

**THE BEAST STRUCTURE  
THE THIRD BEAST  
THE LITTLE HORN OF THE THIRD BEAST  
AND THE 2300 DAYS**

*By Marie Casale  
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The following are the scriptures about the Little Horn of the Third Beast.

**DANIEL 8:3-26**

1.

**Dan 8:3** Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.

**Dan 8:4** I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.

**Dan 8:5** And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

**Dan 8:6** And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.

**Dan 8:7** And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.

**Dan 8:8** Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

**Dan 8:9** And out of one of them came forth a Little Horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

The ram with two horns in verses 3 and 4 represent the Second Beast, the Kingdom of the Medes and Persians. The he-goat who attacked the ram (verses 5-7) was Alexander the Great, the Third Beast. Then, when Alexander died, his kingdom was divided four ways (verse 8) representing the Four Heads of the Third Beast, Macedonia, Thrace, Egypt and Syria. Please go to section 6 Daniel 8:20-22 that verifies this.

So this Little Horn of Daniel 8:9 that came out of one of them (the four divisions of Alexander's kingdom) must be called the Little Horn of the Third Beast, not to be confused with the Little Horn of the Fourth Beast of Daniel 7 and Revelation 13.

The scriptures showing the successive kings of the four divisions of Alexander's kingdom are written in Daniel 11. So many people assume this prophecy in Daniel 8:13-14 that says the sanctuary was cleansed after 2300 days, was fulfilled by Antiochus Epiphanes described in

Daniel 11:21-32 who came out of Syria (one of the four divisions) in 168 BC. There is a problem with this idea that the Little Horn of Daniel 8 was Antiochus Epiphanes:

According to the Book of Maccabees, Antiochus on Kislev 15 in 168 BC put a stop to the daily sacrifices in the temple and placed a desolating sacrilege - a statue of Jupiter Olympus in the temple.

*1 Maccabees 1:54 54 Now on the fifteenth day of Chislev, in the one hundred forty-fifth year, they erected a desolating sacrilege on the altar of burnt offering. They also built altars in the surrounding towns of Judah,*

Kislev 15 in 168 BC fell on Nov 17. The prophecy says the temple was cleansed after 2300 days. If you add 2300 days to November 17, 168 BC, you come to March 4 161 BC. But the cleansing of this abomination from the temple took place on the 25th of Kislev in 165 BC 3 years earlier.

*2 Maccabees 1:18 Therefore whereas we are now purposed to keep the purification of the temple upon the five and twentieth day of the month Casleu, we thought it necessary to certify you thereof, that ye also might keep it, as the feast of the tabernacles, and of the fire, which was given us when Neemias offered sacrifice, after that he had builded the temple and the altar."*

Some people resolve this problem by saying that since Daniel 8 verse 14 says '2300 'evenings and mornings', the 2300 days could be cut in half to 1150 days. But again if you add 1150 days to November 17, 168 BC you come to November 24, 165 BC. And the actual cleansing of the temple did not take place until two months later on January 9, 164 BC. So whether you add 2300 days or 1150 days to the starting date, the result just does not fit the facts about Antiochus Epiphanes. This is explained in greater detail in the article, *A Problematic Interpretation of Daniel 8* using the calculated Hebrew calendar to count the days of the years in question month by month. [1]

So we have to look for a different identity for the Little Horn of the Third Beast.

The following scriptures and notes explain how the Little Horn of the Third Beast is identified as Herbert Armstrong, leader of the Worldwide Church of God. And since he is now deceased and not able to defend himself, I shall attempt to include references here of only what he himself did or said that can fulfill these scriptures, and not what others have said about him.

2.

**Dan 8:10 And it (the Little Horn of the Third Beast) waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.**

**Dan 8:11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the Daily Sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.**

**Dan 8:12 And an host was given him against the Daily Sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.**

Now we see what this Little Horn of the Third Beast did:

A. HE WAXED GREAT EVEN TO THE HOST OF HEAVEN.

The term 'host of heaven' occurs 20 times in the Bible and refers to the sun, moon, stars, and all other heavenly bodies and is likened in this verse to how numerous God's people shall be:

*Jer 33:22 As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.*

In Eugene Oregon in 1933 Herbert Armstrong incorporated the Radio Church of God and in 1968 renamed it The Worldwide Church of God. From tiny beginnings, the church grew into an enormous organization whose members could be said to be numerous like the host of heaven. By the time he died in 1986 the church attracted 120,000 people to services each week and had an annual worldwide income of about \$200 million. Magazine circulation was more than eight million and The World Tomorrow television program became one of the most popular religious programs in America.

