

Insights In Prophecy

Unlock The Ancient Mysteries Of Daniel & Revelation

BIBLE DISCOVERY SERIES

Lesson Introduction

The Scriptures forecast, and believers anticipate the end of this present evil age, and the dawning of God's Eternal Kingdom of justice and peace. The Hebrew prophets, through the visions and dreams they received from the Spirit of God and Heaven's messengers, forewarned in the written Scriptures about a series of earth-shattering events lasting several years that will bring the planet, as we know it, to the brink of annihilation just before Yeshua our Messiah's return as King of kings. These events likely include in modern terms the escalation of terrorism, nuclear holocaust, chemical and/or biological warfare and bloodshed, along with increased disasters such as hurricanes, tidal waves, earthquakes, tornadoes, uncontrollable fires and diseases in epidemic proportions... and many other forms of human suffering and devastation. But still, we have hope!

From a series of quick and abrupt catastrophes and global upheaval of World War III, an individual will arrive on the world scene through miraculous displays. His arrival will be so magnificent and so grand that the prophet John wrote, "The whole world was filled with wonder and followed the beast [Antichrist]. People worshiped the dragon [Satan] because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, "Who is like the beast? Who can wage war against it?" The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise its authority for forty-two months [1,260 days]," Revelation 13:3-5. Daniel earlier wrote about this man who will rise from the cryptic ashes of war to unprecedented power: "He will speak against the Most High and oppress His holy people and try to change the set times [of worship, including "the feasts"—Wycliffe Bible] and the laws [of God]. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time [1,260 days]," Daniel 7:25. His time to rule, written about in the prophecies, is now on the horizon, and global chaos and demonic displays will take the world captive under the Beast/Man of Sin's satanic spell.

However, God is still in control; He even allows the global delusion. Why? "The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason, God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness," 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12. The masses take pleasure in sin, refusing to learn the truth about the modern-day travesties the Hebrew prophets forewarned about in God's Word. They refuse to acknowledge Jesus as their personal Savior and the soon arrival of His Kingdom. Only Yeshua can save mankind and this planet, not men in flowing robes, demonic powers disguised as intelligent life forms, governments, treaties or armies. Still, the world's population will adore the religious leader and nearly all will accept the mark of the Beast so they can buy and sell; and thereby, many will deny Christ, revealing their unfaithfulness and sealing their eternal doom—for that is how the Scriptures portray the final decision we all must make (Matthew 10:33; Revelation 13:16-18; 14:10-12; 15:2).

In contrast, Daniel was promised at "the time of the end... many will go here and there" in the pages of Daniel's scroll "to increase knowledge" (Daniel 12:4) of just how and when final events will play out. These wise individuals—who understand the Word of God does provide answers to life's complexities—will search through the ancient predictions of Daniel and Revelation with a sincere desire to understand God's plan for the end of the ages and His faith pathway to Glory. How do we distinguish authentic believers? Genuine followers of Christ "keep God's commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus" (Revelation 17:12), and they demonstrate the fruit of the Holy Spirit, including "love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control," Galatians 5:22-23. Those who display hatred, violence and anger, and who foster the extermination of others who don't agree with them, are not to be believed or followed. These men and women are instruments of Satan in his attempt to overthrow God and His Kingdom; the Kingdom which is not of this world—but the world to come. Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, My servants would fight... But now My kingdom is from another place," (John 18:36)—the New Jerusalem above (John 14:1-3; Hebrews 8:8-10; Hebrews 11:16; Hebrew 12:22). The King and the Kingdom of Heaven is our hope, not Jerusalem, this earth and those who control it.

Daniel 12:10 states clearly "none of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand" final events, if they are attentive to the prophetic warnings. God gave His prophets various counting time periods, patterned by way of the Calendar of annual Biblical Festivals, which will guide His people through untold adversity to the revelation of Messiah. Jesus said "*all men will hate you* because of Me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved," Matthew 10:22. He also promised, "Surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age," (28:20); He will never leave or forsake His faithful, but God expects us to perseverance through the storm all the way to the end, whether it means life or temporary death.

Paul, the other apostles, and the early congregations believed the writings of Daniel to be a book about the end. By all accounts, they expected the immediate, literal fulfillment of the "appointed time of the end" and God's Kingdom in their day. However, as time moved on and the long delay set in, the believers became discouraged—and understandably so. "How long, LORD?" Psalm 94:3. Teachers and scholars in the Dark Ages tried to make sense of the centuries of postponement. They found encouragement from the book of Daniel through applying his predictions to historical events, and by transforming the 24 hour "days" (Hebrew: *yom*) in the prophecies (Daniel 7:25; 12:11-12) to "years"—giving the believers some calculative reasoning for the delay in Messiah's return. These old and mistaken views, handed down through the centuries, have reached our modern commentaries as scholars assign nearly all of Daniel's visions to various military activities and political events in the past.

