

#739 The Phony War and the Forgotten War – The Korean War is called the Forgotten War

Key Understanding: *The forgotten war.* Outside of North and South Korea, the Korean War (1950-1953) is sometimes called the Forgotten War because it was far overshadowed in subsequent public discourse by World War II and the Vietnam War.

The Korean War (1950-1953)

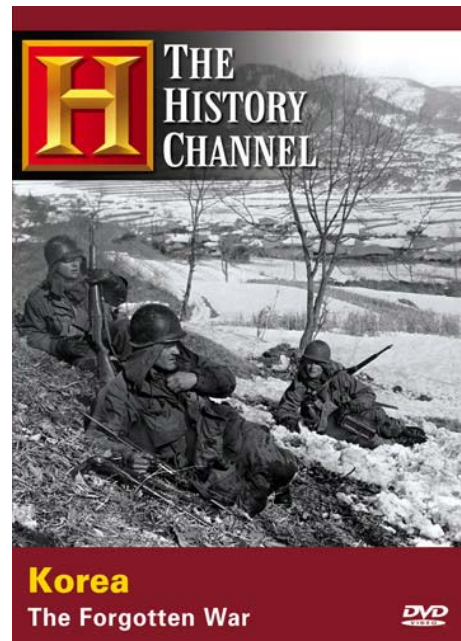
Causes of the war. The Japanese gained control of Korea in 1895 and made it a part of Japan in 1910. The Allies defeated Japan in World War II, and U.S. and Soviet forces moved into Korea. After the war, Soviet troops occupied Korea north of the 38th parallel of north latitude, an imaginary line that cuts the country in half. American troops occupied Korea south of the 38th parallel.

In 1947, the U.N. General Assembly declared that elections should be held throughout Korea to choose one government for the entire country. The Soviet Union opposed this idea and would not permit elections in North Korea. On May 10, 1948, the people of South Korea elected a national assembly. The assembly set up the government of the Republic of Korea for the south. On September 9, North Korean Communists established the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the north. Kim Il Sung headed both the government of North Korea and North Korea's Communist Party. North Korea and South Korea each claimed sovereignty over the entire peninsula. Their troops clashed near the border several times from 1948 to 1950. The United States removed its last troops from Korea in 1949 and indicated early in 1950 that Korea lay outside the main U.S. defense line in Asia. The Communists believed that the time was right for military action.

The war begins. The Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when troops from North Korea invaded South Korea. A major prize of the conflict would be Seoul, the capital of South Korea. The battles for Seoul commenced.

When he heard the news, young evangelist Billy Graham sent a telegram to U.S. President Harry Truman:

Millions of Christians praying God give you wisdom in this crisis. Strongly urge showdown with Communism now. More Christians in Southern Korea per capita than any part of the world. We cannot let them down.



Billy Graham

*1 Chronicles 28:3 (KJV) But God said unto me [King David], **THOU SHALT NOT BUILD AN HOUSE FOR MY NAME, BECAUSE THOU HAST BEEN A MAN OF WAR, AND HAST SHED BLOOD.***

[<< Previous](#)

[Main Page and List of Unsealing Summaries](#)

[Next >>](#)