

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

1 LESSON

Lesson 1

BOUNDARIES OF THE APPOINTED TIMES & SEASONS

Read Daniel 12

- Discover The Primary Elements Of The "Collective Futurist" View
- Unlock The 1,290 Days and 1,335 Days of Bible Prophecy
- Understand The Precise Timing Of End-Time Events

Our first lesson in the **Insights In Prophecy** series delves right into the predictions of Daniel 12. It may seem odd that we would start with the last chapter first. However, in this chapter we will discover three important time periods of the final great conflict. If we grasp the importance of these three and their connection, we will find the other chapters and their timelines begin to line up, one by one, into a charted pattern. The first period in chapter 12 is well-known and discussed among prophetic students—the "time, times and a half," meaning, 1,260 days. However, two other time periods—1,290 days and 1,335 days—are nearly always neglected or given very little commentary, because scholars and teachers have not been willing or able to offer plausible explanations for them. Those who hold to the "historicist" view of prophecy cannot find any valid dates in the past for their fulfillment, and "futurists" in most cases simply suggest they somehow extend beyond the 1,260 days at the end of time.

Names have meaning. Our names are given to us at birth, and often reflect our personality or tell a story. My name **Kevin** means "beloved" and **Swift** means "one who is fast, a messenger". You might enjoy checking out your own name. Jesus—known in Hebrew as "Yeshua" means "salvation". The Arabic and Hebrew translation of Kevin is Kalil. The name Kalil in Arabic and Greek means "friend, pretty". In Hebrew, Kalil בא קליל means "crown (King)".



Names are important to God. In fact, He promises to give you—if you persevere faithfully through severe trial—an intimate name that only you and the Divine will know: *"To him who overcomes... I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a **new name** written which no one knows except him who receives it," Revelation 2:17.* The new name is likely the name of adoption; adopted persons took the name of the family into which they were adopted.

In the Word of God, our Creator reveals Himself with over 200 names and titles. This brings home the fact that there is no one "who is like God"; He is indescribable and multi-faceted. However, God attempts to help us know Him more fully with names such as "Advocate, Almighty, Alpha & Omega, Ancient of Days and Prince of Peace". He also refers to Himself as earth, food and liquid—"the Rock, Bread of Life and Living Water" and even animals--the "Lion and the Lamb". All these have spiritual meaning and offer insight into the One who loves us. However, creature names do not diminish or lower God, but raises Him to the Highest and Holiest above all. He is all things to all of His creations in Heaven and on earth.

Our first lesson will focus on Daniel 12, where **Michael--the Prince** "shall stand up" from a seated position—a position of authority and thrones, and what follows is both earth-shaking and life-giving. In this regard, Messiah is the ultimate "mal'akh" (מלאך) in Hebrew—meaning "messenger"—the Messenger the Covenant (Malachi 3:1) at Mt. Sinai—the Messenger of our Salvation.

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

In this series, we will look closely at the "Collective Futurist" view of Bible prophecy, which combines the times and events of both Daniel and Revelation into one interconnected whole. Both the historicist and futurist views apply many of Daniel's prophetic passages to events in the past; however, the view introduced in this lesson series contends that Daniel's four visions, which he personally received (chapters 7-12), are to find fulfillment during the final conflict, which Daniel 8:19 calls "the appointed time of the end."

Daniel 12 is a chapter associated with the *mystery* of prophecy. How? Daniel was told to seal up the words. The times and events would be understood *only* at the time of the end. All attempts in the last two thousand years to fully understand prophecy has been thwarted by God. Only at the time of the end when the clock nears midnight and predictions begin to meet reality will the final unsealing come.

Daniel 12 portrays final events and times associated with those events and are a summation of the previous chapters of Daniel; that is, an overview of the book and the prophetic warnings written therein. If we become familiar with chapter 12, we have a chance of understanding the remainder of the visions. The times and events of this chapter represent the *overarching support* of the end-time prophecies given in Scripture, as prophecy hangs on these three major lengths of time. Daniel writes that the wicked will not understand, but the wise will; then he reveals the mysterious 1,290 and 1,335 days. Therefore, we can know that we are nearing the end of the age when there is a focus upon and a grasp of these time periods.

