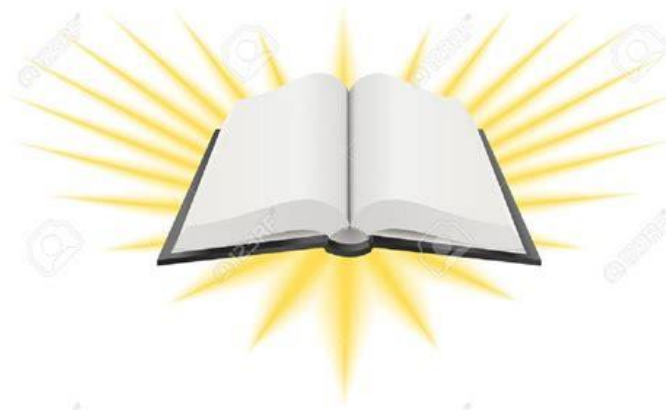


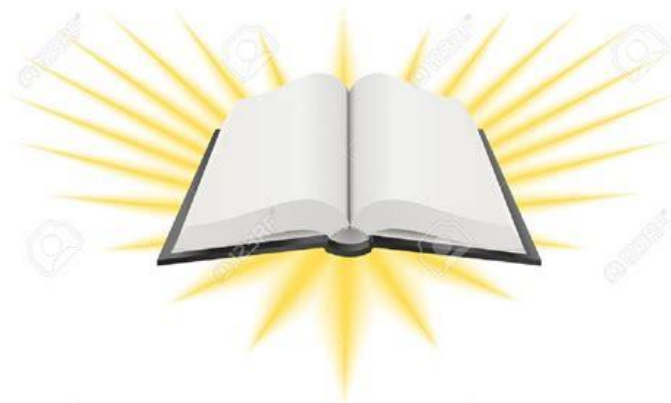
Daniel 12
The end
and a new beginning



"At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people--everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake.. some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. But you, Daniel, close up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. Many will go here and there to increase knowledge."

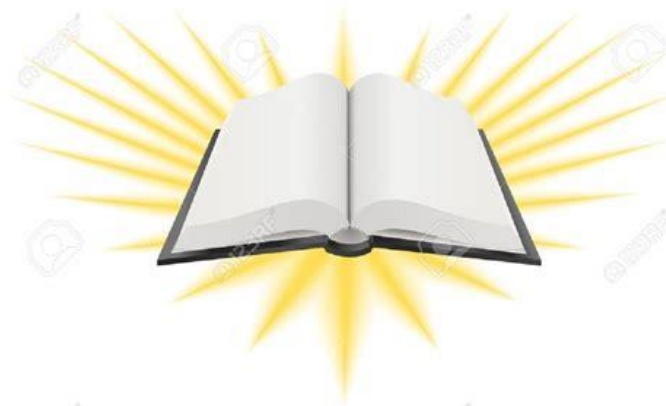


Then I, Daniel, looked, and there before me stood two others, one on this bank of the river and one on the opposite bank. One of them said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, "How long will it be before these astonishing things are fulfilled?" The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, lifted his right hand and his left hand toward heaven, and I heard him swear by him who lives forever, saying, "It will be for a time, times and half a time. When the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things will be completed." I heard, but I did not understand. So I asked, "My lord, what will the outcome of all this be?" He replied, "Go your way, Daniel, because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end.



Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.

"From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days. "As for you, go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance."



At that time Michael,
the great prince who protects your people, will arise.

At the time of the end of chapter 11
ie. Antichrist's evil reign
The angel Michael – the great
prince
Assigned to protect 'your' people –
the Jews.
He will act on their behalf in the
end-time war.



There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then.

It will be a terrible time – the worst ever!
For all? The Jews? Believers?



But at that time your people--everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered.

Deliverance for your people (only those named in the book (of life))
This means all believers alive then – Jew and Gentile



DELIVERANCE

Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake..

This is a strong parallel to Revelation 20:11-15

The resurrection of the dead

Multitudes – a great number

Sleeping (their dead bodies remain on earth)



Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake.. some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.

There are 2 very different destinies
Everlasting life vs, Everlasting shame - loss



Malachi 3:18

Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens,

Blessings in first group

Wise ? Those who fear God - glorified

Romans 8:30

And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.



and those who lead many to righteousness,
like the stars for ever and ever.

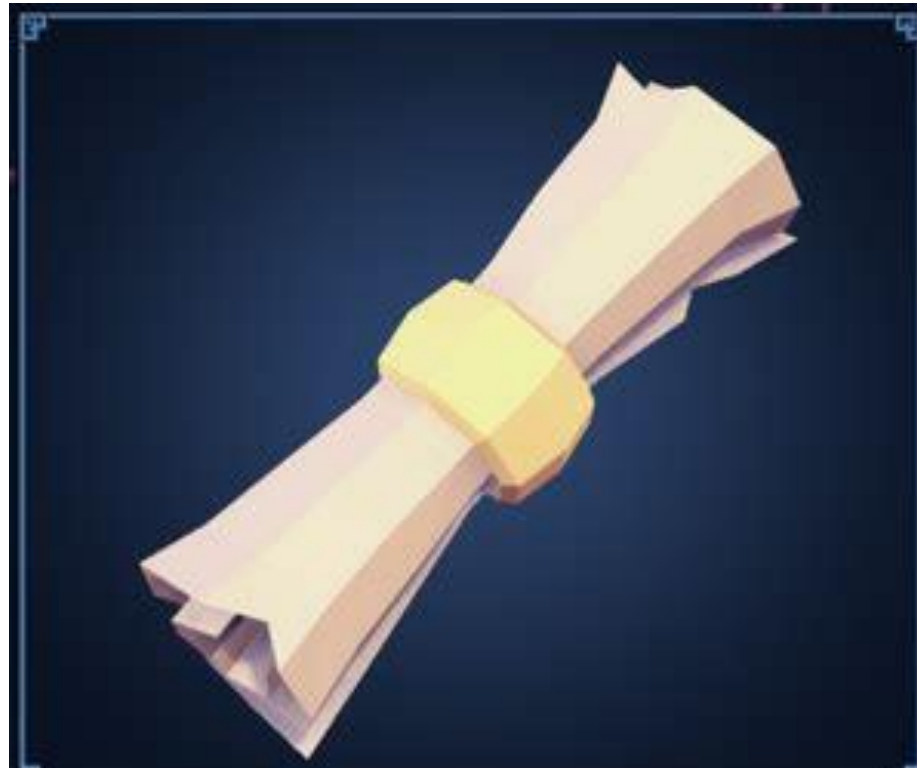
Blessed witnesses/evangelists who point sinners to the Saviour

Real stardom! Eternal blessing



But you, Daniel, close up and seal the words of the scroll
until the time of the end.

A personal instruction for Daniel
Finish the book. Seal (closed and protected) until
the end times
It applies to those times



Many will go here and there to increase knowledge.

A world of hyper-activity looking everywhere for answers that are only available in God's revealed word.



Then I, Daniel, looked, and there before me stood two others, one on this bank of the river and one on the opposite bank.

Daniel was still at the river- side. He sees 2 more angelic beings on either side of the speaker.



One of them said to the man clothed in linen,
who was above the waters of the river,

The angel questions the central One, above the water
(The question is for Daniel's benefit)



"How long will it be before these astonishing things are fulfilled?"

When will it all happen and how long will it last?



The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, lifted his right hand and his left hand toward heaven, and I heard him swear by him who lives forever,

Linen symbolises – purity- victory
He makes an extra-solemn oath –
with 2 witnesses
God's promise



Hebrews 6:13
For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself,

saying, "It will be for a time, times and half a time.

3 ½ periods (years?)

This can be equated to Antichrist's reign last half.

Daniel 7:25 He will speak against the Most High and oppress his holy people and try to change the set times and the laws. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time.



When the power of the holy people has been finally broken,
all these things will be completed."

Holy people (Are these believers? The set apart Jews?)
Broken power (desperate time).
At the worst time deliverance comes.



*Jeremiah 30:7 Alas! That day is so great there is none like it;
it is a time of distress for Jacob; yet he shall be saved out of it.*

I heard, but I did not understand.

It was not easy to grasp what would be going on

Not all simple!



2 Peter 3:16 ... There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.

So I asked, "My lord, what will the outcome of all this be?"

When you don't know – ask someone who does,

How is it all going to turn out?



He replied, "Go your way, Daniel, because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end.

I'm not telling you now Daniel.
At the end it will be clear.

Deuteronomy 29:29
The secret things belong to
the LORD our God, but the
things that are revealed
belong to us and to our
children forever, that we may
do all the words of this law.



Many will be purified, made spotless and refined,

Testing times will grow faith and holiness.