However, as the last generation, we are revisiting Daniel's predictions and time periods in view of current events and reclaiming what is promised to be ours—the unsealing of the scroll. God assures us that the *sealed* book of Daniel would be *unlocked* at the *time of the end*. Once Daniel is studied alongside Revelation as complimentary end-time books of prophecy, parallel predictions about our future begin to emerge that paint an accurate account of events that are playing out in our day.

Also, in this series we will apply the long-recognized principle of Biblical study—of looking first to the "literal-straightforward" meaning before turning to any "interpretive-figurative" explanation. The five prophetic time periods found in the book of Daniel will be considered 24

hour days, for that is exactly what the original Hebrew word “yom” means, and how the early church would have understood them. These include the 70 weeks (*490 days*) of Daniel 9:24; 2,300 evenings and mornings (*1,150 days*) of 8:14; the time, times and half (*1,260 days*) of 7:25 and 12:7; and the *1,290 days* and *1,335 days* of Daniel 12:11, 12. Although they seem ancient, these prophetic periods and the events surrounding them are given to help us make real life decisions as end-time events unfold. They represent counting periods for the last-day believers, so we can know where we are in time; and that we, by faith, might hold onto Jesus all the way to the end during this very difficult period in human history. This involves persistence and stamina, as we wait for our LORD’s triumphant revelation in the sky (Psalm 37:7-11; Revelation 13:10; 14:12).

The five periods in the book of Daniel, combined with the *1,260 day* period repeated five times in the book of Revelation (11:2; 11:3; 12:6, 12:14 and 13:5), create a last-day Calendar of events that is packed full of insight. The events of both Daniel and Revelation are collected and merged into one overarching presentation of the future. From this emerges ***The Kingdom Calendar*** that combines all these time periods into an end-time counting chart of the last days, which lines up between the Festivals to prove both its authenticity and reliability.

The **Insights in Prophecy Bible Discovery Series** will help you dig deeper into the Biblical predictions. It will challenge your thinking, as we investigate the prophecies about the soon return of Yeshua our Messiah. In the search we’ll discover Daniel’s unlocked warnings, and with them the meaning of the mysterious symbols and intent of the book of Revelation. Today, because our generation faces the end of the age, spiritual knowledge is on the increase; there is a renewed interest in the prophetic visions of the ancient Hebrew prophets. A large portion of God’s Sacred Word is devoted to future and end-time events, and is worth our undivided attention.

Therefore, our hope is that you will take the necessary time to study these spiritual warnings. Prophecy, by its very nature, is mysterious and will take effort on your part to comprehend the various elements. Remember our Creator is the source of all these prophecies, and His Spirit will teach us as He makes known to us His final work: "Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me. *I make known* the end from the beginning, from ancient times, *what is still to come*. I say: My purpose will stand and I will do all that I please," Isaiah 46:9-10. And, “Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing His plan to His servants the prophets,” Amos 3:7.

Despite the insights gained from the study of the books of Daniel and Revelation, there are still unknowns; God has not revealed every detail about the future. Not until the Archangel’s trumpet is heard will all mystery be finished: “But in the days when the Seventh Angel is about to sound His trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as He [Michael] announced to His servants the prophets” (Revelation 10:7) on the banks of the Tigris River many years earlier (Daniel 12:5-7). However, God has provided enough understanding to give us the hope needed to endure until we reach the Kingdom, and in Him we can trust day by day until He returns.

This we know so far, Biblical evidence indicates the pattern of the numbered days of prophecy fall within the framework of the Festivals starting with Purim and Passover, and culminating three and one-half (3½) years later during Rosh Ha-Shanah (Feast of Trumpets), Yom Kippur (Day

of Atonement) and Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles). The Jerusalem devastation event could occur at any moment, but the numbered days will most likely start precisely at Purim. Nevertheless, God has certainly established the counting pattern; the "three and one-half years" represent the primary length of end-time prophecy. The Hebrew prophets repeated this *precise* period seven times—more than any other prophetic period, as though the Holy Spirit (Hebrew: *Ruach haKodesh*) is leading us to focus on and consider this timeline—the "time, times and the dividing of time," the "42 months," equaling "1,260 days," as found in Daniel and Revelation.

