

The Final Word

Daniel Twelve

Introduction

- A. Beginning in chapter ten Daniel is shown a great vision.
 1. The first part of the vision is now history.
 2. The latter part of the vision is prophetic of the future.
 3. With chapter twelve we are at the end. The first part of chapter twelve is about the prophecies of the end and the latter part is about the end of the prophecies. Both of them are about ***“the time of the end”*** or ***“the end of times.”***
 4. Daniel 11:36 through 12:3 constitutes a revelation of the major facts of the time of the end.
 - These things begin with the breaking of a covenant made with “the prince that shall come” (Daniel 9:26-27 and Revelation 13:5).
 - This time is referred to as ***“Jacob’s trouble”*** (Jeremiah 30:7) and the ***“Great Tribulation”*** (Matthew 24:21).

PROPHECIES OF THE END (Daniel 12:1-3)

A. Tribulation (12:1)

1. ***“At that time”*** identifies the time we are dealing with from chapter eleven, marked as the Antichrist’s reign of terror, known as the Great Tribulation.
2. Daniel 12: connects the Great Tribulation and the ***“time of Jacob’s trouble”*** with Michael, the archangel.
 - Michael’s primary responsibility is to protect Israel.
 - Revelation 12:7-9 explains, saying, this Great Tribulation is initiated by Satan’s forced exodus from Heaven.
3. Scriptures that support this view:
 - Zechariah 14:2
 - Jeremiah 30:7
 - Matthew 24:21-22

B. Israel will be delivered (12:1)

1. This refers to a specific group of people who will survive the Tribulation period.

2. Jeremiah 30:4-7 describes this for us.
3. ***"The Book"*** is a reference to the **"Lamb's Book of Life"**.
 - The Book of Life contains the names of godly Jews who are a believing remnant of the earth at the end of the Tribulation.
 - God will purge Israel of rebellious, disobedient Jews, leaving a remnant of the committed.
 - Zechariah 13:8-9
 - Malachi 3:16-18 refers to a time when God will preserve the godly Jewish remnant.
 - God will use the Tribulation to sift the faithful Jews from the unfaithful.

C. Resurrection (12:2)

1. This is not a general resurrection.
2. The Church will have been resurrected by this time.
3. There are **two resurrections**. (John 5:28-29)
4. The first resurrection is a resurrection of life.
 - Phase 1 – Resurrection of Jesus and some Old Testament saints three days after the crucifixion.
 - Phase 2 – Resurrection of the **Church at the Rapture** BEFORE the Tribulation.
 - Phase 3- Resurrection of the two witnesses near the midpoint of the Tribulation Period.
 - Phase 4 – Resurrection of the Tribulation saints.
5. The second resurrection is a resurrection of condemnation.
 - Resurrection of all unbelievers at the end of the Millennium.
 - ***"Some to shame and everlasting contempt"*** refers to the Great White Throne Judgment.
 - The Rapture of the church is not in view here.

D. The Promise of Reward (12:3)

1. Those who are wise.
2. Those who turn many to righteousness.

THE END OF PROPHECIES

- A. **Daniels confession** of not understanding. (12:8)
- B. The angel wants to know **about the timing**. (12:6)
- C. Daniel wants to know **what will happen**. (12:8)
- D. **Encouragement** about the Jews. (12:10-11)
- E. **Explanation of 12:11-12**.

FINAL ADVISE

- A. **Protect the Vision**. (12:4)
 - 1. Some of these things were not important for the moment. Understanding would come when needed.
 - 2. ***“Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase”***, refers to the fact that the closer we get to fulfillment, we will search out the scripture and in the process of searching our knowledge will become complete.
 - 3. Jesus refers to this truth in Matthew 24:15-21.
 - 4. Daniel is told to protect the vision or make sure that it is made available. 2,500 years later we are studying the Book of Daniel. It has been protected.
 - 5. Now it is our turn. How do we protect it? (Romans 13:11-14)
- B. **Go on with your life**. (12:9)
 - 1. Do not waste so much time with these matters that we neglect our service to God and His Church now.
 - 2. Jesus is coming but in the meantime we must “occupy”.
 - 3. Prophecy is important to study, but don’t get overly obsessed with it.
- C. **Prepare for the future**. (12:13)
 - 1. Daniel was in his eighties when he was told this.
 - 2. At the end of life, he was assured that the best was yet to come.

Conclusion

Carry on, be about your business. Develop a balanced lifestyle of looking forward and living in the present.

The story of Daniel is fascinating because it shows the possibility of godliness in the midst of circumstances of ungodliness. (G. Campbell Morgan)

Remember that the more time we spend with God the more teachable we become. When we ask questions, we become dependent on Him. He becomes more valuable to us with every revelation received from Him.