

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

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7 LESSON

Lesson 7

THE INVESTIGATIVE COURT DURING THE APPOINTED TIMES OF THE END

Read Daniel 7:9-28; 8:10-14

- Probe Heaven's Response To The Little Horn's Evil Activities
- Investigate The Seven-Division Outline Of Daniel's Courtroom Prophecies

Lesson 7 provides the opportunity for us to study the courtroom judgment in detail, which is clearly revealed in the Scriptures, but universally ignored or assigned to events over 2,000 years ago. Whenever the Man of Sin's deceitful actions are revealed in Daniel, we will discover the verses that *immediately follow* describe Heaven's response, through the drama of courtroom events. The Court sits in direct response to Antichrist's last-day deceptive practices on earth, and Satan's vicious attack against the LORD of Hosts and His army (Revelation 12:7-9). It's a contemporary courtroom event in Heaven that parallels earth's final activities that unfold during the appointed time of the end, although commentaries have wrongly assigned these activities to historical events involving Antiochus IV Epiphanes' sacrilegious activities in the Jerusalem Temple around 167 B.C.



Thrones, like a wheel intersecting a wheel (Ezekiel 1:15-26; 10:2), ablaze with fire (Exodus 3:2; Psalm 97:3; Deuteronomy 4:24; Daniel 7:9; Hebrews 12:29) will be arranged in Heaven's Temple (Psalm 122:5) and the Ancient of Days (Ezekiel 1:26; Isaiah 6:1; Job 36:26; Psalm 102:24; Isaiah 41:4; Psalm 90:2) clothed in the white apparel of righteousness (Isaiah 1:18; Psalm 51:7) will move within the Temple to sit in counsel within the newly arranged Courtroom (Jeremiah 23:17-18; Psalm 89:7; Daniel 7:10).

Innumerable angels will be attending the proceedings (1 Kings 22:19; Daniel 7:10; Revelation 5:11), for the holy ones watch earthly affairs and proclaim announcements of the Court (Daniel 4:17). A small select group of humans are involved in the Courtroom drama (Revelation 4:4) for the redeemed will be given the power of decision in the future Kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:2-3; Revelation 20:4).

In vision Daniel saw that "the judgment was set, and the books were opened," (Daniel 7:9-10). The investigative court will proceed with opened books (Isaiah 65:6; Malachi 3:16; Psalm 56:8; Jeremiah 17:1), which will lead to the Judge's sentence of death against the rebellious nations (1 Kings 22:19; Joel 3:2; Psalm 72:2-4).

In each of the prophetic passages in Daniel's scroll, which deal with the Courtroom setting, we find the same elements of a modern courtroom. God *will not* forcibly reclaim earth's territory from Satan and his subjects without proper proceedings in the presence of jury and witnesses. In contrast, Yeshua underwent a sham trial spurred on by hatred and lies, which ended His three-and-one-half year ministry with a shameful and bloody execution on the cross. However, the Father will not seek the reversal of Satan's authority, the death sentence for the global leader who reigns supreme over the planet (Luke 4:6) and the demise of his rebellious subjects (Ezekiel 28:18-19; Revelation 19:20) without first allowing the case and evidence to be reviewed for the sake of every concerned onlooker.

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

Nonetheless, God knows the end from the beginning and His Word spells out Lucifer's doom that will end his three-and-one-half year cruel pursuit of the righteous, as well as the demise of the Wicked One and the False Prophet and those who have aligned themselves with him, and who receive his mark.

Opening Scene Of The Court

1. Daniel has just described the Little Horn's uprising in Daniel 7:8. Now Daniel takes us to a scene in Heaven. What does he see taking place after Antichrist comes into power (Daniel 7:9-10)? _____

The prophet sees the thrones are "set in place" (N.I.V).

We should note, however; the King James Version reads the opposite—Heaven's thrones "were cast down". The original Hebrew word: רָמָה "remah"—according to Strong's Concordance 7412, means "to cast, throw" or "hurled by violence". However, both translations reveal truths that surround the courtroom drama. *Remah* was used to describe the casting of the three Hebrews into the fiery furnace, and of casting Daniel into the den of lions. The original language indicates although the thrones will be cast down in a cosmic battle that will occur in Heaven at the time of the end, they will soon thereafter be set back up for the end-time Court proceedings that will bring about the final solution to the great controversy. Satan and his angels will reach Heaven, even the very throne room of the Most High, in an attempt to overtake God's Kingdom. Despite this violent battle, Satan will not prevail; he and his army will be cast out of Heaven (Revelation 12:7-9).

