

## The Lessons of the Little Big Horn

### Daniel 8

#### Introduction:

- The Battle of Little Bighorn

1. Was better known as C\_\_\_\_\_ Last Stand
2. Evaluation of the battle was done so as to learn

- Daniel 8:9 introduces a little horn that grew very l\_\_\_\_\_

1. In this prophecy there are lessons we must learn.
2. Lessons can be taught and heard, but are not learned until we a\_\_\_\_\_ them to our lives

#### God Causes Kingdoms to Rise and Fall (1-9; 20-22)

- The time of the vision: 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Belshazzar (Babylonian King) or \_\_\_\_\_ B.C. (v. 1)

- The place of the vision – S\_\_\_\_\_ located 100 miles north of the Persian Gulf along the Ulai River (see verse 2 notes)

- The first event in the vision (see chart)

1. The dream (v. 4) - A r\_\_\_\_\_ with two horns butting its way from Susa, westward, northward and southward, overcoming all beasts
2. The interpretation (v. 20) – represents the kings of Media and P\_\_\_\_\_
3. Historically, the Medio-Persian Empire expanded vastly under Cyrus the Persian (see map): 539 B.C. – 530 B.C.

- The second event in the vision (see chart)

1. The dream (vv. 5-7) – A male g\_\_\_\_\_ with a large horn comes from the west and overpowers the ram.
2. The interpretation (v. 21)
  - a. The goat represents the kingdom of G\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The horn represents the first k\_\_\_\_\_
3. Historically, Alexander the Great conquered the Persian Empire in 333 B.C.

- The third event in the vision (see chart)

1. The dream (v. 8) – the large horn of the goat breaks and a four horns take its place growing toward the four w\_\_\_\_\_ of heaven
2. The interpretation (v. 22) – four k\_\_\_\_\_ will arise from Greece but with lesser power.
3. Historically, after Alexander the Great died, his four generals divided the empire into four, each ruling a territory (323 B.C. – see chart).

- The fourth event in the vision (see chart)

1. The dream (v. 9) – out of one of the four horns came a l\_\_\_\_\_ horn that grew very large toward the south and the east, and toward the Beautiful land (see v. 9 notes).
2. The interpretation (v. 23) – in the latter period of the four kingdoms, a k\_\_\_\_\_ will arise, arrogant and skilled in speech.
3. Historically, Antiochus Epiphanes rose to power in 174 B.C.

- The lesson to learn is that God causes kingdoms to rise and fall

1. God's word says so – Dan 4:25; Rom 13:1
2. Prophecy of the future is not God predicting the future, but c\_\_\_\_\_ it (Is 46:10.11)
3. We learn this lesson by:

- a. Living under our government in w\_\_\_\_\_ (vote, pay taxes, live peaceably, respect)
- b. Not basing our life, happiness, or future on our government (the U.S.A. will fall!)
- c. Basing our life, happiness, and future on God's kingdom which will never fall – Let Ch\_\_\_\_\_ reign over you.

### **God Allows Injustice to Oppress His Saints (10-12; 21-23)**

- The first prophecy of the little big horn (see chart)
  1. The dream (v. 10) – the little horn grows up to the host (army) of h\_\_\_\_\_, causing some of the host and the stars to fall, and tramples on them.
  2. The interpretation (v. 24) – he will destroy (lit. corrupt, bring to ruin) mighty men and the s\_\_\_\_\_
  3. Historically, Antiochus worked to conform Israel to the Greek culture in every way, including religion; many Jews conformed.
- The second prophecy of the little big horn (see chart)
  1. The dream (vv. 11,12) – the little big horn makes himself e\_\_\_\_\_ with the host, removing the regular sacrifice from Him and throwing down His sanctuary.
  2. The interpretation (v. 25) – He will oppose the P\_\_\_\_\_ of princes (obvious reference to God).
  3. Historically, Antiochus called himself Theos Epiphanes, meaning God manifested and put a stop to the daily sacrifices (see timeline), persecuting all opposition.
- The lesson to learn about God allowing injustice to happen to believers
  1. It separates the t\_\_\_\_\_ believers from those who are believers by name only
    - a. The true worshippers of God were hunted and killed (many Jews fled the city) but those that were just religious abandoned Judaism and their worship of God.
    - b. Try to find a nominal Christian in a country where believers in Christ are severely persecuted.
    - c. In the USA, over \_\_\_\_\_% claim to be Christian
  2. God uses evil for the g\_\_\_\_\_ of those who love Him (Rom 8:28)
    - a. God used the evil of Antiochus to p\_\_\_\_\_ the land of Israel of its corruption and strengthen the character of the true worshippers.
    - b. God allows only injustice that He can use for our good; if He can't use it, He won't allow it.

### **God Gives Assurance to the Faithful (13,14; 24-27)**

- The assurance in the dream (vv 13,14) - The regular (twice-daily) sacrifice would be taken away only for a time of \_\_\_\_\_ days (KJV); evenings and mornings (NAS, NIV)
- The interpretation (v. 26) – the vision of the evenings and mornings is true (in other words, we are to take the period of time l\_\_\_\_\_ instead of symbolically).
  - a. The Hebrew in verse 14 and verse 26 is the same – NOT days, but literally, “evening morning” (singular NOT plural) – see v. 14 notes.
  - b. The daily (lit. ongoing) sacrifice was done t\_\_\_\_\_ per day according to the Mosaic law – see v. 11 notes
- Historically we can account for the 2300 sacrifices – see verse 26 notes and to the historic timeline following it.
- The lesson to be learned – every prophecy of the future
  1. Assures believers that God always w\_\_\_\_\_
  2. Assures believers that evil cannot c\_\_\_\_\_ us (Rom 8:35-39)