Michael—The Archangel

Considering the language of Daniel 12:1-3, we know that this chapter of prophecy refers to the future at the very end of time. Once the Man of Sin enters Jerusalem, between the Dead Sea and Mediterranean Sea, the holy mountain of God (Daniel 11:45), prophecy promises he will quickly come to his end. Antichrist will set up his pavilion, followed by his abomination, which will bring about Michael's decided and immediate response. The name Michael is not mentioned often in the Bible but, by comparing texts, we can learn the Messenger's identity.

1. What titles and activities are assigned to Michael that helps identify who He is (Daniel 10:13, 21; Jude 9)? _____

Michael is a powerful military commander, called "Chief Prince", and then Daniel was told in a more personal way, he is "*your Prince*". He is also associated with the dispute over the bodily resurrection of Moses in Jude 9; and, in fact is the only Archangel mentioned in the Scriptures. Michael would not argue with the Devil, who evidently believed Moses was unworthy of a resurrection back to life because of his sin (Deuteronomy 32:44-52). Michael did not get into a lengthy debate, but the Bible says that He quickly reprimanded Satan, and raised Moses to life. Why would Satan argue over the body of Moses? Satan doesn't want anyone resurrected; the death of the believers is his delight. How he must have trembled when our Messiah rose from the tomb! The religious leaders who sent Jesus to the cross were clearly inspired by Satan. Their idea of sealing the tomb (Matthew 27:64) was likewise inspired by the Adversary. He thought himself victorious at Christ's death in securing his position of power.

At the end of Moses' term of service, the prophet went to "the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah" across the Jordan Valley from Jericho. There the LORD showed him the Promised Land. "And Moses the servant of the LORD died there in Moab, as the LORD had said. He buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is," (Deuteronomy 34:5-6). Connecting this with what we learned from Jude 9, we see that the same LORD who buried him raised him to life

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

again and took him to Heaven. Therefore, we find Moses with Elijah in the transfiguration (Mark 9:1-7). If he could, Satan would keep his victims eternally in the grave. Praise God for the One who is our Life-giver, too. Moses' resurrection was based on Christ's future victory on the cross (Revelation 1:18).

From A Scholar's Point Of View

Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible (1706-1721)

Daniel 12:1

I. Jesus Christ shall appear his church's patron and protector: *At that time*, when the persecution is at the hottest, *Michael shall stand up*, v. 1. The angel had told Daniel what a firm friend Michael was to the church, ch. 10:21. He all along showed this friendship in the upper world; the angels knew it; but now *Michael shall stand up* in his providence, and work deliverance for the Jews, *when he sees that their power is gone*, Deu. 32:3. 6. Christ is *that great prince*, for he is the *prince of the kings of the earth*, Rev. 1:5. And, if he stand up for his church, who can be against it? But this is not all: *At that time* (that is, soon after) Michael shall stand up for the working out of our eternal salvation; the Son of God shall be incarnate, shall be *manifested to destroy the works of the devil*. Christ *stood for the children of our people* when he was made sin and a curse for them, stood in their stead as a sacrifice, bore the cure for them, to bear it from them. He stands for them in the intercession he ever lives to make within the veil, stands up for them, and stands their friend... Christ shall *stand at the latter day upon the earth*, shall appear for the complete redemption of all his.

II. When Christ appears he will recompense tribulation to those that trouble his people. There shall *be a time of trouble*, threatening to all, but ruining to all the implacable enemies of God's kingdom among men, *such trouble as never was since there was a nation*. This is applicable. 1. To the destruction of Jerusalem, which Christ calls (perhaps with an eye to this prediction) such a *great tribulation as was not since the beginning of the world to this time*, Mt. 24:21. This the angel had spoken much of (ch. 9:26, 27); and it happened about the same time that Christ set up the gospel-kingdom in the world, that Michael our prince *stands up*. Or, 2. To the judgment of the great day, that day that shall *burn as an oven*, and consume the proud and all that do wickedly; that will be such a *day of trouble* as never was to all those whom Michael our prince stands against.

III. He will work salvation for his people: "*At that time thy people shall be delivered*, delivered from the mischief and ruin designed them... even all those that were marked for preservation, that were *written among the living*," Isa. 4:3. When Christ comes into the world he will save his spiritual Israel from sin and hell, and will, at his second coming, complete their salvation, even the salvation of as many as were given him, as many as have *their names in the book of life*, Rev. 20:15. They were written there before the world, and will be *found written* there at the end of the world, when the books shall be opened.

