

# Daniel

## Introduction

***Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacobs trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. Jeremiah 30:7***

The book of Daniel is like the pictures of my family that I carry in my wallet for when I am away on trips. These pictures can never replace my family for they are only pictures and not the real thing.

My pictures cannot hug me or give me a kiss because they are only a shadow of what is real, but they do serve a great purpose. They remind me of what I have waiting for me back at home.

The book of Daniel is like a picture album of the Nation of Israel as they go through the time of Jacob's (Israel's) Trouble just prior to the Millennial Kingdom. Imagine what it would be like to have a photo album of your future to look at. God does that for Israel.

While the events are actual accounts of the trials Israel had to go through in Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar and others, each of these events foreshadow future events that will take place just prior to the Messiah's Kingdom reign.

Prior to Israel's captivity in Babylon for its sin, God had warned Israel that she would serve Babylon as captives. She was not to fight Babylon because God had sent Nebuchadnezzar and Israel was told that they would be actually fighting against God if they did.

God used the Nation of Babylon to not only punish Israel but also to sustain her just as he did for her in the land of Egypt. He will do the same thing during the time of Great Tribulation that is coming upon Israel which is known as Daniel's Seventieth Week.

Beware Israel! The very same person who saves you at the onset of this Seventieth Week will turn out to be your biggest enemy as you shall see in the example found in chapter three. God has given the believing Remnant in that day this truth in advance to help them through that time.

Throughout the Bible you will notice that God often speaks in types or similitudes. He does this to conceal truth from his enemies and to reveal it to those who love him.

***Hosea 12:10 I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets.***

## Chapter One

### Israel's Past and Future Captivities

The chapter title may sound inconceivable to many in this modern day and age, but the scripture foretells it. The question is what will you do with this information?

Many choose to hide their heads in the sand until it is too late. Will you? This book will prepare you and your family and friends to avoid the very certain events that will come upon this earth in the future.

Remember as you study this book that Daniel and his three Hebrew friends who serve as a type of the Remnant of believing Israel as they go through the time of Jacob's Trouble, you will see the message within the message that God has placed here for the Jewish nation.

**1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.**

The book of Daniel begins with a measuring stick whereby the liberal is restricted by God to a particular time frame, **the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim.**

The book of Daniel is often claimed to be written by all sorts of people other than Daniel himself and almost always a much later date is given to it so as to steal from us the miraculous prophecy found in its pages.

They teach it as a history book written about Daniel by some author who is either unknown or who goes by the same name.

The liberal cannot accept the authorship of Daniel because of the supernatural accuracy of its author's words concerning prophecy. There are even those who claim it was written by three people all with the same name.

**2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.**

Notice here that the bible states that only **part of the vessels from the temple** were taken into captivity. Jeremiah mentions that some of the more minor vessels remained in Jerusalem, but the Ark of the Covenant is not mentioned.

The whereabouts of the Ark of the Covenant is still unknown to man, but it will reappear just prior to the rebuilding of the new Temple in Jerusalem. Revelation 11:19 says that it is in heaven.

The Temple Mount Institute has already remade all of the instruments necessary for sacrifices to begin in a new Temple, but they are still waiting for the Ark to be discovered.

There is a group in Israel today that is actually engaged in cutting stones for use in the building of a future temple.

**3 And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the kings seed, and of the princes; 4 Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the kings palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.**

This was the common practice of a conquering nation to set up and train future Ambassadors which would relay edicts to those he had conquered. God had placed four very special young men in the favor of this King who would soon help to deliver his people.

**5 And the king appointed them a daily provision of the kings meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.**

These three years symbolically leads these representatives of the Nation of Israel close to the mid-point of the Seventieth Week of Daniel which occurs in type in chapter two.

It is at the midpoint of the Seventieth Week of Daniel that another king forces all to bow to his image that he erects in the Temple, just as Nebuchadnezzar does during his reign. Rev 13:15

**6 Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: 7 Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel the name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego.**

The Name Daniel literally means my God is Judge. His Babylonian name was given to him to help assimilate him into the Pagan culture more easily and to steal from him and his three Hebrew companions their heritage.

Daniel was a descendant from the kingly tribe of Judah. Each of their names in Hebrew glorified the God of the Universe, while each of their new Babylonian names glorified some Pagan deity.

**8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the kings meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.**

Daniel was not in open defiance to his captors, instead he was using his captivity to witness to those around him of the wonders of his God.

Daniel recognized that God was using this Pagan nation to chastise his own and he was submissive to it in every area that he could be, but when it came to his loyalty to God or Nebuchadnezzar, God would win every time.

Daniel knew that the powers that be are ordained of God, and that this would be an opportunity for him to show God's goodness to those who would follow him with their whole heart.

Had Israel done this four hundred and ninety years earlier there would have been no need for Israel to go into captivity, but seeing how only four people took a stand it is easy to see why God had to punish the nation as a whole.

Notice also how that throughout the book of Daniel it is only the few that stand. No one else in Israel stood with Daniel and the three Hebrew children.

Israel as a whole went along with everyone else in the realm and compromised their faith. They don't write books about people who compromise their faith because there are so many of them, and who wants to read about them anyway?

It is always the case with God that the ones who were thought of as peculiar in the world's eyes were the ones that God highly exalted.

You will stick out in this world if you serve God and it is his servants alone that will make a lasting difference in the world. The nominal lukewarm believer will have very little effect on the world, if any.

**9 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs. 10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king. 11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, 12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink. 13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the kings meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants. 14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days. 15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the kings meat. 16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.**

Here is another event that is a type of a yet future event that will occur in the middle of Daniel's Seventieth Week, also referred to as the Tribulation Period. The last three and one-half years is also called the Great Tribulation Period and the Day of the LORD.

Fear not Israel, for ye shall be proved ten days during the time of Jacob's Trouble and those that have victory over the image (idol) of their supposed deliverer will be saved. See Revelation 2:10.

**17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. 18 Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before**

**Nebuchadnezzar. 19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king. 20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm. 21 And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.**

Great reward comes to those who stand for what is right even if it cost them their lives. If we suffer with him, we shall also reign with him.

There are those who seek martyrdom fueled by blindness, but there are others that seek to obey God and when they are martyred for their faith they do not seek the death of others.

In chapter two a very unique thing happens in the original writings, they are in another language, Aramaic instead of Hebrew.

This is done to reach those in the gentile world with the glory of the God of Israel that reveals his secrets to whom he will. Many souls must have come to God after these letters were published in all the realms.

## Chapter 2

### Vision of Israel's Trial and Future Glory

Liberals like to point out the seeming contradictions here with chapter one where it appears that Nebuchadnezzar is listed as a king for at least three years and then here it states that it is only the second year of his reign.

This however is possible because Nebuchadnezzar reigned **with** his father as king before reigning **alone** as King.

**1 And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.**

God in his Omnipotence causes Nebuchadnezzar, a Pagan King, to have a dream that would foretell the future of world events for the benefit of Daniel and his companions and even more so for us today that are alive as the Kingdom of God approaches.

**2 Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to show the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. 3 And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream. 4 Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriack, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation.**

All of the fortune tellers like to get some information from you so that they can get a sense of what you would like to hear.

While they do have access to the hordes of unbelievers that populate Hell, plus Satan and his demons they are not all knowing. God would have us seek answers from him instead of the Devil.

**5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill. 6 But if ye show the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honour: therefore show me the dream, and the interpretation thereof. 7 They answered again and said, Let the king tell his**

**servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation of it. 8 The king answered and said, I know of certainty that ye would gain the time, because ye see the thing is gone from me. 9 But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you: for ye have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can show me the interpretation thereof.**

Nebuchadnezzar did not become king by being an idiot. He knew there were many charlatans in his cabinet, but being a Pagan himself he knew there was a spirit world that some soothsayers could be in contact with.

