

GOD'S LOVE IN ACTION**The End Times Daniel 12**

“But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book— will be delivered.” Daniel 12:1

Day 1: Read Daniel 12: 1–2.

1. We find ourselves back on the bank of the river, the celestial beings from chapter 10 again hovering over the water. Which angel-warrior, who earlier fought for God against the demonic “prince of the kingdom of Persia” (10:13), is here identified as the great prince in charge of the people of Israel? (vs. 1)

2. We learn from Daniel 12:1 that there will be “a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then.” Who will echo these same words five centuries after Daniel? (Matt.24:21) What additional information is supplied in Revelation 16:18?

3. Who will be protected through those terrible times? (12:1; Rev.7:3; 9:4; 14:1; 20:15)

4. Daniel 12:2 is the first clear Old Testament reference to a resurrection. When all other trivial worldly distinctions become irrelevant, what are the only two categories of people that will remain in that terrible day? (vs. 2)

Day 2: Read Daniel 12: 3–4.

5. What beautiful image does verse 3 paint of the destiny of the sons and daughters of God?

6. What two characteristics of the righteous are commended in verse 3?

7. The description of God’s people as “wise” is paralleled by their description as “those who lead many to righteousness” (vs. 3). Why is it “wise” to “lead many to righteousness”?

Day 3: Read Daniel 12: 5–10.

8. It is natural for God’s followers, whether human or angelic (vs. 6; Rev.6:10), to want to know “how long” till the end of suffering. Even if the answer (“a time, times, and half a time”) seems enigmatic, what important thing does it tell you about the duration of suffering?
9. What two kinds of people will there be right up till the end? (vs. 10; Rev.22:11)
10. All people will suffer during the distress of the end times, but describe the different result that suffering will produce on different people. (vs. 10)

Day 4: Read Daniel 12: 9–13.

11. What does this distress of the end times call for on the part of God’s people? (vs. 12; Rev. 13:10)
12. What awaits this faithful old man who persevered till the end? (vs. 13)
13. After giving Daniel the answers God sees fit to give to his questions about the future, the angel tells Daniel—not once but twice—to “go your way” for now (vss. 9, 13). What do you think that means? How does God want Daniel, and us, to live as we await his timing?

Day 5: Read Daniel 12:1–13.

14. Even if you cannot puzzle out every last symbol and detail in the book of Daniel, what overarching messages or impressions are clear from a reading of the book?
15. It is said that “a picture tells a thousand words.” How have the images in Daniel helped you to better grasp the nature of unseen reality?
16. What attributes of God has the book of Daniel highlighted?
17. Spend a few moments imagining the celestial scene sketched for us in verse 3. Picture yourself among that starry host. Is there anyone else you would love to see there? Would you pray for him or her now?