Cf. James 1:2-4

For 'many' – hope for each one



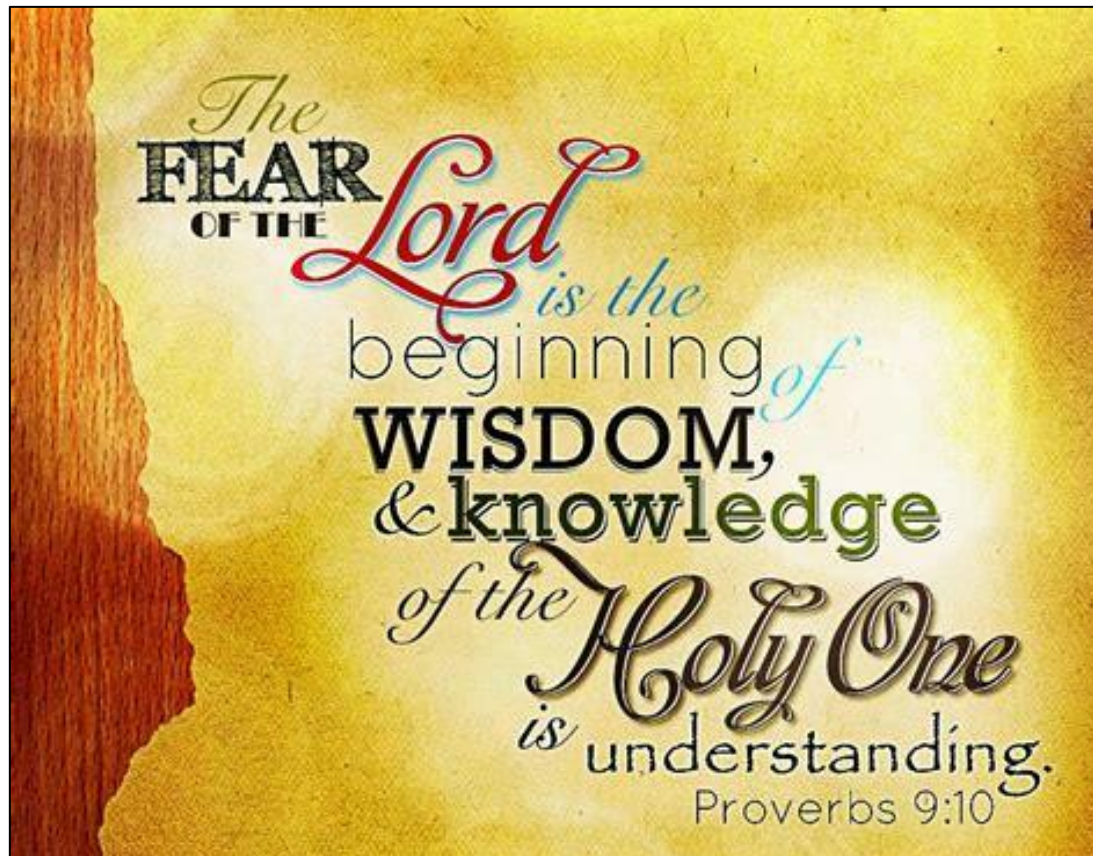
but the wicked will continue to be wicked.

The evil world is not going to improve
– rebellion against God continues



None of the wicked will understand,
but those who are wise will understand.

Wickedness blinds people
The wise (godly) will be given understanding



From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished
and the abomination that causes desolation is set up,
there will be 1,290 days.

A Future desecration of the temple?
 $1290 = 3 \frac{1}{2}$ years + 1 month
(years reckoned as 12×30 day months)

This is a detailed description (a round $3 \frac{1}{2}$?)
But it will be a limited time.



Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of
the 1,335 days.

Another 45 days' wait for something

Blessed in waiting and reward.

What it is about I don't know.



As for you, go your way till the end.

Daniel (and for us?) carry on in God's way and truth
- the end? Your journey in this world.



You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance."

A personal promise for Daniel and all true believers

Rest Resurrection Receive Inheritance?

1 Corinthians 2:9 But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"—



The Message of Daniel

The early chapters provide a setting for these revelations

The food issue ch.1

The golden image ch.3

The lion's den ch.6

Those who would live godly lives shall suffer in this world

But God will be with his people in it all.

Acts 14:22 strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said.

The Message of Daniel

The cross comes before the crown

But we are not just to grin and bear it

Hebrews 12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Romans 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

