

# DANIEL 12

## “The Blessing of the Time of the End”

Adult S.S. Lesson  
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**BABYLON.**  
677  
2520  
7  
677  
1843.  
12  
84  
30  
538  
2300  
457  
1843.  
2520.

**VISIONS OF DANIEL & JOHN.**  
A CHRONOLOGICAL CHART  
OF THE  
VISIONS OF DANIEL & JOHN.

**MEDIA AND PERSIA.**  
332

**GRECIA.**  
164  
158

**PAGAN ROME.**  
490  
508  
538  
606  
1299  
1449

**PAPAL ROME.**  
3 1/2  
12  
42  
30  
1260.

**MAHOMETANS.**  
508  
45  
1335  
1798  
1843.

**THE TEN KINGDOMS.**

**GOD'S EVERLASTING KINGDOM**

1843.

## Daniel 12 – Introduction

- Daniel 10-12 is the fourth and final apocalyptic vision in Daniel.
- Daniel 12 includes a conclusion to Daniel 11 ([Dan. 12:1-4](#)) and a review of three historical time prophecies ([Dan. 12:5-13](#)).
- These time prophecies help to provide an overall understanding of the 2300-year prophecy ([Dan. 8:14](#)).
- Daniel's four apocalyptic visions follow a vision/explanation format, and each time prophecy applies the Day/Year Principle ([Num. 14:34](#); [Psa. 77:5](#); [Isa. 34:8](#); [Eze. 4:6](#); [Job 10:5](#); [15:20](#); [32:7](#); [36:11](#); [Psa. 78:33](#); [90:9-10](#); [90:15](#); [Prov. 9:11](#); [10:27](#); [Eccl. 6:3](#); [12:1](#); [Isa. 32:10](#); [61:2](#); [63:4](#)).

## A Suggested Outline of Daniel 11:1-12:3

- Dan. 11:1-2 Medo-Persia
- Dan. 11:2-4 Greece/4 Greek Empires
- Dan. 11:4-15 Syria (KON) vs. Egypt (KOS)
- Dan. 11:16-30a Imperial Rome (KON)
- Dan. 11:30b-39 Papal Rome (KON, 538-1798)
- Dan. 11:40-45 Papal Rome (KON, 1798-End)
- Dan. 12:1-3 Christ's Return/Resurrection



## **Daniel 12:1**

**“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great Prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.”**

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:1

- The phrase, “at that time” refers to the time when the KON persecutes the faithful and comes to an end (Dan. 11:44-45).
- “Michael” is a reference to Christ; He is the Archangel (1 Thess. 4:16), our Prince and the first Prince (Dan. 10:13, 21), who rebuked Satan and resurrected Moses from the dead (Jude 9), and cast Satan and his evil angels out of heaven (Rev. 12:7-9).
- The name “Michael” (Strong’s H4317) means “One who is like God”; this is another name for Christ in Scripture!

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:1 (cont'd)

- “Stand up” – This phrase has two meanings; first, Christ will stand up in defense of the faithful at His return (Joel 2:31-32; 3:15-16); second, when Christ stands up, His intercession in the heavenly sanctuary will come to an end (Acts 7:55-56).
- “Time of trouble” – This refers to the “Great Tribulation” at the very end of history just before Christ’s return (Matt. 24:20-21; Rev. 7:14; Jer. 30:7); this is when Christ will “deliver” the faithful at the end of time from the influence of a global death decree, which will take place when the mark of the beast is enforced.

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:1 (cont'd)

- “At that time your people shall be delivered” – This phrase states that at the height of the “time of trouble” when Christ’s intercession has come to an end (i.e. human probation has closed) He will return to “deliver” His end-time faithful from being put to death by a global death decree; this is the final deliverance of the 144,000.
- “Everyone who is found written in the book” – The end-time faithful who are delivered from death when Christ returns, along with the faithful of all ages who are resurrected from the dead when He returns, have their names written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.