#### B. HE CAST DOWN SOME OF THE HOST AND OF THE STARS TO THE GROUND AND STAMPED UPON THEM.

Who were the stars that he cast down? In addition to being symbolic of angels, as in Matthew 2:9, stars could also be symbolic of God's people as in this verse.

*Gen 22:17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven,*

An example of how Mr. Armstrong cast down some of the host to the ground and stamped on them is in this Worldwide News article written by Mr. Armstrong wherein he disfellowshipped ministers. [2] How do we know whether these were righteous or unrighteous disfellowshippings? There are scriptures that describe righteous disfellowshipping (1Cor 5, 2Cor:2-8 and 1Ti 1:20) and unrighteous disfellowshipping (Jhn 9:34, 3John 1:9-11). If you compare these scriptural accounts, you notice that in the first set of scriptures, everyone knew what the individuals did to deserve disfellowshipping. But in the second set, no valid reason is given. Likewise in Mr. Armstrong's article, no mention is made of what these ministers did that was sin or what division they caused that deserved being disfellowshipped. Only Mr. Armstrong's side was presented to the membership and members were expected to be loyal to him and accept his decision. Contacting disfellowshipped people to hear their side of the story was forbidden.

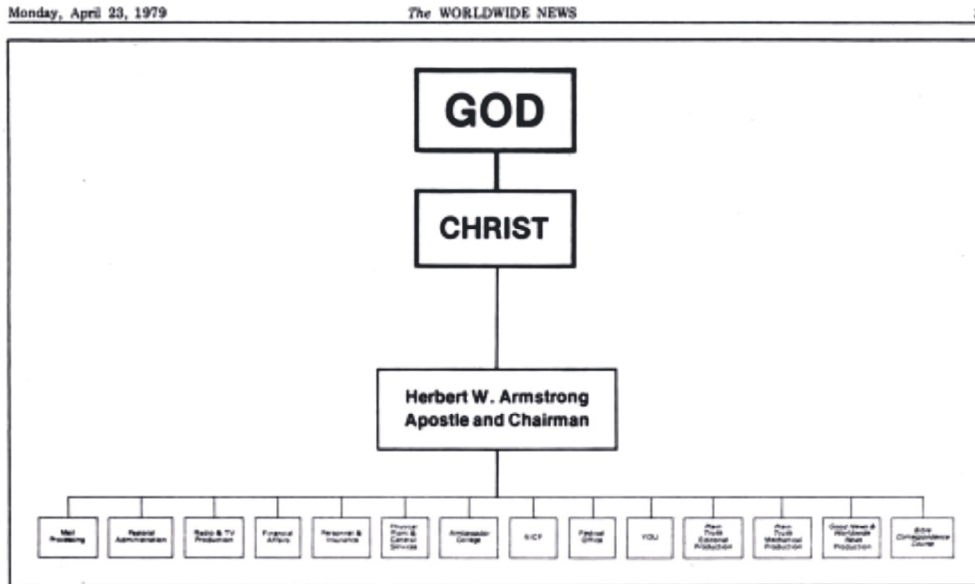
Also in the first set of scriptures we find the Apostle Paul writing that the man who sinned should be forgiven. But there is no forgiveness offered in the second set. Likewise in Mr. Armstrong's article, there is no appeal for repentance or offering of forgiveness. There is only demonization of the ministers whom he disfellowshipped.

Consider the example of the Lord who when he cast out Israel in Jeremiah 3 for her adultery, he asked her to repent and return to him. This is how we should treat those who need to be disfellowshipped for their sin. Also consider the example of Jesus who when he heard that a man had been cast out of the synagogue, personally went to visit the man to ask if he believed. (John 9) How many members in Worldwide did this for their disfellowshipped brethren?

#### C. HE MAGNIFIED HIMSELF EVEN TO THE PRINCE OF THE HOST.

The Prince of the Host is Jesus Christ. The word magnify here is the Hebrew 'gadal' (H1431) meaning to become great or important, promote, make powerful, praise. How did Herbert Armstrong make himself great and important like Jesus Christ?