**10 The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can show the kings matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean. 11 And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can show it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.**

While the request was unprecedented the situation was also unprecedented in what God was doing through these series of events during the time of Jacob's Trouble.

The prophet Joel prophesies that the children of God will dream dreams and they will be able to interpret them as well.

**12 For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. 13 And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain.**

God uses even our own emotions to accomplish his will as he does here in allowing the King to be angered by these magicians and soothsayers so that Daniel might bring glory to his name.

**14 Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the kings guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon: 15 He answered and said to Arioch the kings captain, Why is the decree so hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel. 16 Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would show the king the interpretation. 17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions: 18 That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. 19 Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision.**

God put the thought in Daniel's mind to seek the reason for Nebuchadnezzar's hasty decision. God would then use his faithful servant Daniel, to show God's power to the King and to all his subjects.

**Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. 20 Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: 21 And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: 22 He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. 23 I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might,**

**and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the kings matter.**

God wants us to testify of his greatness, but if no one will, he will do it himself. God moves in the affairs of men even allowing his children to go through great trials to get glory for himself as is the case here.

**24 Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise men of Babylon: he went and said thus unto him; Destroy not the wise men of Babylon: bring me in before the king, and I will show unto the king the interpretation. 25 Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation. 26 The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof? 27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, show unto the king; 28 But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these; 29 As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass. 30 But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.**

Notice that Daniel uses this great opportunity not to promote himself, but rather to witness to the King of the awesomeness of God.

#### The Dream

**31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible. 32 This images head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, 33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. 34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. 35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.**

What an awesome dream that comes to pass just as Daniel had prophesied. The final portion of the dream shall be fulfilled just as the earlier parts to it were as we shall see in a moment

**36 This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.**

This dream is broken down into six world kingdoms, beginning with Nebuchadnezzar's own. Nebuchadnezzar's Kingdom will be present in Mystery form in the latter days.

As civilization began in that region and man's rebellion had its origin at Babel, the nation of Iraq will also play an important role in end time events. Babylon will be judged for its rebellion.

Isn't it interesting that the world's eyes are now focused on this very nation? I look for the United Nations or the EU to soon take over the mission in Iraq to prepare the way for this world leader.

**37 Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. 38 And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold.**

Babylon is identified as the head of gold which still has much influence around the world. Its culture of mixing Paganism with the Government is prevalent still in this generation.

**39 And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee,**

Of course we know this kingdom to be the Media-Persia Empire which replaced Babylon while Daniel was still alive.

**- and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.**

This is none other than the Grecian Empire under Alexander the Great.

**40 And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.**

Now we come to the Roman Empire which is represented by the two iron legs and which is revived in the latter days to be ruled by the man of sin.

Remember when studying this revived Roman Empire that it has two legs to its kingdom, Eastern and Western Europe. We tend to consider only the West when the East surpassed the West by a thousand years.

**41 And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. 43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.**

Here we see the sixth and final kingdom that comes from above, for it is the long-awaited kingdom with the Messiah as its ruler and it will crush the remnants of all past kingdoms and will establish itself as an everlasting kingdom.

**44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. 45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.**

This stone is the stone which the builders rejected (Psalms 118:22), which is become the chief cornerstone. It is none other than the Messiah himself who will establish his own kingdom that will last forever.

**46 Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odours unto him. 47 The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldst reveal this secret. 48 Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon. 49 Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: But Daniel sat in the gate of the King.**

While Jews today in many places have been exalted to positions of great power and honour for their accomplishments, during the time of Jacob's trouble they will become the enemy of the fifth world empire.

It will be ruled by the devil himself incarnate in a human being and he will use it to accomplish his will.

### **Chapter Three**

#### **The Abomination of Desolation**

Here is a place in the Bible where the chapter division messes up the flow of what God is trying to say. Notice that the next event mentioned immediately after Daniel's interpretation is the building of a golden image which is in direct defiance to the dream and its interpretation.

**1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.**

Another interesting thing to note is the measurement of this golden image. It is sixty cubits tall and six cubits wide which meant that its depth would have been six cubits in order to maintain the proper proportions.

Six is the number of man in the Hebrew Scriptures. It is also the number of **the man of sin** that will deceive the world in the later days.

**2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. 3 Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. 4 Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages, 5 That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up: 6 And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.**

This very same event will occur at the mid-point of Daniel's Seventieth Week which we will learn more about in chapter nine. This event which Daniel himself calls the Abomination of Desolation is played out for us here in Babylon.



The three Hebrew young men represent the nation of Israel and they will stand while all the world bows and for this they will be forced to flee into the wilderness for three and one-half years by the very person who saved them earlier.

Remember Israel was saved physically as a nation by submitting to the captivity under Nebuchadnezzar. If anyone resisted God's punishment they were to die by the sword. They were punished for not receiving God's words at the hands of his prophets.

**8 Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of music, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.**

All of the world will wonder after this man that is referred to as a beast by Daniel in later chapters of this book. But, Praise God, a remnant in Israel will not bow.

**8 Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews. 9 They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever. 10 Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image: 11 And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. 12 There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.**

The verse that says have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image..., implies that there were a lot of Jews that were worshipping this idol that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

During the Seventieth Week of Daniel those who endure this temptation to bow with the rest of the world will be allowed to enter into the millennial kingdom.

**13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king. 14 Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up? 15 Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?**

Nebuchadnezzar asks them a question but does not give them the opportunity to respond until after he threatens them with extermination.

Those who will not bow during the time of Jacob's Trouble which is in the later days will be persecuted even unto death as enemies of the one world government. They will be seen as religious radicals for their disobedience to this decree which will also be worldwide.

The world, I believe, will be given ten days to comply with this decree and pledge allegiance to this beast and his image. They will take on themselves the mark of this man which you will see clearly in the later chapters of this book.

**16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. 17 If it**

**be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. 18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.**

Will you stand when all around you are bowing? Your spouse, your children, your friends, and co-workers?

Will you bow when you no longer can buy or sell unless you pledge allegiance to this beast and his one world government? You can avoid all of this by trusting in the Messiah of Israel today before it's too late.

**19 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated. 20 And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace. 21 Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. 22 Therefore because the kings commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. 23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. 24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. 25 He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.**

It is at the midpoint of the Seventieth Week of Daniel which is still in the future that the Nation of Israel will recognize that the leader which will protect them in their next captivity is not their long-awaited Messiah, but he is none other than the anti-Christ.

The Messiah is the one that is going through the fire along with them and protecting them.

The thing to notice is that while these three are being persecuted for their faith that there is a multitude of Jews that have not been persecuted because they have bowed to his image. Regrettably many Jews will bow and fail the test with this false Messiah during the Seventieth Week.

The trial will have a silver lining in that the Nation as a whole will recognize that the man they think is their Saviour, is really their greatest enemy when he makes an image of himself and demands that the world worship it.

Notice also that it is those who refused to bow that God miraculously delivers from the fires of persecution just as he will do during the latter half of the Seventieth Week of Daniel with the remnant of Israel that believes in their Messiah.

**26 Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire. 27 And the princes, governors, and captains, and the kings counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.**

It was because of the miraculous display of God's power that these three men greatly affected the thinking of the nations represented there on that day as to just how wonderful our God is, and how powerful he is compared to their false gods.

**28 Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the kings word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. 29 Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort. 30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.**

This is the first of two letters by the king that went out into all the world because of the testimony of a few believers that practiced what they preached.

Many people today have belief systems, but they are not willing to die for them. Remember as you read these chapters that the events correlate with what will happen in the later days.

