

Series: Daniel – Life For Eternity

Text: Daniel 12:5-13

**Main Idea: Main Idea:** We persevere because rest is promised.

Title/Hook: Happily Ever After

Date: 5/26/23

Purpose: To encourage the people of God that trials are temporary and that eternal rest and reward is promised. To exhort the people of God to faithfulness to God and trust in Him even when trials and persecutions come.

FCF/COR: Broken world where God is opposed and His people persecuted.

Is there any hope?

Christ Trajectory: John 3:16-20

Structure: Inductive

### **Main Idea:**

Subject (What is the passage about?): The conclusion of the final vision given to Daniel, and the angel's answer to when these things would end and what the outcome would be.

Complement (What does the passage say about the subject?): Trials will come for the people of God, but they will be temporary, God will refine his people through them, and those who persevere will have an eternal rest and inheritance.

Exegetical Main Idea: The conclusion of the final vision given to Daniel, and the angel's answer to when these things would end and what the outcome would be is that trials will come for the people of God, but they will be temporary, God will refine his people through them, and those who persevere will have an eternal rest and inheritance.

Theological Main Idea: God sustains and refine His people through trials and promises ultimate and eternal rest and inheritance to those who persevere.

Homiletical **Main Idea:** We persevere because rest is promised.

Outline:

**Text:** Daniel 12:5-13

1. The time of trials is temporary for God's people (vv. 5-9, 11)

**Read v. 7 again.**

**Daniel 7:25** - <sup>25</sup> He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

**Read vv. 8-9, 11 again.**

1. The time of trials is temporary for God's people (vv. 5-9, 11)

**Quote – Dale Ralph Davis** – “Can you think of anything so bleak? This is the hardest misery. This is, eventually, the future of the church. And it's not what we prefer to hear. In fact, you won't get invited back to speak at the prophecy conference if you preach like this! But the marvel of it all is that this shattered people has a God who shortens the days, a cross-centered God who knows the pain of his people, and sets a limit to their distress. Lest we be tempted to doubt, Daniel's visitor gives us a two-handed oath, so that misery is infected with certainty.”

2. The wicked will act wickedly, but the wise will be made white (v. 10)

**John 3:16-20** - <sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.

**1 Peter 1:3-9** - <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living

hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup> obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**Quote – Edmond Clowney** – “If our faith is to endure, it must be purified and stress-tested. Like *gold* it must pass through the furnace. Trials should not surprise us, or cause us to doubt God's faithfulness. Rather, we should actually be glad for them. God sends trials to strengthen our trust in him so that our faith will not fail. Our trials keep us trusting; they burn away our self-confidence and drive us to our Saviour. The fires of affliction or persecution will not reduce our faith to ashes. *Fire* does not destroy gold: it only removes combustible impurities... Like a jeweler putting his most precious metal in the crucible, so God proves us in the furnace of trial and affliction. The genuineness of our faith shines from the fire to his praise.”

**2 Cor. 4:17** - <sup>17</sup> For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison

3. The one who reaches the end will rest and receive a reward (vv. 12-13)

**Daniel 12:1-3** - “At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. <sup>2</sup> And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup> And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

**John 3:16-16** “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

**Matthew 24:9-13** - <sup>9</sup> “Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name’s sake. <sup>10</sup> And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another. <sup>11</sup> And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. <sup>12</sup> And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. <sup>13</sup> But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

**Main Idea:** We persevere because rest is promised.