Henry, M. 1996, c1991. *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the whole Bible: Complete and unabridged in one volume*. Hendrickson: Peabody

2. What titles and activities are assigned to the One named Michael (Revelation 12:7; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; John 5:25)? _____

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

As shown in the box above, Matthew Henry shows Michael is another name for Jesus. Hel is the Prince of the host, or angels, the Archangel, and One associated with raising the dead. His name means "who is like God?" There is none like God!

Jews believe Michael to be their great protector and one of seven angels who surround God's throne. The Hebrew word for *angel* is not identifying creatures with wings; "mal'akh" (מַלְאָךְ) is primarily the standard Hebrew Bible word for "messenger", both human and divine, though it is less used for human messengers. He is first introduced in this vision at Daniel 10:5-6: "I [Daniel] looked up and there before me was a *Man dressed in linen*, with a belt of the finest gold around His waist. His body was like chrysolite, His face like lightning, His eyes like flaming torches, His arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and His voice like the sound of a multitude." Sacred linen garments were worn by the High Priest on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16:4) upon entrance into the Holy of Holies (the inner room of the Temple where the Ark of the Covenant was set in place). Michael's linen garment signifies His priestly activities relating to Yom Kippur—the Day of Atonement—the day associated with ushering in the Day of the LORD. Messiah is granted authority to rule forever. Michael represents, in title only, the great Messenger to mankind... the living eternal Son of God, who was with the Father from the beginning—the Alpha and Omega. Revelation 22:12-23 says, "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with Me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

Great Giants Of Faith Believed Michael Represented Jesus

The view that Michael could not possibly represent Jesus is a modern anomaly that should be discarded. In this lesson we are simply harking back to the accepted view not more than a couple of centuries ago, which assessment the Scriptures clearly prove to be true. Theologian and the Protestant reformation pastor **John Calvin** wrote, "As we stated yesterday, Michael may mean an angel; but I embrace the opinion of those who refer this to the *person of Christ*, because it suits the subject best to represent him as standing forward for the defense of his elect people." The great theologian, **John Wesley**, wrote in his commentary on Daniel 10:21, "*Michael - Christ* alone is the protector of his church, when all the princes of the earth desert or oppose it." And, the **Geneva Bible Commentary** says, "The angel here notes two things: first that the Church will be in great affliction and trouble at Christ's coming, and next that God will send his angel to deliver it, whom he here *calls Michael, meaning Christ*, who is proclaimed by the preaching of the Gospel." The Geneva Bible was produced by John Calvin, John Knox, Myles Coverdale, John Foxe and other English refugees in Geneva, Switzerland... fleeing the persecution of Roman Catholic Queen "Bloody" Mary in England. Mary would not tolerate the Protestant Geneva Bible, which proclaimed the Pope an "antichrist" in its commentary notes. Printed from 1560 until 1644, the Geneva Bible is the only Bible to ever surpass the 1611 King James Bible in popularity among the people of its day.

3. Daniel 12:1 indicates that when Michael stands up there is a Great Tribulation. Compare this with Bible passages that reveal when God arises His wrath begins. How are they the same?

Psalm 3:7-8 _____

Psalm 9:19-20 _____

Psalm 10:12-16 _____

Psalm 17:13-15 _____

Psalm 68:1-3 _____

Isaiah 14:22-24 _____

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

4. This time of trouble will be greater than any other proceeding in world history according to Matthew 24:21-22. The Man of Sin brings about the Great Tribulation because of his actions. What is it (Matthew 24:15)? _____

The setting up the abomination in Jerusalem (The Kingdom Calendar—Pt. 17).

5. Who are delivered at the time Michael stands in Daniel 12:1? _____

Daniel's people—Israel, are delivered, both natural (Jews) and spiritual (grafted in Gentiles).

6. Daniel introduces a "special" resurrection in verse 2 when Michael stands. What two classes are raised (Daniel 12:2)? _____

Some to life (the saved), and some to everlasting contempt (the lost). Revelation 1:7 mentions those who crucified Messiah and who most opposed the Savior may indeed see Him return in His glory. And surely those who have died for the cause of Christ will be raised to experience His glorious appearing.

