understand why I came to you? But I shall now return to **fight against the prince of Persia**; so I am going forth, and behold, the **prince of Greece** is about to come. [21]"However, I will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth Yet there is no one who stands firmly with me against these forces except **Michael your prince**.

11 **Persia** (536- 326 BC)
"In the first year of Darius the Mede, I arose to be an encouragement and a protection for him.[2]"And now I will tell you the truth Behold, three more kings are going to arise in Persia Then a fourth will gain far more riches than all of them; as soon as he becomes strong through his riches, he will arouse the whole empire against the realm of Greece.

Greece under Alexander the Great (326-323 BC)
[3]"And a mighty king will arise, and he will rule with great authority and do as he pleases. [4]"But as soon as he has arisen, his kingdom will be broken up and parceled out toward the four points of the compass, though not to his own descendants, nor according to his authority which he wielded, for his sovereignty will be uprooted and given to others besides them.

Ptolemy I Soter (323-285)
[5]"Then the king of the South will grow strong, along with one of his princes who will gain ascendancy over him and obtain dominion; his domain will be a great dominion indeed.

Berenice marries Antiochus II
[6]"After some years they will form an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the South will come to the king of the North to carry out a peaceful arrangement. But she will not retain her position of power, nor will he remain with his power, but she will be given up, along with those who brought her in and the one who sired her as well as he who supported her in those times.

Ptolemy III Euergetes (246-221 BC)
[7]"But one of the descendants of her line will arise in his place, and he will come against their army and enter the fortress of the king of the North, and he will deal with them and display great strength. [8]"Also their gods with their metal images and their precious vessels of silver and gold he will take into captivity to Egypt, and he on his part will refrain from attacking the king of the North for some years. [9]"Then the latter will enter the realm of the king of the South, but will return to his own land.

Seleucus III Ceaunus (226-223 BC) &
Antiochus III the Great (223-187 BC)
[10]"His sons will mobilize and assemble a multitude of great forces; and one of them will keep on coming and overflow and pass through, that he may again wage war up to his very fortress.

Ptolemy IV Philopator (221-203 BC)
[11]"The king of the South will be enraged and go forth and fight with the king of the North. Then the latter will raise a great multitude, but that multitude will be given into the hand of the former. [12]"When the multitude is carried away, his heart will be lifted up, and he will cause tens of thousands to fall; yet he will not prevail.

Ptolemy V Epiphanes (203-181 BC)
[13]"For the king of the North will again raise a greater multitude than the former, and after an interval of some years he will press on with a great army and much equipment. [14]"Now in those times many will rise up against the king of the South; the violent ones among your people will also lift themselves up in order to **fulfill the vision**, but they will fall down. [15]"Then the king of the North will come, cast up a siege ramp and capture a well-fortified city; and the forces of the South will not stand their ground, not even their choicest troops, for there will be no strength to make a stand.

Antiochus controlled Israel by 197 BC
[16]"But he who comes against him will do as he pleases, and no one will be able to withstand him; he will also stay for a time in the Beautiful Land, with destruction in his hand.

11:2 Darius the Meade ruled 536-530 BC The four kings are: Cambyses 530-522 BC; Pseudo-Smerdis 522 BC; Darius 522-486 BC; Xerxes I (see Esther 1:1) 486-465 BC.
11:4 Alexander's kingdom was split into four parts. Seleucus Nicator took Syria, Cassander took Macedonia (Greece), Lysimachus took Thrace (Turkey), and Ptolemy took Egypt. The fifth general died before Alexander.
11:5 Seleucus Nicator took Syria then was deposed and fled to Egypt became a general/prince of Ptolemy and then took back Syria. Seleucus ruled Syria from 311-280 BC.
11:6 Berenice, daughter of Ptolemy II, marries Antiochus II as an alliance but Laodice, his first wife, has Berenice and her son put to death. She then poisoned Antiochus II and placed her son, Seleucus II Callinicus, on the throne (246-226 BC).
11:7 Berenice's brother, Ptolemy III Philadelphus (285-246 BC), did away with Laodice, Berenice's father died about the same time. "his fortress" is Antioch.
11:8 Syrian gods and Egyptian gods that the Persian king Cambyses carried of after conquering Egypt in 525 BC.
11:10 The sons of Seleucus II. Antiochus II made it all the way to the Egyptian fortress in Raphia in south Israel by 218 BC.
11:11-12 Ptolemy IV defeats Antiochus III at Raphia in 217 BC. Historian Polybius records over 10,000 solders were killed in the battle. Ptolemy drove him back but did "not prevail" or conquer Syria but went back to Egypt.
11:13 13 yeas later Ptolemy IV died, so Antiochus III attacked Egypt.
11:14 A false prophet caused the people to error. The "many" included Philip of Macedon who entered into an agreement to divide Egypt between himself and Antiochus, but the Ptolemic general Scopas crushed the rebellion.
11:15 Having lost the battle in the south, Antiochus turns back north and captures the port city of Sidon.
11:16 The "Beautiful Land" is Israel.

Antiochus gave Cleopatra I to Ptolemy V (194 BC)
[17]"He will set his face to come with the power of his whole kingdom, bringing with him a proposal of peace which he will put into effect; he will also give him the daughter of women to ruin it. But she will not take a stand for him or be on his side.