We will learn the "seven year" tribulation period—a view of recent history made popular among evangelicals by the Scofield Reference Bible—is a contrived view of Daniel 9:27, which holds little merit. Prophecy grants Antichrist 3½ years to rule and persecute, and no more. The dispensationalist view increases his rule to *seven years*, against the clear evidence of God's Word. When the 3½ year period of last-day authority, blasphemy and persecution by the Man of Sin comes to an end, when God's last two prophets complete their rule for 3½ years, and when Gentile armies reach the end of their 3½ year occupation of Jerusalem, a very short but brutal "Great Tribulation" will commence (Daniel 12:1; Matthew 24:15-22), lasting 40 days as the timelines and historical pattern reveals (Genesis 7:4, 12, 17). Rome's plunder of Jerusalem in 70 A.D.—as illustrated by the 82 A.D. Roman built victory Arch of Titus (book cover image)—was accomplished with a vast Roman army. However, according to the Bible prophecies, Rome's final victory over the Holy City during the last appointed times will be realized through Papal flatteries and the setting up of his Temple Mount abomination, followed by the judgment of Almighty God and Jerusalem's fiery desolation by Gentile armies (Luke 21:20-22; Matthew 24:15-22; Daniel 9:26-27).

Jesus said, "Now *learn this lesson from the fig tree*: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away," Matthew 24:32-25. Psalm 90:10 says, "Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures." In 1948 Israel became a nation once again and the fig tree bloomed; and now, that generation is about to pass. We are saddened by the Scriptural warnings that Jerusalem is a doomed city, because her leaders will ultimately reject and then rejoice in the death of God's two last prophets—as they did Yeshua at the end of His 3½ years of ministry on earth long ago (Matthew 21:12-20; Revelation 11:7-10). The Word warns in no uncertain terms, "When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city [Jerusalem] get out, and let those in the country not enter the city [of Jerusalem]. For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written," Luke 21:20-22. However, soon thereafter the Commander's angels will gather His elect—the chosen from the twelve tribes living in the land of Israel and around the world, who will trust in the true King (Matthew 24:29-31; Romans 11:25-27). Our hope is in Messiah and the New Jerusalem, which He has built and prepared for His people (John 14:3).

Prophecy's predictions have been given to us by God to guide the believers past some of the most tragic events to engulf the planet, and the most overwhelming deceptions ever to confront mankind. Visitations, demonic miracles and apparitions will escalate... a series of "great signs and wonders" (Matthew 24:24) on earth and in the skies that will lead to idolatry and demonic worship (Revelation 9:20). Even the most ardent students of God's Word—church members,

religious professors, teachers, scholars and ministers—will be surprised by global events that will challenge views they now hold. There will be no early rapture to escape the last-day troubles, nor are Daniel and Revelation relics of the past as historicists and preterists presume. The very foundations of our Christian faith will be shaken beneath us that we might learn to trust in God and His Son alone. We must recognize the recklessness of blindly handing over our God-given responsibility to study God's Word to the clergy (all faiths have their scholars, who cannot agree on the simplest of matters). Some religions boast of popes and prophets whose teachings and writings they consider infallible and irrefutable. However, we must in good faith challenge all teachings other than the Word of God. Absolutely everything must be tested against the inspired Scriptures, including the views expressed in this lesson series.

When a new perspective is introduced, and long-held views are challenged, it's the teacher's obligation to present comprehensive proof from God's Word; then, to back it up with real-life evidence through matching world events to the prophetic warnings of Daniel and Revelation. At that point, when the proof has been delivered, whether it is received or rejected is determined by you and you alone. As followers of Christ, we have two choices: to be open-minded or empty-minded. To reject insights, when Scriptural facts are presented with sound reasoning, is to be empty-minded. *The Kingdom Calendar* may be a supernatural sign of divine origin, given as God's gift to the last generation of believers; if proven true over time, it should not be rejected to preserve false doctrines or to protect popular ideologies, which are merely inventions of previous generations from men and women who, doing the best they could in their day, are now dead and gone. They simply lived too early to be a part of the last generation... the only generation promised the final unsealing.

Just as in days of old, God reveals His truths through the Holy Spirit to the humble, who are considered foolish in the eyes of others; common men and women without the social status, labels and influence that normally impress the masses. And, in the end who gets the glory? The Father and His Son, through the work of the Holy Spirit. "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the LORD Almighty," Zechariah 4:6. For, "God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty," 1 Corinthians 1:27.

Because we face the end of the age, it is our privilege and moral responsibility to study the Biblical prophecies, particularly Daniel and Revelation, and to search for the final unsealing of the prophecies that is promised to the last generation at the end of time (Daniel 12:4, 10). Thank you for joining this growing movement in the study of God's end-time predictions through the 30 lesson series, Insights in Prophecy. Soon, global deception will be rampant through the powers of darkness. Therefore, you must learn from the prophetic pages of Scriptures who is involved, what events will transpire, as well as when and where. It is worth your undivided attention, for you and your family's destinies are at stake. Unwavering faith in Jesus our Messiah is your only hope.

My prayer is that God's prophetic truths will shine brighter, highlighting our Savior's love for you, for He alone gives your life eternal purpose and clarity. For, that is the reason the prophecies were penned long ago as God's final warnings to humanity, and made discernable in these last days. May we be found faithful, for the Day of the LORD is fast approaching—the return of the KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. He will split the sky wide open to reveal Himself, and the universe will never be the same again.

