"WISDOM IN THE LAST DAYS"

Daniel 12:1-13

8-15-2021

INTRODUCTION:

***Be wise in these last days!**

I. THE WISE SHALL BE "<u>DELIVERED</u>" (v. 1-2)
(End-Time <u>Deliverance</u>)

A. Deliverance from Satan's Grip (v. 1)

B. Deliverance from Death's Sting (v. 2)

II. THE "WISE SHALL <u>SHINE</u>" (v. 3)
(End-Time <u>Harvesting</u>)

III. THE "WISE SHALL <u>UNDERSTAND</u>" (v. 4-10; *v. 10)
(End-Time <u>Comprehension</u>)

IV. THE WISE SHALL BE "<u>BLESSED</u>" (v. 11-13)
(End-Time <u>Inheritance</u>)

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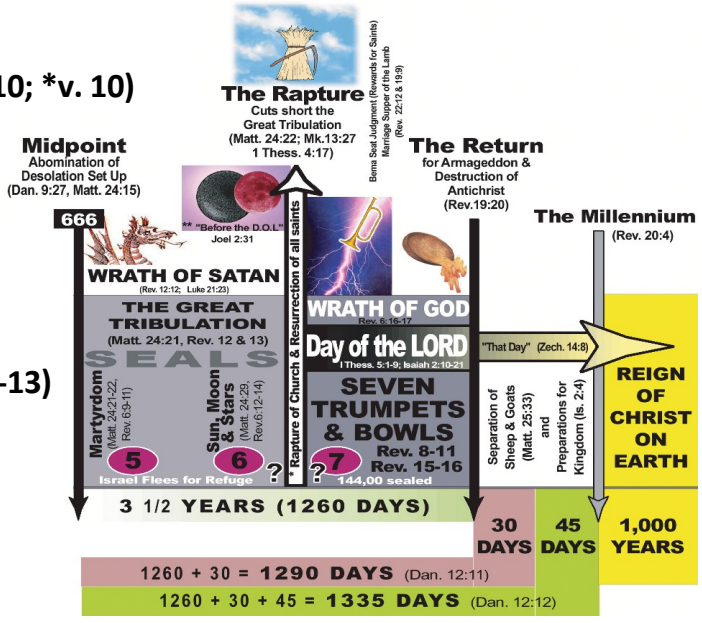
A. Deliverance from Satan's Grip (v. 1)

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II. THE "WISE SHALL _____" (v. 3)
(End-Time _____)

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***Be wise in these last days!**

I. THE WISE SHALL BE "DELIVERED" (v. 1-2)

(End-Time Deliverance)

A. Deliverance from Satan's Grip (v. 1)

"At that time" - At the time when the Antichrist "plants the tabernacles of his palace" (11:45) in Jerusalem at the mid-point of the Tribulation.

"Michael (shall) stand up" - Apparently Michael will rise from a seated position in Heaven.

Why will he get up? To defend Israel (Michael . . . "standeth for the children of thy [Daniel's] people").

Who will he stand up to face? Who is Israel's enemy? Answer: Satan.

Picture a scene in Heaven. God is on His throne. The angels are doing His bidding. All of a sudden, Satan appears - He with hideous motives and an attitude of arrogance and hatred approaches God's throne. When beckoned to speak, he begins accusing the brethren (EX: like he did of Job). He slanders them, mocks them. Repudiates the Jews and spits out anti-semitic accusation after accusation.

All of a sudden, Michael (the defender of Israel) stands up. He has had enough. God then (to accomplish His sovereign purposes) actually allows a fight to break out in Heaven. Michael versus Satan. Is such a fight recorded in Scripture? (SEE: Rev. 12:7-17).

After Michael triumphs over Satan, he and his angelic host throw Satan out of Heaven (the devil will never appear again before God's throne).

At this time, Satan, realizing the shortness of his time (3 1/2 years - Rev. 12:12; Dan. 12:7; Rev. 12:14), initiates the most intense and cruel persecution ever to be experienced by the Jewish people (Rev. 12:13; Jer. 30:4-11; Mt. 24:21).

