

great victory at Thermopylae, followed him into Asia Minor. There in Asia Minor they fought a great battle at Magnesia and in and as a result of this battle they completely defeated him.

When he was thus completely defeated, the Romans made him pay them the whole cost of their expedition, reparations for all that it had cost them to send the expedition, promised to pay a large sum of money each year for the next 12 years, and give them 20 of his leading supporters including some of his own sons to go to Rome and live there as hostages for his good behaviour.

So his complete and utter defeat to Antiochus III completely ruined the great glory he had gotten in 35 years of ~~xx~~ hard fighting. It is summarized here. "He shall turn his face toward the fortresses of his own land. But he shall ~~z~~ stumble and fall and not be found."

This word stumble is interesting. It does not suggest he is killed in war. It does not suggest he died in his bed. It does not suggest there was an uprising. What happened was that in trying to pay the heavy reparations to the Romans he went eastward in order to loot the temples of various deities. He came in to a little temple of a small tribe that he looked upon with utter contempt, but he knew had considerable treasure in it. He had taken treasure from temples of various deities. He went into this one. He was getting careless. The local guardians simply got excited and killed him. So "he stumbled and fell."

He was killed in such a minor, little thing. A man who had carried on these tremendous successful and warlike expeditions. So that is what is said about Antiochus III in eleven verses.

Then I have listed Seleucus IV, v.20. It is very interesting that we have only one verse, but the verse shows a remarkable contrast to Antiochus III. The oldest son of Seleucus IV succeeded him, and the kingdom was in pretty bad shape because they had to pay these heavy reparations to the Romans, and they had so many of their leaders in Rome as hostages. So there shall stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom.

The glory of his great warlike expeditions will have gone. All they could do was try to get money together to pay ~~xxx~~ the indemnities and to get in good shape again. Seleucus IV reigned for eleven years but he got no glory, but he did get the government on a good fiscal basis ~~y~~ again by raising taxes and getting things organized in the kingdom.

Then we read "in a few days"-- and compared with Antiochus III's reign from 223 to 187, eleven years seems like a few days! Within a few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger nor in battle. How are you destroyed ~~z~~ neither in anger nor in battle? His chief minister made a plot against him and murdered him. So he was destroyed neither in anger nor in battle! His chief minister who destroyed him that way tried then to reign in the name of his infant son. He had an older son who was a hostage in Rome. But in the name of the infant son ~~bx~~ the chief minister tried to reign.