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By Dan Maines

Daniel 12

Daniel 12:1

Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.

† Michael represents the divine defender of Israel during the great tribulation of their history.

† Historically, this points to the calamities of the Jewish War between AD 66 and 70, culminating in Jerusalem's destruction.

† Prophetically, this "time of distress" mirrors Jesus' words in Matthew 24:21, fulfilled in that generation.

† Eusebius confirmed that believers escaped the siege by heeding Christ's warning and fled to Pella.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, those written in the book of life are secure, never again subject to judgment or wrath.

Daniel 12:2

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.

† The resurrection here is spiritual and covenantal, not biological.

† Historically, this awakening symbolizes the transition from the dead nation of Israel to the living body of Christ.

† Prophetically, it was fulfilled in AD 70 when the old covenant system perished and the new spiritual life emerged.

† Jerome recognized this as a metaphorical resurrection, distinguishing the righteous who embraced Christ from those who rejected Him.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, we live in everlasting life, never again under condemnation or death.

Daniel 12:3

Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

† The wise teachers who turned many to righteousness were the apostles and early believers.

† Historically, their faithfulness spread the gospel through tribulation and persecution.

† Prophetically, this describes the eternal glory of those who brought others into the new covenant.

† Clement said that true wisdom endures beyond martyrdom, shining eternally in the kingdom.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, the saints reflect the light of Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, forever.

Daniel 12:4

But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase.

† Daniel was told to seal the prophecy because it would not be fulfilled until the end of the old covenant age.

† Historically, this "increase of knowledge" began in the first century with the revelation of Christ.

† Prophetically, the sealing connects directly to Revelation 22:10, where the book is unsealed at fulfillment.

† Athanasius taught that Daniel's sealed words were revealed through Christ and completed in His coming.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, prophecy is unsealed, and divine knowledge abounds in the completed Word.

Daniel 12:5-6

Then I, Daniel, looked and behold, two others were standing, one on this bank of the river and the other on that bank of the river. And one said to the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, "How long will it be until the end of these wonders?"

† The question of duration connects Daniel's vision to the time of fulfillment.

† Historically, this "end of wonders" refers to the close of the Jewish age in the first century.

† Prophetically, the question "How long?" echoes Revelation 6:10, fulfilled within the same generation.

† Hippolytus said the two angels symbolize the law and prophets, both testifying until Christ completed all.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, the mystery is revealed and the

waiting ended.

Daniel 12:7

I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be for a time, times, and half a time; and as soon as they finish shattering the power of the holy people, all these events will be completed.

† The "time, times, and half a time" equals three and a half years, matching the length of Jerusalem's final siege.

† Historically, this period from AD 66 to 70 fulfills the prophecy exactly.

† Prophetically, the shattering of the holy people marks the complete end of the old covenant system.

† Jerome stated that the breaking of Israel's power signified the establishment of the new spiritual kingdom.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, all prophecy stands completed; no further judgment awaits God's people.

Daniel 12:8-9

As for me, I heard but could not understand; so I said, "My lord, what will be the outcome of these events?" He said, "Go your way, Daniel, for these words are concealed and sealed up until the end time."

† Daniel's lack of understanding underscores that fulfillment would come in a future generation.

† Historically, the "end time" refers to the end of the old covenant age, not the end of the physical world.

† Prophetically, the sealing kept the vision hidden until Christ unsealed it through His revelation.

† Eusebius observed that the true meaning became clear only in the first-century events of Jerusalem's fall.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, nothing remains sealed, for Christ has revealed all truth to His people.

Daniel 12:10

Many will be purged, purified and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand.

† The purging refers to the refining of faith through persecution.

† Historically, the faithful were tested in the fires of tribulation before the kingdom's revelation.

† Prophetically, this purification separated true believers from those clinging to the old covenant.

† Jerome wrote that the righteous understood God's purpose while the wicked remained blind.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, believers walk in clarity and truth, purified by the completed work of Christ.

Daniel 12:11-12

From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. How blessed is he who keeps waiting and attains to the 1,335 days!

† These time periods align with the duration of Jerusalem's final siege and desolation.

† Historically, this timeframe spans the temple's desecration to its total destruction in AD 70.

† Prophetically, the 1,335 days symbolize completion beyond tribulation, the full arrival of redemption.

† Hippolytus taught that the blessed one represents the church enduring beyond judgment.

† In the fulfilled kingdom, endurance through tribulation gives way to everlasting peace.

Daniel 12:13

But as for you, go your way to the end; then you will enter into rest and rise again for your allotted portion at the end of the age.

- † Daniel was promised rest, not reincarnation or physical resurrection, but reward in the coming kingdom.
- † Historically, this "end of the age" refers to the close of the Mosaic covenant, not the world's end.
- † Prophetically, Daniel's portion is the inheritance of eternal life through Christ's completed redemption.
- † Jerome said Daniel's rest symbolizes the faithful awaiting their reward in God's fulfilled kingdom.
- † In the fulfilled kingdom, we live in that promised rest, united with Christ in everlasting peace.

How it applies to us today

- † Daniel 12 seals the prophetic narrative, showing that all prophecy culminated in Christ.
- † The resurrection, judgment, and deliverance were fulfilled in the first century, establishing the eternal kingdom.
- † The wise still shine today by proclaiming the finished work of redemption.
- † The unsealed Word continues to reveal God's glory through spiritual understanding.
- † We now rest in the same peace and victory Daniel was promised life in the fulfilled kingdom of Christ.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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- † The Holy Bible, NASB
- † Josephus, The Wars of the Jews, Book 6
- † Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3
- † Jerome, Commentary on Daniel
- † Clement of Rome, 1 Clement
- † Hippolytus, Commentary on Daniel
- † Athanasius, On the Incarnation

† Tertullian, Against Marcion

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