"A time of trouble" -

--Jeremiah called it "Jacob's trouble" (Jer. 30:7 - SEE Jer. 30:4-11)

--Jesus called it "unparalleled tribulation" (Mt. 24:21; SEE Mt.24:15-21)

--In Daniel 12:1 it is called the worst time of trouble ever "since there was a nation" [of Israel])

"Thy people shall be delivered" - Cp. "He (Jacob) shall be saved (delivered) out of it" - Jer. 30:7.

It was also revealed to John that a remnant of Israel would be supernaturally protected (Rev. 12:6, 14) in the wilderness.

Question:
Could the "deliverance" in Dan. 12:1 refer to the Rapture? Verse 2 speaking about the Resurrection makes such a view possible (Cp. similar contexts - Mt. 24:22; Lk. 21:36).

"Everyone . . . written in the book" - Those written are those 144,000 Jews who are sealed and saved during the future Tribulation (Rev. 7:1-8).

B. Deliverance from Death's Sting (v. 2)

"Many" = multitudes

"Sleep in the dust" - a reference to dead bodies that have decayed and returned to dust (cp. Gen. 3:19 - "dust to dust")

"Shall awake" - a future resurrection

"Some to everlasting life" -

"Some" - sad to say, not everyone is saved; only a remnant (Mt. 7:14 - "few")

"Everlasting life" - never-ending life with Christ (I Jn. 5:11-12)

"Some to shame" -

This shame will be experienced by all the unsaved at the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev. 20:10-15)

"Everlasting contempt" - Contempt - to repel from oneself, to be abhorrent (Wood, p. 318). The wicked will forever be repelled from God's holy presence. They will forever be abhorrent in God's eyes.

There is no grace beyond the grave! No purgatory.

Do you want everlasting life or everlasting contempt? There is no other choice!

NOTE: Though the two resurrections (both of the just and unjust) appear in one verse, this does not necessarily mean that they occur at the exact same time (Jesus in one verse also spoke of two distinct resurrections - Jn. 5:29).

Rev. 20:4-6 & 12-15 teaches that 1,000 years stands between the first resurrection and the resurrection leading to the second death.

II. THE "WISE SHALL SHINE" (v. 3)

(End-Time Harvesting)

"The wise shall shine" - the wise are those who see through Antichrist's deception. They will also lead others to the truth during the Tribulation period. (Ryrie, note, p. 1243).

The reason for their wisdom is because they feared God! (Prov. 9:10).

"Firmament" = the Heaven.

"They that turn many to righteousness" -

"Many" - God wants us to bear "much fruit" (Jn. 15)

"To righteousness" - to turn men to righteousness is to turn them to the Gospel of God ("for therein is the righteousness of God revealed" - Rom. 1:17), even to Christ (SEE Rom. 3:21-26).

In the future Tribulation, to turn men to Christ will involve turning them away from the alluring, deceptive Antichrist (SEE Dan. 11:33).

"As the stars forever" - to be a "star" in Hollywood is a temporary thrill, but to be a "star" in Heaven will be an eternal honor.

Evidently, a noticeable difference will be seen in the appearance of the faithful witness. Soulwinning pays the greatest dividends!

"He that winneth souls is wise" (Prov. 11:30).

Like the stars in the heavens guided the ancient lost sailors at sea, so the obedient Christian radiated his light before lost men to help them find the way. Such faithful light-bearing will be reflected throughout eternity.

III. THE "WISE SHALL UNDERSTAND" (v. 4-10; *v. 10)

(End-Time Comprehension)

V. 4

"Shut up . . . and seal the book" - symbolic terms of preservation. God has preserved the book of Daniel because it is His Word, and it has eschatological significance.

"Many shall run to and fro" - probably not speaking of the advanced space age, airplane, and automobile technology; but to people travelling about (as the End approaches) seeking prophetic "knowledge" to discover what the future holds.

"This gospel of the kingdom will be spread into all the world and then shall the end come."

V. 5

"There stood other two" - two other angelic beings (other than the one clothed in linen) stood on opposite banks of the river speaking to the one clothed in linen (Christ perhaps - cp. 10:5-9).

V. 6

"How long?" - This question by angels proves that the one in linen is aware of something that they are not. Perhaps He is the omniscient Christ!

