

DANIEL 12

REVIEW...

- The 4th and final vision of Daniel – covering **Daniel 10-12**
 - Chapter 10 - after fasting / praying for 3 weeks – God sent an Angel to speak to Daniel...
 - Chapter 11 - the angel gave a detailed survey of the history of Israel in advance...
 - There would be 4 more Kings who would rule Persia – then they would be conquered by Greece...
 - But the kingdom of Alexander would be broken and divided to the four winds (*generals*)!
- The angel then laid out the struggle between 2 of those Kingdoms - the North and South...
 - That would culminate in the rise of Antiochus Epiphanes in the Northern Kingdom...
 - At the appointed time he would invade Egypt – but Rome would intervene – demand he leave...
 - Disgruntled by the defeat - Antiochus would vent his wrath upon the Jews...
 - He would defile the Temple in Jerusalem by offering a pig on the altar - 1 and 2 Maccabees
 - He would set an image of Zeus in the Holiest of All – the abomination of desolation!
- The detailed prophecies of the first 35 verses - contain 135 prophetic statements - all fulfilled...
 - But the final 10 verses have yet to come to pass – they refer to the rise of the Antichrist...
 - Who will do his own will – magnify himself above every god – speak blasphemy against God...
 - He will plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain...
 - Speaking of Armageddon – but he will come to his end - and no one will help him!
 - Jesus will come out of Heaven on a white horse – King of Kings / Lord of Lords...
 - With one word he will defeat the Antichrist and his army – **II Thessalonians 2:8!**

SEALED TILL THE END... (2 THINGS)

- 1ST – THE TIME OF THE END... VS. 1-4
 - 1st – At that time Michael will stand up... vs. 1
 - Michael (*who is like God*) the Archangel – the great prince over Israel...
 - Michael who is always mentioned in relation to battling satan - **Jude 1:9 / Revelation 12:7**
 - Will rise up at the end of the Tribulation – after the defeat of the Antichrist – **Daniel 11:45**...
 - A time of great trouble such as has never been since there were nations on the earth...
 - And he will SEAL satan in the Bottomless Pit for 1000 years – **Revelation 20:1-3**
 - **Ephesians 1:13** - tells us we were also SEALED till the redemption...
 - Our SEAL is the Holy Spirit – given to us a promise Jesus will finish what He started!
 - The word 'seal' here is the same word God uses when satan is bound for 1000 years!
 - A seal that satan cannot break – our guarantee God will come back to redeem us!
 - At that time the Jews will be delivered – everyone who is written in the book...
 - After the 7 years of tribulation – when Jesus returns – **Revelation 19:11**
 - All of the Jews will see Jesus – realize He is their Messiah – and believe...
 - **Zechariah 12:10** – “Then I will pour out a spirit of grace and prayer on the family of David and on all the people of Jerusalem. They will look on me (*Aleph and Tau*) whom they have pierced and mourn for him as for an only son.”
 - There will no longer be a need to tell anyone about Jesus – they will already know...
 - **Jeremiah 31:34** – “‘They will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their family, saying, ‘You should know the LORD.’ For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will already know me,’ says the LORD. ‘And I will forgive their wickedness and will never again remember their sins.’”
 - God will save the whole nation of Israel – **Romans 11:26** – all of them will receive Jesus!

