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“The End Times”

Daniel 11 – 12

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The book of Daniel is a rich resource of prophecies concerning the End Times. In today’s study from the closing chapters of the book of Daniel, Pastor Gary teaches about the Tribulation, the Antichrist, the Rapture, and the Final Judgment. In Daniel 12:1, we read about the Lord’s deliverance for everyone whose name is listed in the Book of Life, which is mentioned eight times in the Bible. The Book of Life has great meaning for those who have surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ!

A Time Of Trouble

1. **Daniel 12:1a** – *“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble [tribulation], such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time...”*

2. Pastor Gary said, “Never before and never again will there be a time of tribulation or trouble that [will] come upon the earth. In other words, this trouble, this tribulation that is coming will be unparalleled in human history and will never be repeated again. Jesus spoke of these same days in Matthew 24 and he said the same thing... There will be cataclysmic events on the earth when God [will] pour out his wrath on a God-forsaking world [and] Christ-rejecting world, as a way to finally get the attention of people who have up to that point rejected him.”
 - a. **Matthew 24:21-22** – Jesus said, *“For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.”*
 - b. The Tribulation is described in great detail in **Revelation 6-18**.
 - c. The following verses describe the account of just four of the seven angels who will blow a trumpet of judgment.
 - i. **Revelation 8:6-13** – *“So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets*

prepared themselves to sound. The first angel sounded: and hail and fire followed, mingled with blood, and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up. Then the second angel sounded: and something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. And a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed. Then the third angel sounded: and a great star fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter. Then the fourth angel sounded: and a third of the Sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, and likewise the night. And I looked, and I heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, "Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the entire angels who are about to sound!"

- ii. Those who are alive at this time will experience things such as famine, economic collapse, natural disasters like earthquakes, volcanic activity, meteor showers, darkening of light sources, sores and plagues, oceans will turn to blood, etc.
- iii. Many will die because of a stubborn refusal to trust and believe in the Lord and be saved.
- iv. Those who put their trust and faith in the Lord during the seven years of tribulation will be martyred for their faith.

3. There are three reasons why God will bring Tribulation upon the earth.

a. Wake up unbelievers

- i. The Lord will give opportunities to be saved!
- ii. The Lord will use these days of incredible difficulty to finally bring people to the point that they will turn to him.
- iii. Pastor Gary said, "When a crisis comes, some turn to the Lord, but when a crisis comes, others get angry at God. They don't turn to him. They blame him. And [that's the mixture that will be seen during the End Times]."

b. Shake up the nation of Israel

- i. Pastor Gary said, "There are many Jews who are coming to faith in Jesus Christ and believing [that] Jesus is the Messiah. But the great majority of Jewish people today do not believe that Jesus is the Messiah. One of the things that will come as a result of the Tribulation [will be] an unprecedented number of Jews will come to believe that

Jesus is the Messiah.

- ii. **Zechariah 12:10** - *“And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a first-born.”*
 - iii. **Zechariah 13:9** - *“I will bring one-third through the fire, will refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘This is My people’; and each one will say, ‘The LORD is my God.’ ”*
 - iv. During the Tribulation the Lord will choose 12,000 people from each of the 12 tribes of Israel to be the 144,000 witnesses who will testify about Jesus being the Messiah, and a great number of Jews will be saved!
 1. **Romans 11:26** - *“And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: ‘The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; for this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins.’ ”*
- c. Make up the Kingdom of God
- i. The final lists of those who believe in Jesus and those who reject Jesus will be completed.
 - ii. The Lord’s patience and longsuffering has a limit and there will come a time when there will no longer be an opportunity for people to make a decision to believe in Jesus.

4. The Antichrist

- a. **Daniel 11:36–37** - *“Then the [Antichrist] shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done. **He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all.**” (Emphasis added)*
- b. Pastor Gary said, “ *[The] God of his fathers’* is [a reference to] the heritage of Judaism, which implies to us that the Antichrist may in fact be Jewish. But he will have no regard for *‘the God of his fathers.’* He will be a secular atheist. He [will be] Jewish by birth... but he is atheist by choice.”
 - i. In this passage the Hebrew word for God is Elohim, which is a word that is commonly used for God Almighty.
 1. Elohim is a plural word because it refers to God, who is singular but reveals himself in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- c. Pastor Gary said, “He will have no regard for *‘the desire of women.’*... [This is a reference] to the Messiah. Every Jewish woman longed for [God to select her] uniquely to give birth to the Messiah. ... This would end up being

exclusively for Mary, who was God's providential choice. ... [This means that the Antichrist] will reject Jesus for sure."