This question involves the wonders described in vv. 1-4.

V. 7

The raised hands and the swearing indicate an oath. An absolute, unalterable promise, based upon the veracity of the eternal God.

"Time, times, and an half" - 3 1/2 years.

The exact same time frame appears in Dan. 7:25 and Rev. 12:14. (cp. also Rev. 11:2 & 13:5 which gives the same time frame, but in months - 42 months; Rev. 12:6 in days - 1,260 days.)

"When He (God) shall have accomplished (finally completed) to scatter (to break) the power of the holy people (Israel), all these things shall be finished (prophecy complete)."

When Israel's pride and independence is finally broken, when they finally call out to Jesus as Messiah (Zech. 12:10), the end of this Age will come, and Christ will return to conquer and reign.

V. 8

"I understood not" - Daniel did not have the book of Revelation, like we do, to shed light on the truth revealed to him.

"What shall be the end of these things?" - What will the outcome be? Answer: Rev. 19 - 22.

V. 9

"The words are closed" - the full meaning of Daniel's prophecy will be most clearly seen at the time of the end. I believe God is opening spiritual eyes even today to prepare for the end.

V. 10

One of God's purposes for the Great Tribulation is to purify (to save) and to try (to test) those living at that time.

The wicked, however, will evidence their evil natures by living wickedly. What you do reveals what you are.

"None of the wicked shall understand" - because they are under strong delusion - II Thes. 2:11-12.

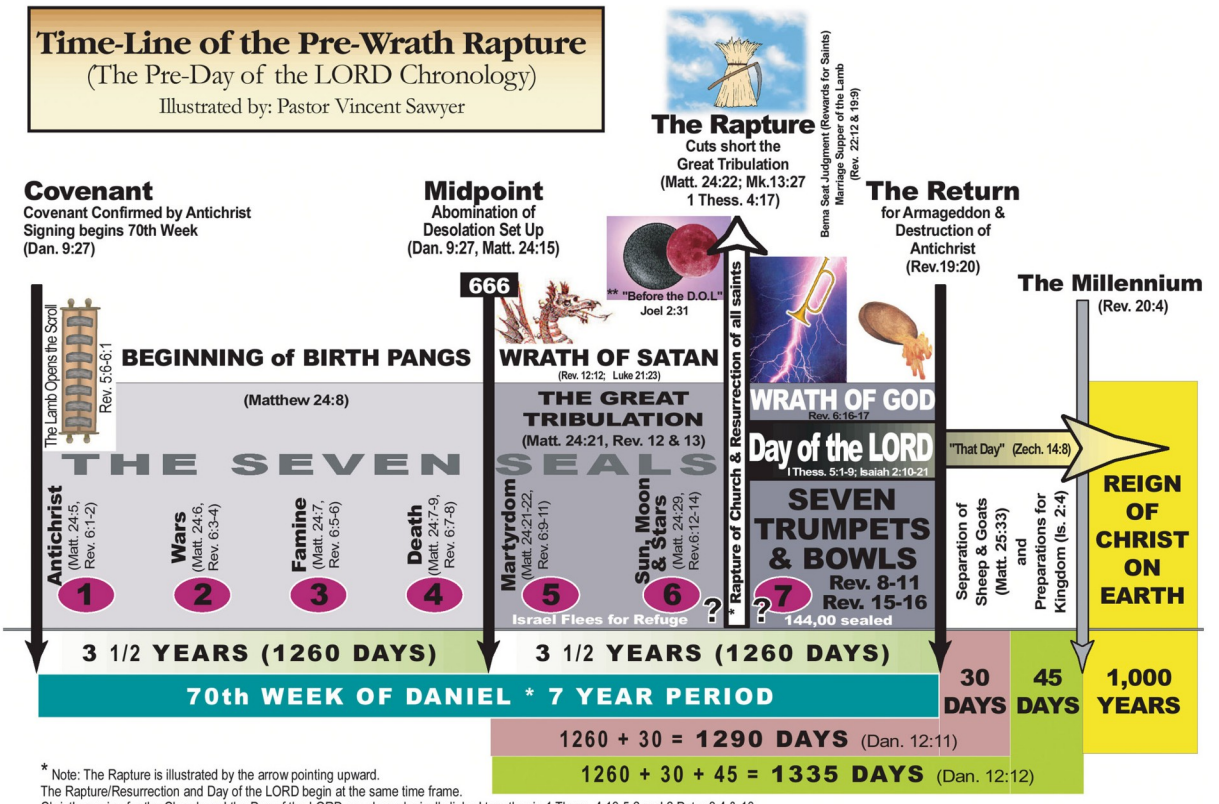
IV. THE WISE SHALL BE "BLESSED" (v. 11-13)