- o 2nd – The resurrection of the dead... vs. 2-3
 - Then those who slept in the dust of the earth will awake – some to everlasting life...
 - This is the first resurrection – when those died in faith will be resurrected...
 - **Revelation 20:6** – “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”
 - The first resurrection – of the righteous – is thought to comprise 2 groups...
 - Those who were resurrected at the rapture of the church – **I Thessalonians 4:16**
 - And those who were martyred for their faith in the Tribulation - **Revelation 20:4**
 - Resurrected to judge and rule on earth...
 - Both groups (*along with those raptured*) will rule with Jesus for 1000 years...
 - We will help Jesus when He judges the world - **Revelation 20:4 / I Corinthians 6:2**
 - Then rule and judge the nations with Jesus for those 1000 years...
 - **Revelation 2:26-27** - “He who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations... He shall rule them with a rod of iron...”
 - Resurrected because our mortal bodies cannot inherit eternal life - **I Corinthians 15:50**
 - These bodies were not designed to live forever - they were not meant to go to heaven...
 - But God has a new body - a MUCH better one - prepared for us...
 - **II Corinthians 5:1** - “For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”
 - I like the idea of a tent - tents are never permanent - our bodies are only temporary
 - One day the Holy Spirit will give us new bodies - meant and designed for eternity!
 - Resurrected with a more glorious body...
 - For those who understand (*wise*) that life is about knowing Jesus – tell others about Jesus...
 - God has a body for them more glorious than anything seen here on earth (*firmament*)...
 - A body that will last forever – like the stars in the heavens!
 - **I John 3:2** - “We cannot even imagine what we will be like when Christ returns. But we do know that when he comes we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is.”
 - We are not stuck with this ‘broken down’ model - our sinful old body...
 - We get to trade it in for an upgrade - we get to have the model God originally intended!
 - When we are resurrected we will be just like Jesus - when He was resurrected...
 - Jesus who could walk right through walls - **John 20:19** / who could fly - **Acts 1:9**
 - There will be no more pain / no more sickness / no more tears - **Revelation 21:4**
 - And this is just the LITTLE we know about our resurrected bodies...
 - FAR GREATER than anything we have now - beyond what we can imagine!
 - But the rest are resurrected to everlasting contempt – the 2nd resurrection...
 - At the end of the 1000-year reign of Jesus – satan will rebel one last time...
 - But he will fail – and be thrown into the Lake of Fire – **Revelation 20:10**
 - Then those who rejected the Gospel will stand before the Great White throne...
 - **Revelation 20:11-12** – “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it... And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God...”
 - All will stand before the throne of God to be judged for the works of their lives...
 - There will be two sets of books opened - ‘The books’ and the Book of Life...
 - If your name is not found written in the Book of Life – the Books are opened...
 - Then you are then judged according to your works – written in The Books...
 - Every thing you do - every word you say - every thought you think...
 - Not to see if you will go to heaven or hell – but to show you why you go to hell!
- o 3rd – Shut up the book till the end... vs. 4

- This prophecy of Daniel dealt with the time of the End (*Hebrew - kates*)...
 - And until that time was close – the angel was telling Daniel his prophecy was a secret...
 - But at a time when - many shall run to and fro / and knowledge shall increase...
 - Then the prophecies of this book would become evident!
- For the vast majority of human existence – things did not change...
 - The world you died in looked the same as the one you were born in...
 - And you probably never traveled more than couple miles from where you were born!
 - That changed 100 years ago – we went from horse and buggy to spaceships in a generation!
 - Now we have Mores Law – technology doubles every 2 years...
 - Tech that was science fiction 30 years ago – cell phones – is standard today!
 - And people travel over 415 billion miles (*4,500 trips to the sun*) in planes every year!
 - **Genesis 11:6** – “Indeed the people *are* one and they all have one language... now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.”
- Which is why the book is no longer shut up / sealed...
 - Jesus told His Disciples one of the signs of the End Times was ‘fearful sights’ – **Luke 21:11**
 - The Word in the Greek is *Phobetron* - *Phoebe* - fear / *tron* - technology...
 - We are in the days of fearful technology / knowledge increased / people running to and fro!
 - We are living at the ‘End of the Age’ – and the secrets of the prophecy have opened!
 - And the next prophetic event to occur – is the rapture of the church!
 - If Jesus returned today – where would we be – what would He find us doing...
 - If we knew Jesus was coming tomorrow – what would we change in our lives...
 - Jesus is coming – VERY SOON – we can ignore the signs and live our life our way...
 - Or we can choose to live our lives for Jesus – excited we get to see Him soon!
 - **Luke 21:28** – “So when all these things begin to happen, stand straight and look up, for your salvation is near!”
- **2ND – THREE AND A HALF YEARS... vs. 5-13**
 - o 1st – Understanding the timing... vs. 5-7
 - Daniel looked and saw two ‘others’ (*angels*) on opposite sides of the riverbank...
 - One of the angels asked the ‘man clothed in linen’ that was over the river...
 - Possibly the Angel who had been speaking to Daniel all along / or it could be Jesus!
 - How long till the END (*conclusion*) of these wonders (*judgments and redemption*)...
 - This Angel held up his right and left hand – and swore by Him who lives forever...
 - That it would be for a time / times / and ½ a time – or 3 ½ years...
 - Till the power (*strength*) of the Holy People – Israel – had been shattered!
 - The end is tied to the brokenness of Israel – broken so God can restore and heal them!
 - o 2nd – Confusion and questions... vs. 8-9
 - Daniel heard the angels (*and Jesus*) talking – but he did not understand what they meant...
 - So he asked – what will be the END (*Hebrew: akh-ar-eeth – the result*) of these things...
 - But the Angel told him to go his way – the word were shut up (*a secret*)...
 - And they had been sealed – till the time of the END (*same word as vs. 6*)!
 - The angel did not attempt to explain it to Daniel – it was not for him to understand...
 - There are questions kids may ask – that we know they are not ready for the answers to...
 - In the same way God is not always going to give us the answers we are looing for...
 - One of the hardest answers to get from the Lord – is we do not need to know...
 - We get to chalk those questions up to – I will understand one day – **I Corinthians 13:12**
 - And until then - even if I do not understand - I can trust the Lord – **Proverbs 3:5**
 - o 3rd – The purpose of the Tribulation... vs. 10