Several versions, including the NIV Bible translation, have opted to translate the language as "to set or place in order," as in the placing of the judgment seats for the courtroom work. Another example is the "setting" or "placing" of the throne in Revelation 4:2, in which the Greek carries the same meaning: "a throne was set in heaven, and One sat on the throne." This throne rearrangement in the courts of Heaven set the stage for the opening of the recorded books of evidence so that all testimony might be examined as to whose kingdom will prevail—that of Messiah or Satan.

2. In Revelation 4:2-11 the prophet John is transported to the throne room in Heaven. How does he describe the One sitting on the throne and those who surround Him? _____

The prophet describes the magnificent throne room and the Ancient of Days sitting on the throne. A rainbow encircled Him. Twenty-four elders, "purchased men" according to Revelation 5:9, who will eventually reign on earth with the believers, surround the throne.

In Daniel we are told "thrones" (plural) are set alongside God's throne. This could indicate the reigning of a group (possible jury) who will hear the evidence and may render importance decisions about the nations and about God's Kingdom. However, attention is focused on God the Father as Judge. He is described as One "advanced in years"—a picture not of senility but of venerability. It is He who existed before the worlds began (Isaiah 44:6; Psalm 55:19), who exemplifies wisdom as well as might. His raiment, like His hair, is the purist white, reflecting that dazzling brightness, which is a mark of divine or celestial beings (Matthew 28:3). In the counsel of the holy ones, God is greatly revered (Psalm 89:7). The picture of God as the arbiter and judge of all the earth is a common one in Hebrew writings.

3. Daniel saw the fiery throne, and its wheels were blazing (7:9). How does Ezekiel describe the four living creatures (Ezekiel 1:4-21)? _____

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

The throne has burning wheels, reminding us of the chariot-throne of Ezekiel's vision from which fire came flashing (Ezekiel 1:4; 13-15). These fiery creatures are four massive angels who each have six wings. They stand before Almighty God, and are known in the Scriptures as the "four winds" (Zechariah 6:2-5). These four magnificent creatures are also closely associated with the four horses of Revelation 6:1-8, and the emergence of earthly powers (Lion, Bear, Leopard and Beast) in Daniel 7:2-3.

4. How many angels did Daniel see in the throne vision (7:10)? _____

There were millions of angels witnessing the proceedings. John likewise saw the vast number of angels in his vision (Revelation 5:11).

We do not see Jesus sitting on His throne next to the Father in either Daniel's vision or John's description of the Heavenly Sanctuary. Hebrews 8:1-2 says Christ is sat down at the right hand of God as the High Priest, so we want to examine why He is not at this moment sitting in His position of power.

5. Daniel 7:13-14 depicts the one "like a son of man," the Messiah, as separated from the Father but eventually stepping before the Ancient of Days to receive His Kingdom. Why? _____

Messiah approaches the Father with many angels (clouds of heaven) for His official Kingship coronation, when He is given complete authority over the entire universe—including Planet Earth. Revelation 11:15-19 pinpoints this ceremony just before the blowing of the seventh trumpet near the end of time.

6. What event during the appointed time of the end initiates the separation between Father and Son (Revelation 12:7-9)? _____

A great war will ensue in Heaven between Michael—the LORD of hosts (His army)—the starry host (Daniel 8:10) and Satan and his fallen rebels (Isaiah 14:13-14). Satan attempts to be as great as the Prince ("sar"—"chief"; Joshua 5:13-15; Daniel 10:13; 20; 12:1) of the angelic host. His assault is designed to take away the daily ("tamid"—Exodus 29:38; Numbers 28:3) activities of the Heavenly Sanctuary (Daniel 8:11-13); and therefore, the Temple of God is brought low. Although Messiah and His angels successfully defend the Kingdom, a "third" of righteous angels are "cast down" to earth in conflict and trampled upon, according to Revelation 12:4. Once Satan and his army are defeated and the battle is won, the Courtroom thrones are set in place and the books of evidence are opened.