## **Daniel 12:2-3**

**“And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever.”**

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:2-3

- “Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake” – Death is equated with a dreamless, unconscious sleep in Scripture; there will be a resurrection of the dead when Christ returns (John 11:11-14; Psa. 13:3; 1 Cor. 15:51-53; 1 Thess. 4:13-18).
- “Many” – These are NOT the “all” mentioned in John 5:28-29; since the resurrection of the unsaved occurs after the millennium (Rev. 20:6-15), the “many” here must refer to a special resurrection of both saved and unsaved people which will take place just before the return of Christ. Who are these two groups?

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:2-3 (cont'd)

- “Some to everlasting life” – This saved group consists of those who have embraced a belief (faith) in the Third Angel’s Message, and have died anticipating the “blessed hope” of Christ’s return (Dan. 12:12; Rev. 14:9-13; Titus 2:11-14); they shine forever (Dan. 12:3).
- “Some to shame and everlasting contempt” – This unsaved group refers to those who had a key role in the crucifixion of Christ (Matt. 26:63-64; Rev. 1:7); this group also includes people who have been the most violent opposers of God’s truth and persecutors of the faithful throughout human history.



Daniel

## *Great Controversy, page 637*

“Graves are opened, and ‘many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth . . . awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.’ Daniel 12:2. All who have died in the faith of the third angel’s message come forth from the tomb glorified, to hear God’s covenant of peace with those who have kept His law. ‘They also which pierced Him’ (Revelation 1:7), those that mocked and derided Christ’s dying agonies, and the most violent opposers of His truth and His people, are raised to behold Him in His glory and to see the honor placed upon the loyal and obedient.”



## **Daniel 12:4**

**“But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.”**

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:4

- “Shut up the words, and seal the book” – Daniel was told to seal his book; this is apocalyptic language to describe how Daniel’s prophecies would be “sealed” (i.e. not fully understood) until a certain time.
- “The time of the end” – Daniel’s prophecies would not be fully known or understood until the arrival of the “time of the end”; (Dan. 8:17; 11:35; 11:40; 12:4, 9); once this time period arrives, “many would run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase,” meaning that a knowledge of Daniel’s prophecies would increase – they would be “unsealed” and understood; vs. 5-13 reveals when the “time of the end” arrives!



## **Daniel 12:5-6**

**“Then I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others, one on this riverbank and the other on that riverbank. And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?”**



## **Daniel 12:7**

**“Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.”**

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:5-7

- Next, Daniel evidently saw two angelic beings, one on each side of the banks of Hiddekel (Tigris) River. (Dan. 10:4)
- One of these angelic beings asked a third Being (i.e. Christ), who was located above the waters of the river, “how long” it would be until the wonders described would be fulfilled; this question/answer pattern is also seen in Dan. 8:9-14 with respect to the “little horn” (Dan. 8:9-12) and the “cleansing” of the heavenly sanctuary (Dan. 8:13-14).
- **NOTE** – in Dan. 8:9-14, the question was answered with a time prophecy; we should expect a similar response here in Daniel 12!

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:5-7 (cont'd)

- Daniel then heard a “man clothed in linen” speak; this is Christ, who was located above the “waters of the river”; He held up His right and left hands, and “swore by Him who lives forever” (God the Father).
- “A time, times, and half a time” – This refers to 1260 prophetic “days” (Dan. 7:25; Rev. 12:14), or 1260 literal years; this is the dark-age time of papal persecution, which extended from AD 538 to 1798; Christ was showing that after the 1260 years the “time of the end” would arrive in 1798; this would begin the last phase of human history, during which the “end” of Daniel’s prophecies would find their complete fulfillment, as they will be unsealed and understood by the faithful! (GC 356)



## **Daniel 12:8-10**

**“Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, My Lord, what shall be the end of these things? And he said, Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand.”**

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:8-10

- After hearing Christ's answer (a time prophecy) to the angel's question, Daniel followed suit by also asking about the "end" of the "things" that were described in his prophecies.
- Daniel's prophecies would be "sealed" until the "time of the end"; the "wise" would be "purified," "made white," and "refined" by experiencing persecution during the dark ages (Dan. 11:32-35).
- **NOTE** – These verses are followed by two other time prophecies that have generated much discussion among Adventist interpreters of Daniel.



