

DANIEL: Life in the Present; Hope for Our Future

Chapter 12 The Summing up of all things

SUMMARY:

= We are not going to be able to Know all things pertaining to the end times. But we are to press in, where we are able and where God has given us His revelation.

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

= Because this is hard stuff, **God gives a promise of blessing** for those who read and apply the truths of the Book of Revelation to their lives:

Rev. 1:3 "Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near."

Rev. 22:7 "Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll."

Context: Ch. 10 – get ready for the Vision. Ch. 11- the nature of the last great empire/enemy of God=AC

READ Daniel 12: "Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands *guard* over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued. ² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace *and* everlasting ³ contempt.³ ⁴ Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the ⁵ expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. ⁴ But as for you, Daniel, **conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time**; many will go back and forth, [Travel will increase] and knowledge will increase." [Internet= instantaneous information] ⁵ Then I, Daniel, looked and behold, two others were standing, one on this bank of the river and the other on that bank of the river. ⁶ And one said to the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, "**How long will it be until the end of these wonders?**"=[the AntiChrist and the Great Tribulation of Ch. 11] ⁷ I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, ⁸ as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be for a ⁹ time, ¹⁰ times, and half a ¹¹ time; [3.5yrs] and as soon as ¹² they finish shattering the ¹³ power of the holy people, all these *events* will be completed. [=destruction of Jews] ⁸ As for me, I heard *but could not understand*; so I said, "My lord, what will be the ⁹ outcome of these *events*?"⁹ He said, "Go your way, Daniel, for **these words are concealed and sealed up until the end time**. ¹⁰ Many will be purged, ¹¹ purified and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, **but ¹² those who have insight will understand**. ¹¹ From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the ¹² abomination of desolation is set up, *there will be 1,290 days* [3.5yrs] ¹² How blessed is he who keeps waiting and attains to the 1,335 days! ¹³ But as for you, go *your way* to the ¹⁴ end; then you will enter into rest and rise *again* for your allotted portion at the end of the ¹⁵ age."

*The vision was sealed up, Daniel was unable to understand it. Then, the Angel came to John the Apostle and gave him the Revelation vision: Rev. 22:10 "Then he told me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, because the time is near. Let the one who does wrong continue to do wrong; let the vile person continue to be vile; let the one who does right continue to do right; and let the holy person continue to be holy."

Review of the End Times: Grace/Church; Rapture; AC is revealed/Apostasy -7 yr Trib.; 2 Coming; 1000yrs;

What is the lesson for us today from the ancient Vision about the future?

1. God is serious about Sin. There is a judgment day coming. The Day of the Lord will be terrible for the lost.
2. God still has a plan to redeem the remnant of Israel. Is. 60-65 still future, God will keep His Cov. Promise
3. God still wants to save as many souls as possible before (now) and during the Tribulation of the End Times:

The Heart of God for the World:

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."

1 Tim. 2:1-5 “First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, 2for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. 3This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

Matthew 24:9-15 “Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name. ¹⁰ At that time many will ^(a)fall away and will ^(a)betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹ Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. ¹² Because lawlessness is increased, ^(a)most people’s love will grow cold. ¹³ But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved. ¹⁴ This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole ^(a)world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

¹⁴ This gospel [the good news] of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole ^(a)world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come (Second Coming). (this is during = **7 Year tribulation**); 2 Witnesses, 144,000 witnesses, Angels flying in mid-air – all sealed (protected), and all with the gospel message: God gives people a chance to repent until the very, very end!!

-2 Witnesses = Revelation 11 “I was given a reed like a measuring rod and was told, “Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, with its worshipers. ² But exclude the outer court; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. They will trample on the holy city for 42 months. [3.5yrs] ³ And I will appoint my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days [3.5 yrs], clothed in sackcloth.” ⁴ They are “the two olive trees” and the two lampstands, and “they stand before the Lord of the earth.” ^(a) ⁵ If anyone tries to harm them, fire comes from their mouths and devours their enemies. This is how anyone who wants to harm them must die. ⁶ They have power to shut up the heavens so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying; and they have power to turn the waters into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they want. ⁷ Now when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the Abyss will attack them, and overpower and kill them. ⁸ Their bodies will lie in the public square of the great city—which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt—where also their Lord was crucified. ⁹ For three and a half days some from every people, tribe, language and nation will gaze on their bodies and refuse them burial. ¹⁰ The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth.”

-144,000 witnesses: (Male, Jewish Virgin, Evangelists = young men from all nations)

Rev. 7:3 “Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.” ⁴ Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.”

⁹ After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” = they worship God the Father and Jesus Christ as Messiah

Rev. 14:3-5 “And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. ⁴ These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they remained virgins. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among mankind and offered as first fruits to God and the Lamb. ⁵ No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.”

-Angels in Mid-heaven Rev. 14:6-7: “Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷ He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

⁹ A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: “If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives its mark on their forehead or on their hand, ¹⁰ they, too, will drink the wine of God’s fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. They will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the

holy angels and of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment will rise for ever and ever. There will be no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and its image, or for anyone who receives the mark of its name.” ¹² This calls for patient endurance on the part of the people of God who keep his commands and remain faithful to Jesus. ¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven say, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” =They give the gospel; they warn world not to take the mark of beast; they describe hell ☹

So what's the point? God loves and warns the world of what is to come: = **Righteous Judgment of all evil and personal sin. The Summing up of ALL things in this sin-tainted and broken world. = It's coming!**

So what are we to do about it today? Panic? Worry? Ignore it? Hyper-focus on it? = NO!!

3 words of Encouragement for how we APPLY the study of Daniel/Revelation concerning the End Times:

- 1. We are to be Ready and Beware:** 2 Timothy 3:1-5 “But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴ treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God— ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. [“religious” but not born-again] = Have nothing to do with such people.”
 - **As Believers, we need to see what is really happening all around us. Don't be deceived. Don't be surprised. Don't panicked when Christians and the Church are persecuted for Truth.**
 - **We are to Be Holy and Stay close to the Savior. He's Got this!!!!**
- 2. We are to be Sober-minded (Informed and Encouraged)** 1 Thessalonians 5:1-9 “Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep = [ignorant, lost, foolish, unholy], but let us be awake and sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day (light/truth), let us be sober, putting on **faith** and **love** as a breastplate, and the **hope** of salvation as a helmet.⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- 3. We are to be Amazed at God and His perfect plan for the end of all things:** Romans 11:33-36 “Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! ³⁴ “Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?”³⁵ “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?”³⁶ For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.” = The truth, and the end times should cause us to WORSHIP God.
 - God has created us. He loves us. He has redeemed us. He will rescue us from the wrath to come. = He is praiseworthy, worthy of ALL our worship!!! The Vision of Daniel and John = point to eternal worship of God!!! **Are you ready? Are you practicing for eternity?? Are you excited to get your worship on?????**

APPLICATION:

When we stand before Christ at the end, He will not ask us How much we knew, but WHO we know and Whose we are = do you understand the most important thing: That Jesus is your Lord?? How well do you KNOW HIM??

While we have breath in our lungs, **God has called us to live for His glory and enjoy Him forever, while loving & serving His Church AND sharing the gospel with the lost world.**

How can we love God and take the Bible seriously, if we are not loving, serving, and sharing the gospel with the lost world?? **Who's your one – in 2021?**