

# Daniel:

## God's Divine Ambassador

New Hope  
Baptist Church  
Winter Bible Study  
2010





# Lessons Thus Far:

- ❖ Spiritual warfare between nations
  - ❖ Explains why nations so often turn to violence and conquest
- ❖ God maintains control over all affairs of humanity
- ❖ God will consummate His plan for humanity

# Chapter 11: The Future

- ❖ Chapter 11: Reinforced Daniel's previous visions of the future
- ❖ Chapter contains another highly detailed vision of the future
- ❖ "3 more kings of Persia:
  - ❖ Cambyses: 529-523 B.C.
    - ❖ Conquered Egypt, 526 B.C.
    - ❖ Died without an heir, 523 B.C.
  - ❖ Gautama: Usurped the throne after Cambyses' death (523-522 B.C.)
  - ❖ Darius I: Defeated Gautama in 522 B.C. and ruled until 485 B.C.



# Chapter 11: The Future

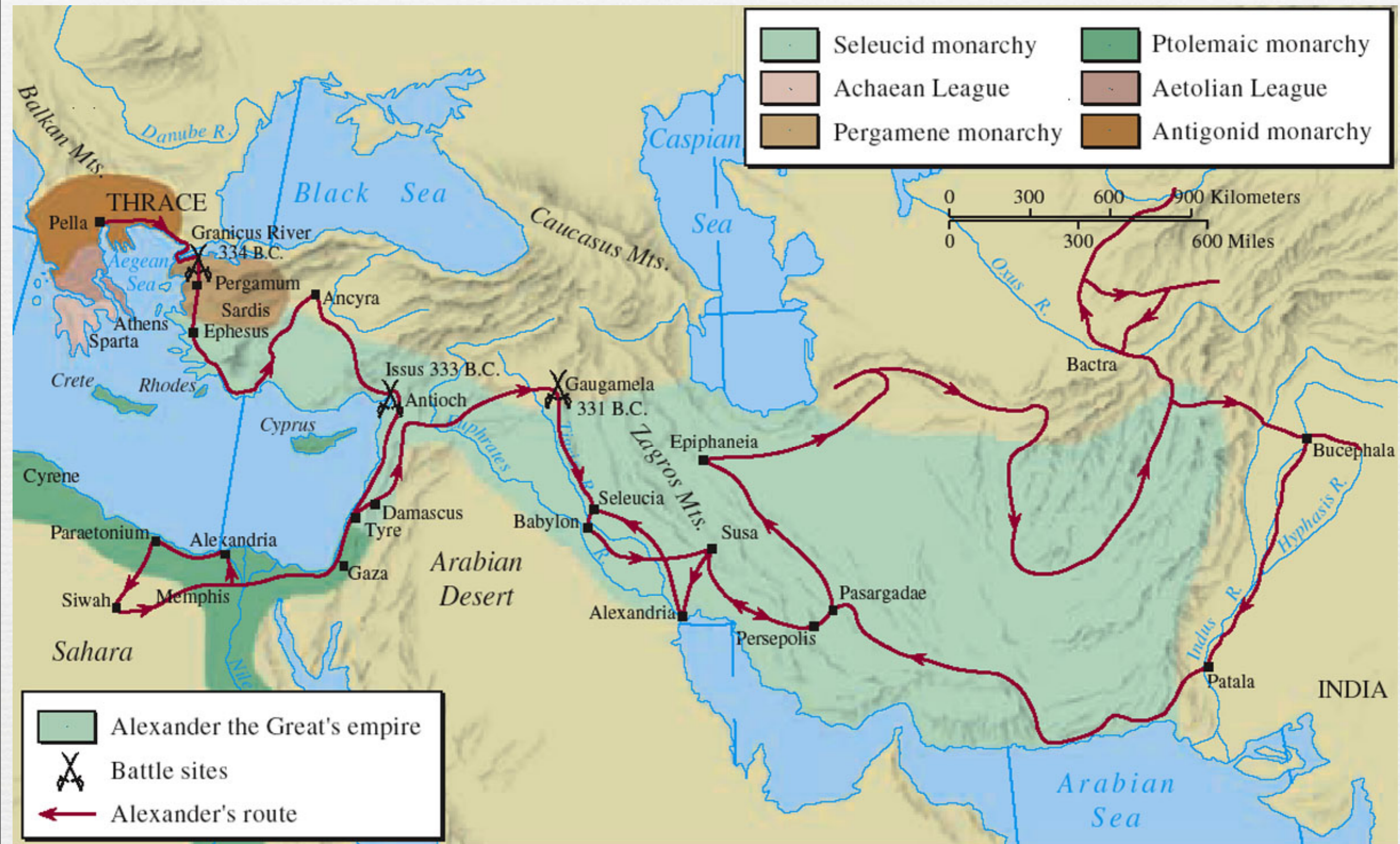
- ❖ Great king of Persia: Xerxes I, 485-465 B.C.
  - ❖ “A fourth shall be far richer than all of them:” Darius left the empire in excellent financial condition
  - ❖ “He shall stir up all against the kingdom of Greece:” invaded Greece, 480 B.C.
  - ❖ Suffered massive setback at Thermopylae
  - ❖ Suffered defeats at Salamis (480 B.C.) and Plataea (479 B.C.)

