

Kings and Kingdoms: The Last Vision and Word

This is the Last and Culminating Revelation of Daniel

- **Chapter 10** is the prologue with the vision,
- **Chapter 11** is the actual word of prophecy regarding coming conflicts for Israel,
- and **Chapter 12** is the epilogue.

Verse 1: A Summary Verse of these Last Chapters

1. The word was true
2. It was regarding a great conflict
3. Daniel understood both the vision and the prophecy

Remember, this Whole Section will End with These Last Words for Daniel

*“Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed until the time of the end.
...go your way till the end. And you shall rest and shall stand in your allotted place
at the end of the days.”*

Lesson #1: We are in Spiritual Warfare

Revelation 12:4b - 5

4b And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it.

5 She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne,

- The powers we’re wrestling against are not *merely* physical adversaries, and the matters that cause us such conflict are not *ultimately* sourced from the physical realm.
 - World events occur because of cosmic forces in the spiritual realm.
- What should our awareness of spiritual warfare spur us on to do?
 - Be like Daniel and give yourself to prayer.

Lesson #2: When Should the People of God Mourn?

Matthew 5:4 - 5

4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

5 “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

- We live in the tension of the “already, but not yet.”
 - Though we are assured of an everlasting hope, we still grieve in the here and now
- What should our mourning spur us on to do?
 - Be like Daniel and give yourself to prayer.

Why Has Daniel Been Mourning?

- This chapter occurs in the third year of Cyrus, the Persian, in the first month.
 - Making this 536 BC in the month of Nisan
 - This should be the time of the Passover feast and pilgrimage to Jerusalem
- But instead, Daniel is fasting, praying, and grieving over Israel’s spiritual disobedience



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The Captivity Has Now Been Over for Three Years, And Yet...

1. Only a Small Portion of The Jewish People in Babylon Actually Returned to Jerusalem
Ezra 2:64 – 65a
64 The whole assembly together was 42,360,
65a besides their male and female servants, of whom there were 7,337
 - God's people can go back, but they don't *want* to go back.
2. Those Who Went Back haven't been very Successful in Rebuilding the Temple
 - Three years have now passed – another Passover without a temple
 - It took them seven months just to clear the rubble from the temple mount
 - And now the work has come to a halt out of fear from their old regional enemies

Compare What Daniel Saw with What John Saw

Revelation 1: 10 - 18

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet

11 saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands,

13 and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest.

14 The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire,

15 his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.

16 In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last,

18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

Lesson #3: Satan's Forces Are at Work to Influence Socio-Political Realms

- Have you ever wondered why every leader, and every nation, and every world government repeats the same sins?
 - Satan and his powers are always working behind the scenes to influence nations, governments, leaders, world events, policies, and policymakers.
- What should an awareness of this evil behind world governments spur us on to do?
 - Be like Daniel and give yourself to prayer.

