

But as we have noticed in Daniel 11, it contains a great many statements which would be very difficult to interpret in advance, but statements which when the events occur, some of them, you can say, Well this fits. But it can fit with a dozen other things. But other statements very specifically fit. And we noticed in ch. 11 how it starts with v. 2 and refer to the fact that there will be yet three kings in Persia and the fourth will be far richer than they all, and by his strength through his riches he will stir up all against the realm of Grecia."

You would not know exactly what's going to happen if you lived in Daniel's day according to this verse. You could form a pretty good verse that there would be three more kings of Persia and then a fourth one who would be richer than any of the previous ones (as Xerxes was) and that he would make a great attack on Greece, as perhaps as great an attack as has ever been made on it. Perhaps one of the greatest attacks in all history, was that tremendous army which he turned against Greece and made such a tremendous impression on the Greeks from their managing to survive that attack that it was very important in all their thinking for 200 years later, and they were psychologically prepared for Alexander the Great to go back and attack the Persian empire and destroy it.

Then in the third verse we notice: "A mighty king will stand up and rule with great dominion and do according to his will." Of course this could be said of many a ruler. But the following verse speaks specifically about Alexander the Great, so we know that v.3 was a description of Alexander the Great, the mightiest king the world had perhaps seen up to that time who nothing seemed to be able to stand before.

But you notice between vv.2 and 3 there is an unmentioned interval of over 150 years. It simply passes from Xerxes who attacked Greece to Alexander the Great who destroyed the Persian empire. It skips over 150 years without any reference to it.

Then in v. 4 it tells about the division of Alexander's empire. In advance it might be hard to know what is meant by "when he stands up his kingdom will be broken." In other words he didn't have the power very long. He was just a young fellow in his early 30's when he rather suddenly died. His kingdom was broken. They tried to keep it together but it was so broken and they soon got to fighting and it was soon divided into three large important sections and a few smaller sections.

So it was divided not according to the dominion which he ruled, and not according to his posterity. Within the next 50 years every relative of Alexander -- his mother, his brother, his children-- every relative of his was killed! Not according to his posterity nor according to the dominion which he ruled. It was given to others.

V.5 says the king of the south shall be strong and one of his generals, who took the most southern part of it i.e. Ptolemy who took Egypt was a very strong king. You could not ~~xxxx~~ predict