7. What will the raised and living believers, the "wise" (margin says "teachers") who are a part of this special group, look like (Daniel 12:3)? _____

God's faithful, the wise teachers of truth, will literally shine with brilliance brighter than anyone could imagine—like the stars above. Their radiance will glow throughout the eternal ages, and when the believers travel, they may be seen as stars streaking across the heavens. "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him," I Corinthians 2:9. What a glorious future for the believers who remain faithful to the end (Matthew 24:13).

"They that be *teachers* shall shine as the brightness of the firmament." That is, of course, in the context of the chapter; those who teach the prophetic truths that will be unsealed at the time of the end (Daniel 12:9-10), and who lead others to a knowledge of the book's revealed truths at the time when the events recorded are being fulfilled. As the world estimates loss and profit, it will no doubt be costly to be teachers of truth in the last days. Speaking out for the Master will cost reputation, ease, comfort and prosperity. Teaching unpopular truths in order that others might be saved will involve labors, crosses, sacrifices, loss of friendships, ridicule and persecution; and, even life itself. However, through the prophet Daniel's written testimony these servants of God are promised life without end, as the stars forever.

Someone wrote long ago that in only a matter of a few years, all things gather the mold of age and the odor of decay. But the stars shine on in their glory as in the beginning of time. Centuries and cycles have come and gone, and kingdoms have risen and slowly passed away. We go back even to the earliest moment when order was evoked out of chaos, and "the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy" (Job 38:7), and there the stars were shining. How long before this we do not know. Astronomers tell us of nebulae lying on the farthest outposts of telescopic vision, whose light in its never ceasing flight would consume five million years in reaching this planet. Yet their brightness is not dimmed. These glorious lights shine on in undiminished glory. Likewise, this collection of teachers will shine—those who turn many to righteousness. They shall bring joy even to the heart of the Redeemer; therefore, these teachers of righteousness will receive reward and positions for their servant-heart.



Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

8. When will the prophecies about end-time events be truly understood (Daniel 12:4)? _____

9. What kind of chaos can we expect in this world as we enter the three and one-half years of trouble, according to Matthew 24:6-8? _____

The unimaginable holocaust of wars, bloodshed, social disorder, diseases, famine, earthquakes and natural disasters will usher in massive human losses and property damage. Jesus said these events would set in motion the great sorrows of the end, and with it a frantic search for truth and understanding of God's prophetic Word.

The escalation of bloodshed and nature's wrath are provoked by principalities and powers in high places (Ephesians 6:12), so that Satan's evil scheme for world dominion might unfold. Once pandemonium breaks out, demonic apparitions (2 Corinthians 11:13-14), signs and wonders (Matthew 24:24) in the heavens will be revealed around the globe. Planet Earth will never be the same again, and its days as the planet of peace and safety, will be numbered.

The Two Anointed Witnesses

Daniel 12:5 reveals that Daniel the prophet saw in vision two individuals, one on each side of the river. It would seem that these two holy ones play an important role in final events, for they are present witnesses to the vision, and they are asking the all-important question, "how long?" We can identify these *two witnesses* to the events by comparing the similarities between Daniel 12 and its counterpart, Revelation 10:1-7.

The Man clothed in linen (a priestly robe), identified as Michael, the Archangel, makes a declaration in Daniel 12:7 that when the three and one-half years (or three and a "part" years—KJV reference) are completed and the holy people (believers) are scattered, all prophecy will be "completed".

Joining John Calvin, John Wesley, Matthew Henry and countless other historical church leaders, many commentators also agree that in Revelation 10:1-7, the Mighty Angel (Archangel) is representative of Christ because of the description the prophet John gives. The Cruden's Concordance confirms that oftentimes the usage of "angel"—meaning "messenger" in the Bible is referring to Christ, as in the passage in Revelation 10. "A messenger, or bringer of tidings, and is applied, [2] To Christ, who is the Mediator and Head of the church, Zech. 1:12, Revelation 10:1." Seven verses later (Revelation 10:7) the Mighty Angel is declared to be the "Seventh Angel" who makes the same promise as Michael did centuries before. In the days of His voice, "the mystery of God should be finished, as He hath declared unto His [Christ's] servants the prophets." And when did He declare it? Many centuries earlier, two men stood on each bank of the river described in Daniel 12:5. When Daniel saw the vision, he encountered these two witnesses, who heard the same declaration of time with their own ears.

