



VISIONS & TIMES OF DANIEL & REVELATION

Daniel was a remarkable young prophet, inspired by God. He interpreted two terrifying dreams that haunted King Nebuchadnezzar, and foretold the future with amazing accuracy. However, years later, the elder Daniel was tormented when he could not understand his own mystical dreams and visions¹⁹. Even after Gabriel was ordered “tell this man the meaning of the vision” (Daniel 8:16), Daniel confessed, “I was appalled by the vision; it was beyond understanding” (Daniel 8:27). After his fourth visionary encounter, Daniel was instructed to “close up and seal the words of the scroll,” for neither he nor future prophets and saints would fully comprehend it “until the time of the end,” (Daniel 12:9).

Failure to understand is not due to a lack of determination. Many faithful students and scholars of prophecy have attempted to unlock Daniel’s book through the centuries, but they were destined to fail. God’s impenetrable seal across the scroll would prevent them from doing so until its divine removal at the time appointed.

Some boast they are God’s chosen messengers of the unsealed prophecies, although their views are based on century-old interpretations from individuals who have long passed on. However, the statement was repeated for emphasis—the tearing off of the seal comes at “*the end*” when tensions between the nations are escalating and global catastrophes are poised to erupt: “Go your way, Daniel,” he was told again (Daniel 12:9), “because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end”—no sooner. In the context of Daniel’s visions, the “time of the end” begins when last-day events are literally *on the verge* of fulfillment. Jesus also promised that when the signs of trouble begin, which will lead to His glorious triumph over evil, everything will be fulfilled within one generation: “I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened,” (Matthew 24:34).

Daniel admitted his confusion once again when he was informed of the “time, times and a half” (1,260 days) time prophecy: “I heard, but I did not understand,” (Daniel 12:7-8). He was told, “Many will be purified, made spotless and refined [by the end-time trial], but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand [the visions of Daniel],” (12:10).

Heaven’s messenger immediately followed up with still more mysterious time periods: “From the time that the daily [Hebrew: “*tamid*”]... is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days,” (12:11-12). Over the centuries, various theories have been advanced about the meaning of Daniel’s

¹⁹ Daniel chapters 7-12



visions and these puzzling time periods of prophecy. Now the Spirit (*Ruach HaKodesh*) is at work bringing *all* the prophetic periods of Daniel into focus and confirming that momentous end-time events are linked to God's times and Festival (*moed*) dates.

At this time in world history, we are on the verge of the fulfillment of Daniel's prophecies. His visions cannot continue to be ignored or relegated to historical events, except at our own peril. Although written centuries ago, his scroll offers God's people insight into last-day events relevant to our day: "Do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your [spiritual] slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed," (Romans 13:10).

Only the last generation—the generation that enters the time of trouble—will be at the right place and time for the guaranteed unsealing.

If your view of Daniel is rooted in century-old teachings, take heed! Only the last generation—the generation that enters the time of trouble—will be at the right place and time for the guaranteed unsealing. Daniel's visions have long been considered a series of historical episodes bearing little significance to modern man. In spite of this error, the ancient oracles will read like front page news.

How certain are you that you have a complete grasp of prophecy? Can you explain the meaning of the "1,290 days" of Daniel 12:11? What is the "daily" which Daniel says will be "taken away"? Can you demonstrate how the "1,335 days" of Daniel 12:12 are charted in prophecy, along with the "2,300 evenings and mornings" at the end of which the sanctuary is to be "reconsecrated" (Daniel 8:14)? If not, this book is for you. These prophetic time periods, linked to somber events of the last days, concern real life and death decisions, for in the end only two camps will remain—the saved and the lost. We need to understand the significance of *all* the time periods revealed in Daniel's four visions, and how they match up to those in the book of Revelation.

Prophecy makes up a large part of the Scriptures, and these visions are a revelation of God's final plan for mankind. However, for a myriad of reasons, spiritual leaders fear the subject and few teach it to their congregations. Many commentaries, often referred to by today's preachers and teachers, write off Daniel's timelines and visions as either distant historical incidents or, alternatively, futuristic unforeseen events, labeling them beyond comprehension. Educators tend to focus on the time periods that support their prophetic views, while ignoring or downplaying others they cannot explain.

