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Antiochus II Theos



Antiochus II Theos

Antiochos II Theos ('the god'): name of a [Seleucid](#) king, ruled from 261 to 246.

Successor of: [Antiochus I Soter](#)

Relatives:

- Father: [Antiochus I Soter](#)
- Mother: [Stratonice I](#)
- Wives:
 - [Laodice I](#)
 - Son: [Seleucus II Callinicus](#)
 - Son: Antiochus Hierax
 - Daughter: Apame [1]
 - Daughter: [Stratonice III](#) (married to [Ariarathes III](#) of [Cappadocia](#))
 - Daughter: [Laodice](#) (married to Mithradates II of Pontus)
 - [Berenice Phernephorus](#) (daughter of [Ptolemy II Philadelphus](#))
 - Son: Antiochus (born 251; killed in the late summer of 246)

Main deeds:

- c.286 Born
- After 268: Antiochus I Soter executes his eldest son Seleucus; Antiochus II becomes crown prince
- 2 June 261: Death of Antiochus I; Antiochus II succeeds
- 260: Outbreak of the [Second Syrian War](#) against [Ptolemy II Philadelphus](#); the Seleucids achieve several successes in western Asia Minor
- 259/258: Liberates [Miletus](#) from a [tyrant](#) Timarchus, and is awarded the surname *Theos*, 'the god'
- 253: Peace with Ptolemy II Philadelphus, who recognizes Seleucid territorial gains in the west
- 252: Antiochus divorces his wife [Laodice](#) and marries Ptolemy's daughter [Berenice Phernephorus](#)
- 251: Birth of Antiochus
- 28 January 246: Death of Ptolemy II; Antiochus II repudiates Berenice, who stays in [Antioch](#); he returns to his first wife Laodice
- early July 246: dies in [Ephesus](#), only forty years old, and is buried in the [Belevi Mausoleum](#)



Part of the decoration of the Belevi mausoleum

Antiochus II Theos

Seleucid museum
(Archaeological museum,
Izmir)

- His death provokes the [1st Syrian war](#)

Succeeded by: [Seleucus II Callinicus](#)

Sources:

- [Seleucid successions chronicle](#) (BCHP 10)
- [Appian of Alexandria, *Syrian Wars*, 65](#)
- [Diodorus of Sicily, *Library of World History*, 31.19](#)
- [Flavius Josephus, *Jewish Antiquities*, 7.43](#)
- [Polyaenus, *Stratagems*, 8.50](#)

This brief article has been written to offer background information to the real articles on [Livius.Org](#). One day, this webpage will be improved. A list of completed articles can be found [here](#).

Note 1:

Sometimes, it is assumed that this was a son named Apammes. This is based on an erroneous reading of an [Astronomical Diary](#) ([more...](#)).

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source:

http://www.livius.org/am-ao/antiochus/antiochus_ii_theos.html