Roman consul defeats Antiochus (190 BC)
[18]"Then he will turn his face to the coastlands and capture many But a commander will put a stop to his scorn against him; moreover, he will repay him for his scorn. [19]"So he will turn his face toward the fortresses of his own land, but he will stumble and fall and be found no more.

Seleucus IV Philopator (187-175 BC)
[20]"Then in his place one will arise who will send an oppressor through the Jewel of his kingdom; yet within a few days he will be shattered, though not in anger nor in battle.

Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-164 BC)
[21]"In his place a despicable person will arise, on whom the honor of kingship has not been conferred, but he will come in a time of tranquility and seize the kingdom by intrigue. [22]"The overflowing forces will be flooded away before him and shattered, and also the prince of the covenant. [23]"After an alliance is made with him he will practice deception, and he will go up and gain power with a small force of people. [24]"In a time of tranquility he will enter the richest parts of the realm, and he will accomplish what his fathers never did, nor his ancestors; he will distribute plunder, booty and possessions among them, and he will devise his schemes against strongholds, but only for a time. [25]"He will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South with a large army; so the king of the South will mobilize an extremely large and mighty army for war; but he will not stand, for schemes will be devised against him. [26]"Those who eat his choice food will destroy him, and his army will overflow, but many will fall down slain. [27]"As for both kings, their hearts will be intent on evil, and they will speak lies to each other at the same table; but it will not succeed, for the end is still to come at the appointed time.

Antiochus IV Epiphanes attacked Jerusalem
[28]"Then he will return to his land with much plunder; but his heart will be set against the holy covenant, and he will take action and then return to his own land. [29]"At the appointed time he will return and come into the South, but this last time it will not turn out the way it did before. [30]"For ships of **Kittim** will come against him; therefore he will be disheartened and will return and become enraged at the holy covenant and take action; so he will come back and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.

Antiochus typifies the Antichrist (165 BC)
[31]"Forces from him will arise, desecrate the sanctuary fortress, and do away with the regular sacrifice And they will set up the abomination of desolation.

The Maccabees (164-64 BC)
[32]"By smooth words he will turn to godlessness those who act wickedly toward the covenant, but the people who know their God will display strength and take action.

Dispersion under Rome (AD 130-1948)
[33]"Those who have insight among the people will give understanding to the many; yet they will fall by sword and by **flame**, by **captivity** and by plunder for many days. [34]"Now when they fall they will be granted a little help, and many will join with them in hypocrisy. [35]"Some of those who have insight will fall, in order to refine, purge and make them pure until the **end time**; because it is still to come at the appointed time.

11:17 When Antiochus learned Egypt had made an alliance with Rome, he did not attack Egypt but tried taking it by giving his daughter Cleopatra to the 7-yr-old Ptolemy V in marriage.
11:18 Antiochus attacked with 300 ships, but the Roman consul Lucius Cornelius Scipio Asiaticus defeated him at Magnesia, in Asia Minor, in 190 BC.
11:19 Antiochus died in 187 BC while trying to plunder the temple of Bel, in the province of Elymais.
11:20 Seleucus IV, son of Antiochus the great, gave orders to his finance minister to have the Jerusalem Temple, the "Jewel of his kingdom", plundered. Heliodorus, his finance minister quickly formed a conspiracy, and within "a few days" he was poisoned.
11:21 Antiochus Epiphanes "seized" the "honor of kingship" from his brother Demetrius I.
11:22 Antiochus Epiphanes had Onias III, the 'prince of the covenant" was assassinated. See 2 Maccabees 4:4-10
11:23 Antiochus Epiphanes deceived Rome into officially recognizing him.
11:24 Israel and most of Egypt.
11:25 Ptolemy VI
11:26 Ptolemy VI Philometer was overthrown by his brother Ptolemy VII Physcon, with the help of Antiochus Epiphanes.
11:27 Ptolemy was living in Antiochus's custody.
11:28 Antiochus Epiphanes had high priest, Jason, deposed. Jason thinking Antiochus was now powerless, started a rumor that he had died, in hopes of getting the priesthood back. When Antiochus heard all of Israel rejoiced over this he attacked with fury, in 169 BC. See 1 Maccabees 1:19-20
11:29 Antiochus attacked Egypt again in 168 BC.
11:30 Kittim is Rome, see Jasher, Josephus, LXX – The Roman vessels under the command of Popilius Laenas drove Antiochus back.
11:32 After Antiochus' three year occupation, he was driven out by the Maccabees. News of the Israelite rebellion crushed his empire. He died a natural death in 164 BC in Tabae. The Macabees then ruled in peace from 164 to 64 BC when Roman General Pompey took Jerusalem.
11:33-35 Since Antiochus died in the previous verse this now pertains to the time of the Roman occupation. "Those who have insight" are Christians who converted many. The "sword" is Massada and the Barkocba rebellion. The "flame" is the destruction of the Temple in AD 70 and the "captivity" is the dispersion of AD 132-1948. Note there was no "captivity" during Antiochus reign. After the Barcokba rebellion in AD 130, the Romans expelled all Jews from Israel and renamed Jerusalem Aelia Capitolina. The antichrist king of verse 36 will rule some time after the 1816-year dispersion, which ended in AD 1948.