"LORD of hosts" occurs some 261 times in the Scriptures. God is first called the "LORD of hosts" in 1 Samuel 1:3. The word LORD, capitalized, refers to Yahweh, the self-existent, redemptive God. The word hosts is a translation of the Hebrew word sabaath, meaning "armies"—a reference to the angelic armies of heaven. Thus, another way of saying "LORD of hosts" is "God of the armies of heaven." The NIV translates YHWH sabaath as "LORD Almighty." This kingship of the LORD of hosts is vividly expressed in Psalm 24:10: "Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!" (ESV). He is the glorious King of Israel, and Zechariah 14:6 tells us that He will be King of the world, over all the kingdoms of the earth (Isaiah 37:16). The only reason for an army is the threat of future conflict.

Lesson 7

Daniel 7, 8, 9, 12

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

Jurisdiction Of The Court

7. In Daniel 7:13-14 the prophet saw "one like a son of man"; in other words, a benefactor of human descent will come before the Father to receive full authority. How does John the Revelator depict Messiah (1:13)? _____

John also speaks of Him as one "like a son of man." He is dressed in a robe and golden sash with white hair depicting His eternal age and eyes of penetrating glow, bronze feet and very loud voice. He comes transported by the clouds of heaven (Psalm 104:1-4) on wings of wind (Psalm 18:10; Matthew 26:64), subordinate only to the Ancient of Days. The Messiah King will be inaugurated by this ceremony of investiture.

8. How is the magnificent "Man" Daniel saw described in Daniel 10:4-6? _____

This Messiah Man is nearly identical with linen robe (the priest's attire), belt, eyes like flaming torches, and legs of bronze and very loud voice. His identity is later disclosed as Michael in Daniel 8:13, the protector of Israel and Angel of the LORD throughout the ancient Hebrew writings.

9. Daniel 7:14 offers the full realm of Heaven's authority. How widespread is the jurisdiction of the Court and how long will Heaven rule? _____

The jury completes the judgment. The Son of Man deserves sovereign control over the whole realm—"all peoples, nations and men of every language worship Him," whose kingdom will last for all eternity. The Scriptures foretell in the final days of the widespread conversion to Israel's King and faith in the sovereign God (Isaiah 2:2; Isaiah 49:6; Zechariah 8:21; Zechariah 14:9, 16-21).

10. Read Revelation 11:15-17. How does it compare to the declaration of the Court described in Daniel? _____

Verdict Of The Court

11. The world's Papal leader will be wagging war against the faithful during his three and one-half year rule (Daniel 7:25), according to Daniel 7:21-22. What stops his onslaught against the people of God? _____



The Ancient of Days moves within the Temple: He "came" Daniel says, and "pronounced judgment in favor of the holy people." Only then will the overcomers possess the Kingdom.

The last days represent a time of decision for the followers of Messiah. The authentic Word-followers will not accept the mark of the beast or give credence to the Man of Sin but will by faith hold on to the Savior and keep His Commandments. They will commit to the instructions (testimony) from Jesus (Revelation 12:17) and never give up, even if facing persecution or death (Matthew 24:13). They realize at the end of the counting days the verdict will be issued against Satan and his world leader, and the faithful ones will victoriously possess the Kingdom!

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

Sentence & Punishment Of The Court

12. Read Daniel 7:25-27. How do the verses describe the outcome of the Court proceedings? _____

Although the Lawless One will rule for a "time, times and half a time", the Court in Heaven will convene during this same period in Heaven and his power will ultimately be stripped away.

13. Besides Yeshua, who is also awarded sovereignty, power and greatness in the future Kingdom? _____

The steadfast overcomers who endure to the end (Matthew 24:13) will rule and reign with Messiah forever in power (Revelation 3:21; 5:10). These are not believers of every age but identified as martyred saints—the faithful ones who remain loyal to God's commandments, even to the point of death. They are not stained-glass believers, but ordinary people sanctified by the Holy Spirit and committed to follow Jesus even under great persecution to live extraordinary lives in the face of severe trials.

14. What is Satan and the Evil One's ultimate sentence and punishment for their wrong-doings (Daniel 7:26; 2 Thessalonians 2:8; Revelation 19:19-20; 20:1-3)? _____

Their power will be totally broken. The Beast will be destroyed by King Messiah at His coming, and Satan will be imprisoned for 1,000 years.

Length Of The Court Proceedings

Daniel 8:11-12 describes the war in Heaven at the beginning of the end. The Little Horn power will grow in demonic strength, reaching all the way to Heaven through Satan and his vast army.

