In His Hands #8 Forewarned is Forearmed Daniel 8

**Intro**: *The words of the LORD are pure words;*

 *As silver tried in a furnace, refined seven times.*

**Mammie** with Big Print, magnifying, light… head tilted

Confidence that the Words are ***Tried and True***… A firm foundation for Life.

* True = Firm… Reliable; Solid… “Verily, verily”

**ILL** – Build house on Sand or on Rock!

**t/s** – A Vision of Daniel declared and Demonstrated to be **TRUE**.

 Understanding Daniel 8 will give you confidence in the Scriptures. Daniel’s Vision in 550 BC of rise and fall of Great kingdoms ---- Persian and Greek. And a devastating season of suffering almost ***400 years in his future***.

**His Prophecy is now history**. His Word tested and proven to be True.

***Tell the Story of Daniel’s Vision 8: 1-8***

**Read Daniel 8: 9-14** with Comments

 **Vs. 12** – A Leader that will be Arrogant and Aggressive.

 A Battle that is political, religious and Spiritual.

* Disrupting Temple Worship and Attacking Word!

**Vs. 14** – ***How Long?*** --- that is the psalmist’s question…

* the LORD has not lost control! ***Limitation Implied***.
* **2,300 Days** = Six Years and Four Months

**Antiochus IV** = Attacked Temple Worship, 171 – 164 … murdered the legitimate high priest and worked to force Jews to abandon their Religion… Set up a Statue for Zeus and Sacrificed a Pig in Temple!

(Daniel gets some help from the LORD, from Gabriel… Understanding)

**Read Daniel 8: 20-26** with Comments

**Vs. 21** – Alexander’s Rapid Rise in 4th C…. Died in 323 BC

**Vs. 22** – Kingdom was divided under four Generals (lesser)

 **Note:** Daniel predicted this over 200 years before…

**Vs. 23 – 26** – Described the Reign of Terror of Antiochus IV (Poetic)

 **Vs. 23** – 150 years after Alexander comes Antiochus IV

 *Insolence* (Arrogant) and *Intrigue* (Liar, schemer)

 **Vs. 24** – “***Destroy***” = repeated three time…

 **Vs. 25** – language informs the anticipation of Anti-Christ;

 *A Type of sorts; but clear Historical fulfillment*.

**Vs. 26** – “***TRUE***” = Firm, Reliable, a Firm Foundation

 “***Keep…Secret***” = **Close it up**; Keep it Safe… Important one day.

**Remarkable!**

Daniel the Exile Sees the Future --- almost 400 years in advance;

an Arrogant, Aggressive Greek King will attack Jerusalem,

 the Temple the Whole system of worship…

***Hang on… He will not Last!***

**Application** - Confidence in the Word of God (tested in the Fire)

***The LORD prepares His people for Trouble, so we will be Encouraged and Endure; so that the hardship might not trip us up.***

**Exp** – Danger of Disappointment and Discouragement after Return

 And Reconstruction, Reestablished in the Land…

More Opposition!?!

***The LORD prepares His people for Trouble, so we will be Encouraged and Endure; so that the hardship might not trip us up.***

**1 John 3:13** – *Do not be surprised, brethren in the world hates you.*

**1 Peter 4:12** *– Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among*

 *You… as though some strange thing were happening*

**John 16: 1-4a, 33** (after the world will hate you, they have hated Me)

***The LORD prepares His people for Trouble, so we will be Encouraged and Endure; so that the hardship might not trip us up.***

**ILL** – My Paper route and little brother… penny a paper deal…

 Easy, free coke, just an hour, play with rubber bands…

 Up hill, heavy bags, cold outside… quit before started!

 I only told him the truth about the good parts!

**Jesus Tells us the Whole Truth.**

Our Lord, Jesus, tells you the Truth. (Not selling, hiding fine print)

**Gospel --- John 16:33**