

The Book of Daniel / Chapter Twelve (Part Seven)

Lesson 60-Daniel's Apokalypsis

I. REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK

The ultimate objective of these chronological periods is the "Inauguration of The Kingdom of God." The source positions this inauguration as the definitive event following the "End of the Age." The progression from the 2,300 evenings and mornings through the various day-counts (1,260, 1,290, and 1,135) culminates in the transition from prophetic "End Times" to the establishment of a new divine order.

II. IDENTIFICATION OF "THOSE WHO HAVE INSIGHT"

The text identifies a specific class of individuals referred to as "those who have insight" (*Šākalim/sawkalim*). This term is central to understanding the human element of the end-time prophecy.

III. LINGUISTIC AND THEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

Linguistic and Theological Context

- **Etymology:** The Hebrew root is *sakal*. In the *Hiphil* stem used in Daniel 12:3, it denotes a declarative action—recognizing someone or something to be in a certain state.
- **Grammatical Function:** It is a participle active, functioning like an articular participle in Greek to highlight a person's specific position.
- **Frequency:** The word occurs 63 times in the Hebrew Scriptures and 9 times specifically within the Book of Daniel.
- **Identity:** These are identified as Israelites during the end time who have heard the message of the Messianic kingdom and are actively preparing for the Second Coming of the Messiah.

Promised Benefits:

The "insightful ones" are distinguished by several spiritual and physical rewards:

- **Resurrection:** They are part of the group that will be resurrected (Daniel 12:2).
- **Soteriological Security:** Their names are written in "the book" and they will enter "everlasting life" within the Kingdom of God.
- **Physical Glorification:** They will be "illuminated physically," described as being physically glorified.

IV. THE INCREASE OF DIVINE KNOWLEDGE

Daniel 12:4 commands the sealing of the book until the "end of time," noting that "knowledge will increase." The source context clarifies that this does not refer to general human information, but specifically to the knowledge of God.

Areas of Expanded Understanding

This increased knowledge relates to revelations given during the "administration of grace" concerning events prior to the end time:

- **The New Creation:** Revelation of the New Heaven and the New Earth (Revelation 21-22).
- **Gentile Inclusion:** Understanding the spiritual blessings shared with the Gentiles (Ephesians 1:1-14, Colossians 1:26-27).
- **The "Catching Up":** The knowledge of the saints being gathered at the appearing of Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:13-16).

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- **The Grace Administration:** The specific mystery of God's grace (Romans 16:25, Ephesians 1:9-14).

V. PROPHETIC CHRONOLOGY AND THE END OF THE AGE

The text provides a specific timeline for the "End Time," defined as a period of intense upheaval and physical struggle preceding the rescue of Israel and the Gentile nations.

Phrase / Number	Hebrew/Aramaic Context	Definition & Duration
"Time, times, and half a time"	<i>moade' moade' khay-tsee</i>	A specific period of 3.5 years (1,260 days) focusing on the extreme physical affliction of Israel.
1,290 Days	<i>Alef mē'â tiš 'îm</i>	The period beginning with the removal of regular sacrifice and ending with the destruction of the "Abomination of Desolation."
1,335 Days	<i>Alef šālōš š'lōšîm ḥāmēš</i>	Represents an additional 45-day waiting period beyond the 1,290 days. Those reaching this point are considered "blessed."

The "End of the Age" (*qes yom*)

This refers to the transition period (estimated at 75 days, occurring after the 1,260-day mark) from the former era to the start of the eternal righteous reign of Christ. It is described as a "harvest" where the "Son of Man" removes lawlessness and stumbling blocks from the kingdom, allowing the righteous to "shine forth as the sun."

VI. THE CONFLICT OF THE FINAL DAYS

The prophecy centers on the activities of the "king who does what he pleases" and the subsequent divine intervention.

The "King Who Does What He Pleases"

This figure is characterized by extreme tyranny and the establishment of the **Abomination of Desolation** (or Abomination of Terror). His actions include:

- Colliding with the "king of the north" and "king of the south."
- Conquering Egypt, Libya, and Ethiopia.
- Entering the "Beautiful Land" and distributing land to those who honor him.
- Altering laws and appointed times.
- Establishing a "royal fortress," possibly located at the Temple.
- Persecuting the "waiting saints" with fierce affliction.

The Role of Michael the Archangel

During this "time of distress" and the "indignation" (the wrath of God), Michael the archangel arises specifically to protect the nation of Israel from total destruction.

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VII. THE INAUGURATION OF THE UNIVERSAL KINGDOM

The conclusion of the 1,335-day period marks the end of the wait and the beginning of the Universal Righteous Kingdom of God.

Sequential Events Post-1,260 Days

Following the period of great affliction, several transformative events occur:

1. **Return and Vengeance:** The physical return of Christ to execute judgment.
2. **Regathering:** The physical gathering of believing Israel.
3. **Judgment of Leaders:** The condemnation of the "conqueror" and the false prophet.
4. **Resurrection:** The resurrection of believing Israelites from previous eras.
5. **Restoration:** The reconstruction and cleansing of the land of Israel; the rebuilding and expansion of the Jerusalem Temple.
6. **Installation:** The official installation of Jesus as the eternal King of Israel, with the apostles and other rulers from the period of affliction serving as co-rulers.

The Succession of World Empires

The history of Israel runs parallel to a sequence of Gentile empires, as illustrated by the prophetic image of the multi-metallic statue:

- **First Kingdom (Gold):** Babylonian Empire.
- **Second Kingdom (Silver):** Medo-Persian Empire.
- **Third Kingdom (Bronze):** Grecian Empire.
- **Fourth Kingdom (Iron):** Parthian Empire.
- **Fifth Kingdom (Iron/Clay):** Satanic Empire.
- **The Final Kingdom:** Represented by a "stone cut without hands" that grows into a large mountain (Daniel 2:35, 44-45), this is the Kingdom of God—a kingdom that will never be destroyed or transferred to another.