## **Daniel 12:11-13**

**“And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days. But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days.”**

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:11-13

- After discussing that Daniel's prophecies would be "sealed" until the "time of the end" and be "understood" by the "wise," Christ discussed two more time prophecies, in response to Daniel's question (vs. 8).
- Dan. 12:11 states that the time involving the taking away of the "daily" and the setting up of the "abomination of desolation" would be 1290 prophetic days, or 1290 literal years; in Dan. 8:9-14 and 11:30-31, these two terms related to the dark-age papacy; this time prophecy must also relate to the dark-age papacy; and since the dark ages ended in 1798, the 1290 years must have also ended in 1798, and thus began in AD 508.

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:11-13 (cont'd)

- **QUESTION** – What happened in the year **AD 508** in relationship to the setting up of the dark-age papal power?
- **NOTE** – The French king **Clovis I (reign, AD 481-511)** ruled as the first-ever post-Roman European king to convert to the Catholic faith; some historians suggest that he was baptized on Christmas day in **508**; in the spring of **508** he was named a **Roman consul** and was declared to be a **second Constantine**; he assumed the role of a defender of the Catholic faith, and lent his military power to the Catholic Church; his conversion ensured that Roman Catholicism became the dominant religion in Western Europe, and was a major stepping stone for papacy's rise by **AD 538**.

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:11-13 (cont'd)

- **Dan. 12:12** also describes a third time prophecy in Daniel 12 that consists of 1335 prophetic days, or **1335 literal years**; no starting point is given for this third time prophecy, so it is safe to conclude that the **1290 years** and **1335 years** are related to each other, and therefore must have the same starting date of **AD 508**.
- If we extend the **1335 years** from **AD 508**, we arrive at the year **1843**; the Millerite Adventists first concluded that the **2300 years** would end in either the **Spring** or **Fall** of **1843**; they later settled on the **Fall** of **1844**; the faithful who saw these years (**1843-1844**) were “**blessed**” because they anticipated **Christ’s return** and later developed the **Adventist faith!**

## Thoughts on Daniel 12:11-13 (cont'd)

- Also, when we compare [Dan. 12:12](#) with [Rev. 14:9-13](#), which both use the word “blessed,” the years 1843 and 1844 were pivotal in opening the way to develop the [Third Angel’s Message](#) (the First and Second Angel’s Messages were given in 1843 and 1844); those who embrace this third message and happen to die prior to Christ’s return will be “blessed” because they will be part of the [special resurrection](#) to see the return of Christ (the “blessed hope” of [Titus 2:11-14](#)); this group makes up the faithful “many” who are mentioned in [Dan. 12:2](#).
- **NOTE** – These three time prophecies in Daniel 12 help us to grasp the meaning of the [2300-year prophecy](#) of [Dan. 8:14](#).



# Time Prophecies in the Book of Daniel



## Thoughts on Daniel 12:11-13 (cont'd)

- Finally, Daniel was told to “go his way” and not worry about these time prophecies; he would rest in death, and eventually be raised to receive eternal life when Christ returns!
- This verse also suggests that Daniel’s prophecies would speak truth during the “time of the end” (these prophecies would “stand in their lot” by revealing truth during the period of 1798 to Christ’s return).
- **NOTE** – Some Adventist interpreters of Daniel 12 have suggested that these three time prophecies should be understood in a future, literal sense; could these time prophecies be literal and in the future?



# One False Futurist View of Daniel 12's Time Prophecies



“God has not revealed to us the time when this message will close or when probation will have an end . . . Letters have come to me asking me if I have any special light as to the time when probation will close; and I answer that I have only this message to bear, that it is now time to work while the day lasts, for the night cometh in which no man can work . . . But there is no command for anyone to search the Scripture in order to ascertain, if possible, when probation will close. God has no such message for any mortal lips. He would have no mortal tongue declare that which He has hidden in His secret councils.”

