

Treasures of the Sanctuary—Lesson 16—“The Day Messiah Came”

OPENING DISCUSSION QUESTIONS/TALK:

1. When you were a kid, did you get excited when Christmas was coming? (or another, similar family holiday). Why? What did you expect to see?
2. Is it really exciting for you to receive something that was promised to you for a long time? Why?

READING AND STUDY QUESTIONS:

1. In the vision of Daniel 8, Daniel sees four major things. He sees (1) a Ram, and (2) a male goat. The Male goat gets angry and attacks the Ram. The Ram gets crushed to death. Nothing can help the Ram. The Male Goat has a big horn on its head. The great horn on its head gets broken and four other horns come up in its place. From here, another horn comes to power, it's (3) a little horn at first but it becomes a great power. This little horn attacks Jesus, his people, and his heavenly Sanctuary. Someone asks the question, “How long...” will this attack against Jesus’ people and his truth be allowed to happen? The answer gives us a time prophecy lasting 2300 evening and mornings (days). That is the fourth (4) major thing that Daniel sees in this vision.
 - a. *Note: this vision was given “in the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar” (Daniel 8:1). This was right before Babylon was destroyed by the Medo-Persian armies.*
2. What is the time prophecy of Daniel 8:13,14? “it will take _____ evenings and mornings; then the Sanctuary will be _____.” (Another word used here by the KJV is “cleansed”—this is precisely what happened on the Day of Atonement).
3. Who explains this vision to Daniel? (Dan. 8:15,16)
4. What does the Ram represent? (Dan. 8:20) _____ What does the Male Goat represent? _____ (Dan. 8:21, 22). *This part is easy for Daniel to understand.*
5. Does Daniel understand the vision of 2300 evenings and mornings? (Dan. 8:26, 27)
6. Twelve years later, “in the first year of Darius...of the seed of the Medes” (Dan. 9:1) Daniel began praying and searching for answers. He wanted to go back home to Jerusalem. (the Jews were captive at this time).
7. What were some things Daniel was praying about? (Daniel 9:17-19)
8. Did God send someone to answer Daniel’s prayer? Who was it? (Dan. 9:20,21)
 - a. Does God hear and answer our prayers?

9. Did Gabriel come to help Daniel understand the 2300 day vision? (Dan. 9:22,23)
10. How much of this great time prophecy was “cut off” for the Jewish people specifically? (Dan. 9:24)
11. Whose life would the first 490 years of the prophecy point us to? (v.25)
- When would this time period start? *“From the issuing of the _____ to restore and rebuild Jerusalem...”* (v.25). *Note: The Persians began sending the Jews home to Jerusalem during their reign. In the “7th year of King Artaxerxes” a decree was made to restore and rebuild Jerusalem that perfectly fits these specifics (Ezra 7:7,13). Historians note this year to be 457 BC. Adding 483 years (69* 7’s) from this date would bring us to the year 27 AD.*
 - In what year did Jesus Christ start his ministry on earth? (Luke 3:1) *“in the _____ year of Tiberius Caesar...”* (Note: History confirms this exact date was 27 AD!!! This was the year Jesus was baptized and began His public ministry as the Messiah—see Luke 3:21-23; 4:18)
12. What would happen to the Messiah (Anointed One) after he began his ministry? (v. 26)
- Jesus was “cut off” not for himself, but for us. (ref. even Isaiah 53:8 tells us this in prophecy)
 - Later, in AD 70, Jerusalem and the earthly temple were destroyed by the Roman armies. Jesus even described this happening before it ever happened (ref. Matt. 24:1,2).
13. In the middle of the last week (the last 7) of the prophecy, what would happen to the offerings and sacrifices? (Dan. 9:27) *Note: Jesus died in 31 AD.*
- Did God show this was to happen when Jesus died? (Matthew 27:50, 51)
 - Did Jesus also confirm a new “covenant” with his people? (Matt. 26:26-28)
 - Note: The disciples continued confirming the new covenant of Christ’s blood with the Jewish nation (specifically) for another 3 ½ years after Jesus’ death. When the Jewish leaders continued to reject the truth, the gospel was then taken to the Gentiles—Steven was stoned—the first Christian Martyr, and many other things (see Acts 13:46). This would have been in AD 34.*
14. *Twenty-three hundred years (2300) minus 490 leaves 1810 years left. Add 1810 years to AD 34 and you will come to the year 1844 AD for the year of the heavenly Sanctuary to start its cleansing! (we have been living in the Judgment Hour of earth’s history since that time)*Do you see how this prophecy follows the Sanctuary?*

HEART QUESTION(S):

- Is it amazingly clear that Jesus Christ is our only Savior and Messiah? _____ Would you like to faithfully serve and obey Him forever? _____

NOTES: