

Daniel 12

The first 4 verses of this chapter close out Daniel's final vision. This vision started back in chapter 10 with a discussion of the behind-the-scenes spiritual _____ taking place. Then chapter 11 the message that was intended to be delivered was given. Now we come to the concluding statements about this vision.

Verses 1-4-End of the Age-Great _____ but Heavenly Help

(Verse 1) Things will not get better for the saints but things will build up until a great period of evil days. These terrible times will be unlike anything that has been seen before. However, the people of God will receive special _____ from Michael. Michael has the task of helping to deliver those whose names are written in the book of life from these terrible times.

"His (Michael) task is to bring deliverance to all those whose names are written in the book of life...Michael here is seen in the fullest possible sense as the guardian of God's people until the resurrection...Michael is seen as the one who battles on behalf of God's cause."-Ferguson

(Verses 2-3) Those who died (in Christ) during that evil time will be raised to everlasting life. Those raised to life were those that were wise and who pointed many to the way of righteousness. These ones shall be changed and shine with the _____ of the heavens.

"The saints of the Most High will reflect the glory received by the One like the Son of Man. They will be changed into His likeness (2 Cor. 3:18). Nothing will then be able to undo that final transformation...Believers do not look forward merely to dying but to the destruction of death...They see the fulfillment of God's grace not in release from the body but in total transformation, body and soul, when they share in the triumphant glory of the kingdom of God."-Ferguson

Those who died during that time outside of Christ are raised to everlasting death, _____ from the glory of God.

(Verse 4) Daniel is called to preserve what he had seen so that _____ generations might have it.

"He must preserve the revelation he has received...It must be on record for God's people so that the events of the end will not take them by surprise. Later believers who are familiar with God's Word will not only be equipped for every good work but also will be kept trusting the Lord and living stable lives even in the troubles that precede the end."-Ferguson

God's people are anchored in what has been _____ (Scripture) but the people of the world race through the world seeking knowledge and never come to know peace and rest.

"There is a strain of sadness in these words. The written revelation of God is in the world, but men heed it not. Instead, they look for knowledge where it is not to be found."-Young

Verses 5-13-The matter is _____

(Verses 5-6) The vision has finished and now he sees two other angelic beings on both sides of the river and a question is asked about how _____ it would take for all these things to be.

(Verse 7) The heavenly being who gave the vision declares that these things would take place for a time, times, and a half a time (at God's _____ time). The power of the holy people must first be shattered before the final end.

"The word (time) means a set or appointed time, and there is no warrant whatsoever for the assertion that it means a year."-Young

"When the powers of darkness have done their worst against the kingdom of God, and the truth of God has been set at a final devaluation, God will act."-Ferguson

(Verses 8-9) Daniel is curious about the answer and asks for clarification but he is told to not _____ anymore into these things.

"God wished some of His predictions to be partially understood, and the rest to remain concealed until the full period of the complete revelation should arrive; inquire no further, leave the matter alone."-Young

(Verse 10) While not permitting Daniel to know specifics he is comforted with some general knowledge. The words of this prophecy will be a _____ to future saints.

"Fear not, Daniel, the words, kept and sealed unto the time of the end, will prove to be a source of true blessing to the people of God even unto the end."-Young

(Verses 11-12) The last word on these things is a summary of the persecution mentioned previously at the hand of Antiochus Epiphanes (11:31). That time would serve as a miniature version of the great time of persecution at the end. But the time of Antiochus's evil had _____. Therefore, the saints are encouraged to wait on the Lord and know that evil will not endure forever but only can continue for the time appointed by God. The people of God must remember that blessing is reserved for those who persevere.

The numbers here mentioned are seen by some as a literal description of the time of Great Tribulation during the future 70th week of Daniel (Dispensationalism). Others view these numbers as to be taken figuratively showing length but also conclusion.

(Verse 13) Daniel is again encouraged to go and be _____ until the end. Knowing that he will, eventually, enter into the promised rest and will one day be raised to eternal honor by the Great God and Savior of His people.

"Thus the salvation of Daniel is announced; his part or lot is to that of the wise who turn many unto righteousness... Well be it for us if in the end of our days we too are able to depart hence with such consolation of hope."-Young