



Many thanks to Brother Derek for the introduction on this chapter.

This chapter together with the previous two are part of a great revelation given to Daniel when he was at least 90 years old. He had seen much himself of the rise and fall of Gentile powers, and in this last chapter, he would have been pleased to have had revealed to him the end of all things, the final and great victory over all Gentile powers just as the little stone smashed the image made up of empires of men, and ground them to powder, and how the little stone grew into a mountain which filled the whole earth. Daniel is given detail of this process and many of his own questions would have been answered as the process for the new Kingdom, the new order becomes reality. As Brother Derek reminded us, the final manifestation of the Messiah comes after the nation of Israel is humiliated and on the very edge of destruction. The end of chapter 11 describes how the confederacy of nations led by the Gog, the King of the North is about to solve the Jewish Question once and for all, verse 45 where the enemy will seek to place permanent headquarters in Jerusalem he shall come to his end, because he will have touched the apple of God's eye, and seeks to pervert the plan and

purpose God has with His people Israel, and is corrupting the Holy land – God’s land by his abomination of desolation – the false religion of Russian Othodoxy and none shall help him. Because God’s fury shall come up in His face, and He will utterly destroy once and



for all. We recall that the great Dictator of Egypt once thought he could destroy Israel as they were caught trapped between the beaches of the sea, and the mighty Egyptian army. But Moses stretched out his rod and shouted – Stand still and see the Salvation of the Lord today! The nation of Israel today will likewise be broken, and stripped of their defence, and vulnerable and on the very edge of destruction will once again be made to stand still.

Rest, wait, and have faith in their God.

So we read Daniel 12 – at THAT time will Michael stand up.

Brother Derek points out that this name means “Who is Like God”. It is a Title and not a name as such. It applies more than any other to the Messiah who is Jesus Christ who became the manifestation of His Father. This time the title is not applied to one of the chief princes as in 10:13, but we read *The Great Prince which stands for the children of your people*. Just as Israel will have to stand still in their humiliation, so theiur Saviour will also stand for them. Just as God in

Exodus 2:25 saw His people in their suffering and grief *And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.* Just as Stephen saw the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God (Acts 7:56), so will Jesus Christ stand – no longer sitting and waiting until his enemies be subdued (Psalm 110:1). Now is the time for action. For rescue, for salvation! *He will stand for the children of thy people.* Daniel's people – The Jews. - But not just Daniel's natural descendants, but those too who have been adopted into the Hope of Israel through faith and baptism. The natural will be saved from murder and death. The spiritual will also be rescued from the dust of the earth.

At long last – the prayers of generations of the persecuted and powerless – *How long O Lord, How long?* (Revelation 6:10) will finally be answered. It will be a time of great deliverance for all those who *will be found written in the book.* In many passages of scripture (Exodus 32:32; Psalm 56:8; 69:28, Revelation 3:5; 13:8; 17:8;



Philemon 4:3; etc) the memory of the Almighty Father is likened to a book or a scroll, where the characters and deeds of those whom God has called are preserved throughout time long after the death of each individual. There is no

literal book as such. But in the same way we can appreciate how incredible amounts of information can be stored on a microscopic silicon chip, or a plastic magnetic disc with no working parts or even an electrical source, it can be safely stored for years. So too can the Almighty who has made these laws of nature and technology for such a thing to be possible also remember all the information relating to each of those who have been called to the knowledge of His Word. Of course it is possible for sins to be blotted out (eg. as Moses requests), but all who have been called in their lifetime will be Recalled to find out if they are in the book of the Chosen. Some will find out they may have been called, but not chosen. Because they

were not Faithful (Revelation 17:14). In verse 2 Daniel is informed *that many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth will awake*. It is interesting the word sleep is used here because when we fall asleep, and wake up again, we are the same as we were before, only refreshed. We are not a different form or in a different state, but same as before. This is an important point, as some assume when the righteous are raised they are given immortality as they come out of the grave. But this is not the case as we shall see. Sleep also gives the idea of a temporary death. We note how Jesus knowing that Lazarus was dead, said that Lazarus was sleeping, (John 11:11) *Our friend Lazarus sleeps; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep*. much to the jeers of onlookers. His death was temporary –just as the Psalmist used the expression: 13:3: *Consider and hear me, O Lord my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;* (see also 1 Corinthians 15:6)

It is death in every sense of the word, but by using the word sleeping the writers, and Jesus convey the power of the Holy Spirit, that will awake the dead, as if they have just been asleep, to arise out of their graves, just exist again, just as they were before, out of the dust of the earth – just as all men are made of the dust of the earth. Thus the resurrected will be made of the same substance as they were before. Out of the dust. Even if the atoms and molecules which constituted that person have long gone, the power of the Holy Spirit, is to recall that person back into existence –as they were. In body and in mind – and importantly as in character.