- d. Pastor Gary said, "He has no room for God in his life because as far as he is concerned, he is God. And he wants to be worshiped as God. ... And he will kill those who don't [worship him]. ... Also, the Antichrist will be a charismatic world leader who will be given dictatorial powers by the Ten Nation Confederation to rule the world for three and a half years. He [will come] at the beginning of the Tribulation but he [won't] come to power until the middle of the [Tribulation period]. ... [He] will gather the nations together against Israel for the Battle of Armageddon, which is the climax of the Tribulation period spelled out in [Revelation 16-17](#). But he will be overthrown by Jesus at the Lord's Second Coming, and he will be cast into the Lake of Fire."

A Time Of Deliverance

5. [Daniel 12:1b](#) - *"At that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book."*
6. Pastor Gary said, "[The] deliverance of God's people happens at the time of The Rapture. The [word] Rapture is not found in the Bible, but the principle of the Rapture is found in the Bible. [It] teaches us that there [will] be a generation of Christians who do not experience death. ... This world [will] be nuts and we are going to be delivered before it goes off the rails!"
 - a. [1 Thessalonians 4:16-18](#) - *"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. **Therefore comfort one another with these words.**"* (Emphasis added)

The Time Of The End

7. [Daniel 12:4](#) - *"But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end..."*
8. [Daniel 12:2](#) - *"And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt."*
9. Pastor Gary said, "There will be life after death for everybody. The human soul never dies. The question is where will you spend eternity? ... Our body of flesh disintegrates, [Christians] get a glorified body, but the soul never dies. ... [There] are two groups of people. Some will go on to everlasting life. Some [will go on] to

shame and everlasting contempt. [Those who have put their trust and faith in Jesus] will enjoy heaven for eternity. [Those who have rejected Jesus will] suffer the eternal consequences for that [decision]. There is judgment at the end of all of this.”

- a. [Matthew 25:31-32](#) - *“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.”*
- b. [Revelation 20:11-12](#) - *“Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.”*

10. There is only one way to make sure your name is in the book, and that is by putting your faith and trust in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins!
 - a. [Acts 4:12](#) - *“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”*
 - b. [John 14:6](#) - *“Jesus said to [Thomas], ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’ ”*
 - c. Pastor Gary said, “I’m thankful that **God made a way! [Jesus is] the way!** ... Anybody who humbles himself or herself and says, ‘I’m tired of ruling my life, I need my sins forgiven,’ and surrenders their life to the Lordship of Jesus can have their sins forgiven and be saved and go to heaven when they die and have their names written in the Book of Life! ... **Is your name in the Book?**” (Emphasis added)
11. [Acts 3:19](#) - *“Repent therefore and be converted that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord...”*

Discussion Questions

1. Read [Daniel 11:36-37; 12:1-4, 13](#) to provide a foundation for your Bible study time.
2. Allow the people in your group to share their understanding of eschatology (the End Times).
3. Do you believe in the Rapture of Christians before the Tribulation, or will Christians be raptured during or after the Tribulation?

4. Read and discuss Pastor Gary's remarks and the associated Scriptures. (See #2 above)
5. Read and discuss Pastor Gary's three-point outline and the associated Scriptures concerning the reasons why God will bring a time of tribulation. (See #3 above)
6. Read and discuss [Daniel 11:36-37](#) and the points Pastor Gary made about the Antichrist. (See #4 above)
7. Read and discuss Pastor Gary's remarks concerning the deliverance God has promised to Christians. (See #5 and #6 above)
8. Read and discuss [1 Thessalonians 4:16-18](#). (see #6a above)
9. Read and discuss Pastor Gary's comments about the fact that everyone will have an eternity because the soul never dies. (See #8 and #9 above)
10. Read and discuss [Matthew 25:31-32](#) and [Revelation 20:11-12](#). (See #9a and #9b above)
11. How do you react when you hear people make comments about their belief in many ways leading to God?
12. Read and discuss [Acts 4:12](#) and [John 14:6](#). (See #10 above)
13. Close your meeting by allowing the Holy Spirit to lead your time of prayer.

* Unless noted, all Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version (NKJV)