# Chapter 11: The Future

- ❖ After Xerxes: “a mighty king shall arise, who shall rule with great dominion and do as he wills”
  - ❖ Alexander the Great, ruled 336-323 B.C.
- ❖ “As soon as he has arisen, his kingdom shall be broken:”  
Alexander died at age 32
- ❖ “Divided toward the four winds of heaven:” 4 generals inherited his empire
- ❖ “But not to his posterity:” Alexander IV was born the year his father died; never ruled without a regent
  - ❖ Alexander IV and his mother were both assassinated when he was 13 (poisoned in 309 B.C.)



# The "Four Horns"



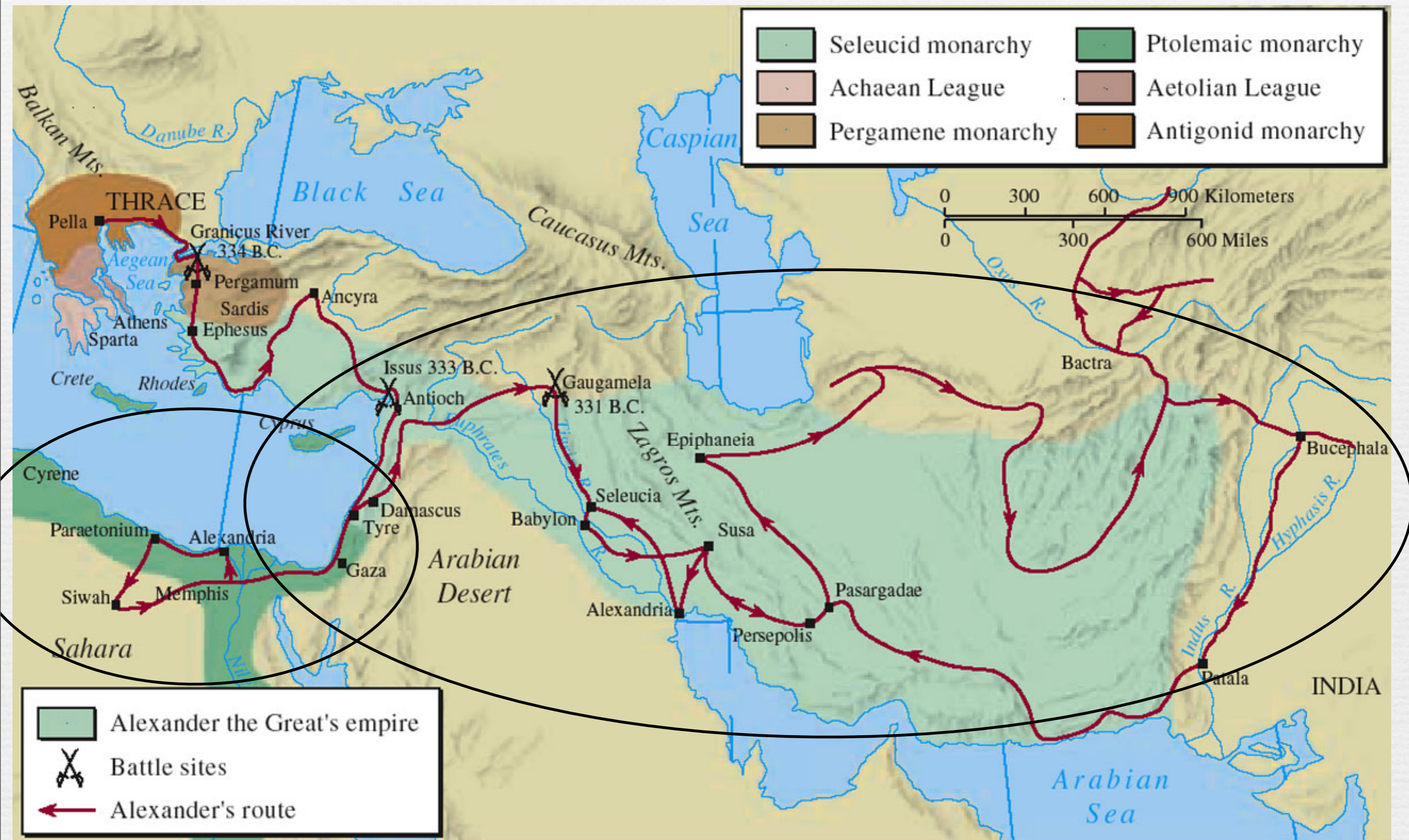


# Battle over the Holy Land

- ❖ Rest of Chapter 11 (to v. 35) involves struggles over Judea
- ❖ Intertestamental Period: History between Malachi and Matthew
  - ❖ Time frame: c. 450 B.C. to c. 4 B.C.
- ❖ Primary players in the period: Greek kingdoms that succeeded Alexander's empire
  - ❖ Ptolemy and his successors: Inherited Egypt
  - ❖ Seleucus and his successors: Inherited Syria and Asia
- ❖ Confirmation of vision in ch. 7



