

But he did not succeed very long. And the next ruler is so important from a Biblical viewpoint that I'm giving him another head.

D. Antiochus Epiphanes(Antiochus IV called himself Epiphanes. He is given 15 vv. here, and in the history of Judaism he is one of the most important rulers. Why is he important to Israel? Because he is not simply a man who won conquests, though he did. He is not simply a man who caused trouble for the Jews, and made persecution which he did. But toward the latter part of his reign set himself on a definite policy of completely destroying the Jewish religion. And force the Jews to become pagans.

When he tried at first to be nice and give all sorts of favors to the ones who would turn pagan, and many did. But when some stood strongly against he proceeded to extremely harsh measures, and the religion of the OT, humanly speaking, would have been completely wiped out except that a priest who resisted his efforts to force the people to sacrifice in every little town, came to the town where this man worked, he and his sons fled into the wilderness and he and his sons became such good guerilla fighters they came to be called the "hammers" or the Maccabees. Through them others joined and eventually they gained their freedom, from him.

2. His career. In order to understand something of this ~~things~~ that occurred at this time, it is necessary to know something about man Antiochus IV.

Antiochus IV as you know from your chart was the second son of Antiochus III. The oldest son was Seleucus who succeeded Antiochus. When Antiochus IV was a hostage in Rome, and we don't know how many years he lived there. If he lived there long enough to become very familiar with Roman customs and situations and ~~many~~ methods of doing things.

And then he was released from his being hostage in Rome and Seleucus III's oldest son, who became Antiochus === who became Demetrius, down at the very bottom of your sheet, he was made a hostage in Rome, and Antiochus was released.

Antiochus then went to Greece and lived there. He lived there in Athens and became an important official in the Athenian government. I've even heard him called the mayor. I don't know what the title or position was, but he was pretty successful there. He had no right to become king because his oldest brother had a son who was a hostage in Rome and should succeed him properly.

But when Seleucus, his older brother was killed, Antiochus immediately got in touch with some people in Asia Minor who had considerable funds and got them to fund him to try to become king. He came with a small force into Asia Minor and he managed to get support with all kinds of promises and he became ~~king~~ king after his brother's death and killed Heliodorus, and also killed the infant son in ~~whose~~ whose name Heliodorus was reigning.

So v. 21 says, In his estate shall stand up a vile person to whom they shall not give the honor of the kingdom, but he shall come in peaceably and obtain the kingdom by flatteries. So he secured