

In the Fire
Part 10
“The End Times”

Daniel 12

1 “At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered.

2 Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. **3** Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. **4** But you, Daniel, roll up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. Many will go here and there to increase knowledge.”

Vs. 1

“At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then.

- The chapter begins in what seems to be a response to what was written in Chapter 11. This is not certain but seems to more evident of an end time era...
- The context of what Daniel is seeing is in application to the Jewish people and Israel..
- Here the Archangel Michael is named again as the prince who protects Israel...
- In addition to his role as a spiritual warrior, Michael has a special job in protecting Israel. Since Michael is called the archangel (Jude 1:9), he is Satan’s true opposite. Satan is not the opposite of Jesus; he is the opposite of Michael, this high-ranking angel.

Vs. 2,3

2 Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. **3** Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

- The Bible tells us there will be two resurrections that happen after the rapture of the church, one for the righteous and one for the condemned...

John 5

28 “Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice **29** and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned.

Revelation 20

4 I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony about Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

5 (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection.

- Not only will there be a resurrection of the righteous but “*Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.*”
- In this hour it may not be cool or popular to live for God, to choose righteousness over worldliness...
- But the day is coming when the tables will be turned...
- The righteous will reign on the earth...
- The standards of the world we live in will flip...
- Righteousness and Godliness will be esteemed and desired...

- *“Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.”*

Vs. 4

But you, Daniel, roll up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. Many will go here and there to increase knowledge.”

NKJV

“But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and **seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.**”

“This has more the idea of searching after knowledge rather than rapid forms of transportation.” (Guzik)

“The idea is that people would run about trying to find answers to important questions, especially in reference to future events.” (Wood)

- Has there ever been a time of knowledge like the present?
- I remember a day when you didn't know something you had to go to the library and check out a book...
- If knowledge increasing on the earth is a sign of the end times, this is something we should take note of...

- Knowledge can be a good thing...
- It can save a life...
- It can solve a problem...
- It can also open a whole world of evil...
- It can unlock things we might wish we never knew...
- I am thankful for knowledge that helps and is beneficial...
- But I know there are also things in this world, things that take place in the dark corners of the world that I have no desire to know anything about...

- I'm reminded of the Garden of Eden where there was a tree called the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil...
- I believe something like that tree exists in our world and it could be seen in what we know as the internet...

I also believe there is a new form of knowledge increasing in our world that can be used for good and also could be used for evil, it's called Artificial Intelligence...

- Artificial Intelligence is something that could be used to help quickly and accurately diagnose medical conditions and other things like that...
- It is also something that could be used as a weapon against innocent people...
- It has the ability to create a false reality and an illusion, even information that is not real, but it seems real...

Video: Video of Pastor Steve

- Ai is quickly becoming a part of our world...
- It use to be said, seeing is believing...
- Not any more; Just because you see it doesn't mean it's real...

“many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.”

Vs. 5-7

5 Then I, Daniel, looked, and there before me stood two others, one on this bank of the river and one on the opposite bank. **6** One of them said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, “How long will it be before these astonishing things are fulfilled?”

7 The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, lifted his right hand and his left hand toward heaven, and I heard him swear by him who lives forever, saying, “It will be for a time, times and

half a time. When the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things will be completed.”

- Daniel is back to the **riverbank** first mentioned in Daniel 10
- These other men on the riverbank were angels. One angel asked the question of the other, not for the benefit of the angel, but for Daniel’s benefit and ours.
- In a solemn oath, one angel announced that the time of trouble would last three and one-half years
- This three and a half year period is well known in other passages of Biblical prophecy.

Daniel 7:25 describes it as the period that saints (those saved during the tribulation) are given into the hands of the Antichrist.

Daniel 9:27 describes it as the period between the breaking of Antichrist’s covenant with Israel, the erection of the abomination of desolation, and the establishment of Jesus’ kingdom.

Daniel 12:7 describes it as the duration of “the time of trouble” for Israel.

Revelation 11:2 describes it as the period that the holy city will be tread underfoot by Gentiles.

Revelation 11:3 describes it as the period of ministry for the two witnesses.

Revelation 12:6,14 describes it as the period that Israel is preserved by God in the wilderness.

Revelation 13:5 as the duration of the Antichrist’s authority to rule, persecute and blaspheme.

- The people of Israel, along with others saved during that time, will seem completely crushed as these things end, but at that time, the

Messiah – upon whom they will trust before He returns – will return to rescue them.

Vs. 8-13

8 I heard, but I did not understand. So I asked, “My lord, what will the outcome of all this be?”

9 He replied, “Go your way, Daniel, because the words are rolled up and sealed until the time of the end. **10** Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.

- Daniel states: “I heard, but I did not understand. So I asked, “My lord, what will the outcome of all this be?”

I’m not sure of everything God revealed to Daniel,
but if God showed him a smart phone...

If God showed him an internet search engine...

If God showed him Chat GPT...

I can only imagine if he saw what we see today, he would say, “I heard, but I did not understand.”

Vs. 9,10

9 He replied, “Go your way, Daniel, because the words are rolled up and sealed until the time of the end. **10** Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.

I want to compare this to what Jesus said to John in the last chapter of Revelation.

Revelation 22:10,11

10 Then he told me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near. **11** Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy.”

- The Word of the Lord to Daniel is “the words are rolled up and sealed until the time of the end.”
- The Word of the Lord to John is “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near.”

Then there is this conclusion..

To Daniel

10 Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.

To John

11 Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy.”

Genesis 6:3

Then the Lord said, “My Spirit will not contend with man forever...”

- The closer we get to end time events, the more they unfolded and are understood...
- God has revealed to the Prophets things that were beyond their own natural understanding...
- They were led by the Holy Spirit to carry a message to Generations to come...

Vs. 11-13

11 “From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days.

12 Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days.

13 “As for you, go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance.”

- In light of all that God has revealed to Daniel, he was probably overwhelmed, concerned and excited all at once...
- With all of this God resets the heart of Daniel, “As for you, go your way till the end.”
- The Lord also reassures Daniel; “You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance.”

This is very similar to Jesus’ promise to every believer who is faithful to him till the end...

Revelation 22

12 “Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. **13** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.