15. How does John depict Satan and his supremacy at the end of time in Revelation 12:3-4? _____

John depicts Satan as a mammoth red dragon with seven heads, ten horns and seven crowns, representing human governments (New World Order). Note that three crowns are missing, indicating three nations on earth are destroyed around the time Satan reaches Heaven to battle Michael and His angels. Angels are often depicted as "stars" in the ancient Hebrew Scriptures. Satan is so powerful that his dragon tail symbolically sweeps away heaven's righteous stars and flings them to the ground in battle. Revelation 12 is a collage of complex images, which employs events of the past as though they are happening again; for, many past events are representative of episodes still to come.

16. Satan and his minions battle Heaven's angels, before he is hurled down (Revelation 12:7-9). How long does the symbolic woman run to hide from his anger, where she is taken care of (Revelation 12:13-14)? _____

She is given protection for the same length of time that Antichrist rules—a "time, times and half a time"—1,260 days. It is also the same period the two witnesses will be ruling on earth.

Satan and his army will battle in Heaven, taking away the daily activities in Heaven's Sanctuary. Sometime after his defeat, the judgment will be set up to deal with his evil attack and deceptive actions on

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

earth. Daniel heard a holy one speaking to another holy one (8:13); which is to say, one prophet questioned another—"how long?" Many others have asked the same probing question down through the centuries (Psalm 6:3; 80:4; 90:13; Isaiah 6:9-12; Habakkuk 2:6; Revelation 6:10).

17. The prophet asks (Daniel 8:13), "How long shall be the vision concerning the daily... and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?" In the margin of King James Version Reference Bibles, only One could offer the answer: Palmoni, the wonderful numberer of secrets. Messiah offered what period (Daniel 8:14)? _____

"It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the Sanctuary will be reconsecrated"; which means to be returned to its rightful and holy use. In other words, when this time period is over the Court procedures in Heaven will close and Heaven's Sanctuary will return to its rightful purpose as the Kingdom's Temple of worship.

The question remains: what period does the 2,300 "evenings and mornings" represent? Some scholars, including those who collaborated on the King James Version of 1611, suggest the original language should be interpreted as 2,300 days; however, a sizeable group of theologians who understand the Hebrew and sanctuary context of Daniel's writing stand firm on the interpretation of 1,150 days.

Why? In the Hebrew Scriptures God ordained there should be evening עֶרֶב (erev) and morning בֹּקֶר (boker) sacrifices. Exodus 29:38-42 describes the burnt offerings made on the altar, twice a day. Therefore, if the judgment is to last "2,300" evening and morning sacrifices, the total period the judgment would be in session is 1,150 days. One day's sanctuary activities would include an evening sacrifice followed by a morning sacrifice. Likewise, 1,150 evenings, plus 1,150 mornings would equal "2,300 evenings and mornings," which would still equate to half the number—1,150 complete days. Remember, this number was supplied by Palmoni, the numbered of secrets; so, the true number would not be so obvious, rather... a mysterious number.

One last point; by the simple reading of Daniel, we know the judgment commences after the Papacy comes into world power, and we know he will rule for 1,260 days. Furthermore, the judgment will end just prior to Little Horn's downfall, for that is the verdict of the Court. The judgment must, of necessity, be a shorter duration than the 1,260 days of his reign. The 2,300 days interpretation would have to extend way beyond the other prophetic time periods of prophecy or would need to begin way before any other time line. The 1,150 days duration would allow the turmoil in Heaven and the Court of Law to begin and end during the Man of Sin's rule, which fits both Daniel and Revelation's prophecies.

The Distant Beginning Of The Courtroom Drama

Daniel was perplexed by the vision (8:15). Before him stood what looked to be a "man." Daniel heard a "man's voice" from the river Ulai demanding Gabriel tell Daniel the meaning of the vision of chapter 8. The Man, given a name later in vision as He who was *clothed in linen* (priestly garments) and standing above the river, is Michael (12:1, 7). Michael instructs Gabriel to explain the events.

18. For the vision concerning the evenings and mornings, what does Gabriel tell Daniel (8:26)? _____

The vision concerns the distant future; it would occur well beyond Daniel's lifetime. So long in fact that Daniel was told he might as well "seal up the vision."