In 1939 he wrote an article on church government promoting local autonomy and condemning centralized super church government. [3] But later he completely changed and established an extreme authoritarian central government with himself as God's representative on earth in complete control next to Jesus Christ. Here is a chart of his government structure that appeared in the Worldwide News in April 23 1979: [4]



**AND NOW — CHRIST SETS CHURCH ON  
GOD'S ORGANIZATIONAL TRACK**

Rather than pointing people to God the Father and Jesus Christ, his mention of them was often how they were backing him up as Chief Apostle. [5]

After the early 1970's Herbert Armstrong taught that everything he said was by the authority of God and was not to be questioned. He said that before entering the church, people could question, but after baptism they had made their decision and were not to question his word any more. He said that if you question him, you question Jesus Christ. [6]

**D. BY HIM THE DAILY SACRIFICE WAS TAKEN AWAY AND THE PLACE OF HIS SANCTUARY WAS CAST DOWN.**

Notice that in verse 11 the Daily Sacrifice is not an activity of performing sacrifices at the temple. The Daily Sacrifice is a PERSON because the place of HIS (the Daily Sacrifice's) sanctuary is cast down.

Also this Daily Sacrifice is TAKEN AWAY. When you think about all the sacrifices performed at the temple in a year, there is only one Daily (yearly - day = year) Sacrifice that is 'taken away' rather than killed, and that is the scapegoat of the Day of Atonement. This service is described in Leviticus 16. On the Day of Atonement the congregation was commanded to fast. Two goats were selected from the congregation. One was killed as a sacrifice. We always believed this one represents the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The other was taken away alive out of the camp into the wilderness with the sins of Israel put on his head. The church has always taught that the live

goat represents Satan, but there is no biblical proof whatsoever of this identity. See the article, *The Day of Atonement Scapegoat*. [7]

The scapegoat could represent Christ because there are two penalties for sin. One penalty is death and the other is separation from the congregation. The Lord paid both penalties. Remember how the Lord's tabernacle was removed out of the camp after the congregation made the golden calf. (Ex 32-33) This dual sacrifice could also represent how Christians are participants in the sacrifice of Christ. Since the Lord suffered 'without the camp', we are to follow him without the camp bearing his reproach. (Heb 13:11-13)

## **SO WE CONCLUDE THAT THE LITTLE HORN OF THE THIRD BEAST TOOK AWAY A PERSON UNJUSTLY ON THE DAY OF ATONEMENT.**

### **E. AN HOST WAS GIVEN HIM AGAINST THE DAILY SACRIFICE BY REASON OF TRANSGRESSION**

This will be explained in Section 3 when we learn who the person was that the Little Horn took away.

### **F. IT CAST THE TRUTH DOWN TO THE GROUND.**

There were many truths taught in the church as well as false doctrines from the beginning of the church. There were also truths that had been originally taught, but then were cast down as time went on. The truth that was cast down to the ground spoken of here is in context of the circumstances surrounding how the Daily Sacrifice was taken away. This will be explained in Section 3 when we learn who that person was.

Here are examples of how Mr. Armstrong cast down truths that had been originally taught:

1. Herbert Armstrong began his ministry preaching the true gospel of the Kingdom of God. When he began his world travels in 1967 he claimed to be using the tithe money the church sent to him to preach the gospel to world leaders, but instead he strived to become the friend of these leaders, helping them with their projects and giving them expensive gifts. He felt embarrassed to represent a church so he did not preach Christ to them at all. Nor did he tell them to repent of their sins, accept Christ as their savior and explain how they could enter into the Kingdom of God which is the message of the true gospel. He began to leave out the name of Jesus Christ altogether. In its place he preached a general gospel of 'give verses get.' Also he replaced the visible return of Jesus Christ, in power and glory to establish the Kingdom of God with a message of peace coming to the world through 'an unseen hand from someplace'. Thus the true gospel was cast down. [8] [9]

2. Mr. Armstrong began to preach and publish the Peter Primacy Heresy, a false interpretation of Matthew 16:18 by which the Roman Catholic Church had always justified its belief in Papal authority and infallibility. He asserted this doctrine to justify his authority as Chief Apostle. [10]