History will be repeated because there are spiritual forces that are at work behind the scenes that are very territorial, and they are fighting the same battles over and over again in a direct effort to defeat God.

## Chapter Four

### The Madness of the King

Very little commentary is given in this chapter because the chapter is self-explanatory. Nebuchadnezzar reigned as king between 605 and 562 B.C.E. and he was followed by his son Merodach who was assassinated.

Merodach's son, Sharever, reigned briefly before his son Labash took the throne. His son Nabonidus was replaced by his son Belshazzar who reigned for one year (539 B.C.E.) and was overthrown by Media-Persia.

**1 Nebuchadnezzar the king, unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you. I thought it good to show the signs and wonders that the high God hath wrought toward me. 3 How great are his signs! and how mighty are his wonders! his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation.**

This is of course a message from the most powerful man on the planet. This message was one that was the result of his coming into contact with four Hebrew young men who loved God and who altered the course of history by their undying devotion to their Creator.

**4 I Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace: 5 I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts upon my bed and the visions of my head troubled me. 6 Therefore made I a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known unto me the interpretation of the dream. 7 Then came in the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers: and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof.**

As Joseph has taught us that interpretations belong to God, we also know that he reveals his secrets to whomsoever he wills.

**8 But at the last Daniel came in before me, whose name was Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods: and before him I told the dream, saying, 9 O Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in thee, and no secret troubleth thee, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and the interpretation thereof.**

While Nebuchadnezzar extolled the God of Daniel above all others at the end of his life his doctrine wasn't perfect in the beginning, but he eventually became a believer.

God is not a God among gods, and Daniel did not possess the spirit of the holy gods (plural) in him, but the one true God did fill Daniel with wisdom and discernment. All other gods are only demons masquerading as gods.

If you notice the beginning of this chapter from Nebuchadnezzar corresponds to his way of thinking at the beginning of his encounters with Daniel and his companions and the later part of this chapter correlates to his way of thinking later on after seeing their testimonies.

#### **The Dream of Nebuchadnezzar**

**10 Thus were the visions of mine head in my bed; I saw, and behold a tree in the midst of the earth, and the height thereof was great. 11 The tree grew, and was strong, and the height thereof reached unto heaven, and the sight thereof to the end of all the earth: 13 The leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all: the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it. 14 I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven; 14 He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the beasts get away from under it, and the fowls from his branches: 15 Nevertheless leave the stump of his roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth: 16 Let his heart be changed from mans, and let a beasts heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him. 17 This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.**

Who are the watchers that decreed this holy ones mentioned here and what purpose do they serve? The watchers were most likely angels that served as forward observers in the LORD's host.

**18 This dream I king Nebuchadnezzar have seen. Now thou, O Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation thereof, forasmuch as all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto me the interpretation: but thou art able; for the spirit of the holy gods is in thee.**

Just as he was found ten times better than all the soothsayers and magicians in the earlier chapters, Nebuchadnezzar had faith in Daniel because he considered his position as appointed to him by God himself.

Daniel always looked for ways in which to glorify God instead of himself. A spirit that was obviously missing in the self-serving magicians who only sought the praise of men.

**29 Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonished for one hour, and his thoughts troubled him. The king spake, and said, Belteshazzar, let not the dream, or the interpretation thereof, trouble thee.**

Nebuchadnezzar had a pretty good idea that this dream was about him and his future, but he wanted to be sure. He had no confidence in his other magicians and counselors because even if they understood the vision they would not have told the negative interpretation to him for fear of losing their lives.

Daniel on the other hand feared only God and Nebuchadnezzar knew that Daniel would tell him the truth regardless of the consequences.

**Belteshazzar answered and said, My lord, the dream be to them that hate thee, and the interpretation thereof to thine enemies.**

Daniel had a burden and love for his King even though he was a captive in a strange country. Daniel would not allow his situation to determine his actions.

We are to serve God with our whole heart regardless of whether we are in our own land or the land of Israel. Daniel understood this but God's people as a whole have failed to comprehend this still today.

#### **Daniel's Interpretation**

**20 The tree that thou sawest, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth; 21 Whose leaves were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and upon whose branches the fowls of the heaven had their habitation: 22 It is thou, O king, that art grown and become strong: for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth. 23 And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him; 24 This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my lord the king: 25 That they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will. 26 And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; thy kingdom shall be sure unto thee, after that thou shalt have known that the heavens do rule.**

Nebuchadnezzar heard some bad news on that day, but its effects were only short lived. Sometimes you have to go through many tragedies before you come to your senses as Nebuchadnezzar eventually did but it all could have been avoided.

**27 Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by showing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity.**

Daniel warns Nebuchadnezzar here, but as we shall soon see Nebuchadnezzar has a short memory, for it is only one year that passes by and we see that Nebuchadnezzar forgets his dream and the promised fulfillment of it.

He obviously didn't heed Daniel's advice to repent because it all comes to pass just as the watchers had decreed.

### **The Pride of Nebuchadnezzar**

**28 All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar. 29 At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon. 30 The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?**

God had been very patient with Nebuchadnezzar for a whole year but when Nebuchadnezzar openly disregarded what God had warned him about in his dreams then God acted on his promise.

### **The nightmare becomes a reality:**

**31 While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. 32 And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.**

The angel Gabriel most likely is the watcher that is speaking here as God's messenger to Nebuchadnezzar. It is not God himself that is speaking but a messenger of God.

Seven times would pass over the wild man Nebuchadnezzar as his son would reign in his stead, no doubt led by the King's own counselors.

The number seven is a significant number in scripture and is the same amount of time that is recorded in chapter nine to detail the length of the Time of Jacob's Trouble that will occur in the last days just prior to the Millennial Kingdom.

It is also the same amount of time that Jacob served Laban for Rachel.

**33 The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles feathers, and his nails like birds claws.**

This describes a similar event in our day when a modern-day Nebuchadnezzar want-to-be, named Sadaam Hussein, who was found in a wet hole with wild hair and long nails after losing his kingdom. How poetic.

**34 And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: 35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?**

It is too bad Sadaam Hussein didn't repent like Nebuchadnezzar did, he may have been spared the hangman's noose. Nebuchadnezzar was truly humbled, but it is sad that his son Belshazzar didn't learn from his father's mistakes.

**36 At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my**

**kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me. 37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.**

Because of the acts of Daniel and three Jewish companions Nebuchadnezzar had finally seen enough and came to place his trust in the God of the universe.

## **Daniel 5**

### **The writing on the wall**

Here we see the introduction of Belshazzar whose name is not to be confused with the similar name assigned to Daniel, that of Belteshazzar.

Belshazzar ruled for only part of one year and he literally went out with a bang. He was assassinated the night that the Medes and the Persians overthrew the city.

Nabonidus was Belshazzar's father and he had retired to Arabia to rule from there and Babylon fell from its prominence over the years. As the Medes and Persians approached Babylon they had already conquered much of the former Babylonian kingdom.

**1 Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. 2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein.**

Nebuchadnezzar is listed here as Belshazzar's father, but it is in the same sense as Abraham is the father of all of the Jewish Nation.

Abraham did not beget every Jew, but they did all come out of his loins. Just as Belshazzar is a great grandson of Nebuchadnezzar.

**3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them. 4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.**

To Belshazzar these vessels were nothing more than fancy glasses for drinking in. He had no respect for the true God or of his children that remained in Babylon because he had never seen his glory or power. That was all about to change.

Daniel and the three Hebrew Children were no longer children, they were now approaching sixty years of age and were no longer prominent in the affairs of state as they once were.

Belshazzar's deeds were blasphemous to God but his knowledge about the true God was lacking because the people in his kingdom worshiped many gods.