10. Who did Peter, James and John see with Yeshua in His future glory (Matthew 17:1-3), one on each side of Him? _____

Moses and Elijah were seen and identified as standing with Jesus in His future glory. Likewise, in Daniel 12, the two witnesses to Michael's declaration, one on each side of this Man in linen, are no doubt Moses and Elijah, Christ's "servants the prophets" who would be intimately involved in the final appointed time.

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

They certainly would want to know about the final conflict, which is why one of the two asked the probing question.

11. What does one of the two witnesses ask the "Man" in linen, Michael, in Daniel 12:6 about the end of time? _____

How long before these astonishing events are fulfilled? Michael holds up both hands in Daniel 12:7 and swears by Heaven a specific time when all the prophetic events will be completed. And, not surprisingly, these 1,260 days or three and a part years is the exact amount of time the two witnesses in the book of Revelation are assigned to minister on earth during the last appointed time.

Earlier in time Messiah came to Abraham and was referred to as the "Angel of the LORD" (Hebrew "malak"—again, which simply means "messenger"). He swore by oath a blessing on his seed (Genesis 22:15-18). Hebrews 6:13 clarifies that when Messiah made His promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for Him to swear by, *He swore by Himself*, saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendents." Only God can swear a promise and know for sure it will come to pass. In fact, there are around 50 references in Scripture to God vowing a promise by His own Name. Here we have evidence that Jesus is referred to as an "angel". We need to suppress our misguided Western views; an angel is simply a "malak"—"messenger" from Heaven, and not always a description of winged creatures.

According to Daniel 12:7-8, at the completion of the "time" (one year), "times" (two years) and "part" (half, or part of a year) and the breaking apart or scattering of God's people, which will be finalized at the death of God's two last-day witnesses (in the example of Zechariah 13:7; and, Matthew 25:26), prophecy will be fulfilled and finished. Daniel was greatly disturbed and desired to understand the outcome.

12. In Daniel 12:7 the "man in linen" (priestly garments—Michael) restates a key time frame that was first mentioned in Daniel 7:25, which we will look at in our studies on this chapter. This same period is repeated many times in the book of Revelation, which signifies it to be the primary end-time period. How is it described? _____

Daniel 7:25 says, "He [Man of Sin] will speak against the Most High and oppress His holy people and try to change the set times and the laws. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time." A "time" equals one year; "times" equals two years, and "half" equals half a year—a total of 3½ years. The book of Revelation helps clarify the length of this period; it is referred to as 1,260 days (Revelation 11:3; 12:6). Therefore, Michael swore on His good Name that once the 1,260 days are completed—when "the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things [foretold in the prophecies] will be completed."

Daniel heard, but was confused; he wrote, "I heard, but I did not understand. So, I asked, "My LORD, what will the outcome of all this be?"

13. What answer did Daniel receive to his question (Daniel 12:9)? _____

"Go your way, Daniel, because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end." There was no use for Daniel to continue his questions; he would not understand what he has seen and written about.

14. Why would the mysteries be closed and sealed until the time of the end? _____

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

Of necessity, much of prophecy would remain hidden, that the work of God may be revealed at the appropriate time and only to the wise—those who love God and teach righteousness (Proverbs 1:5-7). Jesus often used parables so that only His disciples (those who really desire, and who had “ears” of interest) could truly understand His work (Matthew 13:9-11). We serve an awesome God who knows all things before they occur, but who has hidden prophecy’s details until the time foretold—the time of its completion.

The prophet Daniel offered praised to God when he wrote in Daniel 2:20-22, “Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are His. He changes times and seasons; He deposes kings and raises up others. He *gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. He reveals deep and hidden things*; He knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with Him.” He reveals the deeper things to the individuals of His choosing.

15. Daniel 12:10 says what concerning the wisdom seekers? _____

The wise will understand, although at great price; they will be tried as by fire but made spiritually white and pure (2 Peter 3:12-14), while the wicked continue in sin.

By Daniel's desire to understand fully all that had been shown him, we are reminded of Peter's words (1 Peter 1:10-11) where he speaks of the prophets and angels inquiring and searching diligently to understand the predictions concerning the sufferings of Christ and the glory that should follow. How little of what they wrote were some of the prophets permitted to understand! They did not refuse to write, even though they long to grasp it, but could not. If God required it, they knew that in due time He would see that His people derived from their writings all the benefit that He intended.