3. In the doctrine of divorce and remarriage, Mr. Armstrong had always taught that no divorce is allowed except for fornication (Greek porneia) meaning sex before marriage. See articles from 1948 and 1953. [11] [12] Although this definition of fornication (porneia) was wrong as this Greek word includes much more than sex before marriage, he did uphold the sanctity of marriage, that it is a God-ordained institution for all people and that it is bound until death. In 1973 he wrote another lengthy article supporting this position. [13] But then suddenly in 1974 he changed the doctrine. [14] This article says that God does not bind unconverted marriages

They are bound only by state legalities. So if the unconverted spouse leaves the marriage, the converted one has permission to divorce and remarry. In 1976 Mr. Armstrong encouraged evangelist Raymond McNair to remarry after his divorce and in 1977 Mr. Armstrong himself married a divorced woman against the commandment of the Lord in Matthew 5:32. Since then the door opened wider and wider for divorce and remarriage and many of the split off churches of God have adopted this false doctrine thus defiling the temple of God which we are! (1Cor 6:13-20) [15] The truth about marriage was cast down. [16]

### 3.

**Dan 8:13 Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?**

**Dan 8:14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; (evenings and mornings) then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.**

This prophecy tells us that the sanctuary and the host would be trodden under foot because of the 'transgression of desolation' for 2300 days or years and then the sanctuary would be cleansed. When did this period of time begin? The best clue in Daniel 8 to answer this question is verse 9 which told us that the Little Horn of the Third Beast came out of one of the Four Divisions.

*Dan 8:9 And out of one of them (the four divisions) came forth a Little Horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.*

So the beginning of the four divisions must be the beginning of the 2300 days. Let us examine the historical record to see when this was:

Following the death of Alexander the Great in Babylon in 323 BC, a succession crisis erupted among his generals. Initially, Perdiccas ruled the empire as regent for Alexander's half-brother Arrhidaeus, and then as regent for both Philip III and Alexander's infant son Alexander IV of Macedon, who had not yet been born at the time of his father's death.

Perdiccas appointed Ptolemy Lagus, one of Alexander's closest companions, to be Satrap (subordinate or local ruler) of Egypt. Ptolemy ruled Egypt from 323 BC, nominally in the name of the joint kings Philip III and Alexander IV. However, as Alexander's empire disintegrated, Ptolemy soon established himself as ruler in his own right.

Ptolemy successfully defended Egypt against an invasion by Perdiccas in 321 BC. At that time Perdiccas was killed by his own men. Thus, Ptolemy consolidated his position in Egypt and became the first King of the South. So the year 321 BC was the beginning of the Four Divisions and the 2300 days. [17]

Ptolemy then entered Jerusalem in 320 BC it is said on a Sabbath day and brought Palestine and the Jews under the dominion of the Ptolemies. Thus the sanctuary and the host began to be trodden under foot by the Kings of the North and South. [18]

IF YOU ADD 2300 DAYS (OR YEARS) TO THE BEGINNING YEAR, 321 B.C., YOU ARRIVE AT THE YEAR 1979 AD.

What did 1979 AD have to do with the Daily Sacrifice or the cleansing of the sanctuary?

In 1979 AD there was no temple in Jerusalem. But 1Corinthians 3:16 tells us that God's people, are the sanctuary or temple because he dwells within his people by his holy spirit.

*1Cor 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?*

As we saw in Section 2D, the Daily Sacrifice has to do with a person being unjustly taken away on the Day of Atonement.

THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED IN 1979.

In 1979 the people who were keeping the Day of Atonement (besides the Jews) were the people of the Worldwide Church of God and the Day of Atonement date was Monday, October 1.

The circumstances leading up to this day was that in early January 1979 the State of California in keeping with its authority over charitable trusts launched an investigation on the Worldwide Church of God because of allegations that tithe money and church assets were being diverted to the personal use of church leaders instead of what the church claimed they were being used for. This article contains evidence initially uncovered that supports this allegation: [19] A receiver was ordered to take charge of church funds until investigations were complete. At first Herbert Armstrong, cooperated with the state investigation and appointed Wayne C Cole to be in charge of interactions with the state. Mr. Cole addressed the church leaders advising them to cooperate with and obey the government as the Bible says we are to do.