### **The writing is on the wall**

Many sayings that we use in everyday language are found in the word of God such as the writing is on the wall which is synonymous with implying that one's fate is determined or sealed.

**5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaster of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. 6 Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were**

**loosed, and his knees smote one against another. 7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers.**

Belshazzar recognized the hand of God but did not know the God of the hand. He feared because he knew his debauchery had come to God's attention.

**And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and show me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom. 8 Then came in all the kings wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof. 9 Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonished.**

The wise men that he had assembled couldn't read a statement in Aramaic, one of the many languages of the day, but God allowed this situation to happen so that Daniel would be used to bring God glory.

**10 Now the queen, by reason of the words of the king and his lords, came into the banquet house: and the queen spake and said, O king, live for ever: let not thy thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy countenance be changed: 11 There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers; 12 Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and showing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will show the interpretation.**

How many times in scripture has a woman come along to save the day? Too many to count. Thank God for women who are not afraid to take a stand.

**13 Then was Daniel brought in before the king. And the king spake and said unto Daniel, Art thou that Daniel, which art of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry? 14 I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee. 15 And now the wise men, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known unto me the interpretation thereof: but they could not show the interpretation of the thing: 17 And I have heard of thee, that thou canst make interpretations, and dissolve doubts: now if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about thy neck, and shalt be the third ruler in the kingdom.**

Where is the opportunistic spirit that was so prevalent in the lives of the magicians and soothsayers? Daniel only cared about serving God with his life and not about titles, necklaces or fancy clothes. Oh, that we would have more Daniels today.

**17 Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation. 18 O thou king, the most high God**



**gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour: 19 And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down. 20 But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him: 21 And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will.**

Notice here that up until this point no interpretation is given to Belshazzar by Daniel until after he praises God by telling of his accomplishments in Nebuchadnezzar's life. Then he lays the ground work for how that affects Belshazzar and his kingdom.

**22 And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this; 23 But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified: 24 Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written.**

Daniel risked life and limb, he also risked having his tongue cut out for talking to the King in such a fashion. But what we may see as insolence, God expects from his servants, even if it means risking our lives to take a stand for him.

**25 And this is the writing that was written, Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin. 26 This is the interpretation of the thing: Mene; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. 27 Tekel; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 28 Peres; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.**

While the chapter itself is written in Aramaic, these three words are not. Many commentators often speak when they should be silent and are silent when they should speak. These verses speak for themselves.

**29 Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom. 30 In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. 31 And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.**

Although Daniel's boss who promoted him was only alive for a few more hours his promotion carried over under the new regime.

Daniel resumed being in the favor with the new king as his speech against the old king was no doubt made known to Darius.

This would have put him in good standing with the new king as he tried to establish order in what is now a conquered city and people.

## Daniel and the lion's den

**1 It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; 2 And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. 3 Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.**

Daniel continued to find favor in the eyes of the new ruler of the Kingdom because his servant attitude and of his putting the plans of God ahead of his own which was easily recognized.

While Daniel served in the political realm, he was no average politician because he sought God's will and did it without reservation.

When God's will contradicts the will of the king, and even his own, Daniel would surrender his will to God's regardless of the consequences, even if his life was on the line, as it was on many occasions. We are missing that today with our leaders.

**4 Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him. 5 Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.**

The Jews will once again find themselves in a situation such as the one that Daniel finds himself in during the time of Jacob's Trouble.

Jews will be forced to stand for their beliefs at the cost of many of their lives when all the world will be forced to bow to the image of the beast that desecrates a rebuilt temple in Jerusalem.

**6 Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. 7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. 8 Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. 9 Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.**

This is an interesting decree when you look at it more intensely, because you will see that Satan doesn't mind you bowing to an idol, just as long as you don't bow to the one true God.

To ask any petition, meant to pray. Satan still would still be receiving worship, however indirectly. Satan would rather have the masses worshipping a man instead of him directly just as long as God was not getting their prayers.

**10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime. 11 Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.**

This was more than enough to shut down any nominal believer back then from practicing his or her faith, but it didn't faze Daniel in the least bit.

These men must have been window peepers or something because Daniel was upstairs in his room and on his knees with his windows opened.

**12 Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the kings decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.**

If it would have been anyone other than Daniel that was guilty, the authorities would have just arrested them and cast them into the den of lions, but these men actually exposed themselves and their plans to Darius by bringing this matter unto him personally.

**13 Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.**

Notice that they said that Daniel was of the children of the captivity of Judah. Why is it that they emphasized that he was from Judah?

In their accusation there was also a condemnation against all of the children of the captivity, for if one would not regard the decrees of Darius then perhaps the whole race would not as well.

If these rascals would have gotten away with their scheme they would have not stopped with Daniel but would have killed his three companions and later they would have killed all of the children of Judah.

Satan will attempt to kill all the Jews again during the Great Tribulation period and he will do it in much the same way.

No one will be allowed to buy or sell unless they pledge allegiance to the abomination of desolation that desecrates the Temple during the time of Jacob's Trouble.

Those who refuse to receive its identification mark will be identified as enemies of the one world system.

They will be identified as Religious Extremist and will be classified as enemies, whose penalty will be death. This seems a bit harsh for the world to endorse at this time in history, but there were not too many that protested the execution of 9/11 terrorists or the execution of Sadaam Hussein.

If there are new attacks the world will come together with a plan to eradicate any religious extremist to usher in a secular world order, one of peace and prosperity for all so they think.

But we know this won't work because Satan ultimately wants to be worshipped and he will not stop until all bow a knee to him. This of course will never happen because there are still a few Daniels left out there.

**14 Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him. 15 Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.**

While some world rulers will fight politically to protect the Jews during this time of Jacob's Trouble, Satan and his crowd will pull many strings to see to it that Israel suffers as they have never suffered before.

**16 Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. 17 And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. 18 Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night**

**fasting: neither were instruments of music brought before him: and his sleep went from him.**

Daniel had an effect on King Darius, just as the Jews have had a great effect on the world up until this day. He prayed, fasted and wept for his friend and God heard his prayers.

Remember here that Daniel and his three companions are a type of the believing remnant of the Nation of Israel and God has promised over and over again that he would never let the Jews as a whole be destroyed. God always has a remnant.

**19 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. 20 And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?**

Darius exhibited a good measure of faith here in that there was enough faith to produce in Darius the will to ask a question of a man that all the court knew to be dead as if he were alive.

A remnant of Israel will be saved during the time of Jacob's Trouble (Daniels Seventieth Week) and will all go into the Millennial Kingdom and rule and reign with their Messiah, but not before he delivers them from their captors and destroys all vestiges of their earthly kingdoms.

**21 Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. 22 My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. 23 Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.**

The Angel Michael which serves as Israel's personal angel defends Daniel while in the midst of the lion's den. God will also dispatch Michael and a host of other angels during the time of Jacob's Trouble to preserve the elect of God from annihilation.

**24 And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.**

Those that oppose God's chosen people the Jews will be judged at the Judgment of nations and will be punished severely for their harsh treatment of Israel especially that wicked and adulterous generation.

**25 Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you. 26 I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end. 27 He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions. 28 So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.**

Wouldn't it be great if the leader of the free world were to write a similar letter today? Daniel and his three Hebrew friends had two letters written about them in their day. How many will be written about any of us in this day and age?

## Daniel 7

### The four beasts

Notice as you begin this chapter that Belshazzar is back. He was killed and later replaced by Darius the Mede, but he is found mentioned here after the mention of Darius' time as King, which has confused some people.

There is no controversy here, Daniel is just taking us back in time to when Belshazzar was still king. The book is not chronological in order.

The events here occurred prior to the events in chapter five because Belshazzar dies at the end of chapter five at the hands of his own people just prior to Darius breaching the city.

