



Life More Abundant Bible Study

Bible Prophecy: Daniel Chapter 12B

Continuing our study of the final chapter of Daniel we note that in verses four and nine, Daniel is commanded to seal up the words of the prophecy he has been actively transcribing, until the *time of the end*. These two verses are as bookends for events that are to transpire between the two verses, followed by events that will occur at the time of the end. With this understanding, we begin our study in verse five, where we find Daniel lifting his eyes to see a wondrous vision while standing by the river Hiddekel (Daniel 10:4). The panoramic, historic narrative of Chapters 10 and 11 spoken to Daniel by the angel Gabriel ends with Daniel perceiving two other heavenly beings [angels], each standing on a side of the river Hiddekel and the same One of Daniel 10:5, 6 who is clothed in *fine linen*, standing above the waters of the river.

Who is the *One* upon the waters and how can you tell? Consider His actions in Daniel 12:7 then read the following verses for clarification:

- Matthew 5:33-37; 24:35
- Revelation 10:1-7
- Deuteronomy 32:40
- Hebrews 6:13
- Jeremiah 31:14

God (Michael), who lives forever and ever and is able to bring His promises to fulfillment, is none other than the One standing above the waters of the Hiddekel conveying the message to His servant Daniel. The message being given is in response to a question by one of the angels on the side of the Hiddekel, namely “how long shall the fulfillment of the wonders be?”

Consider Christ’s (Michael) response regarding the duration of the wonderful vision and what shall befall the people of God (holy people). Compare Christ’s statement to Daniel 8:24, 25. To whom are these references made and what events are being noted?

Jesus is drawing another parallel upon the statements of prophecy previously given relating to the reign of the man of sin, the son of perdition, or the King of the North. At the conclusion of a time, times and dividing of times (1,260 years), when the power of the people of God has been completely shattered then shall the portion of the closed book of Daniel (v4) be opened, in the *time of the end* (v9). Further, the wording of the prophetic statement should pique the reader’s attention by the following “he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people”. The

same date being referenced is coincident with the conclusion of another time prophecy giving reference to a time of scattering, namely the 2,520 year prophetic time of scattering commencing with the destruction of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, Samaria, in 723BC [for more details of the *scattering* see the lesson for Daniel Chapters 4, 5, and 8C]. Daniel is neither to experience nor fully understand the accounts given in the portion of the closed narrative, for knowledge of these truths is reserved for those who live in the *time of the end*. Nonetheless, the prophet still inquires of the Lord, “O my Lord, what [shall be] the end of these [things]?”, in other words, what will be the final outcome of these events.

This brings us to verse 10 where Jesus Himself uses Hebrew parallelism to describe the end result of the conflict, specifically, two classes of people and their condition at the “time of the end”. The parallelism is as follows:

“Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried”	=	“but the wise shall understand”
“but the wicked shall do wickedly”	=	“and none of the wicked shall understand”

Therefore, the wise [marginally written as *teachers*] are they who will be purified, made white, and tried, while the wicked (unwise) will do wickedly and shall not understand. Let’s consider each class separately.

Let’s understand what makes the one class wise: what is involved in the purification, trial, and making white this class of people; lastly, when does it occur. In analyzing the wise let us review the following verses:

- Matthew 25:1-10
- Luke 11:5-13
- Malachi 3:1-4
- 1 Peter 4:12-14
- James 1:2-8; 3:13
- 1 Peter 5:10, 11
- Revelation 14:6-12

What is it that makes the “wise” wise?

Who performs the work of making the wise pure, white, and refining (trying) them?

When does the process occur?

Therefore the wise are they who hear the good news of the gospel followed by a strong message of warning regarding judgment, faithfulness to God, and avoiding a

false system of worship. Through diligent study and untiring prayer they understand and embrace the message. Recognizing their own sinful, unconsecrated state, they prayerfully plead without ceasing for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit (Jesus' Spirit) who performs the work of purifying, refining through trials, and making white the wise. These are they who have the Father's name written on their foreheads, they follow the Lamb wherever He goes and are redeemed among men (Revelation 14:1-5). This process commences when the "LORD's Messenger of the covenant" comes to His temple.

Who is the LORD's Messenger of the covenant and when does He come to His temple? Consider the following verses: Matthew 26:26-28; Daniel 8:14; Daniel 7:13, 14; Malachi 3:1-5.

Therefore, the purification of the wise commenced on October 22, 1844 when Jesus entered into the Most Holy Place in heaven to begin the *Investigative Judgment*, the antitypical Day of Atonement.

Now that we have understood the condition and fate of the wise, let us consider that of the wicked. Review the following verses when discussing the condition and fate of the wicked.

- 1 Corinthians 2:12-16
- Matthew 25:1-12
- Matthew 13:18-22
- Jeremiah 6:16-19 || Isaiah 58:12-14
- James 1:13-16
- Revelation 13:4, 8, 16, 17; 14:9-11
- Job 19:6-11
- Hosea 4:6
- Isaiah 27:10, 11

What are some characteristics of the wicked?

What is it they lack understanding of and why?

What shall be their fate?

Therefore the wicked are they who hear the gospel message but lack the faith, perseverance, and will to seek after it and its requirements. Their lack of prayerful persistence in seeking Christ's righteousness leaves them in a guilty naked condition, as with Adam and Eve at the fall (Revelation 16:15). In time, their personal

ambitions, lusts, and selfish desires overtake any motivation towards faithfulness to God until they are overthrown.

Our lesson closes on a very solemn note where the two classes of people at the *time of the end* are clearly identified. God has made provision that none should perish but that all should come to repentance and be saved. Further, God has opened the closed book of Daniel for all to read, eat, and internalize for these last days. Our prayer is that you taste and see that the Lord is good!

Key Thought:

"In every age there is a new development of truth, a message of God to the people of that generation. The old truths are all essential; new truth is not independent of the old, but an unfolding of it. It is only as the old truths are understood that we can comprehend the new. When Christ desired to open to His disciples the truth of His resurrection, He began "at Moses and all the prophets" and "expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself." Luke 24:27. But it is the light which shines in the fresh unfolding of truth that glorifies the old. He who rejects or neglects the new does not really possess the old. For him it loses its vital power and becomes but a lifeless form." [Christ's Object Lessons, pg 127.4, by E.G. White]

For a better understanding of prophetic imagery, terms and symbols used in this bible study, refer to the study, [Interpreting Bible Prophecy](#), also located on the Life More Abundant Bible Study website.