

## **"WARRING KINGS OF NORTH AND SOUTH"**

1. What "war experience" have you had: (a) As a veteran? (b) Friend, relative or spouse of a veteran? (c) As a victim? (d) As a protestor? (e) By books and movies? (f) As a war buff, collecting relics, memorabilia? (g) As a kid, playing war games? (h) Other:

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2. If you could relive any of those wars as a "war hero" or commanding general, which war would you choose and why?

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3. What feelings arise within you when singing "Onward Christian Soldiers"? Or when the band plays your favorite march?

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4. What would it matter to you that these kings and their successors can be positively identified from secular history? What would that add to your appreciation of this passage? Since you asked for it, here they are: In verse 2, the Persian kings (reigning 530-465 B.C.), among whom Xerxes attempted to conquer Greece in 480 B.C.; in verses 3-4, Alexander the Great (336-323 B.C.); in verses 5-9, the kingdoms of Ptolemy and Seleucus II (323-223 B.C.); in verses 10-19, Antiochus the Great (223-187 B.C.) at war with various Egyptian kings; in verses 21-35, Antiochus Epiphanes (175-164 B.C.). Which would you consider the most important for Daniel? Why? What does that tell you about when Daniel (in its final form) is gaining widespread readership?

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5. In describing the wars of the kings, what does Daniel have to say about such pitfalls as: Pride going before the fall? The fault of alliances? Abuse of power? Lack of honor among thieves? Futility of war? Illusion of security? Principle of just desserts? Rebel in the ranks? Spoils of war? Authority corrupts, and absolute authority corrupts absolutely?

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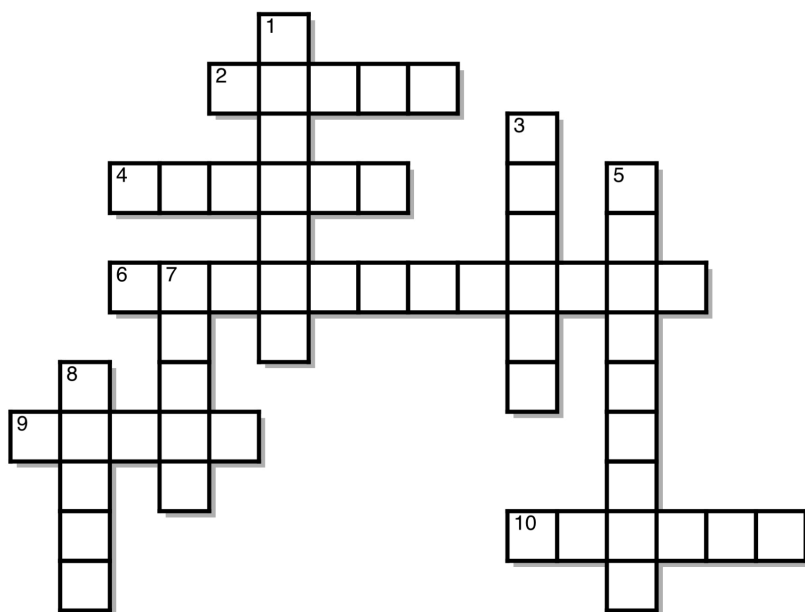
6. From what you know of secular and religious history, what impresses you about someone's sudden rise to power and equally precipitous fall (from grace)? How would Daniel write the epitaph of such superstars today?

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7. Daniel's portrayal of what it's like to be a "king's kid" is a bleak scene of betrayal and tragedy. By contrast, how do you see life as an heir to the victorious King?

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**Down**

1 "No one upholds me against these, except \_\_\_\_\_ your prince. (10:21)

3 The time between the testaments is often called the \_\_\_\_\_ years.

5 The name of the daughter Antiochus III gave to 12-year-old Ptolemy V.

7 "I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of \_\_\_\_\_". (10:21)

8 The Ptolemies are identified with the "Kings of the \_\_\_\_\_".

**Across**

2 "his kingdom shall be broken up and divided toward the four \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven". (11:4)

4 "three more kings will arise in Persia, and the fourth shall be far \_\_\_\_\_ than them all". (11:2)

6 "Let my lord speak, for you have \_\_\_\_\_ me." (10:19)

9 The Seleucids are identified with the "Kings of the \_\_\_\_\_".

10 "I must return to fight with the prince of \_\_\_\_\_". (10:20)

**WORD SEARCH:**

Daniel	Laodice
Angel	Seleucus
Lord	Egypt
Prince	Raphia
Persia	Glorious
Greece	Violent
Scripture	Vision
Darius	Fall
Kings	Siege
Xerxes	Mound
Alexander	Fortified
Heaven	Face
Uprooted	Pillaging
Seleucids	Taxes
Ptolemies	

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N X D G A L L A F A E S M T D V
T N T R N R P O L V G C A J J J
P A T E G V R E R N I X N P L P
I I S E E N X P I D E O K I Z R
L S U C L A G K T S L D L B R F
L R C E N U P R O O T E D E O P
A E U D S D I C U E L E S R N S
G P E R T J D G X E B E T D C T
I R L V P A L E S D C I M R M V
N D E M N O R E A U F I I I I Y
G Q S I R X H I G I I P D S E D
M Y E I E S H E E Y T R I O N S
K L O S E P I D A U P O A U A R
M U B C A L B E R V N T O D P L
S D A R N X R E G P E M B V D B
L F J L D Y R P D E D N J W B J
  
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