**1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.**

Daniel has a dream in this chapter that corresponds to the dream Belshazzar's great grandfather Nebuchadnezzar had back in chapter three. This dream was a dream of four great beasts that represent four kingdoms.

**2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. 3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.**

**My vision by night:**

**The four winds of the heaven:**

**The great sea:**

**4 The first was like a lion, and had eagles wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a mans heart was given to it.**

**The first was like a lion, and had eagles wings:** The first kingdom was represented by a beast that arose from the sea (gentile kingdoms) that was like a lion, and it had eagle's wings. This beast is Babylon which was about to have its wings plucked that very year when Belshazzar would be killed.

Darius the Mede would then rule the Medo-Persian Empire with a kind heart towards Daniel and the Jewish captives of Babylon. The winged lion is the actual symbol of ancient Babylon.

**5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.**

This is the Medo-Persian Empire which crushed Egypt, Babylon and Lydia (the three ribs) and thus ruled most of the known world at that time. This is found in Isaiah chapter thirteen. Lydia was conquered by Cyrus but is not mentioned by name in Scripture.

**6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.**

Here we see the Grecian kingdom conquered with great speed by Alexander the great in 539 BC, but was then divided into four parts upon his death at age thirty-three because he had no heir.

Each of his four generals ruled a fourth of the Grecian Kingdom which eventually weakened it and paved the way for the Roman Kingdom.

**7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.**

This is of course the Roman Empire which is revived in the latter days, which will be controlled by the man of sin also known as the prince that shall come in Daniel chapter nine.

He is the one Jews will believe to be their Messiah until he desecrates the rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem in the latter days by placing an idol in it and demanding Jews to worship it.

Each of the previous three beasts are conquered by the next beast, but the fourth beast is never defeated by any army but falls apart and is later restored in the last days.

The fourth beast is not described as an animal because Daniel has never seen anything even remotely similar to it. Daniel understood much about the first three beasts, but his questions were mainly directed to the events surrounding this fourth and final beast.

All of the other world empires assumed control and allowed the systems to remain while Rome destroyed many of the worlds systems and established their own in its place. The horn here represents military power.

**8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.**

Here we have the little horn that is also referred to as the man of sin, who later on deceives the whole world in to worshipping his image that he erects in the temple (The abomination of desolation in Daniel 9).

This little horn is mentioned again and again as someone with a mouth speaking great things. He will have the ear of the world's news media and will use them as his puppets to manipulate the masses into following him.

**9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. 10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.**

The Ancient of days is of course the God who destroys this man-made kingdom as well as the remnants that remain from the earlier kingdoms. Notice that the ancient of days will judge from the books plural, and not singular.

There will also be the book of life and a book of remembrance opened which contains a list of their works for God, as well as other books in which the whole world will be judged.

**11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. 12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.**

The beast's body is eventually destroyed while the other leaders during this horrific time are allowed to continue with the man of sin for the final year and a half until they find themselves cast into a lake of fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.

The body can be destroyed but our soul, who we really are, can never be destroyed, our soul will spend an eternity in either Heaven or in Hell. The choice is ours.

**13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.**

The Son of man is the long-awaited Messiah. But what role will the Gentile nations play in this Messianic Kingdom? According to numerous passages the gentiles place their trust in the Messiah in great multitudes.

This is the title that Jesus of Nazareth chose for himself throughout his three and a half year preaching ministry before his being cut off (Daniel 9:24-27).

Jesus only lived in Nazareth, he was born in the city of Bethlehem, from the tribe of Judah. The very city prophesied to bring to all mankind the Saviour. Micah 5:2

**15 I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me. 16 I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.**

#### **The Interpretation:**

**17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. 18 But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.**

Thankfully we have a great God who doesn't leave us wondering as to the future, but has given for us a perfect course of events with which we can make preparations to be with him for eternity. Those who do not are fools and have no one to blame but themselves.

**19 Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; 20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.**

The fourth beast, if we will remember, is a king, but he also possesses a mighty kingdom, and he uses this kingdom to control the world and forces them to pay allegiance to him as an act of worship and defiance against God. Unfortunately many will.

**21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; 22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.**

The Messiah will make war with the false Messiah (the man of sin) also identified as the little horn and will cast him into the bottomless pit for the thousand-year reign of Messiah on Earth.

He will be loosed again for a season and will again deceive the nations, but he will be cast into the lake of fire after the battle at the valley of Megiddo.

The gates of Hell will not ultimately prevail against this group of Tribulation believers which make up a type of the Church in the wilderness, because those that lose their life because of this "horn" will be resurrected and possess the kingdom shortly.

This is not the body of Christ being mentioned here, but rather the tribulation believers going through the time of Jacob's Trouble. The Body of Christ does not go through the tribulation period.

**23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. 24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. 25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.**

Here we see a very clear picture of events that are yet to take place, but one which will be fulfilled in every detail just as Daniel has recorded them for us, so we may see and believe.

For those who see and understand the truths found in Daniel's prophecy there is a chance to avoid the tragic events recorded here and elsewhere by trusting in the Messiah of Israel.

There will be a conglomerate of nations from which ten rulers will rise and give their power to the little horn (anti-Christ).

It is not a ten-nation confederacy but a world government in which ten nations support this leader with their militaries and their finances much like the alliance in the Gulf War.

**26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. 27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him. 28 Hitherto is the end of the matter.**

This ending is repeated numerous times throughout the book so as to instill in the reader the truthfulness and assuredness of this coming series of events.

The only way to avoid these events is to place our faith in Jesus Christ, who is the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world. It is only through trusting in his atoning death and resurrection that can we have the forgiveness of sins.

**As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.**

Daniel was seeing events transpire 2,500 years before they actually happened, and he tried to describe what he saw so that future generations would understand somewhat of what he saw.

Even Daniel's own words let us see that he himself did not understand much of what he saw, because it was not for his day but for one that is yet in our future.

If you neglect Daniel's warnings you will be deceived by this final beast and you will find yourselves weeping and wailing and gnashing your teeth for eternity in a lake of fire, separated from God and your loved ones for eternity.

Here ends the writing of scripture in Aramaic. Chapters 2-7 are all in Aramaic while chapters 1, & 8-12 are all written in Hebrew.

This ends the time of the Gentiles and the following chapters concern the nation of Israel as its kingdom is about to be restored but not before it goes through a time of much travail, as a woman giving birth.

Even in its language the book of Daniel is prophetic. The book is written in Aramaic so that the Gentile world in that day would be able to read it and see the truths found in it. It both starts and ends with Israel as its focus because Israel is the timeline that God uses.



## Chapter Eight

### The little horn

Once again, I must remind you that we are now entering the eighth chapter which is now recorded for us in the Hebrew language once again whereas chapters two through seven were written in Aramaic.

The focus in these chapters turn us back towards Israel even though the gentile powers are mentioned but they are mentioned in relationship to Israel.

**1 In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. 2 And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.**

We see a common occurrence here with the dating of the chapter by God to help the liberal academic who will still find some way not to believe the truth of God's word.

**3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.**

This is a single empire that has two parts (horns) Media and Persia, and Daniel here is referring to Cyrus the Persian. The Medes and Persians alternated leaders of this world empire.

**4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.**

This one verse covers the whole empire of Media-Persia from beginning to end. Now God introduces to us the he-goat known to all the world as Alexander the Great.

**5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. 6 And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power. 7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. 9 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.**

The great horn once again is Alexander the Great who died at the age of thirty-three (his horn was truly broken off early). He was without an heir so his four generals each divided up his kingdom amongst themselves.

**9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.**

Here Daniel sees not two thousand years into the future to the false Messiah (the little horn) but to one that comes from one of these four notable horns (Greek Generals).

This little horn eventually brings an idol of himself into the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem and desecrates it. This little horn comes out of this Grecian Empire as it is coming to an end.

