphant. (13) For the king of the North will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years, he will advance with a huge army fully equipped. (14) In those times many will rise against the king of the South. The violent men among your own people will rebel in fulfillment of* the vision, but without success. (15) Then the king of the North will come and build up siege ramps and will capture a fortified city. The forces of the South will be powerless to resist; even their best troops will not have the strength to stand. (16) The invader will do as he pleases; no one will be able to stand against him.

**Better rendered "to establish" as in KJV. In v. 16 the NIV translates this same verb amad as "establish."*