

control of the whole empire, no one succeeded. So their dominion was much inferior to that which Alexander had held.

"For his kingdom shall be plucked up even for other beside those." Now you have that picture of the kingdom which Alexander held. It is divided up. Then the next verse begins with the words: "The king of the south shall be strong." And what would you think would be meant by "the king of the south"? It would seem quite obvious that Egypt is much further south than any other part of the empire.

One of Alexander's generals, Ptolemy, was more far-sighted than the rest. He saw that this empire would not be kept together. It would be impossible. And he said, I would like to be governor of Egypt. The rest said alright, if you want to be governor of Egypt, fine. You take Egypt, and I'll take this section, and this section, and they divided it up.

Ptolemy figured Egypt/~~would~~ be attacked, except that little very small area coming in from Asia, or from the sea. And if he kept a strong navy, he could continue his kingdom safely regardless of what happened to the rest. With that as a secure base he might be able to get all the rest Egypt.

So "the king of the south shall be strong" was literally fulfilled in Ptolemy. Then it says, And one of his princes, and he shall be strong above him and have dominion, and his dominion shall be a great dominion. Ptolemy fought with the other generals. The man who had been the governor of the area of Babylon, was ~~xxx~~ driven out from his area and went to Egypt and became one of Ptolemy's leading officers. His name was Seleucus.

Seleucus became one of Ptolemy's leading ~~xxxx~~ officers, so he can be properly called "one of his princes." But Seleucus, with Ptolemy's help, went back up into Asia and in 312 B.C. established himself in control of Babylon, and eventually got control of the whole empire from there north to Asia Minor--- most of Asia Minor-- and eastward, clear to India!

So he had perhaps the area of Alexander's empire. So it says "he shall be strong above him"-- he was stronger than Ptolemy. He had been one of his officers. And have dominion, and his dominion shall be a great dominion. So up to this point if you looked forward, you could not tell what would happen. But if you look back to that time, you could easily see how Daniel had been able to predict the course of these important events. It was not given to satisfy curiosity about the future. It was given in order that they would see as it happened, that Daniel was a true prophet, and that his words were dependable, and ~~xxx~~ it would pinpoint to those matters to which he would give more attention later on.

I must mention the assignment for next time. You have looked at this ch. and have noted that some kings are spoken of with only a verse or two, some are given more space. One individual is given space from vv. 21-35. I'd like you to look at vv. 21-35. In those vv. I would like you to tell me(1) what does it tell about how the man who is introduced at v. 21, how did he become king?