

**Daniel #18**

July 7, 2024

**Series Title: Daniel's Visions Of the Ages****Today's Message: The Book of Truth: Chronicles of the Fore-ordained Future of Israel, pt 3; Daniel 11:36- 12:13**

We titled this study in Daniel, "Daniel's Visions of the Ages" because his visions spanned the ages. From the Babylonian Kingdom to the destruction of the kingdom of Antichrist and to the unveiling of the Kingdom of the God. That unveiling of God's kingdom on earth is what Daniel and the faithful people of Israel, "whose name is found written in the book [of life]"<sup>1</sup> hoped for in the OT! It is what we, the church, have been praying for, for 2,000 years: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven!" It is the day that "all Israel will be saved"<sup>2</sup> and the church will be at rest! That day when Isaiah 40:1-2 will ring with heavenly hope, as the Lord Himself commands that pleasant words be spoken to Israel! Here Him speak, "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins."<sup>3</sup>!

O! What a day that will be!

Yes, Daniel's visions are visions of the ages. By the time we finish Daniel the prophetic clock will have ticked off over 2,629 years. And, if the Lord will it, the end of the Age may come sooner than later. But if not, Daniel's vision of the ages will continue on, and the prophetic clock will keep on ticking...tick-tock, tick-tock, tick-tock, until that instant when the Church will be changed, transformed in the twinkling of an eye and the dead in Christ are raised, and we, the Ecclesia, the Assembly of believers will meet the Lord in the air at the last trumpet (see 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)! When that event happens, to the best of our knowledge, then it is only a few years, seven years at least, until Daniel 12 is fulfilled, and Israel will be saved! Then, Daniel's vision of the ages will have come to a close!

Therefore, it is good when you think about the book of Daniel, to remember that his visions of the ages is actually the chronicles of the fore-ordained future of Israel. Of course, the chronicles of *the Book of Truth* revealed to Daniel by the angel is filled with history, but it points to the future salvation of Israel!

But, before we conclude our study in Daniel, let's review the thrust of each chapter:

Daniel 1: Daniel and *the three* distinguish themselves among all the "wise men" of Babylon.

Daniel 2: Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the large statue and its glory and collapse.

Daniel 3: Daniel and *the three* refuse to worship the 90' idol and then survive the fiery furnace!

Daniel 4: Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream of his greatness and of his humiliation before God.

Daniel 5: Daniel explains the *handwriting on the wall* and is honored and promoted by King Belshazzar.

Daniel 6: Daniel's commitment to prayer and obedience to God lands him safely in the lions' den.

Daniel 7: Daniel dreams of the 4 beasts and interprets the dream, which spans Israel's eschatological history from Babylon to the future earthly kingdom of the Son of God, who will rule with all sovereign power and authority over "all peoples, nations and men of every language, [who] will worship Him!" (Daniel 7:13-14)

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<sup>1</sup> Daniel 12:1

<sup>2</sup> Romans 11:26

<sup>3</sup> Though Isaiah did not foresee the Church, who else could the Lord be speaking to, commanding them to speak comforting words to Jerusalem? Who else, but the Church of the First-born, that is Gentile believers. Those once scorned and hated by the Jewish people now will believe on the Lord and receive the comfort of God from the Bride of Christ. (Remember, the Church has been raptured by the time Israel believes!) What kindness and love of God! It will be a beautiful sound in Heaven when the Church welcomes believing Israel, "everyone whose name is found written in the book [of life]! (Daniel 12:1)"

Daniel 8: Daniel has a vision of a two horned ram, a stronger shaggy goat, and a little horned goat who causes the desolation of the temple in Jerusalem. (Remember the Medo-Persians were defeated by the Grecian Empire led by Alexander the Great and eventually by the infamous Antiochus IV Epiphanes.)

Daniel 9: Daniel's prayer of confession and repentance is followed by the appearance of Gabriel who reveals the "seventy 'sevens'" to Daniel. Again, the revelation concerns the eschatological future of Israel.

Daniel 10: Daniel is *prepared* for the explanation of "what will happen to your people in the future" from the Book of Truth.

Daniel 11: *The Book of Truth* is opened that Daniel can understand a detailed history including the final terrible ruler whom we believe is Antichrist as described in many NT books including The Revelation.

Daniel 12: Daniel is assured of a future troubling time for Israel, which will come to an end at the end of days. Two sections today as we finish our study of Daniel. 1) The fore-ordained historical future of the most-evil ruler ever: Antichrist. And 2), The fore-ordained end times future of Israel and her salvation.

l) (11:26-45) **The Fore-Ordained Historical future of the most-evil ruler ever, Antichrist.**

A) There is great consensus among students of eschatology, both premillennialists, including "Futurists" (our eschatological position) as well as "A-millennialists" that this character in 11:36-45 is the future Antichrist described so well in Revelation and elsewhere.

1) Matthew 24:15-25: here Jesus warns that the person spoken of in Daniel is yet future and terribly troublesome for Israel. And He says, "When you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel...then [flee]." Jesus goes into detail describing Jacob's Trouble.