Not everyone is resurrected. It is not true that all people that have ever lived will be resurrected. The scriptures do not allow for this. Without knowledge there is no responsibility. As described by the Psalmist: Psalm 49:12 *Nevertheless man being in honour abides not: he is like the beasts that perish*. There is no talk of animals rising from the dead in scripture. Likewise in Proverbs 21:16: *The man that wanders out of the way of understanding (ie lacking knowledge) shall remain in the congregation of the dead*. Another useful passage is

Isaiah 26: 13 -14: *O Lord our God, other lords beside thee have had dominion over us: but by thee only will we make mention of thy name. They are dead, they shall not live; they are deceased, they shall not rise: therefore hast thou visited and destroyed them, and made all their memory to perish.* Lastly here in Daniel 12:2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Note Many and not all!! It is knowledge that brings responsibility to an individual, and on that they will be judged.

It is also good to notice that they that *be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.* As these individuals in their previous life were little specks of light in the gross darkness of ignorance and selfishness, their capability of shining will be magnified a million times through the power of the Holy Spirit and being accorded the gift of eternal life. Their shining is not for their own glory of course, but is the Word radiating from them, the glory of the Father, the joy and happiness of the safety of Truth, and the Light will be seen as it will be reflected by those who they will teach. The gospel light will be shed abroad, first to the Jew and then the Gentile. *They will turn many to righteousness.* It is this Light which enable the Jews at the door of death to See their Messiah.

In verse 5, we are reminded that all this time Daniel has been receiving these detailed visions, he has been by the side of the river Hiddekel. See Chapter 10:4. There more than one angelic visitor assisted him in receiving these visions, and giving him words of comfort. But now he sees the angels positioned either side of this great river. This river symbolised the power of the great empire of Persia – and Babylon before it, as those empires were so dependant upon the great water course through their Kingdoms, and of course have been ever since. The destiny of all the empires of men are controlled by the angels of God, as Daniel was reminded in 10:20, which is why they were situated either side, controlling events to

ensure men do not exceed the limitations that are placed upon them in their violence and wickedness, and that always it is God's will that is done. In the last development of Daniel's vision he sees the certain Angel – the Man of One he saw earlier (10:5,6) standing in the middle of the river, but not in the water but over it, as if he was hovering there. Above the water (see NET version) means he was not part of it. The Man of One, this special angel represented Jesus Christ and the saints in glory, as we have discussed before. In the vision they are elevated above the river of nations, or empires - it is they who will be given complete control of all the nations of the world, and will rule over the ever flowing masses of people, until the river finds its destination.

How long shall it be unto the ends of these wonders? Daniel asked. Various cryptic time periods are given in this chapter.

- 1) *it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished. -verse 7*
- 2) *And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.- verse 11*
- 3) *Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. -verse 12*

1 – period of intense persecution, and scattering would last 'time' (Hebrew *moed* or year) consisting of 360 days 'times' plural of time, so 720 days, and half a time (or year) or 180 days.

$360+720+180=1260$ Thus the time of intense persecution would last 1260 years. Various examples have been suggested:

There is 1260 years From time of Constantine the Man of Sin AD 312 to St Bartholmew's Massacre, when Huguenots – Protestant believers were murdered by Catholic persecutors in many thousands in 1572.

There is 1260 years from the decree of Justinian in 533 to 1793 the French Revolution. 1260 years from Decree of Phocas in 610 to 1870 the year of the first Vatican Council. 1260 years from 688 when Dome of Rock was built, to 1948 when State of Isarel was declared.

2 – From the time of the daily sacrifice being taken away is the start time, and the setting up of the abomination of desolations is the end time. The year 603 BC was when the vessels were taken away from the Temple. Add 1290... takes us to 688AD when the building of a sanctuary to a pagan religion was set up where the Temple once stood.

3 – Blessed is he who waits until 1335... $688 + 1335 =$ the year 2021...

The context is the resurrection era... *But go thy way Daniel till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the day...*

A lot has happened since 2021. The King of North is getting fighting fit, and even though losing over 300,000 men in Ukraine has commenced a massive industrial scale weapons manufacture, with the whole nation on a war footing, inured to death, a people behind their Dictator. Israel in her arrogance has skilfully turned the world against her so that all nations will come against Jerusalem to battle, all just exactly on time, to ensure Michael will Stand for his people on the Day Appointed. Let us not be blotted out of the book of life.

Brother Terry