*Tit 3:1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,*

However, soon Mr. Armstrong changed his mind. Wayne Cole was disfellowshipped and Stanley Rader, the personal aid of Herbert Armstrong, was persuading many in the church to rebel against the state. By mid-January church members were conducting sit-ins and demonstrations against the state. Officials were blocked from entering the buildings to inspect records. Letters were written to the members telling them to reroute tithe money they sent in to avoid the state mandates. Mr. Armstrong lied to the church saying that the state was trying to take over and destroy the church. Here are letters written by Mr. Armstrong as well as documents showing the state's position so that both sides can be shown. [20] [21] [22] [23] [24]

Roderick Meredith was appointed head of the ministry in January 1979 and was replaced in August by Joseph Tkach Sr. This article describes how ministers during that time were being unjustly disfellowshipped for disagreeing with the rebellion against the state. [25]

And so it was that I was in the congregation in California on the Day of Atonement, October 1, 1979 where Mr. Fred Coulter was the minister. The congregation was fasting as the Day of Atonement requires. I had been a member here for several years and had never heard Mr. Coulter preach anything not Biblically sound. On this day he was unjustly disfellowshipped for his opposition to what the church leaders were doing. In his Day of Atonement sermon he preached as Wayne C Cole had done that we ought to obey the magistrates. This is a link to his sermon on the Day of Atonement. [26]

Mr. Coulter prefers to say that he resigned from the Church, but he himself stated at the end of his Day of Atonement sermon (Reference Number 25) that he was disfellowshipped. Also, I was in the congregation and there were two men from Church Headquarters sitting directly behind me waiting to escort Mr. Coulter out at the end of his sermon. One man's name as I recall was Leroy Neff.

#### THE HOST GIVEN TO THE LITTLE HORN AGAINST THE DAILY SACRIFICE:

The host that was given to Herbert Armstrong against Mr. Coulter (from Section 2E) was all the deceived members of the church who were loyal to him, supported him and sided with him in his fight against the State of California rather than with Mr. Coulter and other ministers and members who were being unjustly disfellowshipped.

#### THE TRUTH THAT THE LITTLE HORN CAST DOWN TO THE GROUND.

There are truths that had been originally taught in the church, and then were cast down as time went on. Some of these were discussed in Section 2F. But the truth that was cast down in context of the state investigation and the Daily Sacrifice being taken away was the truth about how we should obey the magistrates. Here is an article from Good News Magazine March 1974 showing this truth. [27]

Also by unjustly casting out the Daily Sacrifice as well as other brethren (Section 2B), he cast down the truth about how we should treat our brethren in the church.

*\*Jhn 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.*

*\*1Pe 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:*

*\*1Jo 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.*

*\*3Jo 1:9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.*

*3Jo 1:10 Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.*

*3Jo 1:11 Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.*

*\*1Jhn 4:20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?*

#### THE CLEANSING OF THE SANCTUARY

I first thought that just as the Daily Sacrifice being taken away has to do with the Day of Atonement, the cleansing of the sanctuary is also connected to that day because Leviticus 16 tells us that the purpose for the sacrifice of the two goats was for the 'cleansing' of the congregation or sanctuary, that the Lord might make an atonement for us for all our transgressions

*Lev 16:30 For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you to CLEANSE 'tather' (H2891) you, that you may be clean 'tather' (H2891) from all your sins before the Lord... and he shall make an atonement for the holy sanctuary*



The word 'cleansed' and 'clean' in Leviticus 16:30-33 is the Hebrew word 'taher' (H2891). The word 'taher' is often used to describe the cleansing of a person from a condition of uncleanness. In the cleansing of leprosy, Leviticus 14:4-7 describes a sacrifice similar to the Day of Atonement sacrifice of the two goats only using birds. Like the goats, one bird is killed and the other let loose into the open field.

Then I discovered that in Daniel 8:14, the word 'taher' is not used, but a different word for cleanse is used, the Hebrew word 'tsadaq' (H6663)

*Dan 8:14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; (evenings and mornings) then shall the sanctuary be cleansed 'tsadaq' (H6663).*

This word means to be just, be righteous to have a just cause, to be in the right. It is also translated 'justify' and 'righteousness' as in these verses:

*\*Deu 25:1 If there be a controversy between men, and they come unto judgment, that the judges may judge them; then they shall justify 'tsadaq' (H6663) the righteous, and condemn the wicked.*

*\*Dan 12:3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness 'tsadaq' (H6663) as the stars for ever and ever.*

Now there are three verses in Daniel 11 that contain the word 'sanctuary'. Which of these is the sanctuary that is cleansed?