The sad reality is that, in spite of the millions of religious leaders and devotees worldwide, few make a personal commitment to understand the deeper things of



God. Blinded by attitudes of superiority, members place their trust in religious institutions, and in the established doctrines of their founding fathers and prominent church leaders. They believe their house of worship to be the chosen instrument of truth and light to the world, while others are passed by. Therefore, they assume their dogmas are irrefutable, and find no reason to study the Word of God to prove the credibility of their long held traditions.

Jesus often challenged the prevailing views of His day. The ancient Hebrew prophecies concerning the *suffering* Messiah²⁰ was dismissed, while verses about the conquering Messiah were elevated. Jesus could not overcome the long-held belief that once Israel's (*Yisrael*) Savior arrived, he would immediately conquer all enemies and establish an earthly kingdom. The disciples anticipated escape from their enemies, overwhelming victory and a place of honor without sacrifice. Nonetheless, despite the fact that Jesus—the "I AM"—disclosed His own suffering, death and resurrection, His followers were still overcome by panic as the ancient predictions were being fulfilled during the crucifixion week of Passover. Ultimately, the disciples, filled with the Spirit of God and a holy zeal for the risen Savior, endured their own persecution and martyrdom and willingly drank the same cup of sorrow as Jesus²¹.

In the same way, the failure to understand His divine plan may be our own, as last events overtake us. History will be repeated. The Israelites died in the desert despite Hashem's miraculous intervention and their great escape from slavery just a short time beforehand. This proves God will not favor rebellion, in spite of His previous blessings, if we refuse to follow in faith His revealed instructions. Paul warns, "These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us"—the last generation—"on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!" (1 Corinthians 10:11-12).

The centuries come and go, but some things never change. Many followers of Christ in our day have also dismissed prophetic warnings about the future suffering, and even death, of God's people. Instead, they are looking for the conquering Messiah to catch them away from trial and persecution. The people of God will soon awaken to panic and calamity. Churchgoers who thought they would escape to easy victory and a place of honor will suffer at the hands of their enemies; worse yet, many will deny Christ and give up their faith when confronted by hardship. Jesus said, "Remember the words I spoke to you, 'No servant is greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also," (John 15:20).

King Solomon wrote, "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18). As followers of Jesus who live at end of the age, we should not be surprised if we are forced to surrender faulty views we now hold. We will no

²⁰ Isaiah 53:2-12

²¹ Matthew 10:37-39



longer be able to depend upon great religious institutions and well-known evangelists, but only upon God and His Word. Now, more than ever, is the time to admit we need help from above. We must petition the Holy One of Israel for the prophetic insight He promised those of us who live at the very edge of eternity.

Down through the ages, great minds in good conscience attempted to unlock the ancient scrolls of Daniel and Revelation, in part, to make sense of the long delay in Messiah's return. Even so, they were destined to fail. Not because they were bad, not at all, but because our Omnipotent God has hidden the meaning of the age-old predictions until just before the great climax. These faithful servants are dead and gone, but the Spirit is alive. The ancient Hebrew prophecies will shortly be unsealed, revealed and fulfilled before our very eyes, followed by the triumphant King.

Knowledge Will Increase in the Last Days

As we discuss end time prophecies, here is the scenario that the Scriptures seem to strongly suggest. As the end-time begins, great loss of human life and indescribable ruin will escalate rapidly. In quick succession, calamities of nature will soar out of control, and nuclear holocaust will mushroom. Many nations, including three European countries and the United States, will suffer great tragedy according to prophecy. World economies will collapse, and mobs, rioting and social disorder will increase, accompanied by frightening, supernatural phenomena. Pandemics will spread throughout the population. Despair, drug abuse and suicides will escalate. As peace gives way to terror, Bible prophecy will move to the forefront of conversations and world news. The survival of mankind and our fragile planet will be our political and religious leaders' top priority.

Once the book of Daniel is unsealed, the book of Revelation will also take on a fresh and more obvious meaning.