**10 And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. 11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. 12 And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.**

This is Antiochus the 4th (Epiphanies) who sacrificed a pig on the altar in the Temple in Jerusalem. He is a type of the Anti-Christ who reigned from 175 to 164 BCE.

The language then attributes supernatural powers to this little horn, but we know that it is referring to Satan and the Anti-Christ in those instances.

**13 Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? 14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.**

Antiochus Epiphanies ruled eleven years and for 2,300 evening and morning sacrifices were not allowed until Judas Maccabeus captured Jerusalem, cleansed the temple and restored the evening and morning sacrifices. This is celebrated each year at Hanukah with the Feast of Lights.

Seventh Day Adventist with their famous off shoots like to take these two thousand and three hundred days and make them to be years in an effort to predict the precise time that the Advent of the Seventh Day will be.

They have been made to look like fools because of their inability to rightly divide scripture. They came up with the years 1843-1844 as the year of the return of the Lord and of course nothing happened.

**15 And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man. 16 And I heard a mans voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision. 17 So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.**

The vision is for the end times (the time of the end) it is for those who in the near future who will have to go through the Seventieth Week of Daniel and not so much for the people of Daniel's time.

**18 Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright. 19 And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.**

Daniel's body was asleep here, but his soul and spirit are not his body. It is to those parts of the triune Daniel that God delivered his message to because his sinful flesh could not stand in the presence of his holiness.

**20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. 21 And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. 22 Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not**

**in his power. 23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. 24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. 25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.**

His power shall be mighty but not by his own power, simply means that his power comes from Apollyon, or Satan. Zechariah tells us that two thirds of the Jews will be killed by this little horn. If that were to happen today it would dwarf the destruction of the Holocaust.

**26 And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days. 27 And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the kings business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.**

Daniel was told to shut up the vision because it was for the latter days. Notice how that Daniel is affected in these verses. Modern day false prophets who claim to speak for God have one thing that is always missing from their so-called prophecies.

Daniel was sick for days because he in his wretched state saw a holy God and it made him sick. This is in sharp contrast to the reports of the Tele-evangelist phony claims to speak with God.

## **Chapter Nine**

### **The Seventieth Week**

Here again we have the book of Daniel bouncing back and forth between Darius and Belshazzar just to drive the liberals crazy. God's word does not have to be in chronological order to make things easier for us, God is Sovereign and can do what he pleases.

Daniel was simply going back as he was writing and recording this earlier occurrence at a later time because the flow of the story would be interrupted, and the cart would be ahead of the horse.

God wanted Daniel to record this story in the order it is found to keep the flow of prophecy going in somewhat of a chronological order for our help in rightly dividing the word of truth.

**1 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; 2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.**

Notice that as Daniel was studying the scroll of Jeremiah that he was given understanding as to the time when Israel's judgment for it's not keeping of the Sabbath would be complete. The verses Daniel was reading are from Jeremiah 25:11-12 and from 29:10:

**Jeremiah 25:11 And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. 12 And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations.**

**Daniel 9:10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.**

Daniel grew old in Babylon as a generation died in captivity. A generation that did nothing wrong suffered because of the rebellion of the past seven generations. 7 generations x 70 Sabbaths = 490 years. God was very patient with Israel, but he must keep his word.

Remember when Peter asked how many times should I forgive my brother if he trespasses against me? The answer was 7 x 70.

**3 And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: 4 And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; 5 We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments: 6 Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. 7 O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries whither thou hast driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee.**

Why was Israel dispersed and taken into captivity? Because they forsook the prophets words and actually killed many of them. Even though they were in the land they were there in unbelief as a whole.

Why will they go into captivity again during the Seventieth Week of Daniel? It is because they have continued in their sinful ways. They may be back in the land again, but for the most part they are there still in unbelief.

#### Daniel's Prayer

**8 O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee. 9 To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; 10 Neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets. 11 Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him. 12 And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem. 13 As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth. 14 Therefore hath the LORD watched upon the evil, and brought it upon us: for the LORD our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth: for we obeyed not his voice. 15 And now, O Lord our God, that hast brought thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and hast gotten thee renown, as at this day; we have sinned, we have done wickedly. 16 O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us. 17**

**Now therefore, O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lords sake. 18 O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies. 19 O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name.**

What a prayer! Daniel knew what it took to get hold of God.

*Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!*

**20 And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God; 21 Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.**

Two daily oblations were required by the Law and Daniel was busy praying as usual even though he was not in the land of Israel, even though his prayers were used against him earlier to have him thrown into the lion's den.

**22 And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. 23 At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to show thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.**

At the beginning of Daniel's prayer the commandment came forth to show Daniel what would befall his people in the latter days.

Because we do not pray and live a life like Daniel did we do not have the answers to our prayers like him. Twice a day Daniel poured out his heart and God used Daniel to bring us this great book of Prophecy.

**24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.**

Two things are said here that should get our immediate attention. The first of which is the time period mentioned for Israel which is seventy weeks, and the second being the anointing of the most Holy.

The second of these two is the most important but if you miss the dating of the first it is very possible that you could miss the identity of the second.

**25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks:**

Here we see God telling Daniel through the angel Gabriel that sixty-nine weeks would pass before the Messiah would come and eventually be cut off.

Of course the Messiah did not come in sixty-nine literal seven-day weeks so there must be a deeper meaning found here and there is, but some of you probably won't like it.

If you take the date of when the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem (450 BC) and apply it to the one week equals seven-year method used by God in the giving of Rachel to Jacob, you will come out with a very interesting date.

You come out to the week of Passover in the year 33 AD or CE if you prefer. On the 14th day of Nissan which is the first month in the Jewish calendar.

This however falls short of 483 years by almost a full year (346 days to be exact on a Jewish calendar of 360-day years). Is God letting Israel off early for good behavior? No!

Luke 13:6-9 tells the parable of the last year in the parable of the fig tree which represents Israel. The last 348 days takes you up to the sermon that Stephen preaches in Act 7 and when Israel stones Stephen he sees Christ standing at the right hand of God.

It is at that time that Israel's 69th week ends. God has punished Israel and he interrupts his punishment to usher in the dispensation of Grace and he uses his chief opponent to do it Saul of Tarsus. See Acts 9 study.

The very year that Jesus of Nazareth was cut off (crucified). This is not a coincidence that one can overlook for if he is the Messiah as Christians claim then no Jew can be complete if he does not place his faith in the long-awaited Messiah.

You must accept him as your Saviour to escape the time of Jacob's Trouble that will come to all those who do not have the blood of the Lamb applied to the doorpost of their hearts.

**the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. 26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself:**

The statement that the Messiah is cut off (killed) but not for himself is deliberately ignored by many, especially by the Rabbis who refuse to believe the scripture as it is written.

There is no question about whether the Messiah is cut off or not, for the scripture plainly says the Messiah is cut off, period! The question then is, when is he cut off and for what reason?

The remainder of verse twenty-six answers part of the question as to why he is cut off. It plainly states that he is cut off not for himself, which implies that he is cut off for others. He is cut off for us. He is our Passover Lamb and he is risen and coming again.

**and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.**

The Prince that shall come and destroy the city of Jerusalem and the Temple is none other than the man of sin or as Christians call him, the Anti-Christ.

He unfortunately is Jewish if you can believe it, which leads unbelieving Israel to follow him at first, but they soon find out his true identity.

**27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.**

This is a very important and neglected portion of prophecy that clearly declares that Israel will be deceived by this man of sin who comes to power crying peace, peace.

He will confirm Oslo and the Road Map for Peace (The Covenant) for a period of seven years (one prophetic week) but in the middle of the seven years he himself will break the covenant and place an Idol of the world leader in the Temple and demand that all the world worships this Idol.