# Ptolemies vs. Seleucids





# “King of the South”

- ❖ “Then the king of the south shall be strong, but one of his princes shall be stronger than he and shall rule, and his authority shall be a great authority”
- ❖ Ptolemy I first inherited and ruled Judea
  - ❖ Ruled Egypt 323-283 B.C. (died at age 84)
  - ❖ Defended Egypt against other successors of Alexander
  - ❖ Kept Judea
  - ❖ Founded the library of Alexandria
  - ❖ Left a stable and prosperous empire at his death



# “Daughter of the South”

- ❖ v. 6: “alliance” and “daughter of the south”
  - ❖ Ptolemy II (reigned 285-252 B.C.)
  - ❖ Fought the Seleucids until he arranged a peace treaty by marrying his daughter Berenice to Antiochus II
  - ❖ Problem: Antiochus was already married; his former wife assassinated Berenice and her infant son (“she shall be given up”)



# “Branch from Her Roots”

- ❖ Ptolemy III, Berenice’s brother (reigned 246-221 B.C.)
  - ❖ Avenged his sister’s death
  - ❖ Captured Seleucid capital of Antioch and took the loot back to Egypt (v. 8, “He shall also carry off to Egypt their gods with their metal images and their precious vessels of silver and gold”)
  - ❖ v. 9: Seleucus II attacked Egypt but couldn’t win



# Sons Waging War

- ❖ v. 10: The war continued
  - ❖ Antiochus III (“the Great;” reigned 226-187 B.C.)
  - ❖ Conquered Judea from Ptolemies, but lost it (vv. 11-12)
- ❖ vv. 13-19: “King of the north” built a new army and headed south
  - ❖ v. 14: “violent among your own people:” Jews would try to support the Ptolemies but fail
  - ❖ v. 15: “well-fortified city:” Antiochus attacked Gaza and took Sidon
  - ❖ 198 B.C.: Antiochus took Jerusalem (stood “in the glorious land,” v. 16)
- ❖ v. 18: Roman “commander” ended Antiochus’ conquests
- ❖ v. 19: Antiochus killed, 187 B.C.



# The “Contemptible” Person

- ❖ v. 20: Antiochus’ first son, Seleucus IV, poisoned after trying to enforce taxation (“a few days”); ruled only 12 years
- ❖ vv. 21-35: Antiochus IV Epiphanes (ruled 175-164 B.C.); mentioned in ch. 8 (“little horn”)
  - ❖ “He shall obtain the kingdom by flatteries:” seized the throne from his nephew and assassinated him
  - ❖ 170 B.C.: Antiochus invaded Egypt; captured Egypt’s child king, Ptolemy VI and made himself regent
  - ❖ 168 B.C.: Egyptians chose a new king, Ptolemy VIII (brother of Ptolemy VI); brothers decided to co-reign
  - ❖ Antiochus’ response: Invaded Egypt
  - ❖ vv. 29-30: prophecy of Roman support of Egypt



# The “Contemptible” Person

- ❖ v. 31: Antiochus stopped by Jerusalem on his way back from his embarrassment in Egypt
  - ❖ Entered Jerusalem on the Sabbath (Jews wouldn't fight on the Sabbath); massacred 40,000 Jews, sold 40,000 into slavery
  - ❖ Profaned the Temple (offered a sow on the altar of God)
- ❖ v. 32: Jewish revolt
  - ❖ 168 B.C.: Mattathias killed a Jew offering a pagan sacrifice took to the hills
  - ❖ The war was on!
  - ❖ New ruling: Fighting for self-defense on the Sabbath did *not* violate the prohibition of working on the Sabbath



# The “Contemptible” Person

- ❖ v. 35: Jews looked on the Maccabaeian revolt as a purification of Hellenists from their ranks
- ❖ v. 35: “the time of the end:” Prophecy skips millennia



# vv. 36-39: The End of Time

- ❖ Did Antiochus IV Epiphanes fulfill the end of ch. 11?
  - ❖ No; died 164 B.C.
- ❖ Fulfillment of 11:36-12:1 comes in the New Testament:
  - ❖ 2 Thessalonians 2
  - ❖ Revelation 13-19