Daniel predicts there will be many individuals who will investigate the prophecies in frantic pursuit of understanding. They will dedicate themselves to study and prayer until the mysterious predictions are better grasped and then followed. However, their commitment to the testimony of Jesus will come at a terrible cost²². Family and friends will break ties and betray those who respond to Christ's warnings²³ as the populace splits into two factions: those sympathetic to the Roman leader—the majority of mankind “who believe the lie” (2 Thessalonians 2:11), and those who oppose him—the smaller band of faithful who will recognize the events unfolding before them have long been foretold in the prophecies.

²²Revelation 1:2; 12:17; 17:6; 19:10; 20:4

²³ Matthew 24:9-12



After his cryptic resurrection through “the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders” (2 Thessalonians 2:9), Antichrist will be considered a God-sent hero the world over as he brokers peace out of chaos. As a political and spiritual leader, he will impose decrees which stop the religious decay and public disorder in our societies. Constitutional revisions will be enacted to mandate religious observance, and counterfeit Christianity will gain millions of adherents. His demands will sound respectable, even admirable at first review, but they will be an intoxicating blend of true and false teachings. Spiritual revival will ignite, and Rome’s pagan creeds will gain stature across Europe and among the peoples and languages of the globe.

In contrast, the faithful will point out that Antichrist’s rapid rise to power has long been foretold in prophecy, and *satanic* manifestations, not Divine intervention, have brought this European leader from obscurity to fame. Those in opposition to Rome will be judged as immoral by the religious class, and as time progresses, the faithful will be numbered among society’s outcasts and criminals. Coercion by threats and persecution will increase as Lucifer’s campaign of forced obedience strengthens, and he moves to overthrow all opposition. Jesus said His kingdom was not of this world²⁴; in contrast, Antichrist will craft a worldwide kingdom of men and armies, in the spirit and power of Amalek²⁵. Despite his successes, the “overcomers”²⁶ will still point out his false teachings, and the three messengers’ warnings will be broadcast concerning God’s judgment hour, Babylon’s fall, idolatry and the fatal mark²⁷.

Despite their devotion, students of prophecy will fail to comprehend every detail of the final ordeal. No human has the ability to fully comprehend the mind of YHVH, for His ways are beyond the faculties of men. For this reason, we must stay faithful moment by moment with Jesus to guide us. Only in the last moments of time will all secrets be made manifest: “In the days when the Seventh Angel is about to sound His trumpet, the *mystery of God will be accomplished*, just as He announced to His [two] servants the prophets” (Revelation 10:7) on the banks of the Tigris River centuries earlier²⁸.

The apostle Paul understood that even prophets, chosen as messengers of warning, have limitations in predicting every facet of the future: “For we know in part and we *prophesy in part*, but when perfection [Messiah] comes, the imperfect disappears... now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now *I know in part*; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known,” (1 Corinthians 13:9-12). Inspiration does not promise infallibility. Infallibility is beyond the realm of humanity, and is an attribute which only God holds. “Let God be true, and every man a liar,” (Romans 3:3).

²⁴ John 18:36

²⁵ Exodus 17:15-16

²⁶ Revelation 2:7,11,17

²⁷ Revelation 14:6-9

²⁸ Daniel 10:4-5; 12:5-7



Regardless of our human inadequacies, the Merciful One has promised a more complete grasp of prophecy as we enter and endure the conflict. Once the book of Daniel is unsealed, the book of Revelation will also take on a fresh and more obvious meaning. The visions of the ancient Hebrew prophets, collected, combined and added to the insights of the end-time discourse which Jesus laid out on the Mount of Olives²⁹ (*Mountain of Messiah*), reveal a composite picture of the final trial. Prophecy will be understood as having relevance to the events of our day. Not one single timeline from Daniel's visions will be missing, for they all have equal value in shaping the calendar of the appointed tragedies.

The Collective Futurist View

The Collective Futurist View, a name coined to distinguish the prophetic view taught in this book from the assortment of beliefs in Christendom, combines the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation into one concise presentation and is built upon the *literal* language of old. When prophecy says "days," it means 24-hour days unless strong evidence proves otherwise. Too often popular explanations of prophecy have symbolized and mystified crucial insights into last-day events. The views of our day have applied large portions of Daniel, including both time periods and episodes, to historical events dated before the birth of Jesus. In doing so, their true intent to disclose facts about "the end" (Hebrew: "*eth qets*"), just before the great wedding, have been lost.