Some prophecy preachers say that the covenant that he will confirm is the Mosaic covenant that God made with Israel but that cannot happen. No Jew would listen to anyone saying he is reinstating Moses' covenant for one week. That doesn't even make sense.

## Chapter Ten

### Vision of the Latter Days

**1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.**

Notice here that Daniel does not appear to be the writer of this first verse as he is not the writer in chapter four either, Nebuchadnezzar was.

The writer was probably a scribe working with Daniel, but as we get to verse two we see Daniel picking up the pen again or else he was just speaking in the third person in the preceding verse.

The statement that the time appointed was long simply meant that its complete fulfillment was yet a long way off.

**2 In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks. 3 I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.**

Daniel was obviously moved by the visions he had been seeing and prayed earnestly for the understanding of them. Many of these visions went against his own desires such as the prophecy against Nebuchadnezzar whom Daniel had become very close to, but Daniel always surrendered his will to that of God.

**4 And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel; 5 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: 6 His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.**

This appearance was what theologians like to call a Theophany, which is an appearance of God to man in one form or another.

The reason for the reference in verse five that it was a certain man is because it is a pre-incarnate appearance of the Son of God.

**7 And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. 8 Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength. 9 Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground.**

Notice how that Daniel here became noticeably sick while in the presence of this manifestation of God along the river Hiddekel.

This is in sharp contrast to all the so-called visions that people claim to have in churches today that in no way line up with scriptural accounts of God visiting with men.

Notice also how that Daniel was forced into a prostrate position because of his unworthiness to look upon the Son of God in his glory.

You don't hear of the televangelist falling on their face before God in their chats with him. They seem to be pretty chummy with him. That is because they have never seen or heard from him in the first place.

**10 And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands. 11 And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling.**

God gave understanding to a humble man who had prayed and fasted twenty-one days, a man who risked his life for the stand he took in witnessing to the rulers of his day.

He does not give this understanding to the thousands of charlatans who for self-glorification claim a plethora of spiritual gifts. Woe unto that man or woman who says, The Lord hath said, when he has said nothing to them.

**12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. 13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. 14 Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.**

Daniel is told that there has been resistance to his prayers by very powerful demons that are territorial in nature and that the angel Michael was dispatched to help.

Michael is the angel that is over the land and people of Israel and is one of the chief angels (called a chief prince in the spirit realm because he rules in that realm surrounding Israel).

It is important to notice that what is to happen in the latter days is specifically referred to as happening to the nation of Israel and to her people.

While the world will be involved in a very cataclysmic way, it is ultimately the time of Jacob's trouble in which God is specifically dealing with the nation of Israel for its rebellion and rejection of God.

**15 And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb. 16 And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength. 17 For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me.**

The prophet spoke at length about these sons of men that Daniel mentions as touching him and restoring his strength. This is as was mentioned earlier a pre-incarnate appearance of the Messiah. The Son of man is one of his titles in scripture.

**18 Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, 19 And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me. 20 Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come. 21 But I will show thee that which is noted in the**



**scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.**

Daniel hears that after the defeat of the prince of Persia then the prince of Grecia shall come and be the new world empire, and this happens precisely as foretold in the book of Daniel under Alexander the Great.

## **Chapter Eleven**

### **World War III**

**1 Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him. 2 And now will I show thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.**

These events occurred just as foretold and paved the way for the Greeks under Alexander to seek revenge and ultimately the kingdom was taken from the Medio-Persians.

**3 And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will. 4 And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those.**

This came to pass under Alexander the Great, but all this was done by the hand of God taking down one leader and raising up another. God decides who will preside over the affairs of men and they serve to further his interests.

When Tyrants rule over the children of God it is because we have rebelled against a holy God. After these four generals took over from Alexander, Daniel records what happened next.

Remember this was hundreds of years prior to any of this happening.

**5 And the king of the south shall be strong, and one of his princes; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion.**

**In the end of years**

**6 And in the end of years they shall join themselves together; for the kings daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement: but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm: but she shall be given up, and they that brought her, and he that begat her, and he that strengthened her in these times.**

**7 But out of a branch of her roots shall one stand up in his estate, which shall come with an army, and shall enter into the fortress of the king of the north, and shall deal against them, and shall prevail:**

**8 And shall also carry captives into Egypt their gods, with their princes, and with their precious vessels of silver and of gold; and he shall continue more years than the king of the north.**

**9 So the king of the south shall come into his kingdom, and shall return into his own land.**

Antiochus the third is also known as Antiochus the Great, he is described here in this chapter along with the exploits of Antiochus the 4<sup>th</sup> so that the book of Daniel served for the God-fearing people of those days just as the book of Revelation will for the Jews in the Seventieth Week of Daniel.

Imagine a newspaper that could predict the outcome of these major battles and what could have been done with that knowledge but very few in Israel at that time believed and practiced much of God's word. Judas Maccabeus did, and he changed Israel's future for the better.

**The king of the south:**

**10 But his sons shall be stirred up, and shall assemble a multitude of great forces: and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he return, and be stirred up, even to his fortress. 11 And the king of the south shall be moved with choler, and shall come forth and fight with him, even with the king of the north: and he shall set forth a great multitude; but the multitude shall be given into his hand.**

Egypt and Syria are the Kings of the North and of the South. While these are records of battles that had not yet taken place in Daniel's lifetime they are prophecy none the less.

They did transpire well after Daniel's death and precisely as he had foretold. They most likely will be fulfilled again during the time of Great Tribulation that shall come upon all the world in the last days.

**12 And when he hath taken away the multitude, his heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down many ten thousands: but he shall not be strengthened by it. 13 For the king of the north shall return, and shall set forth a multitude greater than the former, and shall certainly come after certain years with a great army and with much riches. 14 And in those times there shall many stand up against the king of the south: also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall. 15 So the king of the north shall come, and cast up a mount, and take the most fenced cities: and the arms of the south shall not withstand, neither his chosen people, neither shall there be any strength to withstand. 16 But he that cometh against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed.**

The glorious land is of course Israel. Rome comes into the picture in the next couple of verses. The daughter is none other than the great Cleopatra.

**17 He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do: and he shall give him the daughter of women, corrupting her: but she shall not stand on his side, neither be for him. 18 After this shall he turn his face unto the isles, and shall take many: but a prince for his own behalf shall cause the reproach offered by him to cease; without his own reproach he shall cause it to turn upon him. 19 Then he shall turn his face toward the fort of his own land: but he shall stumble and fall, and not be found. 20 Then shall stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom: but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle.**

This is the rise of Antiochus Epiphanies and later on you shall see a dual application between him and the end-times world leader called the Anti-Christ. One application directly concerns Antiochus Epiphanies in his days and the other is the man of sin known as the Anti-Christ.

Many of these events that played out in 180 BC will be played out again in very similar ways during the Seventieth Week of Daniel also known as the Time of Jacob's Trouble.

**21 And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries.**

Antiochus the 4<sup>th</sup> came in after the death of Antiochus the Great and did not get his office in battle but by bribery, deceit and eventually assassination. Read Psalm 83

The Anti-Christ may rise to power in much the same way in his own nation, and as we will soon see he shall do the same things to obtain control of the world's governments as well.

**22 And with the arms of a flood shall they be overflowed from before him, and shall be broken; yea, also the prince of the covenant. 23 And after the league made with him he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up, and shall become strong with a small people.**

He makes a league with the prince of the covenant, most likely the Prime Minister of Israel at the start of Daniel's Seventieth Week which he never intends to keep.

He breaks his covenant at the mid-point of the week, after three and one-half years. This was one campaign promise he never intended to keep.