*Dan 8:11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary 'miqdash' (H6942) was cast down.*

*Dan 8:13 Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the 'sanctuary' 'qodesh' (H6944) and the host to be trodden under foot?*

*Dan 8:14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary 'qodesh' (H6944) be cleansed 'tsadaq' (H6663)*

In comparing these three verses note that the sanctuary 'qodesh' (H6944) that is cleansed 'tsadaq' (H6663) is the one in Daniel 8 verses 13 and 14, not the 'sanctuary' 'miqdash' (H6942) of the Daily Sacrifice in Daniel 8:11. In verses 13 and 14, the sanctuary and the host refer to God's people because they are the sanctuary of the holy spirit. And the Hebrew word for cleansing 'tsadaq' (H6663) means that the sanctuary is now 'justified' and shown in this cause to be 'in the right'. The separation of those 'justified' and 'in the right' ended the 2300 years of being trampled under foot by the Kings of the North and South. This, I think, is what the cleansing of the sanctuary means.

#### 4.

**Dan 8:15 And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man.**

**Dan 8:16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision.**

**Dan 8:17 So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.**

Here, the angel Gabriel is told to make Daniel understand the vision which would take place at the time of the end, that is, shortly before Christ returns.

5.

**Dan 8:18 Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright.**

**Dan 8:19 And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.**

Zecariah 1:12 combined with Daniel 8:19 tells us that 'the indignation' is the period of time that God has been angry with his people allowing them to be under the rule of Gentile kings until the Kingdom of God shall come.

*Zec 1:12 Then the angel of the Lord answered and said, O Lord of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation (H2194) these threescore and ten years?*

This Little Horn of the Third Beast comes in the last end of the indignation, shortly preceding the Fourth and final Beast who will reign for the three and a half years until the end comes.

6.

**Dan 8:20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.**

**Dan 8:21 And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.**

**Dan 8:22 Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.**

Here the Angel Gabriel is still making Daniel to understand the vision and know the identity of the ram, the goat and the horns.

7.

**Dan 8:23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, (the four divisions of the Third Beast) when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.**

#### THE LATTER TIME OF THE FOUR DIVISIONS

Here it is explained that the time the Little Horn of the Third Beast shall stand up is in the latter time of the kingdoms of the original four divisions. We saw back in Daniel 8:8 (Section 1) that the horns of the he-goat were 'toward the four winds of heaven'.

*Dan 8:8 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.*

*Dan 8:9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.*

These scriptures show what the phrase 'toward the four winds of heaven' means:

*\*Jer 49:36 And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come.*

*\*Zec 2:6 Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the Lord: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the Lord.*

*\*Mar 13:27 And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.*

Whereas the kingdom of Alexander was originally broken into these four divisions, the latter end of them was that the captive people were to be spread abroad toward the four winds of heaven, that is, from one end of the earth to the other. The Little Horn of the Third Beast could therefore come from anywhere on earth.

#### A KING OF FIERCE COUNTENANCE

The word 'fierce' is translated from the Hebrew adjective 'az (H5794). This word is most times translated 'strong'. But other synonyms in Gesenius Lexicon are harsh, cruel, hard of face, impudent, shameless, strong, vehement, greedy. Therefore, it is not necessarily so that this king would be recognized by an especially fierce outward appearance.

#### A KING UNDERSTANDING DARK SENTENCES

The term 'dark sentences' Hebrew chiydah (H2420) gives the initial impression of someone who perhaps deals in the occult. But this word in Strong's indicate the ability to deal with puzzles, hard questions, proverbs or riddles. This term is used in Numbers. 12:6-8 to show that the Lord makes known by visions and dreams (dark speeches) to his prophets. The term is used in Psalms. 49:4 and 78:2 having to do with understanding parables, and in Proverbs. 1:6 having to do with understanding proverbs.

*\*Num 12:6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.*

*Num 12:7 My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house.*

*Num 12:8 With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the Lord shall he behold...*

*\*Psa 49:4 I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp.*

*\*Psa 78:2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:*

*\*Pro 1:6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.*

Therefore this term shows from the Biblical usage, that this man would have special knowledge of God and understanding of the Bible.