- The wicked will do wickedly – and none will understand the purpose of the Tribulation...
 - But the wise will understand – God allowed it to purify...
 - In **I Corinthians 5:8** - Paul told the believers to walk in sincerity / purity...
 - Greek - *heilikrineia* - to be judged under the light of the sun
 - In antiquity statues would be cut from marble – take months to complete...
 - If a mistake were made – the artist would fill it in with wax mixed with marble dust...
 - It would be unnoticeable until it was exposed to the light of the sun – it would melt!
 - It is easy to look like a Christian in the easy times – but the truth comes out in the trials...
 - But to really know what we are made of - we need to be tested...
 - When things get difficult – that is when see who we really are – and let God purify us!
 - **I John 1:7** - “If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”
 - They are there to refine us...
 - One of Jens favorite dishes to cook – is banana bread...
 - But you have to keep it in the oven for just the right amount of time...
 - As hot as it is inside – if you remove it to soon – its just a sloppy mess!
 - Although God says He will deliver us – He does not always mean right now...
 - Because as much trouble as we might be in – as hot as things might get...
 - If He takes us out to soon – we will end up still being a sloppy mess...
 - It takes time in the fire to make us complete – teach us to depend on Jesus!
 - **I Peter 1:7** – “These trials are only to test your faith, to show that it is strong and pure.”
 - They are there to make us white...
 - **Revelation 3:5** – “He who overcomes will be clothed in white clothes!”
 - There is no other way to get to heaven – only through Jesus...
 - God will not accept us because of ‘good’ works - we cannot make ourselves clean...
 - Only Jesus can take away the stain of our sin - washed in the blood of Christ!
- 4th – The Sheep and the Goats... vs. 11-12
 - From the Abomination of Desolation there will be 1260 days – **Revelation 12:6**
 - Those who are still here on earth can mark their calendar and count off the days...
 - They will want to count - it is going to be a horrible time – the wrath of God poured out!
 - Read **Revelation 6-18** to find out just what will happen during this 3 ½ year period!
 - After which Jesus will return – **Revelation 19:11-21** – and defeat the Antichrist!
 - There will be some people who survive the Great Tribulation...
 - Provided they have not taken the mark – that is damnation – **Revelation 14:9-11**
 - Although those who refuse to take the mark are put to death - **Revelation 13:15-16**
 - But suppose someone is a Prepper – and manage to use their bugout vehicle...
 - Escape to some remote hideaway in the back woods of Montana for 3 ½ years...
 - They still have to face the Sheep and Goat Judgment of Jesus!
 - 30 days after the Return of Jesus – 1290 days after the Abomination of Desolation...
 - Jesus will gather together the nations for judgment - **Matthew 25:31-46**...
 - He will separate them as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats...
 - To the sheep on His right: **Matthew 25:33**- “Come ye blessed of the Father. Enter into the kingdom that was prepared for you from the foundations of the earth.”
 - To the goats on His left: **Matthew 25:41** - “Depart from Me, workers of iniquity, into the everlasting darkness which was prepared for Satan and his angels.”
 - Blessed is he who waits till the 1335 day...
 - It would appear that the Sheep and Goat Judgment lasts for 45 days...
 - When Christ will say – “I was hungry and you fed Me; thirsty and you gave Me to drink...”

- A good note for those who want to shoot those that might try to come and get your food...
- Because they helped others – they will be allowed to enter the Millennial Kingdom!
- There is very little visible difference between sheep and goats – hard to tell the difference...
 - If you set a sheep right next to a goat – you might not know which is which...
 - Do not look very different – they do not sound very different – eat the same things...
 - They live side by side – experiencing much the same life...
 - But the final destination of the goats is very different from the sheep!
 - The one who can always tell them apart is their shepherd...
 - **John 10:27** – “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.”
 - Both sheep and goats hear Jesus voice – but only the sheep follow Him!
 - Hearing does not make us a Christian – obeying Jesus makes us a sheep!
 - **James 1:22** – “[The Bible] is a message to obey, not just to listen to. If you do not obey, you are only fooling yourself.”
- o 5th – Go your way and rest... vs. 13
 - Having given this incredible prophecy – the Angel / or Jesus – tell Daniel to go his way...
 - He would rest (*die*) – but would be resurrected at the End of Days (*1st resurrection*)...
 - At which time he would receive his inheritance – the Kingdom of God!
 - An extraordinary end – to an extraordinary prophecy – and an extraordinary man!