



GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL

Daniel 12:1-13

I. The Rescue of God's People

Daniel 12:1-2 "At that time *[At the end of the 7 years of the Great Tribulation]* Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Every one who is found written in the book. **2** And many of those who sleep *[the body is described as being asleep, but the soul is never described as asleep]* in the dust of the earth shall awake *[the resurrection]*, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame and everlasting contempt."

"Everyone who is found written in the book"

- "All Israel will be saved" (Romans 11:25) – The true Israel – the believing Israel – those who place their faith in Christ.

The Book of Life (see also Psalm 69:28)

- **Revelation 3:5** - He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.
- **Revelation 13:8** - All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.
- **Revelation 20:15** - And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.
- **Revelation 17:8** - The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

<u>The First Resurrection</u>	<u>The Second Resurrection</u>
Christ (Matt. 27:52)	The White Throne Judgment
Raptured Saints (1 Thess. 4:13-18)	Daniel 12:2; Rev. 20:5
Tribulation Saints (Daniel 12:2)	The Wicked Dead (after the 1,000 year reign of Christ)
"to everlasting life"	"to shame and everlasting contempt"

Revelation 20:5–6 (NKJV) — **5** But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. **6** Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

II. The Reward for God's Faithful

Daniel 12:3 Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.

Proverbs 11:30 — The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise.

Who are God's great? Who are these who will shine forever and ever? The answer is not they whom the world magnifies, exalts and applauds. Rather, it is God's humblest person who points a soul to Jesus." – W.A. Criswell

- 1370 – John Wycliffe
- 1660 – John Bunyan
- 1750 – John and Charles Wesley

12:13 But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days.

III. The Responsibility from God's Word

Daniel 12:4 - But you, Daniel, shut up the words [preserve; make copies], and seal [keep safe] the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase [people will be searching and finding answers from the book of Daniel during the Great Tribulation].

"many shall run to and fro" (during the Great Tribulation)

- Isaac Newton (1642-1727), based on this verse, said "There may come a day that mankind will travel 50 mph."
- Voltaire, the French humanist and atheist, said, "See what a fool Christianity makes of an otherwise brilliant man, such as Sir Isaac Newton! Doesn't he know that if man traveled 50 miles an hour, he would suffocate and his heart would stop?"

11 "And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. **12** Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days.

The time previously revealed to be 1260 days (3 ½ years) or the second part of the Great Tribulation. Now, it says 1290 days (v.11) and 1335 days (v.12). Why the extension of time? No one knows, but it could be an interim time of preparation between the second advent of Christ and the commencement of the millennial kingdom. This provides time to judge the wicked dead and time to establish the saints in the kingdom.

Three points of application:

- 1) Trust that God is sovereign, even when you feel this world is out of control.
- 2) Hold onto the future by the handle of faith, not the handle of fear.
- 3) "Go your way" (12:13) refers to doing what we are supposed to be doing while remembering that at any time these events could occur. Luke 19:13 says "Occupy till I come."