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## THE BOOK OF DANIEL | THE FUTURE OF THE GENTILE REIGN AND THE JEWISH REMNANT

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LISTENER'S GUIDE | SESSION 20 | DANIEL 12:4-13 | DR. RANDY WHITE

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### INSTRUCTIONS FOR DANIEL | DAN. 12:4-13

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- Verse 4 –
  - **seal the book** – There are three possible interpretations:
    - Some of what was told to Daniel is not revealed in the pages of Daniel, and Daniel was prohibited from sharing.
    - Some of the vision will not be completely understood until the end.
    - The vision was complete, and thus could not be added to.
  - **time of the end** - The **time of the end** is the time referred to in v. 1 as that **time of trouble**.
  - **run to and fro** - This phrase always carries a negative connotation in the Bible. Bullinger makes a good case for the meaning of the Hebrew word being *apostatize*.
  - **knowledge** - Since the context is the Jewish people, it is probably best to confine this to the spiritual knowledge of the Jewish nation. While many in the nation will **run to and fro**, others will be influenced by the two witnesses and the 144,000.
- Verse 5 –
  - The vision at the river began in 10:4. The messengers included the following:
    - a certain man (10:5-9) who is likely the pre-incarnate Christ.
    - a hand and a voice that revealed information about the latter days (10:10-15). This could have been the same messenger as in vv. 5-9.
    - one like the similitude of the sons of men appeared who touched Daniel and allowed him to speak (vv. 16-17). This messenger appears to be distinct from the first.
    - Then one like the appearance of a man (vv. 18-20) appeared, giving strength to Daniel. It appears that this is the same man as in vv. 5-9.
  - In all, there are definitely two messengers (and as many as five) in C. 10. With the insight from 12:5, it is safe to assume that there are two messengers only in C. 10, who are involved in the revelations of 10-12.
  - Note that Daniel heard one saint speaking to another saint in 8:12, and one of those saints (holy ones) was Gabriel (v. 16). Possibly the entire vision is the pre-incarnate Lord and Gabriel.
  - Note: there is the slight possibility that these are two additional others, though this seems unlikely in light of v. 7.
- Verse 6 – **how long** - That is, to the end of the **time of trouble** (v. 1).
- Verse 7 –
  - **a man clothed in linen** - This is the pre-incarnate Christ, from 10:5.
  - **he held up his right hand...** - The fact that Christ **swore by hm that liveth forever** should be a strong deterrent to spiritualization of this number.
    - The phrase **time, times, and an half** was used in Dan. 7:25 and will be used in Rev. 12:14.
      - In interpretation, it is 3 1/2 years.
      - Also described as 42 months in Rev. 11:2 and 13:5.
      - Also as 1,260 days in Rev. 11:2 and 12:6.
    - This would be the last half of the seven year period of Dan. 9:27.
- Verses 8-9 - Daniel's desire to know more was not answered, and the Lord brought the revelation to a close.

- Verse 10 –
  - Compare to Rev. 22:11.
  - This is a message to the last days, and a statement of the reality of the last days. It is not an excuse to avoid a Christian witness or message, for as long as the church is here, it must shine forth the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ, begging others to be reconciled to God (2 Cor 5:20).
    - This verse tells us the result of the last days: **many shall be purified**, which is speaking of the Jewish people and is the purpose of the Tribulation itself.
    - The result of the Tribulation on **the wicked** is that they continue to **do wickedly** (compare Rev. 9:20).
- Verses 11-12 –
  - While the content of this revelation has been endlessly debated, it is best to leave it as a revelation for which we do not have other basis points. In addition to the 1,260 days , there will be an extra 30 days for some event, and an additional 45 days beyond that for another event, for a total of 1,335 days.
  - Note from Darby:
 

*"I have thought it possible that this computation may arise from this. An intercalary month to the 1260 days, or three years and a half, and then 45 days, if the years were ecclesiastical years, would bring up to the feast of tabernacles: but I offer no judgment on it. At any rate, the statement is clear that then the sanctuary of God will be cleansed in Jerusalem."* Darby, J. N. Synopsis of the Books of the Bible: Ezra to Malachi.
  - A possible interpretation:
    - 1,260 days from the abomination to the Second Coming.
    - 30 days of judgment, bringing the total to 1,290.
    - 45 days of preparation for the kingdom, bringing the cumulative to 1,335.
- Verse 13 –
  - A great encouragement to Daniel, though it speaks of his death, it also speaks of his resurrection.