So, Daniel and all the faithful up to the end of time, are being told that when the right time comes the wise will understand the meaning of what he had written. The time of the end was the moment in which the Spirit of God was to break the seal of the scroll. Consequently, this was the time during which the wise will understand, while the wicked, lost to all sense of the value of eternal truth, with hearts callous and hardened in sin, will grow continually more wickedly and more blind. None of the wicked will understand. The efforts the wise put forth to understand, the wicked call foolishness; and they continue to ask in critical questioning, "Where is the promise of His coming?" (2 Peter 3:4).

The phraseology of Daniel 12, verse 10 seems at first sight to be rather peculiar: "Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried." The language doubtless describes a process which is many times repeated in the experience of those who, during the time of the end, are being made ready for the coming and Kingdom of the LORD. They are purified and made white, as compared with their former condition. Then they are again tried. Greater tests are brought to weigh upon them. If they endure these, the work of purification is carried on to a still greater extent until they attain to a purer character. After reaching this state, they are tried again, and further purified and made white. Therefore, the process goes on until characters are developed which will stand the test of the Day of Judgment, and a spiritual condition is reached which needs no further trial.

The “Daily”

16. Daniel 12:11 declares an additional time period and more events, which might be of help to our understanding. What begins the 1,290 days? _____

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

"From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished." The word *sacrifice* was not in the original text. Translators have not improved the passage by adding a word that Messiah did not give to Daniel. The original language simply reads the "daily" or "*tamid*"; meaning "*continual*," is to be abolished. The question remains, what is the daily?

During the Six-Day War in 1967 between Israel and the three countries that surrounded them (Syria, Jordan and Egypt), the Israelis captured Old Jerusalem from the Jordanians. On June 7, 1967, the army marched into the Old City and took over the Western Wall and Temple Mount for the first time since 70 A.D. From that day forward, the faithful have worshiped day and night at the Wall, praying continually. The "daily" on earth speaks of the continual worship at the Temple Mount and Western Wall in Jerusalem. Through a series of events, quite possibly a strong earthquake, the daily flow of worshipers at the Temple Mount will be stopped. The Middle East will erupt, and the nation of Israel will be drawn into the escalating conflicts. Chaos and bloodshed



will reign in the Middle East. According to prophecy, daily worship at the Western Wall and Temple Mount will be taken away by unforeseen calamities. ***The Kingdom Calendar*** shows that the taking away of the daily occurs at Purim/Shushan Purim, which will usher in the 1,290 counting days of the appointed times and the believers' treacherous march towards the Kingdom of God. Jerusalem and the world will be turned upside down. Tragedies, unimaginable human loss and blood will flow, and the flames of World War III will erupt in

a blaze of sudden release in the early part of the year.

Daniel 8:9-12 speaks of the powerful "little horn" (representing the evil ruler of the last days, through whom Satan will speak to mankind) and an end-time battle on earth that expands to a connected war that reaches Heaven and brings a great host of angels into the conflict. In verses 11-12 (KJV) the prophet wrote, "he [Satan/Evil Ruler] magnified himself even to the Prince [Michael] of hosts [angels], and by him [Satan/Evil Ruler] the daily... [worship/sanctuary activities in Heaven] was taken away, and the place of His [God's] Sanctuary [in Heaven] was cast down [trampled upon]."

17. What does Revelation 12:7-9 reveal about this future confrontation in Heaven? _____

Hebrews 8:1 says that Christ [High Priest—the Man clothed in linen] has been "sitting at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens" (KJV). However, Satan will make one last attempt to overthrow Heaven; however, Michael and His angels will fight off Satan and his army, but not before it reaches the very throne-room of Heaven.

Daniel saw this confrontation (Daniel 7:9-10), "I beheld till the thrones were cast down," (KJV) in battle. The New International Version (NIV) notes an opposite effect: the thrones are "set up" (7:9-10) for courtroom testimony and books of evidence will be opened. The original word can be translated as both "cast down" and "set up"; and, for good reason.

