

- **This final Chapter 12 concludes the vision that began in chapter 10. The angel said this about it:** “Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come.” (10:14). The angel proclaims 3 things:
 - He is telling Daniel what will happen to HIS people – the Jews
 - It will happen at the end of the time of the Gentiles – the latter days
 - It is a long way off (at least 2500 years so far!)
- We are introduced to **Michael**, “the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people” – chief responsibility is to protect Israel.
- “**Time of Trouble**” – also called the Tribulation, the “Time of Jacob’s Trouble” (Jeremiah 30:7-8) and the “70th Week” of Daniel. *Suggest reading book of Zechariah, chapters 12 and 13 for more info on this time for Israel.*
- “At that time your people shall be delivered” – **Israel is to be saved**, Romans 11:26-27, Zechariah 12, 14...but not a blanket ticket to salvation (names must be in the Lamb’s Book of Life – as accepting Messiah Yeshua)
- V2 provides information about the **Resurrection...most likely two resurrections (one for saved, one for lost)**. First resurrection happens in two parts (at removal of Church, and at end of Tribulation). The chronology and time between the two is found in Revelation. OT saints raised at END of Great Tribulation. Great White Throne judgment (Revelation 20), resurrection and judgment of the damned, occurs at end of Millennium, 1,000 years later. Brief accounting of the order of the resurrection:
 - 1) Removal of Church (rapture), resurrection of righteous dead, living changed at this time
 - 2) Raising of Old Testament saints (Godly people of the Old Testament) at end of Tribulation
 - 3) 1,000 Year Interval, the Millennial Reign of Jesus
 - 4) Raising of the lost to the Great White Throne Judgment, and eternal separation from God
- **Promise for “the wise”** – in this case wise means those who rely on God’s wisdom, not the wisdom of the world. Even greater brightness for those who turn many to righteousness (our mission!)
- Daniel told to “**shut up the words, and seal the book, until the time of the end...**” controversy over what this means. Shut and sealed? Perhaps to understanding. Daniel could not do this. This book is divinely protected. There is a current hunger now to understand the ancient prophecies. Perhaps this book is being unsealed by God for our understanding because the time is near. Like Revelation, the book of Daniel will become very important for those who must go through the Great Tribulation.
- “**Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.**” Perhaps a two-fold fulfillment. Yes, knowledge is increasing too fast for us to keep up and never before have people been running to and fro like they are today in global travel. However, this might also refer to increased knowledge of prophecy, and the hunger of people for knowledge about this.



- Perhaps this also applies to the increase of knowledge about end times and understanding of this book, which wasn't even attempted until about 150 years or so ago. Most didn't understand it, and didn't try. Now it is the center of understanding for end times. Some also believe it refers to Israel studying the prophecies anew, looking for Messiah, and finding Him. Double fulfillment here.
- The man clothed in linen above the river **swears by the Ancient of Days**...Perhaps Jesus? Identity debated due to oath taken. Provides the time line – 3 ½ years, and indicates when it will all end.
- **“When the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.”** No one seems to know fully what this means. Power? Is that literal power, such as military might, or could it be Israel's power to resist God? The power to rebel against God? Or power to resist the rest of the world? It is definitely about Israel “the holy people” – people of the holy covenant. Perhaps it means when Israel can ONLY rely on God, and no other power or might. (*“Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts.”* Zechariah 4:6) Other than that we can only speculate.
- **Daniel heard the words, but didn't understand.** He wanted more explanation, but was only told “go your way.” The words were sealed till the time of the end. Is that time now? Or soon? Yet even though he was told there would be no more answers, the angel continues with more clues. Daniel was just the scribe to record the message. It was not important for him to understand it.
- **Until the end many will be redeemed, purified and refined** (probably by trials). These are the wise the angel spoke of earlier. At the same time, the wicked will continue to be wicked, and they are the “unwise” – these will not understand. Only the wise will understand. A study of God's Word and submission to Him is the only thing that makes us wise. Reminds of Proverbs 1:7 – ***“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”*** Many people today think they are wise, in worldly learning or worldly ways, but this is the way of fools, the way to destruction. (1 Corinthians 2:14, John 16:13)
- **Some strange “dates” are set here**, about which there is much speculation and controversy. No one really seems to know what they mean. The “time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up...” most believe this is the official mid-point of the Tribulation, the beginning of the Great Tribulation (3 ½ year mark). The Man in linen took an oath that this period would be 3 ½ years, or 1,260 days. Now here is reference to 1,290 days, one month longer. AND the blessing for those who come to the 1,335 days, another 45 days past this. There is a whole lot of speculation about these days and what they mark or mean, but really no one has definitive and concrete knowledge of exactly what they are. Some think it has to do with judgment that follows the Tribulation, and that maybe the Millennium doesn't begin until the period of judgment after the Tribulation (Revelation 19) is over and it takes this long. We simply don't know yet.
- Some speculate that this **book is still somewhat sealed**, and much of what is still a mystery here will become clear to those who live during the fulfillment of these prophecies. Those who go through the Tribulation will need what is in Daniel, Revelation, Zechariah, Isaiah, and other books to help them understand the times, the timelines, and for their comfort and encouragement in these times.
- Daniel told again to go his way. The prophecy was complete. He would rise with the other saints after all was fulfilled.
- Book of Daniel **begins with the fall of Jerusalem and the beginning of the Times of the Gentiles. It ends with a promise of the restoration of Israel** and the beginning of the Millennium – the end of the Times of the Gentiles. In our current world, we should remember the Words of Jesus: ***“Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near!”*** (Luke 21:28) It all seems to be happening....