#### **8.**

**Dan 8:24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.**

Here the words 'but not by his own power' mean that he was working with the power of others to destroy the holy people. To this end it was significant that only three days before the Day of

Atonement 1979 Mr. Armstrong ordained Stanley Rader and Joseph Tkach as evangelists giving them the highest rank in the church next to himself.

Mr. Armstrong's part in destroying the holy people was mainly in turning from his original righteousness and establishing the hierarchical authoritarian government in the church just as Gentile governments lord it over their subjects rather than the servant leadership Jesus commanded in Matthew.20:24-28 and Luke 22:25-27. Mr. Armstrong constantly reminded the members that he was God's Apostle and that God's government was from the top down. He set up various levels of authority in the ministry instead of the God-appointed ministerial gifts of the spirit. This led to power struggles, rebellions and conspiracies. [28] He insisted that ministers must teach all doctrine as approved through him as Chief Apostle and God's representative on earth so that all are speaking the same thing. [29] This created a people who did not study and prove what they were taught. They became blindly loyal to a man instead of to God and Jesus Christ.

Commandments of men were also set up such as thou shalt not vote; women must not wear makeup; thou shalt not serve in the military, etc that were spiritually abusive and bound heavy burdens. Perhaps the most destructive of these was the commandment against using doctors and relying only on God for healing. This cost many their health and some even their lives.

Mr. Rader's part in destroying the holy people was in incorporating the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation in 1975 to give a secular appearance to Mr. Armstrong in his world travels instead of as a church leader. This altered the preaching of the true gospel because now Mr. Armstrong preached 'a strong hand from someplace' and the 'gospel of give vs get' instead of the true gospel of Jesus Christ. The secular Ambassador International Cultural Foundation turned Ambassador Auditorium into a Carnegie Hall of the west featuring concerts and performing arts funded by church tithes to entertain Beverly Hills aristocrats. (See Reference [33] in 9A) Beginning in 1977 the Cultural Foundation published Human Potential Magazine renamed Quest, a secular magazine also funded by church tithes. This reference explains some of the unchristian articles this magazine produced. [30] Another tithe funded arm of the Foundation was Everest House Publishers [31] that published many unchristian books. In addition to his work of secularizing the church, Stan Rader led the fight against the State of California during the 1979 receivership to disobey God's commandment. Those who were standing for the truth were being disfellowshipped. [32]

Herbert Armstrong named Joseph Tkach as his successor before he died. Mr. Tkach's part in destroying the holy people took place mostly after Herbert Armstrong died. By 1988 he began to make doctrinal changes - quietly and slowly at first, but then openly and radically by January 1995. He directed the church theology towards mainstream evangelical Christian belief. Eventually all of Herbert Armstrong's original writings were withdrawn from print. On April 16, 2009, the Worldwide Church of God announced the official change of name to Grace Communion International. Those who wanted to preserve true doctrines such as the Sabbath and Holy Days all had to leave at one time or another and God's people were henceforth scattered into numerous small groups. [33]

9.

**Dan 8:25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.**

Here are more things that this man did.

A. HE SHALL CAUSE CRAFT TO PROSPER IN HIS HAND.

The term 'craft' can lead us to think that perhaps this person is into 'witchcraft'. But the Hebrew word 'mirmah' (H4820) means deceit, guile or treachery. Therefore, he would be a very powerful leader over God's people who would deceive them.

One way that the church was greatly deceived was by constant reminders to faithfully send in their tithes and offerings for the work of preaching the gospel. Here is an article showing some of the activities tithe money was really being used for by the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation. [34]

B. HE SHALL MAGNIFY HIMSELF IN HIS HEART.

This reference as an example of magnifying himself in his heart is what Mr. Armstrong wrote to the membership when he introduced his book, *Mystery of the Ages*

"Dear Brethren and Co-Workers with Christ: Since last December I have been working diligently on the largest and most important book of my life. In real fact I feel I myself did not write it. Rather, I believe God used me in writing it. I candidly feel it may be the most important book since the Bible." [35]

C. BY PEACE HE SHALL DESTROY MANY.

This Hebrew word for peace is 'shalvah' (H7962) and means quietness ease prosperity. This destruction refers back to the previous verse 24 that speaks of destroying the holy people.

*Dan 8:24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.*

How are the holy people destroyed by peaceful means?

