

Daniel: *Dual Book of History & Prophecy*

Chapter 12 – The End Times

The Great Tribulation (Verse 1)

1 In context, "at that time" refers to the latter part of the Tribulation ^{Daniel 11:36-45}, up to the Second Coming/Glorious Appearing ^{Titus 2:13} (and Armageddon). Israel will face great distress/persecution ^{Deuteronomy 4:30, Jeremiah 30:7, Mark 13:18-20, Revelation 16:17-21}; however, the archangel ^{Jude 1:9} Michael ^{Daniel 10:13,21, 12:1, Revelation 12:7} will continue to be Israel's guardian, helping the "refined" Jews ^{Zechariah 13:9}. The phrase "your people" is a reference to the Jews in the Tribulation who will accept Christ as their Savior and be delivered ^{Romans 11:26, Jeremiah 30:7}.

This verse was quoted by Jesus ^{Matthew 24:21, Mark 13:18-19} when he spoke about a future time of intense trial for Israel ^{Deuteronomy 4:30, Joel 2:1-2} variously referred as the "Great Tribulation" ^{Revelation 7:14} the time of "Jacob's Trouble" ^{Jeremiah 30:7}, a time when Israel will "pass under [God's] rod" ^{Ezekiel 20:33-38} and Israel's time in the "furnace" of God's "wrath" ^{Ezekiel 22:18-22}.

The "book" mentioned in v.1 probably has several titles throughout the Bible. The various names are: *The Book of Life* ^{Psalms 69:27-28, Philippians 4:1-3, Revelation 3:4-5, 17:8, 20:12,15}, *The Book* ^{Exodus 32:30-34, Daniel 12:1}, *The Lamb's Book of Life* ^{Revelation 13:8, 21:22-27}. The "book" contains names of all saved people ^{Malachi 3:16}.

The Resurrections (Verse 2)

2 The word "multitudes" refers to everyone, because there are only two ultimate destinations: people will either go to eternal "true life" in "Heaven" or "second death" in "Hell" ^{John 5:28-29}. In many verses like this one, the context demands "sleep" equates to death ^{1 Thessalonians 5:10}.

The Seven Resurrections described in the Bible are listed here:

1. The resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ ^{Matthew 28:1-7, Acts 3:15, 10:39-40, Romans 4:25, 1 Corinthians 15:3-8}
2. The resurrection of "many holy people" at the time of the resurrection of Christ ^{Matthew 27:50-53}
3. The resurrection of the church at the Rapture ^{1 Corinthians 15:51-57, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18}
4. The resurrection of the "two witnesses" in Jerusalem ^{Revelation 11:3-13}
5. The resurrection of the Old Testament saints ^{Isaiah 26:19-21, Ezekiel 37:12-14, Daniel 12:1-3}
6. The resurrection of the Tribulation saints ^{Revelation 20:4-6}
7. The resurrection of the unbelieving dead at the "Great White Throne" judgement ^{Revelation 20:11-15}

Biblically, there is no "soul sleep", because at death the souls of the unsaved go to Hades ^{Luke 16:22b-23} and the soul and spirit of the saved go to Heaven ^{Luke 16:22a, 2 Corinthians 5:6-8, Philippians 1:20-24}.

The Rewards of the Righteous (Verse 3)

3 After resurrection, the righteous will all "appear before the Judgement Seat of Christ" (*bēma*) in order to "receive what is due [them] for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad" ^{1 Corinthians 3:10-15, 2 Corinthians 5:10}. The Lord called the "wise" ^{Daniel 11:33} (the saved) into the glory of God ^{1 Thessalonians 2:10-12, 1 Peter 5:10}, and they will shine like the "stars in the universe" forever ^{Matthew 13:43, Philippians 2:14-16}.

The Conclusion of the Revelation (Verse 4)

4 The "man" instructed Daniel to seal ^{Isaiah 8:16} the words of this prophesy until the End Times ("time of the end" ^{Daniel 11:35,40, 12:9,13}), because it was complete for now, and many details

Daniel 12

would not be known until they actually happen. The last sentence indicates that during the Tribulation, people will search for answers/knowledge ^{Amos 8:12} in Daniel's preserved book.

In the Revelation of Jesus Christ, John stated "the time is near" to unseal the prophecies ^{Revelation 22:10}.

The Timing of the End Times (Verses 5-8)

5-6 In the start of his vision ^{Daniel 10:4-6}, Daniel saw a "man" in linen standing by the Tigris River. In this part of the vision, Daniel observed the "man clothed in linen" above the river and "two others" (undoubtedly angels) on either side of the river. One of the angels asked the "man" for the timing of the prophetic occurrences to be fulfilled ^{Daniel 8:13}.

Two is the Biblical minimum number of witnesses for any legal matter ^{Deuteronomy 19:15, 31:28, 2 Corinthians 13:1}.

7 The "man" responded to the timing question with an oath. He lifted both hands toward heaven and swore in the name of God ("him who lives forever") that the time it will take to refine ^{Ezekiel 22:18-22, Malachi 3:2-4} and restore ^{Daniel 9:24-27, Zechariah 12:10-13:1} the Jews will be "time, times and half a time" (last half of the Tribulation ⇒ Great Tribulation ^{Revelation 7:14}).

There is no doubt the phrase "time, times and half a time" ^{Daniel 7:25, 12:7, Revelation 12:14} means $3\frac{1}{2}$ years.

It is the most specified time period in the Bible: 42 months ^{Revelation 11:2, 13:5}, 1260 days ^{Revelation 11:3, 12:6}.

In this verse, the "man" swore in the name of the Lord, which definitely indicated he was not Jesus.

Every time God swore in the Bible ^{Genesis 22:15-16, Isaiah 45:23, Jeremiah 22:5, 49:13, 51:14}, He swore by Himself.

In addition, there is one example of an angel swearing in a very similar way to the "man" ^{Revelation 10:5-6}.

As a result, it must be concluded that the "man" was either Gabriel or another very high ranking angel.

8 Daniel admitted he did not fully understand the vision and asked for further clarification.

Concluding Explanations from the "Man" (Verses 9-13)

9 The "man" told Daniel to go about his life and repeated his earlier instruction ^{v.4} to leave the prophecies "closed up and sealed until the time of the end", implying that everyone would have to wait until the End Times to fully understand the events of that time ^{Isaiah 29:11-12}.

10 He indicated the Tribulation (the seventieth "seven" of Daniel ^{Daniel 9:27}) will be a time of Jewish purification ^{Isaiah 1:25, Zechariah 13:8-9, Daniel 11:35}. The "man" then stated that those who choose wickedness ^{Isaiah 32:7} will remain wicked ^{Revelation 22:11a}, with truth continuing to allude them ^{Isaiah 6:9-10, 1 Corinthians 2:14, 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12}, but the "wise will understand" ^{Hosea 14:9}.

11 There will be "1290 days" (greater than the $3\frac{1}{2}$ years = 1260 days of the Great Tribulation) from the "abomination that causes desolation" ^{Daniel 9:27, 11:31, Matthew 24:15} until another significant event. Scholars have suggested the reason for the 30 additional days might be the time between the Second Coming and the "battle" of Armageddon ^{Revelation 19:11-21}.

12 The "1335 days" may have added 45 days to set up the Millennial kingdom ^{Revelation 20:1-3a}.

13 Daniel was told to go about his life for now, but eventually he would "rest" (die ^{Isaiah 57:2}), and then later Daniel would "rise" (be resurrected) and receive his "allotted inheritance" (reward) ^{Exodus 32:13, Psalm 37:34, Proverbs 28:10, Matthew 25:34}.

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