(End-Time Inheritance)

V. 13

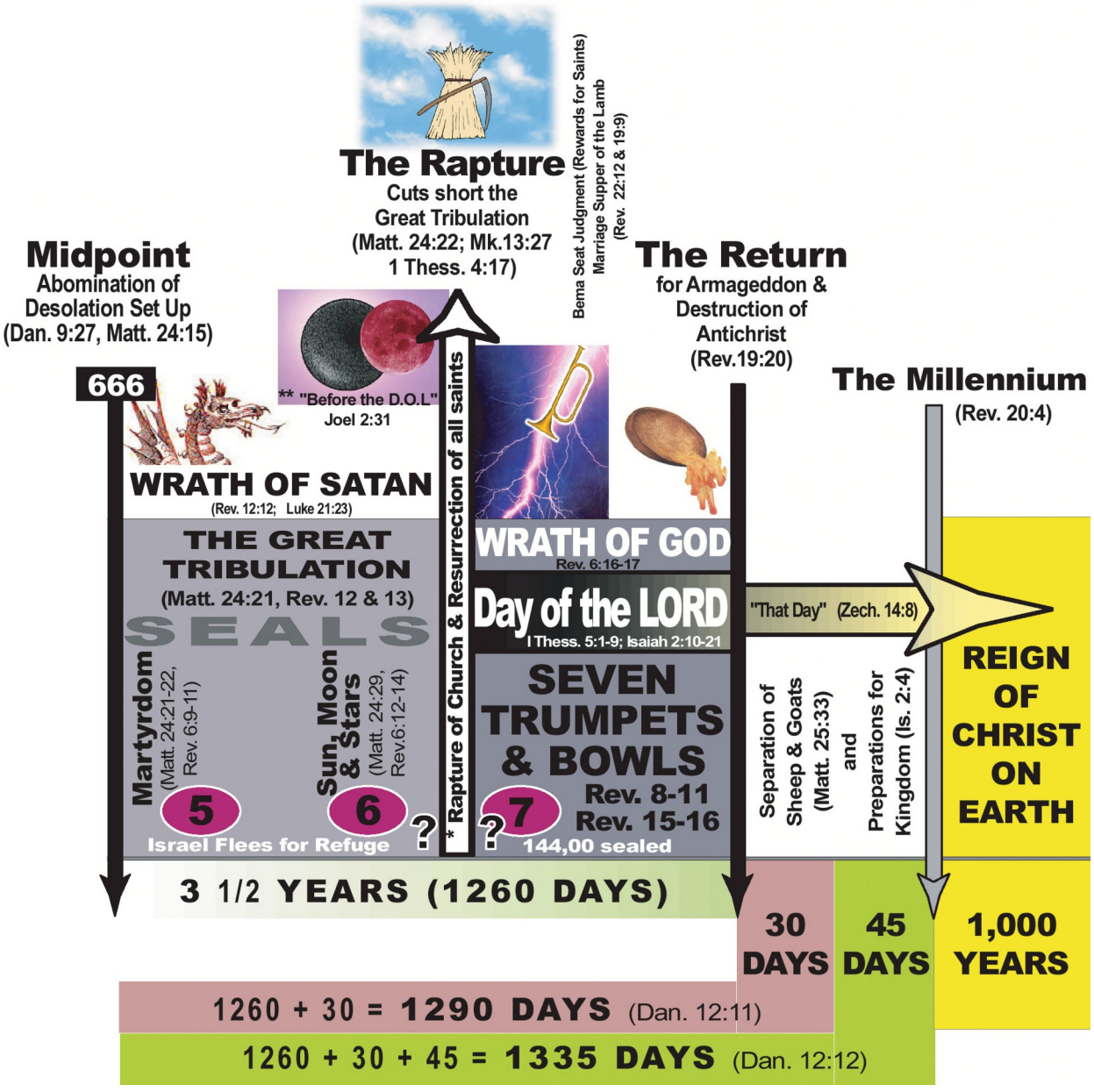
Daniel is not told that he will be resurrected at the end of the 1,335 days, but that he will stand in his "lot" (inheritance) at the end of the days.