“Men need to be aroused to realize the solemnity of the time, the nearness of the day when human probation shall be ended. God gives no man a message that it will be five years or ten years or twenty years before this earth's history shall close. He would not give any living being an excuse for delaying the preparation for His appearing.”

## The Time Prophecies of Daniel 12

- There are several reasons as to why a future, literal view of these three time prophecies in Daniel 12 is not possible.
- These reasons include: (1) this would violate the Day/Year Principle; (2) this would violate the textual connections that **Dan. 12:5-13** has with **Dan. 8:9-14** and **Dan. 11:31-35**, which both refer to the dark ages; (3) this would violate EGW's observations that God has not revealed when human probation will end; and (4) this would violate the Scriptures where Christ stated that the day/hour of His return is not revealed. (**Matt. 24:36; Mark 13:32**)

## The Time Prophecies of Daniel 12 (cont'd)

- Also, if we compare **Dan. 12:7-12** with **Rev. 10:5-7**, we can see that these are **parallel passages** that describe the same events; **Rev. 10:7** states that there would be “**time no longer**” (KJV); Revelation 10 describes the Millerite Movement and the Great Disappointment; this means that when the **2300 years** of **Dan. 8:14** ended in the **Fall of 1844**, time prophecies in any form would no longer be a test for the faithful, whether literal or symbolic.
- “The great test on time was in 1843 and 1844, and all who have set time since then have been deceiving themselves and deceiving others.” (*Testimonies for the Church, 1:73*)

## The Time Prophecies of Daniel 12 (cont'd)

- Some have suggested that a certain **EGW quote** supports a future view of the time prophecies of Daniel 12 – “Brother Hewit from Dead River was there . . . We told him of some of his errors in the past, that the 1335 days were ended and numerous errors of his.” (*Manuscript Releases, 6:251*)
- This quote actually suggests that one of Hewit’s errors was that the 1335 days had not ended; EGW suggests here that this time prophecy had come to an end (our pioneers taught this truth!).
- The structure of Daniel’s visions also disproves any future view.



## The Time Prophecies of Daniel 12 (cont'd)

How Long?	Answer	Interpretation
Dan. 8:13	2300 days (Dan. 8:14)	2300 years (457 BC to AD 1844)
Dan. 12:5-6	1260 days (Dan. 12:7)	1260 years (AD 538 to 1798)
Dan. 12:8-10	1290 days (Dan. 12:11)	1290 years (AD 508 to 1798)
	1335 days (Dan. 12:12)	1335 years (AD 508 to 1843)



## Vision/Explanation Format of Daniel's Prophecies

Vision	Explanation	Time	Meaning	Time Span
2:31-35	2:36-45	N/A	N/A	N/A
7:1-14	7:15-28	1260 days (7:25)	1260 years	AD 538-1798
8:1-12	(1) 8:13-27	2300 days (8:14)	2300 years	457 BC to AD 1844
	(2) 9:20-27	490 days (9:24-27)	490 years	457 BC to AD 34
10:1-12:4	12:5-13	1260 days (12:7)	1260 years	AD 538-1798
		1290 days (12:11)	1290 years	AD 508-1798
		1335 days (12:12)	1335 years	AD 508-1843



# Time Prophecies in the Book of Daniel





Daniel

## *Sermons and Talks, 1:225*

“In his vision of the last days Daniel inquired, ‘O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end . . . Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days’ [Daniel 12:8-13]. Daniel has been standing in his lot since the seal was removed and the light of truth has been shining upon his visions. He stands in his lot, bearing the testimony which was to be understood at the end of the days.”

## Daniel 12 – Closing Thoughts

- We are truly “blessed” because we live in the “time of the end” when the “seal” has been removed from Daniel’s prophecies.
- We are also a part of the “blessed” of Dan. 12:12 (per Dan. 12:2; Rev. 14:9-13; Titus 2:11-14), because whether we live to see Christ return or die prior to His return, we will still see this grand event with our very own eyes either way!
- Although we live in difficult times, Daniel’s prophecies show us that we can trust that God will soon bring an end to this evil world, and we will eventually see the eternal kingdom of God!