The belief that all five of Daniel's time periods apply to the time of the end is, without doubt, a fresh concept.

Nevertheless, like a lighthouse beacon on a stormy night, prophecy illuminates our way into a dark, turbulent future. God's Spirit of truth beams brightly, revealing a pathway through the perilous waters to eternity's shore. Prophecy has had its many interpreters, and with it, quite a number of peculiar views and failed predictions, but truth shines through spiritual darkness when we allow the Bible to say what it means and to mean what it says. With this candid approach to our study, monumental discoveries are not only possible, but promised by God.

Timelines of the Appointed Times & Seasons Calendar

It is written, "a wise man's heart discerns both time and judgment, because to every purpose there is time and judgment," (Ecclesiastes 8:5-6). Daniel has promised the "wise will understand" (12:10) God's appointed schedule. Divine dates of disaster and deliverance are laid before us in clear lines of evidence. The Appointed Times & Seasons Calendar (page 35) and this book outline events of

²⁹ Recorded in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21



the last days; still greater insights, which are now concealed from all of us, will be revealed as the last days march rapidly toward their completion.

There are five prophetic time periods in Daniel—*490 days* (9:24-27), 2,300 evenings and mornings, meaning *1,150 days* (8:14), *1,260 days* (7:25; 12:7) and *1,290 days* (12:11), which culminate at day *1,335* (12:12). These five run parallel to the *1,260 day* periods, which are repeated five times in the book of Revelation (11:2; 11:3; 12:6, 12:14; 13:5).

The Five Time Periods in the Book of Daniel

► **490 Days**—”Seventy ‘sevens’ [490 days] are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up the vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy,” (Daniel 9:24).

► **1,150 Days**—”He said to me, It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings [1,150 days of 2 sacrifices]; then the sanctuary will be reconsecrated,” (Daniel 8:14).

► **1,260 Days**—”He [Antichrist] will speak against the Most High and oppress His saints and try to change the set times and the laws. The saints will be handed over to him for a time [1 year-360 days], times [2 years-720 days] and half a time [half a year-180 days],” (Daniel 7:25; 12:7).

► **1,290 Days**—”From the time that the daily... is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days,” (Daniel 12:11).

► **1,335 Days**—Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days,” (Daniel 12:12).

Daniel speaks of two unnamed witnesses to his visions³⁰, while the book of Revelation reveals two prophets who rule during the last days and whose ministry will continue for 1,260 days³¹. As their work nears completion, they will no longer be able to restrain the abominable act in Jerusalem (*Yerushalayim*). They will die the martyr’s death, being “cut off” in the middle of the week just before the abomination is set up in Jerusalem³². For three and one half (3 ½) days, their dead bodies will lie in Jerusalem’s streets³³, while the world celebrates their demise.

³⁰ Daniel 12:5-6

³¹ Revelation 11:3

³² Daniel 9:24-27

³³ Revelation 11:8-12



This short three and one half (3 ½) day period represents a crucial link between the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation, which will be explained later in this book.

The Five Repeated Time Periods in the Book of Revelation

- ▶ **1,260 Days**—”But exclude the outer court; do not measure it, because it has been given to the Gentiles. They will trample on the holy city for 42 months [42 months of 30 days=1,260 days],” (Revelation 11:2).
- ▶ **1,260 Days**—”And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth,” (Revelation 11:3).
- ▶ **1,260 Days**—”The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days,” (Revelation 12:6).
- ▶ **1,260 Days**—”The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time [1 year-360 days], times [2 years-720 days] and half a time [half a year-180 days], out of the serpent’s reach,” (Revelation 12:14).
- ▶ **1,260 Days**—”The beast [Antichrist] was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise his authority for forty-two months [42 months of 30 days=1,260 days],” (Revelation 13:5).

