

Daniel on Leadership – Part 4

Daniel 11:32

In last week's sermon, Pastor David referenced a couple of passages I had read before, but had never seen the significance. Especially in the light of our conversation last week about New Year's resolutions, I immediately realized that we needed to spend some time talking about part of one of those verses.

Background Passage:

And by smooth *words* he will turn to godlessness those who act wickedly toward the covenant, but the people who know their God will display strength and take action.

What is the context of that verse? Read Chapter 11. First it is Daniel prophesying about future events. But the world situation about which he prophesies is very dire. There are wars and rumors of war. There are political figures taking power by force, intrigue, and deception. The leaders were joining sides with wicked, unrighteous people, and leaving the religion of their youth and of the culture. And they were persecuting the righteous.

Biblical Challenge to Leadership:

In the second half of verse 32, I believe God throws out a challenge to every believer that they become a leader.

To verify this, let's first look at who Daniel was describing. "...the people who know their God..." Who is that? More importantly, is that you?

Now that we know who Daniel was talking about, now what did they do that was so great? "...display strength..." and "...take action."

Display strength. The same word as used in Deut. 31:6 and lots of other places, that means "be strong." It is courage in action.

Take action. Do something! And do something that will make a difference.

To me, that sounds like leadership.

Brian Hardin – DAB – "I want it to matter for the Kingdom of God that I was here."

Steve Hyde – Asia for Jesus – "I would like to see Cambodia become a great and righteous nation."

Practical Application:

What do you see that needs to be fixed? That needs to be made right?

Often, when we see something like that, God is calling us to do something about it.

Why don't you do something?

Conclusion:

Will you "display strength and take action?"