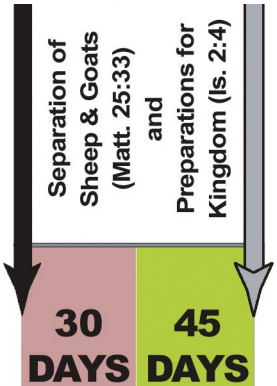
His resurrection would have occurred earlier (at the Rapture), but his enjoyment of his promised Messianic Kingdom will not be realized until initiation day - 1,335 days after the Mid-point of the Tribulation.



* Note: The Rapture is illustrated by the arrow pointing upward.
The Rapture/Resurrection and Day of the LORD begin at the same time frame.
Christ's coming for the Church and the Day of the LORD are chronologically linked together in 1 Thess. 4:13-5:2 and 2 Peter 3:4 & 10.
As in the days of Noah & Lot, God's outpouring of His wrath begins immediately on the "same day" He removes His elect Church (Luke 17:26-30, 34-36).
The Arrow is placed on the time-line to indicate the sequence of events surrounding the Rapture. The Arrow is NOT a time indicator.
The exact "Day & Hour" of the Rapture / D.O.L. is unknown (Mt.24:36) and will catch the unsaved world as "a thief in the night" (1 Thess. 5:2-3; 2 Pet. 3:10).
True believers will not be overtaken as by a "thief" (1 Thess. 5:4). God's Church will "see the day approaching" (Hebrews 10:25).

** The Day of the LORD is indicated by D.O.L. *"The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood BEFORE the great and the terrible day of the LORD come"* (Joel 2:31; cp. with Mt.24:29-31 & Rev. 6:12-17).


The Rapture
Cuts short the
Great Tribulation
(Matt. 24:22; Mk.13:27
1 Thess. 4:17)
Bema Seat Judgment (Rewards for Saints)
Marriage Supper of the Lamb
(Rev. 22:12 & 19:9)
Midpoint
Abomination of
Desolation Set Up
(Dan. 9:27, Matt. 24:15)
The Return
for Armageddon &
Destruction of
Antichrist
(Rev.19:20)
The Millennium
(Rev. 20:4)
666
** "Before the D.O.L."
Joel 2:31
WRATH OF SATAN
(Rev. 12:12; Luke 21:23)
* Rapture of Church & Resurrection of all saints
WRATH OF GOD
Rev. 6:16-17
THE GREAT
TRIBULATION
(Matt. 24:21, Rev. 12 & 13)
SEALS
Martyrdom
(Matt. 24:21-22,
Rev. 6:9-11)
Sun, Moon
& Stars
(Matt. 24:29,
Rev.6:12-14)
5
6
?
Israel Flees for Refuge
Day of the LORD
I Thess. 5:1-9; Isaiah 2:10-21
"That Day" (Zech. 14:8)
SEVEN
TRUMPETS
& BOWLS
Rev. 8-11
Rev. 15-16
?
7
144,00 sealed
Separation of
Sheep & Goats
(Matt. 25:33)
and
Preparations for
Kingdom (Is. 2:4)
REIGN
OF
CHRIST
ON
EARTH
3 1/2 YEARS (1260 DAYS)
30
DAYS
45
DAYS
1,000
YEARS
1260 + 30 = 1290 DAYS (Dan. 12:11)
1260 + 30 + 45 = 1335 DAYS (Dan. 12:12)


Separation of
Sheep & Goats
(Matt. 25:33)
and
Preparations for
Kingdom (Is. 2:4)
30
DAYS
45
DAYS

The Lord's great Kingdom shall come - SEE Zech. 14:8-11.