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

19. When would this vision and the perilous predictions of Daniel be unsealed and understood (Daniel 12:4)? _____

Only at the end of time would this vision of the Court and the 2,300 evenings and mornings truly be understood. Therefore, the beginning of the Courtroom events would come at the time of the end, and not before.

Ending Of The Judgment

One last time in Daniel's scroll, the Little Horn (little country—the Vatican leader) and his activities are described in lengthy detail that spans the second half of the final vision found in chapters 10-12. Just after describing his horrible crimes, the last and final element of the Courtroom proceeding is revealed in the prophecy in Daniel 11:45. The final Papal leader will set up his royal headquarters in Jerusalem for his last attempt to establish his religious rule from the Temple Mount. The masses will rejoice that God's two witnesses who opposed Antichrist's rule have finally been killed and silenced (Revelation 11:7-10). No doubt, with much pomp and ceremony, the Lawless One will parade onto the Temple Mount in Jerusalem to set up his abomination and to proclaim publicly his belief that he is God incarnate, and is to be worshiped as the Divine (2 Thessalonians 2:1-4).

20. What is Michael's response to this abominable act, which brings the sentence and punishment of the Courtroom proclamation upon the False Shepherd (Daniel 12:1)? _____

Messiah will stand up from His throne, and then will begin the time of trouble so terrible it will never be repeated again in human history. Beginning at the House of God and spreading throughout Israel and then to the world, God's wrath will be unleashed upon sinful mankind.

21. Read Matthew 24:14-16, 20-22. How does it depict the final events? _____

Once the abomination is set up as Daniel described, then God's elect must flee for their lives. God's judgment upon Jerusalem will be sure and swift. There will be no time for hesitation or delay. The elect, later identified as the 144,000 in the book of Revelation, must run for their lives.

22. What does Malachi disclose about Messiah's Day of Visitation to the Temple in Jerusalem once the abomination is set up (Malachi 4:5-6; 3:1)? _____

Elijah, one of the two witnesses, will prophesy for 1,260 days (Revelation 11:3). He will be killed in Jerusalem, where Jesus said all God's prophets shed their blood (Luke 13:33), and will lie in the streets unburied for three and one-half days (Revelation 11:7-11) while the Man of Sin makes his way onto the Temple Mount. Shortly after, Michael, the Messenger of the Covenant, will stand and descend in the cloak of darkness with storm, thunder and lightning. Malachi asks, "But who can endure the day of His coming? Who can stand when He appears?" (3:2).

The Mystery Of The Sevens In Daniel's Prophecies

Daniel's prophecies were presented in an inspired order to reveal vital information concerning the last days. Seven sections describe the Little Horn Antichrist, and *immediately thereafter* seven sections

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

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describe the Court of Law. Although hidden for centuries in the scroll, each dual section is charted below to show the connection between each of the passages, as well as the progressive description of the Courtroom Judgment throughout Daniel—starting with the opening scene and concluding with the announcement of the Tribunal and the subsequent punishment. The Courtroom drama commences as Satan's/Antichrist's evil activities begin to unfold on the world scene and ends when Michael stands up to execute the punishment of the Court. This reveals the close connection between Antichrist's evil practices and Heaven's response through legal court processes and review of the evidence.

Seven Descriptions Of The Little Horn—Antichrist	Immediately Thereafter, Seven Descriptions Of The Courtroom Judgment
1) Daniel 7:7-8	9-10 Court Convenes: books open
2) Daniel 7:11-12	13-14 Jurisdiction/Authority: all nations
3) Daniel 7:19-21	22 Verdict: in favor of believers
4) Daniel 7:23-25	26 Sentence: his power destroyed
5) Daniel 8:9-13	14 Length: 2,300 e/m (1,150 days)
6) Daniel 8:23-25	26 Time: at the unsealing of Daniel
7) Daniel 11:21-45	12:1 Finale: Michael stands; Trib begins

Additional Study: Who Is “Palmoni”

“Palmoni” is found referenced in the King James Version of the Bible and is reported to have been a name noted in the original Hebrew during Daniel's second (2nd) vision. The Hebrew meaning, *“the numberer of secrets, or, the wonderful numberer”*. “Pali” means “secret” while “pala” means “wonderful”; and, “mena” means “number”. *“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful [Hebrew “pele”],”* Isaiah 9:6.