(a) By the way, Daniel describes "the Time of Jacob's Trouble," but Jeremiah actually calls it "The Time of Jacob's Trouble" in Jeremiah 30:7.

(b) And Jesus makes clear that the whole earth will know it when He comes to destroy the kingdom of Antichrist and gather His people from the four corners.

(i) See Matt. 24:27-31

2) 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12

(a) He is the Man of Lawlessness, the man doomed to destruction. (2:3)

(b) He will exalt himself above everything called God or is worshiped. (2:4a)

(c) He will proclaim himself to be God. (2:4b)

(d) His works will be in accordance with the works of Satan. (counterfeit signs, etc.) (2:9-10)

(e) Our Lord Jesus will overthrow him with the breath of His mouth. (2:8)

3) Revelation 13:1-10

(a) 13:6, which reads, "He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander His name and His dwelling place and those who live in heaven."

(i) This is easily comparable to Daniel 11:36, which says, "The king will do what he pleases. He will exalt himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods."

B) Reasons for concluding that this is a future, ultimate Antichrist:

1) The language describes a more immense personality than A-IV

(a) (11:36a) "He will magnify himself above every god and say unheard of things against the God of gods."

(b) (11:36b) "He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed"

(i) The Lord Jesus will end him in the day of His wrath (see Revelation 19:19-21)

(c) (11:37) There is a high probability that he will be Jewish (see KJV). A-IV was not Jewish.

(d) (11:40) He will be ruling "at the time of the end."

(e) (11:45) He will establish his throne in the temple in Jerusalem.

- (i) 2 Thes. 2:4: “He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he.” sets himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming Himself to be God.”
      - (a) Although A-IV desecrated the temple, Paul, here reveals someone long after A-IV.
    - (f) (11:45) He will come to his end with no one to help him. Jesus Christ will destroy him once for all! Again, see Revelation 19:19-21.
      - (i) 19:19 and 21 describes the total elimination of the kings of the earth and their armies.
  - C) But deliverance will come for Israel as we will see in the next section.
- II) (12:1-13) **The Fore-Ordained end times future of Israel and her salvation.**
  - A) As we concluded last week there were two key points:
    - 1) God will see Daniel’s people **through the refining and purifying fires of failure. And,**
    - 2) **The Lord doesn’t forget His faithful servants.**
      - (a) Who are His faithful servants? (We are referring to the revelation given to Daniel.)
        - (i) (12:1b) “Everyone whose name is found written in *the book [of life].*”
  - B) (12:1) The Future Salvation of Israel is promised
    - 1) But first, Israel will experience trouble and distress that will eclipse previous suffering.
      - (a) The history of Israel is filled with pain and suffering.
        - (i) During the reign of A-IV, Israel experienced great distress, and many were killed.
        - (ii) When Rome destroyed Jerusalem, it is estimated that millions of Jews were killed.
        - (iii) During the Dark Ages the Church persecuted the Jewish people terribly.
        - (iv) In more modern times in Europe there were the *pogroms*, in which the Jews were systematically massacred.
        - (v) To the Holocaust perpetrated by the Nazi’s.
        - (vi) But this end times suffering will be like no other time in history. The Jews have been a target of Satan for a long time!
    - 2) But “at that time” they will be delivered by the Lord Jesus Himself!
      - (a) Just like Romans 11:25-26 describe it: “And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: ‘The deliverer will come from Zion; He will turn godlessness away from Jacob.’”
  - C) (12:2-3) Daniel sees a future resurrection of believing Israel
    - 1) Two resurrections predicted in Scripture
      - (a) The resurrection of the righteous: Raised to live eternally bodily in Heaven. (Rev. 20:4, 6)
      - (b) The resurrection of the wicked, doomed to live eternally in Hell. (Rev. 20:5, 12-13)
    - 2) (12:3) There is a group called “the wise” who lead many to righteousness. This could very be a prediction of the 144,000 Jewish witnesses to Christ spoken of in Revelation 7 and 14.
  - D) (12:4-13) Concluding Comments on Daniel
    - 1) (12:4) “...close up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end.”
      - (a) Daniel has been given enough. And the words will be kept safe until they are needed.
        - (i) Not until approximately 1850 was there so much interest in “end times.” Now is the time.
    - 2) (12:5-7) How long the *times of Jacob’s trouble* last?
      - (a) (12:7) “For a time, times and half a time.” (3 ½ years) **Last half of the Tribulation!!**
        - (i) **Daniel 7:25:** for the “saints” to be given into Antichrist’s hands. **Dan. 9:27:** The period of time from the breaking of the covenant and the erection of the abomination of desolation, and the establishment of the kingdom ruled by the Lord Jesus. **Dan. 12:7:** the duration of *the time of Jacob’s trouble*. **Rev. 11:2:** the duration of the time the Gentiles will trample Jerusalem. See also **Rev. 11:3, 12:6, 14, and 13:5.**
    - 3) Key: (12:9) *Purification* here points to the true purification that comes only after Christ’s cross.
    - 4) (12:13) The promise given to Daniel. Wait! Patience! The Lord promises rest and reward to Daniel.