

#1580 The Yom Kippur War and the Abomination of Desolation – The series of 4’s (fours) from Alexander the Great to Antiochus IV Epiphanes, part 5d, Antiochus IV: The Syrian Wars between the Seleucid Empire and the Ptolemaic Empire

*Daniel 8:8-9 (KJV) Therefore **THE HE GOAT** [Alexander the Great’s Grecian Empire] **WAXED VERY GREAT** [reflected through the name Alexander the *Great*]: *and when he was strong, **THE GREAT HORN WAS BROKEN** [Alexander the Great died young, on June 10, 323 B.C., having taken seriously ill with malaria at Babylon]; *and for it [from it] came up **FOUR NOTABLE ONES** [the 4 (four) prominent kingdoms of Ptolemy, Seleucus, Cassander, and Lysimachus] **TOWARD THE FOUR WINDS OF HEAVEN.** [Daniel 8:8 in the NIV says . . . The goat became very great, but at the height of his power his large horn was broken off, and in its place four prominent horns grew up toward the four winds of heaven.]*
*9 **And OUT OF ONE OF THEM** [the Syrian kingdom of Seleucus, or the Seleucid Empire] **CAME FORTH A LITTLE HORN, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land** [Antiochus IV Epiphanes, but the verse should be viewed prophetically with his father, Antiochus III the Great, prominently and powerfully in the foreground].***

Key Understanding: *The Syrian wars.* The Syrian Wars were a series of six wars fought between the Seleucid Empire and the Ptolemaic Empire during the 3rd and 2nd centuries B.C. over the region called Coele-Syria, or Palestine – somewhat identical to the region that includes modern Israel, Lebanon, and southern Syria. It was one of the few avenues into Egypt. The Syrian Wars over Palestine drained the strength of both kingdoms, leading to their eventual destruction at the hands of Rome and Parthia. [Note: Much of the subject matter of Daniel chapter 11 concerns the time period of the Syrian Wars between the Syrian Seleucids and the Egyptian Ptolemies, leading up to Antiochus IV Epiphanes.]

Here is a list of the . . .

Syrian Wars between the Syrian Seleucids and the Egyptian Ptolemies

First Syrian War	274-271 B.C.	Antiochus I vs. Ptolemy II
Second Syrian War	260-253 B.C.	Antiochus II vs. Ptolemy II
Third Syrian (Laodicean) War	246-241 B.C.	Seleucus II vs. Ptolemy III
Fourth Syrian War	219-217 B.C.	Antiochus III vs. Ptolemy IV
Fifth Syrian War	202-195 B.C.	Antiochus III vs. Ptolemy V
Sixth Syrian War	170-168 B.C.	Antiochus IV vs. Ptolemy VI

http://www.utexas.edu/courses/fallofgreece/syrian_wars.html.webarchive

Battle of Panium	
Date	198 B.C.
Location	Near Baniyas
Result	Seleucid victory
Belligerents	
Seleucids	Ptolemaic Egypt
Commanders	
Antiochus III the Great	Scopas of Aetolia

The fight over the land of Palestine. The land of Palestine changed hands during the Fifth Syrian War. The Ptolemies held Coele-Syria (or Palestine) from 320 B.C. until 198 B.C., when, at the Battle of Panium, they lost it to Antiochus III the Great and the Seleucids. The Syrian Seleucids held the region from 198 B.C. until the strengthening Jewish revolt of the Hasmonean family (later called the Maccabees) gained complete independence in 143 B.C. [Jewish independence in Judea lasted until the

Romans occupied the region under general Pompey in 63 B.C. The Romans then continued to occupy the whole of Palestine throughout all of New Testament history.]

Here is **#1580–Doc 1**, a map showing **the Egyptian Ptolemaic control over the Coele-Syria area** (Palestine), which lasted from 312 B.C. (or 323 B.C. or 320 B.C., depending upon the method of interpretation of Ptolemaic control) to 198 B.C., when the Syrians defeated the Egyptian Ptolemies at the Battle of Panium.

[Click here](#) for **#1580–Doc 1**

Here is **#1580–Doc 2**, a map showing **the Syrian Seleucid control over the Coele-Syria area** (Palestine), which lasted from 198 B.C. to 143 B.C.

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