The mysterious Palmoni of Daniel 8:13 points to the Messianic figure of the Old Covenant period--now known as the Son of God, the child born for our salvation—Yeshua, our Messiah. The assigned name Palmoni emphasizes that God through Christ is the source of all mysterious numbers—those of science, creation, the universe and finally the mysterious counting periods of the end-time prophecies.

Palmoni’s identity is implied in a parallel event that occurs during Daniel’s fourth (4th) vision found in Daniel 12:5-7. Daniel saw two witnesses on each bank of the Tigris river. One of the two witnesses asked the Man clothed in linen (Michael) another “how long” question: *“Then I, Daniel, looked, and there before me stood two others [two witnesses], one on this bank of the river and one on the opposite bank. One of them said to the Man clothed in linen [Michael/Messiah], who was above the waters of the river, “How long will it be before these astonishing things are fulfilled?” The Man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, lifted His right hand and His left hand toward heaven, and I heard Him swear by Him who lives forever, saying, “It will be for a time, times and half a time [1,260 days]. When the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things will be completed.”*

Note the similarity to the Palmoni message of Daniel 8:13-14: *“Then I heard a holy one [Palmoni/Messiah] speaking, and another holy one [one of the two witnesses] said to him, “How long will it take for the vision to be fulfilled—the vision concerning the daily... the rebellion that causes desolation, the surrender of the sanctuary and the trampling underfoot of the LORD’s people?” He said to me, “It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings [1,150 days]; then the sanctuary will be reconsecrated.”*

Lesson 7

Daniel 7, 8, 9, 12

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

In Daniel's day the two witnesses, whom several Scriptural passages imply to be Moses and Elijah, knew that one day they would be personally involved in final events on earth, and wanted desperately to know how events would play out and how long the trial would last. Daniel had the high privilege to witness this interaction between the two notable prophets and Michael, as He disclosed the contents from the "Book of Truth" to His end-time witnesses rediscovered in Revelation 11. Gabriel told Daniel, *"I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. (No one supports me [Gabriel] against them except Michael, your prince)"* Daniel 10:21. The visions of Daniel and the book of Revelation relate to mankind the content found in a much older ancient book of Heaven, the *Book of Truth*.

The Daniel 12 vision is recapped in the prophecy John received and wrote about in the book of Revelation chapter 10, where he saw a scroll opened in the Angel's hand and His swearing to the truth of the matter: *"Then I [John] saw another Mighty Angel [Michael, after standing up; Daniel 12:1] coming down from heaven. He was robed in a cloud, with a rainbow above His head; His face was like the sun, and His legs were like fiery pillars. He was holding a little scroll ["Book of Truth"—Daniel 10:21], which lay open in His hand. He planted His right foot on the sea and His left foot on the land, and He gave a loud shout [of resurrection] like the roar of a lion. When He shouted, the voices of the seven thunders spoke. And when the seven thunders spoke, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven say, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said and do not write it down." Then the Angel [Michael] I had seen standing on the sea and on the land raised His right hand to heaven. And He swore by Him who lives for ever and ever, who created the heavens and all that is in them, the earth and all that is in it, and the sea and all that is in it, and said, "There will be no more delay! But in the days when the Seventh Angel [Michael] is about to sound His trumpet [of resurrection], the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as He [Michael] announced to His servants the prophets"—on the banks of the river a few hundred years earlier (Daniel 12).*

It's insightful that after mentioning how Messiah's two "servants the prophets" (Revelation 10:7)—Moses and Elijah—had heard Michael's announcement that at the end of 1,260 days... "all these things will be completed" (Daniel 12:7), just a few verses later the 1,260 day end-time ministry the two witnesses is enlarged upon starting in Revelation 11:3-4, *"And I will appoint my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth." They are "the two olive trees" and the two lampstands, and "they stand before the LORD of the earth."* The connection is undeniable.

Noteworthy also is that the prophet Malachi subtly points out Jesus and His two witnesses in chapter 4 when he speaks of final events and the Day of the LORD. *"Surely the Day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the Day that is coming will set them on fire,"* says the LORD Almighty. *"Not a root or a branch will be left to them. But for you who revere My name, the sun of righteousness [Messiah] will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves. Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act,"* says the LORD Almighty. *"Remember the law of my servant **Moses**, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel. "See, I will send the prophet **Elijah** to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land [of Israel] with total destruction."*

Insights In Prophecy

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