Daniel, Volume 2: God's Plan for the Future

The End of the Age
DANIEL 12:5-13



The Heart of the Matter

Of all of God's creation, human beings are the most unique and frustrated. Made in God's image (Genesis 1:26), we have the capacity to think, create, and question. Curious, we stretch to grasp things we can never understand with our finite minds and we grow frustrated. We then often say and think things that are just foolish—because we believe that human reason can understand divine mysteries. However, Daniel, who was just as curious as we, didn't step on the mouse's wheel of human reason. Instead, he believed and trusted God to reveal the truth about the end of time at the appropriate time—whether he could understand it or not.



Discovering the Way

1. A Review of Where We've Been

Before we close the book on Daniel, it will be helpful to review where we've been and where we are.

2. Expository Explanation Regarding the Passage (Daniel 12:5–13) These last few verses will reveal two individuals, two questions and answers, and one specific counsel for Daniel.

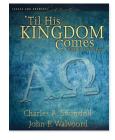




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Starting Your Journey

Three important principles regarding the story emerge. First, the more time we spend with God, the more teachable we become. Second, the more questions we ask, the more dependent we become. Third, the more truth we discover, the more profound it becomes.

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A Survey of the Judgments

NAME	SUBJECTS	TIME	PLACE	BASIS	RESULTS
The Cross	Satan judged John 16:11 Sin judged Romans 6:6–10; 8:1–4	AD 30 (traditional) or AD 33 ¹	Calvary	Finished work of Christ	Death of Christ, Satan doomed, sin overthrown, sinners justified
Self-judgment of believers	Christians in the church age who sin 1 Corinthians 11:27-31 1 John 1:9	Present time	Earth	Blood of Christ	Immediate forgiveness, permanent removal of confessed sin
Divine discipline	Believers who neglect the confession of sin Hebrews 12:6 1 John 1:5–10	Present time	Earth	God's love, scriptural warning	Suffering and misery until confession of sin perhaps even death
Judgment Seat of Christ	Believers taken at the rapture of the church 2 Corinthians 5:10 1 Corinthians 3:10–15	Immediately after the rapture of the church	Presence of the Lord	Works performed during earthly life	Either rewards or the loss of rewards (crowns)
Living Jews	Unbelieving Jews alive at the end of the tribulation Matthew 25:1–30	At the second advent	Earth	Their works (separating saved Israel from unsaved)	Unsaved are cast off into judgment
Living Gentiles (sheep/goats)	Unbelieving Gentiles alive at the end of the tribulation Joel 3:1–2 Matthew 25:31–46	Following the judgment of the living Jews	Earth	Treatment of saved Israel—"brothers of Mine"—during the tribulation Matthew 25:40	Unsaved face eternal judgment
Fallen angels	Angels being held captive 2 Peter 2:4 Jude 6	After the kingdom age (?)	Angelic realm	Their decision to follow Satan when he fell	Sent to permanent place of punishment
Great White Throne	All unbelievers (physically and spiritually dead) Revelation 20:11–15	After the earth is judged by fire 1 Peter 3:7–10	Between heaven and earth—in space	Worthless works of the unsaved	Eternal separation from God—"second death"

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^{1.} Harold W. Hoehner, Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan Publishing House, Acadamie Books, 1977), 114.