**24 He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time.**

This world leader will come against his own people and persecute them for their rejection of him as their leader. Israel will eventually reject this person for his pride and his desire to have the praise of men, but not before he has caused them to go into captivity.

**25 And he shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the south with a great army; and the king of the south shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand: for they shall forecast devices against him. 26 Yea, they that feed of the portion of his meat shall destroy him, and his army shall overflow: and many shall fall down slain. 27 And both these kings hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed.**

Here we see this man of sin going against the Muslim nations, namely Egypt, who is referred to throughout Daniel as the king of the South, and Syria is referred to as the king of the North.

This man of sin that rises up during the end times is called by the scriptures the Assyrian. He will kill two thirds of all Jews in the land and possibly around the world as recorded by the prophet:

***Zechariah 13:8 And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the Lord, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. 9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God.***

What a terrible thing for Israel to go through after the previous generation had to suffer through Hitler's attempt to exterminate them, but this can all be avoided individually by trusting the Messiah today.

Those who do will be raptured with the body of Christ while the world endures the Time of Jacob's Trouble.

**28 Then shall he return into his land with great riches; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land. 29 At the time appointed he shall return, and come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter.**

All of these events took place during the brief, but terrible reign of Antiochus Epiphanies and they will happen again during the Seventieth Week of Daniel.

**30 For the ships of Chittim shall come against him: therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant.**

This is a direct reference to Antiochus Epiphanies and what he accomplished many generations after Daniel's visions but this is also I believe, a possible reference to the United States and her allies coming to have their say in this area of the world as they have continued to do over the past hundred years and longer with Great Britain.

These ships of Chittim however, while being some of the most technologically advanced in the world will not have the same protection of God as they once did when Israel was their true Allie because of all the sin that they have committed against Israel.

**31 And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. 32 And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.**

Do not forget the double application of this event as it happened in Antiochus Epiphanies day, so it will happen in Daniel's Seventieth Week.

Those that knew their God were the Maccabees, led by Judas Maccabees, fought against Antiochus army and cleansed the temple and reinstated worship there.

We also read about this in detail at the end of chapter nine. Notice that the antichrist will corrupt nations with flatteries to cause them to violate the covenant that he signed with many that grants Israel peace for seven years.

This is not the Mosaic Covenant as some suggest, but the very covenant that is in existence today known as the road map for peace, or the Oslo accords, which will be confirmed by many for one week (seven years) and then broken in the middle of the week. Beware Israel!

**33 And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days. 34 Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. 35 And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.**

What a graphic description of the fate of the faithful at this midpoint and beyond during the time of Jacob's trouble. Praise God that even in this time of global destruction, war and famine, that God's chosen will do great exploits and will instruct many to righteousness.

This however is not what they are doing right now, and it is the very reason for the writing of this book.

**36 And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. 37 Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.**

This king is the Anti-Christ and he will not marry a woman mimicking the Messiah, many believe he will be a Sodomite. While this is conjecture it is also very possible considering who he is, and that sodomy is one of his most wicked inventions.

**38 But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things.**

Notice that he honors the God of forces with money. This is accomplished by the taxes he has collected from all those who have pledged allegiance to him and he will use this revenue to further build his army for his attempt to exterminate all of mankind.

**39 Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.**

This man of peace who obtains his kingdom by flatteries shall show his true colors by plunging the world into war and he will use the resentment and anger of the world for Muslim extremists as his excuse, but many will eventually catch on to what he is doing and will attempt to fight against him, but it will be too late.

Countless souls will have perished by the sword and not for the reasons that they think. Many will think they are fighting against tyranny and global oppression, but they are really being wiped out because of their rejection of God's Son.

**40 And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. 41 He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.**

Israel, this is where you will find rest and protection from this false Messiah. The wilderness of Jordan has a city called Petra, it is the very place where God will provide for you for three and one-half years as your land is trampled underfoot.

Egypt and Syria will attack, but Jordan will be spared for its peace with Israel. It will serve as a safe haven for a remnant of Jews that have escaped this mad man's wrath.

**42 He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. 43 But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.**

The world as I write this book is quickly dividing itself up into sectors as is prophesied, setting the stage for Satan and his man of sin to attempt to enslave the world and eradicate the Jew.

**44 But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.**

**45 And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.**

This world ruler will leave off his campaign against the Muslim confederacy to fight with the Asian armies (200,000,000 strong) and the remnants of the Northern armies of Russia with her allies.

While this may look like a war for supremacy of the world it is really a war of extermination. Satan is killing as many people as he can as quickly as he can in what he thinks is a crushing blow to God.

In all actuality Satan is the pawn that is used to help bring judgment upon a God rejecting world, just as the death angel was used to do God's bidding in Egypt.

Notice that it says that **he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain**, the seas are the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean.

Satan's man of sin will build his home in Jerusalem, but it will not be long after that that he will be trodden under foot by God when the stone that is cut without hands (the Messiah) crushes Satan's head and cast him bound into the bottomless pit for the Millennium Kingdom.

## Chapter Twelve

### Michael the Prince

**1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.**

Michael the great prince is none other than the Arch Angel Michael that battled with Satan over the body of Moses. Michael is the prince (angel over) of the Jewish Nation.

Satan is the prince of the power of the air and the god of this world, but he can never thwart the will of God or his promises to Israel. Michael, while he is not a match for Satan alone, can with God's power defeat anything that God gives him strength over.

Michael will defend Israel as they flee into captivity from a fate worse than the Holocaust as the one proclaiming to be the Messiah turns on his own people and tries to exterminate them.

While many will fall, God will empower Michael against Satan's onslaught, and he will protect Israel through many miraculous endeavors. Even using the earth to swallow up a great flood that this enemy of Israel will use in an attempt to destroy those that flee from his wrath.

Only those who are found written in the Lamb's Book of Life will be delivered during the time of Jacob's Trouble. The Lamb of God is the Messiah which takes away the sin of the world through his sacrificial death for those who believe in him.

**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. 3 And 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. 4 But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.**

This is a reference to the Great White Throne Judgment that will take place at the end of the Millennial Kingdom. Notice that God's word declares that those who proclaim God's word will be rewarded for all eternity.

We all know of many people who are preparing for retirement, but not many who are preparing to meet their maker.

**5 Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river. 6 And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders? 7 And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that 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.**

For three and one-half years, or the whole second half of the Seventieth Week of Daniel this world ruler will turn his anger towards his own people to try to destroy them with wars and famines, but God shall deliver them and all of Israel shall be saved that endures unto the end of this terrible time that shall come upon this world.

**8 And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? 9 And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. 10 Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.**

This prophecy will see the death of many martyrs for the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Not martyrs as a Muslim understands martyrdom, but as God sees it.

**11 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. 12 Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. 13 But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end the days.**

Notice the time table that God gives to Israel and the world. When they see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel then they have exactly three and a half years of Great Tribulation to endure before the end of that age comes.

Then the long-awaited kingdom will arrive with the Messiah reigning in Jerusalem on the throne of his father David.

God also gives us two sets of days marking this time of great trouble that differ by forty-five days. The reason for the difference is that God shortens the days for the elect's sake.

Daniel died and went the way of all men, but Daniel was not an ordinary man. Daniel was gifted by God for his devotion to him and he was privileged to see future events that he has in turn given to us for our edification and to warn others of these fast approaching days.

When Daniel wanted to know the meaning of certain prophecies God deliberately withheld that information from him as he does with the wicked who would oppose him today.

If God did not withhold much of our future from us that information would drive us insane. God knows what we can handle, and he will not give us information that will destroy us.

I hope you have enjoyed studying this book and will continue to plant the good seeds of the word of God in your mind and may they grow and reproduce a hundredfold.

**The End**