The word 'destroy' is the Hebrew 'shachath' (H7843) and is most often used in the sense of literally destroying something, but also the word can be a corruption or moral destruction as used here:

*Exo 32:7 And the Lord said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted 'shachath' (H7843) themselves:*

Many of the holy people have been destroyed morally by believing false doctrines taught in Worldwide. For example, those who believed the false doctrine that came out in 1974 about divorce and remarriage were destroyed by unlawfully remarrying and so defiling their holy temple. (See Section 2F) Instead of studying and proving what they were taught, many who believed in Herbert Armstrong's claims as Chief Apostle and that everything he decreed had the authority of God ended up committing idolatry for they idolized him.

Some who were able to see that there was corruption in the church, but had no abiding love for the truth threw out the truth along with the errors and went back into the world. Some

swallowed the errors along with the truth, not being able to discern because they were still baby Christians who needed the milk of the word and not strong meat (Heb 5:12-14). Still others when faced with a choice and knew better, did not stand for the truth, but departed from their loyalty to God and Jesus Christ in order to remain loyal to a man, an organization, a position or a paycheck.

God is watching us all to see how we treat his words and his commandments.

## 10.

**Dan 8:26 And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days.**

We see that the scriptures from Daniel 8:14 and ending with verse 25 are here called 'the vision of the evening 'ereb' (H6153) and the morning 'boqer' (H1242), a period of 2300 days. The word 'days' is translated from 'ereb' (H6153) and 'boqer' (H1242) meaning evenings and mornings.

*Dan 8:14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; (evenings 'ereb' and mornings 'boqer') then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.*

The vision therefore started at the beginning of the four divisions of Alexander's empire and ended with the Little Horn of the Third Beast in 1979 covering a period of 2300 days or years.

### HOW DO WE KNOW THAT THE PROPHECY IS FOR YEARS RATHER THAN 24-HOUR DAYS?

Here are two reasons:

1. These scriptures show that a day can be symbolic of a year.

*\*Num 14:34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.*

*\*Eze 4:6 And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year.*

2. These scriptures show that the prophecy would not take place for a very long time and actually not until the time of the end. Thus it would seem that years would be more appropriate than literal days.

*\*Dan 8:17 So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.*

*\*Dan 8:19 And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.*

*\*Dan 8:23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full,*

*\*Dan 8:26 And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days.*

### DEFINITION OF A DAY

Since the prophecy of 2300 days says literally 2300 evenings and mornings what does this mean?

As we see here, Gen 1:5 tells us that the word 'day' can have two meanings. One meaning is that a day is the daylight portion of a 24-hour day. The other meaning is that a day is the entire 24-hour day.

*Gen 1:5 And God called the light Day Hebrew yowm (H3117), and the darkness he called Night. And the evening Hebrew ereb (H6153) and the morning Hebrew boqer (H1242) were the first day Hebrew yowm (H3117)*

If the prophecy had just said 'days' (yowm), we would not know which definition is meant. Is it the whole day (yowm) or only the daylight portion or the 24-hour day? But since the prophecy said 'evenings and mornings' (ereb, boqer), we know from Gen 1:5 that an evening and a morning is the definition of an entire 24-hour day, not just the daylight portion.

### THE VISION OF THE LIGHT AND THE DARKNESS

Another meaning of the prophecy of the evening and the morning is this: The morning equals the light called Day and the evening equals the darkness called Night. So this period could have just as easily be called 'the vision of the light and the darkness'. God allows both light and darkness in the 24-hour day. But, spiritually speaking, we are called to be the children of light, not of darkness. (Eph 5:8, 1Thes5:5) So this seems to picture a 2300-year period of time as a testing of God's people whether they will walk according to the light of the Lord, or according to the darkness of this world.

### CONCLUSION

### THIS IS HOW THE 2300 DAYS FITS PERFECTLY WITH THE DAYS OF DANIEL 12

The Theory of the 2300 Days of Daniel 8				
321 BC Beginning of the 4 Divisions Dan 8:9	+ 2300 Days (Years) Dan 8:14	= 1979 AD Daily Sacrifice taken away		
The Theory of the Days of Daniel 12 [36]				
689 AD Dome of Rock Abomination being built Dan 11:45	+ 1290 Days (Years) Dan 12:11	= 1979 AD Daily Sacrifice taken away	+ 45 more Days (Years) = 1335 Waiting Period	= 2024 AD First Resurrection

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