Candid Comments from the Author

At first glance, the Appointed Times & Seasons Calendar may appear to be just another time-setting device based on foolish speculation; however, I will prove the chart and its individual components are all based on Biblical prophecies and principles. As already noted, the time periods stretching across the Appointed Calendar are not inventions, but are revealed in the prophetic books of Daniel and Revelation. The Festivals of the LORD that begin and end the chart were instituted by Elohim over 3,000 years ago, as recorded in Leviticus 23, including *Passover* (Unleavened Bread/Firstfruits), *Shavuot* (Pentecost), *Rosh Hashanah* (Feast of Trumpets), *Yom Kippur* (Day of Atonement) and *Sukkot* (Feast of Tabernacles). *Purim* stems from the book of Esther, and *Tisha B’Av*, the fast of the fifth month, is discovered twice in Zechariah³⁴ and is firmly established in Jewish culture and experience. The actual celebration dates are widely published by Jewish sources and are superimposed onto the Hebrew Calendar of the end-times.

³⁴ Zechariah 7:3, 5; 8:19



In spite of the fact that the major components of the Appointed Times & Seasons Calendar originate from the ancient scrolls, the belief that *all five* of Daniel's time periods *apply to the time of the end* is, without doubt, a fresh concept. From this basic premise, all five of the timelines were first charted in the fall of 1990.

As the son of a Baptist minister, I had been exposed to the Word of God from childhood. Even so, I had only just begun to appreciate the Festivals' prophetic link to end-time events. Learning how the "Festivals" are "a shadow of things to come" at the end³⁵, I was curious about whether the timelines charted two years earlier might line up with the Festivals. To my amazement, Daniel's timelines fell between the spring and autumn Festivals in the years 1997-2000. As I pondered just how important this discovery might be, many questions came to mind that only time, study and patience could answer. Now, after more than a decade of continued learning, the LORD has allowed me to understand the significance of this discovery, and I am humbled by it.

There are four practical reasons why this book and the Appointed Calendar deserve your attention. First, there is the *Law of Probability*. God established His Festival celebrations centuries before the end-of-day timelines were penned by the prophet Daniel, and over 3,000 years before their ultimate fulfillment, yet they align to the day.

In 70 A.D., the Jews were scattered across the globe and no longer had the ability to follow the agricultural or lunar sightings at Jerusalem, which were an essential part of the Festivals; therefore, the need arose to create a uniform calendar of worship. In the fourth century, the Jewish rabbi and religious authority Hillel II established a fixed calendar based on mathematical and astronomical calculations, which in turn organized the Jewish calendar that remains to this day. You will notice, however, by review of *God's Festivals & Fasts* (page 151), the holy days shift yearly on the Gregorian calendar. Therefore, the last-day timelines, spanning over three and one-half years, must align on specific dates for the match to occur. Furthermore, events spanning over 3,000 years of Israel's history must also align in precise calculation for the Hebrew Calendar to materialize. Due to the fluctuating Festival dates and the length of days involved in the chart, the likelihood of a match by chance alone is against human odds. This fact alone points to the Calendar's supernatural origin as a mysterious oracle of God's own making, now to be discovered at the close of human history.

The second reason the Hebrew Calendar deserves your attention is the *Biblical Predictions* that God's *Moedim* will be fulfilled at the end of the age. The Day of the LORD is *directly linked* to the "times and dates," that is, "Festival dates" of the spring and autumn seasons³⁶. Besides, the events of the end are said to come at the "appointed times," which mean at or during the Feast Days. Notice how the connection is made in the Scriptures: "Blow up the trumpet in the *new moon*

³⁵ Colossians 2:16-17

³⁶ Acts 1:6-7; 1 Thessalonians. 5:1-2



[meaning, at Rosh Hashanah—the Feast of Trumpets], in the *time appointed*,” (Psalm 81:3, KJV). In turn, Daniel confirms the link between the Festivals and the last days when he wrote, “The vision [Daniel, chapter 8] concerns the *appointed time* [the feast days] of the end,” (Daniel 8:19).

The third reason the Appointed Times & Seasons Calendar merits consideration is the *Biblical Numbers*. In Hebrew Scriptures, there are repeating patterns of numbers. The number 7 represents perfection and completeness; 7 X 7 equals 49—periods of counting, as steps toward gaining wisdom, and 7 X 70 equals 490—a number depicting “ultimate completion.” The 40 day pattern is also repeated several times in the lives of Elijah (*Eliyahu*), Moses (*Moshe*) and Jesus, which carries prophetic significance (page 159). All in all, these numerical structures, supernatural in origin, are an essential part of the Appointed Times & Seasons Calendar.