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

The Throne Room Turned Into A Courtroom

The "daily" that is taken away represents tragedy on earth, as well as Heaven. The daily taken away above will be the "continual" sanctuary activities of Heaven (*The Kingdom Calendar*—Pt. 8 or soon after). When Satan and his armies attack Heaven, the Holy Temple will be trampled underfoot. Messiah's communion at the right hand of the Father will be stripped away. Once Satan is expelled, the Father and Son surrender the Sanctuary to Courtroom use, and this place of holiness will be trampled underfoot. Father and Son are separated for a period during the Court of Judgment (Daniel 8:13-14; Pt. 12). Near the end of this judgment the Son of Man will step before the Father to receive His coronation and kingdom (Daniel 7:13-14), while Satan and his subjects are sentenced to destruction (Daniel 7:26-27). At the end of the Courtroom Judgment, Revelation says the Temple door will be opened, revealing the Holy of Holies (Revelation 11:15-19) where the Ark of the Ten Commandments resides. The Moral Law is the basis of worldwide judgment—the moment when the Day of the LORD begins and angels are sent out (Pt. 18) to deliver God's final plagues upon mankind (Revelation 15:5-6).

The Abomination

18. What event ends the 1,290 days (Daniel 12:11)? "The abomination that causes desolation is _____."

Returning to Daniel 12, on earth the abomination (detestable act) that brings final desolation to Jerusalem and the world will be set up. In Ezekiel 5:8-11, the prophet speaks of the past and future judgment of God against Jerusalem for defiling the Temple with the abomination: "I will inflict punishment on you in the sight of the nations. Because of all your detestable idols."

19. What does Revelation 9:20 affirm on this subject of punishment and idols? _____

20. What brings about *the end* and the Great Tribulation according to Matthew 24:14-15? _____

When Antichrist sets up the abomination (idolatrous worship) on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, then we can know "the end" is about to commence. Mark 13:14 clarifies that when you see the abomination spoken of by Daniel standing where "it" ought not... then let those in Israel flee for their lives because of great destruction about to fall upon Jerusalem and Israel, followed by the world, which culminates at Armageddon's battle.

Matthew 24:14-15 states that before the Great Tribulation begins the gospel will go to all the nations, and when the abomination is set up, then *the end* will come. It is very interesting to find the Jewish Encyclopedia says that Armilus [Anti-Messiah] "is to be the horrendous offspring of evil men, or Satan, coupled with a beautiful marble statue of a girl in Rome." Could the abomination involve a statue of the Virgin Mary?

We now have a connection between the abomination Jesus described to His disciples in Matthew 24 that will be set up in Jerusalem to a specific counting period—the timeline in Daniel 12:11—1,290 prophetic days.

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21. How does Paul describe this evil act by the lawless leader at the Temple near the end of his rule in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4? _____

The Great Tribulation

Continuing at Daniel 12:12, the prophet heard Michael relay one more time frame that extends beyond the 1,290 days. There is a blessing for those who wait until the 1,335 days are complete.

22. How does the following verses describe the blessed Day of waiting (Matthew 24:13; Isaiah 25:9; Isaiah 40:31)? _____

The elect who by faith, and because of their deep love and trust in the LORD, endure to the end without yielding to Antichrist/Satan will receive eternal reward and blessings.

23. How many days are there between the 1,290 and 1,335 days? _____

There are 45 days between the abomination and the Day of blessing. This would tell us that between the setting up of the abomination on the Temple Mount and the visible return of Messiah is a short time of God's wrath known as the Great Tribulation"—a time that Jesus said, "except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved," (Matthew 24:22).

The Great Tribulation does not last for many months, for three and a half years, or for seven years, but must be completed within a period represented by days! When we study the book of Revelation and the great devastating plagues that destroy so much of the ecological system of our planet, particularly fresh water supplies, it will be clear why the Great Tribulation could last only in terms of days or weeks, not months or years.

24. Evidence is given in the Scriptures that the Great Tribulation will last only a short span of time—weeks rather than years. What does each verse say that proves this point through the Word of God?

Psalm 2:12 _____

Psalm 30:5 _____

Psalm 37:9-10 _____

Isaiah 26:20-21 _____

Isaiah 54:7-10 _____

Mark 13:19-20 _____

Luke 21:25-28 _____

Romans 9:27-28 _____

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Lesson 1

Daniel 12

-12-