

Q – What happened to chicken little? What happened to the boy the cried wolf too many times? (*Likewise the spirit of the anti-Christ who has lived throughout the ages in the Mongol hordes, the Viking raiders, Attila the Hun, Stalin, Hirohito, Hitler, Mussolini, Khadafy, Bin Laden, Vladimir Putin, Hamas, Taliban, Al Quaeda, Isis, and in atheists and agnostics today has come to its end. As the Apostle John told us in his Epistle, “The anti-Christ has been here, is here and will come in the future.” Since many rebelled against God and His anointed or promised savior, the anti-Christ have been lying to the world about God’s plan and His chosen One. Now it’s over. God will prove that all the lies, all the cries that went up from everyone who was against Christ is now dealt with severely and completely.*)

Read Daniel 11:44-45

1. **What does this person do when he is alarmed at the reports of his failure?** (*He sets off in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. He sets up his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful mountain. Yet he will come to an end and NO ONE will help him. Here is the key to understanding this. The events surrounding Antioch IV Euphron and the anti-Christ do not fit the death recorded of Antioch Epiphanes. He met his end during a relatively minor campaign against Persia in 164 B.C., not between the sea and Jerusalem after a great assault on Egypt. When compared to the precision of the fulfillment of the previous verses of chapter 11, these verses are moving from the end of this most evil of Kings to the glorious Holy Mountain when the fall of all evil will take place as the Lord comes to put an end to all rebellion and sin.*)

Read Daniel 12:1-4

1. **Sometime after the days of Antiochus death, there will be a time of great distress, worse than ever before, even worse than since the time when nations were formed. What kinds of things have happened since 164 B.C. when Antiochus was killed?** (*Nero is infamously known as the Emperor of Rome who “fiddled while Rome burned” and as an early persecutor of Christians. He was known for having captured Christians burnt in his garden at night as a source of light. Emperors from Rome persecuted Christians continually until A.D. 313 when Constantine legalized Christianity. It was common for the gladiators to slaughter Christians in the arenas as the main event of the games. In our own civil war we saw Christian brother turn against and kill another Christian brother. Pol Pot and the killing fields with the evil of the Khmer Rouge that was beyond explanation. What about America? According to a state brief, even after fetal viability, states may not prohibit abortions “necessary to preserve the life or health” of the woman; “health” in this context includes physical and mental health; only the physician, in the course of evaluating the specific circumstances of an individual case, can define what constitutes “health” and when a fetus is viable; and states may not require additional physicians to confirm the attending physician’s judgment that the woman’s life or health is at risk in cases of medical emergency. 26 states permit late term abortions to preserve the life or health of the woman. It is dangerous in America to be living in a mother’s womb. Who would have thought that tribulation could come against the helpless unborn fetus that God has created? Yes, we are living in a great time of tribulation right now!)*

2. **But what is the exciting news about what is coming?** *(At any moment during this time of tribulation or distress we are living in, God's people will be delivered. Everyone's name found written in the Book will be delivered. Those who have already died in the Lord will arise to everlasting life. Those who chose not to wear the name of our Lord will rise to everlasting shame, or everlasting contempt. The wise in Christ will shine like the brightness of the heavens and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever and ever!)*

Q – How can you use this information to help those in depression or struggling in this life?

3. **What is Daniel told to do after receiving this incredible information about the future of the righteous and the abandonment of the unrighteous?** *(Close up the scroll and seal it shut until the time of the end. There is a lot of work to do for the God ahead of us. Besides, these words at this point in history are full of hope but they are not fully comprehensible, so keep them safe and intact for future generations of God's people to read. He probably speaking on the spread of the Gospel that is yet to come. Note that in Revelation John wept because no one was found worthy to break the seals and open the scroll of life. No one until Jesus is pointed out.)*

Read Daniel 12:5-6

4. **Describe the 3 men Daniel sees.** *(1 man on one side of the river and one on the opposite side of the river. There was a third man who was clothed in linen and He was above the waters. The fact that He was wearing linen and was above the waters is significant. We will deal with that in a minute.)*
5. **What is asked of the man who is above the waters?** *(How long will it be before these astonishing things are fulfilled, meaning the judgment scene and the end of all tribulation for God's people?)*

Read Daniel 12:7

6. **How does the man above the waters respond?** *(He lifts both hands toward heaven and swears by Him who lives forever. He says, "It will be fore time, times, and half a time. When the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things will be completed." Two things are essential to understanding this part. A person would raise one hand to pledge or swear to something. This figure in linen who is above the waters raises both hands and swears by Him who lives forever. This appears to be our Lord because the phrase means He is swearing my Himself. See **Hebrews 6:13**. Time, times (plural) and ½ a time was considered to be the number 3 ½. This literary tool would point to God's people that it was nowhere near seven, the number of perfection. This could be used of days, weeks, years, seasons of time, or simply to point toward partial fulfillment with much more to go. Since Daniel was so far from the coming of Christ, it is likely that it simply meant that it is in the future at some point. It is not near completion yet but it is certainly coming and will take place. Obviously this is in answer to when the judgment scene and the end of days is going to take place.)*

Q – Knowing we are in the Christian era, the era of fulfillment, how should that cause us to live with a passion for Christ's ministry on earth being carried out through us? *(It should be a daily ministry, not a future dream we hope to get involved in.)*

Read Daniel 12:8-10

- 7. How does Daniel respond to the Lord?** *(I don't understand this. "My Lord, what will the outcome be." He is probably wanting to know more about this time of suffering that is still ahead for God's people. Do we not want to know the same thing? "Lord, the world is in a mess, You say it will get messier, so what is going to happen? I need some details so I can know as it plays out, as you work your miraculous plan!")*
- 8. What is the Lord's replay to Daniel?** *("God your way. The words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end." It is on a need to know basis and you don't need to know the details, Daniel. I've told you the outcome, the last event. The rest is based on faith and trust. I will not let my people down.")*
- Q – How are we a lot like Daniel today?** *(We want a date, a time. Lord, tell us how it all plays out. We want details. It is sad how much of our Lord's work is left undone because Christians are obsessed with the details that the Lord tells Daniel are not for the here and now. They are for when the future is the present, when the promise becomes the reality. God is trustworthy and has given us the last page of the book. That ought to be enough!)*
- 9. What two groups does the Lord mention?** *(The many who are purified, made spotless and refined. The other is the wicked who choose to continue to be wicked and will refuse to understand what is reality for us and fiction to them. It is sad to think we all have friends and family who refuse to understand the evidences God has given in abundance and therefore have chosen to stand with the wicked.)*

Read Daniel 12:11-13

Now it appears that God goes back to the earlier prophecy of Daniel about Antiochus IV Epiphanes and the abomination of desolation that halted the worship of God in the temple and the great tribulation on the Jewish people. It may very well be that the urge to wait for the end of the 1335 days is picture of the need to keep waiting on the Lord's promise no matter what happens. It will come and you do not want to give up. Great blessings are in store for all who remain faithful to God to the end, even through the worst of trials they know that God is working and has not abandoned them.

- 10. What promise does God make to Daniel?** *(Go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the end of days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance. God is saying, "Yes, Daniel, you will die. But that is not the end. It is a transition. When the end come you will rise and receive your allotted inheritance. Eternal life and you will reign with me forever!")*

Q – So of all we have learned in 12 chapters of Daniel, both through study and the preaching, what stands out most to you as the primary message of this book of prophecy? *(Write everyone's answers on the board)*