The fourth practical reason why this study deserves your attention is the *Biblical Types and Antitypes*. Important episodes in the life of Yeshua were fulfilled in the spring Festivals, including the crucifixion at Passover and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (*Ruach HaKodesh*) at Shavuot (Pentecost). Therefore, we should not be surprised that end-time events leading up to the eternal kingdom are also connected to the fall Festivals, which our Messiah instituted. The same Festivals taught to the Israelites and recorded in the Hebrew Scriptures will be celebrated in the future Messianic kingdom³⁷. This is why the Hebrew Calendar, with events, times and dates connecting Daniel and Revelation to God’s Festivals, provides us with a monumental breakthrough in understanding end-time events. No previous generations have been exposed to the time schedule associated with last-day events. Why? Because the end-time dates of the Appointed Calendar would have fostered complacency and great discouragement. However, the believers who enter the final trial will understand, for they *must* understand the eternal mysteries that have been kept secret from ages past. They will need to know the appointed dates to counter the spiritual corruption and demonic deceit that will permeate the last days, and to maintain their steadfast hope in the soon return of Jesus Christ while being held in the grip of indescribable chaos.

The books of Daniel and Revelation, the very testimony from Jesus Himself³⁸, were written primarily for this day and hour, and the prophecies are ours to grasp and to follow. God’s unfolding roadmap is coming into focus as we near the end of time. Will we pay attention? “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you,” (Hosea 4:6). Today, the Spirit of truth pleads with us to stop, look and listen. “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches [of our day],” (Revelation 2:11).

When a new perspective is introduced and long-held views are challenged, it is the teacher’s obligation to present evidence from God’s Word. Whether it is received

³⁷ Isaiah 66:23; Zechariah 14:18-20

³⁸ Revelation 1:1-3



or rejected is determined by the reader. As followers of Christ, we have two choices: to be open-minded or empty-minded. To reject insights, when scriptural facts are presented beyond a reasonable doubt, is to be empty-minded. The Hebrew Calendar is a supernatural sign given to the last generation; it should not be rejected to preserve false doctrines or to protect popular ideologies.

The 21 sections that follow in this book correspond to the 21 points on the Appointed Times & Seasons Calendar. You will want to refer often to the numbered Appointed Times & Seasons Calendar on page 35.

As with any new presentation, it will take some time to absorb the details, but don't lose heart. Prophecy is complex, but it has been revealed for this very hour, as the end of time overtakes us. This book is worth your undivided attention and worth sharing with as many family members, friends and acquaintances as can be reached.

A large segment of God's Word speaks of perilous events leading up to the visible return of Messiah ben David. The apocalyptic times and seasons will guide, support and encourage the saints at a time when the majority of the population is looking to Antichrist for deliverance through his mark, name and worldwide fame.

Paul advises us to study to show ourselves approved of God that we will not be ashamed on the Day of Judgment. God's chosen prophets of old have spoken. Will you trust the Spirit of truth to show you things to come? Jesus said, "I praise you, Father... because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children," (Matthew 11:25).

Search the Scriptures to test what is truth, and measure every man's word, including that of religious and political leaders, against prophecy's warnings for these last days. "Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good," (1 Thessalonians 5:19-21). Seek the Lord in earnest prayer, depending upon Him day by day. Commit to a personal relationship with the only true Savior, Jesus the Messiah, and live a holy life for God, which is our reasonable service.

Work to provide for your family, but also remember to rest physically and spiritually. Jesus, our Creator, blessed and declared the seventh-day Sabbath holy (sundown Friday to sundown Saturday) at the end of the first week of creation for the benefit of all mankind³⁹. This day is not kept to be saved; rather, we honor God by following His commandments, because we are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood. Resting in the LORD each week is included in His Top 10 List⁴⁰, and remains an important principle today⁴¹. However, all the commandments are summed up in these two simple, but quite demanding precepts: "Love the LORD

³⁹ Genesis 2:2-3; John 1:1-5; Colossians 1:15-17

⁴⁰ Ten Commandments: Exodus 20:1-17

⁴¹ Hebrews 4:1-13