

The last chapter of Daniel describes the culmination of the **Great Controversy**, where the forces of good decisively conquer the forces of evil. Throughout the book of Daniel, God and His people have been shown to be in battle with the enemy of souls, Satan. The conflict was first manifested through the medium of paganism, *the daily*, for 1,260 years. Then through the papacy, the *Little Horn*, for another 1,260 years and finally through the *King of the North*, a reinvigorated and re-empowered Modern Rome. From its description, we recognize the blasphemous character of the *King of the North* to be **Antichrist**, one who usurps the position, praise, and honor due Jesus Christ alone, the true *King of the North* (Psalm 48:2; Isaiah 14:13; 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4). From the last six verses of Daniel Chapter 11, and by the testimony of other Bible prophets, we understand the final events of world history to occur as follows:

- I. Modern Rome, like both Pagan and Papal Rome, will subdue three territories before having its power, seat, and great authority entirely manifested:
 - a. Modern Rome will wage war and subdue the modern "King of the South", the U.S.S.R., through the military arms and intelligence of an ally, the United States of America (Daniel 11:40)
 - b. Modern Rome will fully overcome the "Glorious Land", the U.S.A., with the passage and enforcement of a *National Sunday Law*, the *Image to the Beast* (Daniel 11:41; Revelation 13:14, 15)
 - c. Modern Rome will stretch out her hand against the

"countries and Egypt", the entire world, by enforcement of a global Sunday Law (Daniel 11:42)

- II. Glad tidings out of the east and out of the north, made manifest by the *Third Angel's Message*, joined by the *Loud Cry* of the Fourth Angel of Revelation 18:1-6, will "trouble" the King of the North (Revelation 7; 14:6-13). These messages, empowered by the *Latter Rain* from the Holy Spirit will:
 - a. Gather many sons to righteousness (Daniel 12:3)
 - b. Rebuild the *Temple of the Lord*, comprised of people "born" in *Spiritual Babylon*, but called-out by the power of the Holy Spirit through the *Loud Cry* (Zechariah 4; 1 Peter 2:4, 5). This work establishes the prophesied *one-fold* of Christ, unified by "one faith, one Lord, and one baptism" (John 10:16; Ephesians 4:4-6); God's *Glorious Holy Mountain*
 - c. Decisively divide the world into two camps- those who heed the *Loud Cry* warning, receiving the *Seal of God*, and those who reject the warning, receiving the *Mark of the Beast* (Rev 7; 13:14-17; Dan 11:45)
 - d. Seal-up visions and prophecies as probation closes upon the world (Revelation 21:6-8, 22:11, 12)
- III. Arrival of, "...a day of trumpet and alarm against the fortified cities and against the high towers" (Zephaniah 1:15-17). God's judgments upon the world and the King of the North are poured out, embodied in the **Seven Last Plagues** (Revelation 15:1, 16:1-21). In the midst of global calamities, God will deliver and protect His

people from the destruction (Psalm 91:1-16)

It is between enumerated items II and III above that the narrative of Daniel Chapter 12 commences. Jesus, *the Great High Priest*, has finished the work of atonement for the righteous, completely blotting out their sins from the books of record, and has secured their names in the *Lamb's Book of Life*. Conversely, the unjust have been found wanting in judgment, and their fate awaits them as the heavenly books are closed. Jesus has completed His mediation as High Priest; and as Prince over the hosts, He has gathered in His kingdom (Luke 4:20, 19:12-15). Therefore, He is noted as standing up in Daniel 12:1 to don His Kingly apparel in order to reap the earth's harvest (Revelation 19:11-16, 14:14-20).

Q: Recall in Bible prophecy, when a monarch stands-up it signifies the change of a kingdom, era, or dispensation. What else may Jesus' standing be indicative of in Daniel 12:1? Consider the following verses when giving your answer: Acts 7:54-60, 8:1-4; Isaiah 3:13, 28:21, 66:15, 16; Rev 18:4-8, 22:11

A: Jesus' works of pardon and intercession have ended, and probation has closed for the world. Therefore, the only works of judgment that remain for the God of Love and Creation are His "strange acts"- reaping vengeance upon His enemies through their destruction (Deuteronomy 32:41-43).

The Bible makes plain that a **Time of Trouble** upon the earth is to conclude Jesus' work of atonement in the heavenly sanctuary and precede His *Second Coming* to earth.

Q: Describe some of the events to take place prior to and

during the Time of Trouble. Consider the following verses:

- Psalm 37:39, 40
- Jeremiah 30:5-7
- Revelation 15, 16
- Isaiah 26:20, 21
- Job 38:22, 23
- Ezekiel 7:2-12, 17-19
- Revelation 8:3-5
- Psalm 27:5, 6
- Isaiah 28:1-3, 15-18

As a loving Father, God will deliver, sustain, and protect His people whose names are written in the **Lamb's Book of Life** while they *go through* the global crisis. There is a common doctrine taught in Christianity today branded, the *Secret Rapture*, which states that God will deliver His people from this period of devastation by calling them up from the earth to heaven. However, as with the seven last plagues of Egypt (Ex 8:20-12:30), the Bible affirms God's ability to preserve His people *through* the midst of the trying period, as He:

