WORLD HISTORY notes Day 3

Mesopotamian Civilizations

HITTITES – 1600 BC

* developed iron
* 3 man chariots

ASSYRIANS – 1300 BC

* Sennacherib
	+ ruled during high point of empire
	+ invaded Jerusalem
		- in Bible
		- God sent “Angel of the Lord” killed 185K – 2 Kings 19:35
	+ later killed by his sons
		- biblical prophecy – 2 Kings 19:1-7
		- gain control of throne
* ruthless warriors
	+ iron, horses, bows/arrows, very disciplined
	+ extremely cruel
		- slaughtered, cut off noses/legs/tongues/hands
		- built mounds of skulls near defeated villages as reminder
		- ”iron horse”
		- nailed skins to walls
		- threw salt in wounds
		- tortured in public
		- sent captives away to lessen rebellion
* 1st to use cavalry
* built huge library at Nineveh
* latitude and longitude
* 360 degree circle

PHOENICIANS- 12OO BC

* excellent traders
	+ spread culture throughout Mediterranean Sea
* used cedar
* Murex
	+ purple dye
	+ from small snail = phonix
* set up colonies
	+ re-supply and protection from pirates
* 22 symbol alphabet

LYDIANS- 1200 BC

* + - 1st to develop “coined” money
		- Increased trade…no longer based just on bartering

CHALDEANS – 600 BC

* NEBUCHADNEZZAR
	+ destroyed Jerusalem
		- In Bible (2 Kings 25)
		- brought thousands back to Babylon as slaves **(“**Babylonian Captivity**”)**
	+ rebuilt Babylon
	+ built 50’ wall around city
		- ”Hanging Gardens of Babylon”
			* built for wife = Amytis
			* she was homesick

PERSIANS – 550 BC

539 BC Cyrus defeated Chaldeans

* ”Cyrus Cylinder”
	+ provides written history of Cyrus’ rule
	+ records the defeat of Chaldeans and allowing Jews to return home
	+ records that treatment of captives is very humane
	+ referred to as world’s first “Declaration of Human Rights”

530 BC Cambyses stretched empire from Egypt to Indus River

522 BC Darius

* great organizer
* divided empire into satrapies
* placed satraps in charge
* “kings eyes and ears”
* strengthened infrastructure for trade, travel, military movement
	+ ”Royal Road”
		- 1600 miles - station every 14 miles
		- travel empire in 1 week – like “**Pony Express**”
* treated captives respectfully – paid taxes / kept peace

Zoroastrianism

* forces of good/evil battle
	+ people must choose
* in future, good would triumph