1. Lifts-up His people as an *ensign* to the world, showing that they are His special people, called-out among men (Ex 8:22, 23; Mal 3:17, 18; Rev 14:4; Eze 20:12; Ps 23)
2. Demonstrates His power over the plagues and His ability to protect His people during their time of distress (2 Peter 2:9; Isa 26:20, 21, 33:15, 16; Psalm 91). Those, who by patient trial, have learned to trust and confide in God, vindicate Him as their Hope (Jer 17:5-8; Ps 20:7-9)
3. Condemns the world that has spurned His offer of salvation. Through the plagues, God makes known His ultimate purposes towards the rebellious (Malachi 4:1-3)

Daniel 12:2, when read in context, occurs at Christ's Second Coming, the event immediately following the *Time of Trouble*. Consider the following verses regarding that event:

- Matthew 24:30, 31
- Matthew 26:59-64

- Revelation 1:7
- Mark 14:55-62

Our studies of Bible prophecy have confirmed that the Bible describes two resurrections of the dead (John 5:25-29):

- I. The resurrection of the just, the *dead-in-Christ*, occurring precisely at Jesus' Second Coming (1 Thess. 4:16-18)
- II. The resurrection of the wicked [those already in the grave at the time of Christ's Second Coming, joined by those slain by the brightness of His Second Coming] after a *millennial period* (2 Thessalonians 2:8; 2 Peter 3:10, 11; Jeremiah 4:23-26; Revelation 19:11-21, 20:4-6)

Notice however, those who awake at the time of Jesus' Second Coming according to Daniel 12:2 will be, "some to everlasting life", and "some to shame [and] everlasting contempt". Further, Revelation 1:7 notes that "every eye" will see Jesus coming in the clouds of angels, "and those who pierced Him". Lastly, Jesus foretold those responsible for piercing Him [the High Priest, the Pharisees, and other church leaders], would see Him "coming in the clouds of heaven" (Mark 14:62, Matt 23:39). The Bible here affirms a **special resurrection** for a select group at Christ's Second Advent. God has granted the privilege of seeing the Second Coming of Jesus with power and glory to a select group of people who have died, both righteous and unrighteous, in no particular order. One group to be resurrected is comprised of the just, which will be changed suddenly, "in the twinkling of an eye", taking on immortality to inherit eternal life (1 Corinthians 15:51, 52). Those who have died in faith under the sounding of the *Third Angel's Message* of Revelation 14

[October 22, 1844 onward] are among the sealed of God (Revelation 7:1-8, 14:9-13) who, with the living righteous, will behold Christ's coming and experience the fulfillment of God's **covenant of peace**, eternal life. Another group to see Christ's Second Coming during the *special resurrection* will be those who denied Jesus' divinity, caused His shame, and pierced His hands, feet, and side (Psa 22:5, 6, 12-18). These will inherit "shame [and] everlasting contempt". The fate of this second group after beholding the Second Advent will be their instant death, followed by their resurrection and judgment after the [Millennial Period](#) (Rev 20:5-8, 11-15).

Daniel 12:3 summarizes the works of the "wise" during the perilous times leading up to Christ's Second Coming.

Q: What is the Source and content of their wisdom? Compare John 6:45; 7:17; Daniel 12:10, 10:1, 5-8; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 5:16; 25:1-10; Prov 1:7, 11:30; Revelation 14:1-12

More than education and human intellect, the wisdom of the wise is their knowledge of the *Holiness of God* and reverence for His Word. Those who have experienced Christ's *righteousness by faith*, and have made priority the preparation required to meet Him in peace are they who will turn many to righteousness and will shine as the firmament.

Daniel is commanded to "seal-up the book," his writings foretelling world events, until the **Time of the End**. Daniel is further told, "many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase" Daniel 12:4. A more accurate prediction of the era following A.D.1798, the commencement of the *Time of the*

End, could not be given. By means of the *Industrial Revolution* and the advances made since then, more knowledge and information have been amassed than in all prior eras combined. Additionally, with advancements in science and technology, travel that once required weeks to complete can be done within hours.

The greatest increase in knowledge and that for which the Bible is giving reference is the increase in understanding the mysteries of God contained in the "sure word of prophecy" (2 Peter 1:19). Never before, had men better comprehended the truths and application of the prophecies in the Bible, until after A.D.1798. As God was rebuilding and entering covenant with His last day **Remnant Movement**, Jesus, the *Lion of the Tribe of Judah* unsealed knowledge of His commandments (Rev 5:5). He also gave the Remnant Movement a prophet to affirm, counsel, and guide its works of leading many sons to righteousness (Amos 3:7, 8). As with Ancient Israel, with whom God entered covenant after an era of bondage, outlined His commandments on tables of stone, and provided Moses as a prophet, so too God has provided and ordained a last day *Movement* before His Second Advent.

Running "to and fro" through God's Word, uncovering long-hidden truths and sealed prophecies marked the work of this early Remnant Church Movement, typified by the [Church of Philadelphia](#) in the Revelation (Revelation 3:7-13). Let us purpose to continue with the same zeal marked by this Movement at its inception until the coming of Christ!

The Conflict's Conclusion: Michael Stands-Up

Daniel Chapter 12 – Part 1 [Based on verses 1-4]

