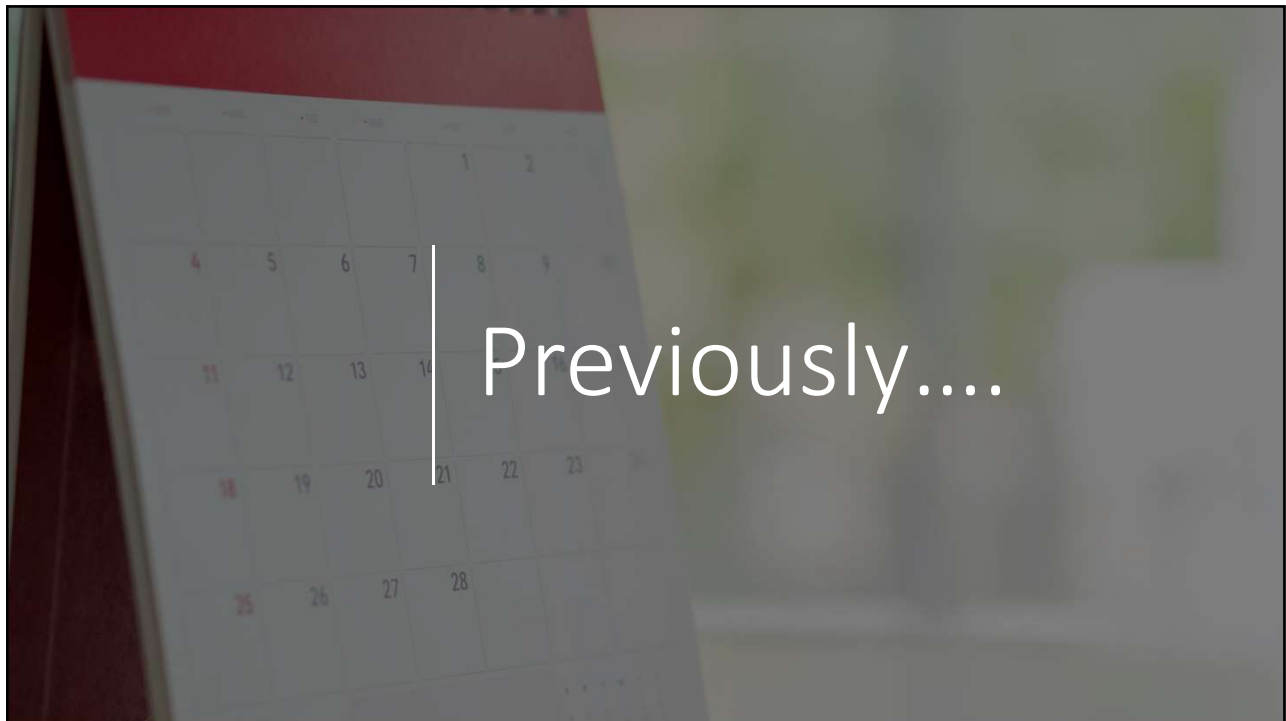




Lesson 15

Daniel 12
The Conclusion

1



Previously....

2

Previously, in chapter 11...

- The angel has given Daniel a very detailed, whirlwind summary of history
- He foretells the vile one to come: Antiochus Epiphanes
- And then he sees to speak of another, still future, king
- This has partial fulfillment in Titus, but points even further to antichrist, or “the man of sin”
- ¹⁸ Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. (1 Jn. 2:18)

3

Overview of Chapter 12



The chapter is in two sections.



Verses 1-4 are the conclusion of the vision of the previous chapters



Verses 5-13 are Daniel's concluding remarks

4

Verses 1-4

Looking now at a distant peak, the angel concludes with even greater times of trouble.

Struggle and trial will always be the experience for God's people under the sun.

But Michael will stand up for their defense.

God defends his people. Christ, the head of the church, has the power of the angels at his command.

5

Verses 1-4

God distinguishes between his people and the wicked.

In the last day, the goats and the sheep will be separated.

"Written in the book". Israel was big on genealogies. In Ezra's day, they searched the books to see who true Israel was.

But that was a picture of the book in Heaven. Called the "lamb's book of life"

The lamb is true Israel, and if our names are written on his hands, then we are the people of God, and defended by the angels of heaven.

6

Verses 1-4

In the last day, all the bodies will be raised from the dust

God will make his declaration public – those written in the book, and the wicked who are cast out.

“Everlasting contempt” or “everlasting life”

“Shut up the book” until the one comes to bring it to pass (Revelation 6)

Many will search everywhere for knowledge, but the knowledge of God will be hidden from them. (Amos 8:11-12)

7

Verses 5-12

In the conclusion of the book, there are two questions asked:

How long will these tribulations continue?

What will be the end result of it all?

8

How long will these things last?

A time, and times and half a time, or, 1290 days.

Both amount to 3 ½ years. A significant number in God's revelation.

We were first introduced to this in chapter 7, referring to Antiochus.

And here – but also, Titus. And also, the end of days.

9

How long?

-
- Longer than you think
 - But precisely determined by God. Not one day longer.
 - It goes until the holy people are shattered
 - God delights to show his strength when there is no more hope in us
 - So we are called to patience and endurance



10

What will the end of it be?

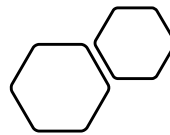
- The tares will be harvested and burned
- The wheat gathered into the barn.
- Many will be purified.
- The wicked will remain wicked.



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11

Conclusion



- Go.
- This is all that has been revealed.
- The rest is secret.
- BUT – endure. Wait. Be Patient.
- For God has promised rest.
- “lot” is your inheritance. It is waiting for you.
- “I go to prepare a place”.

12

Conclusion

There will be shattering
 There will be purifying
 And at the end, there will be rest.



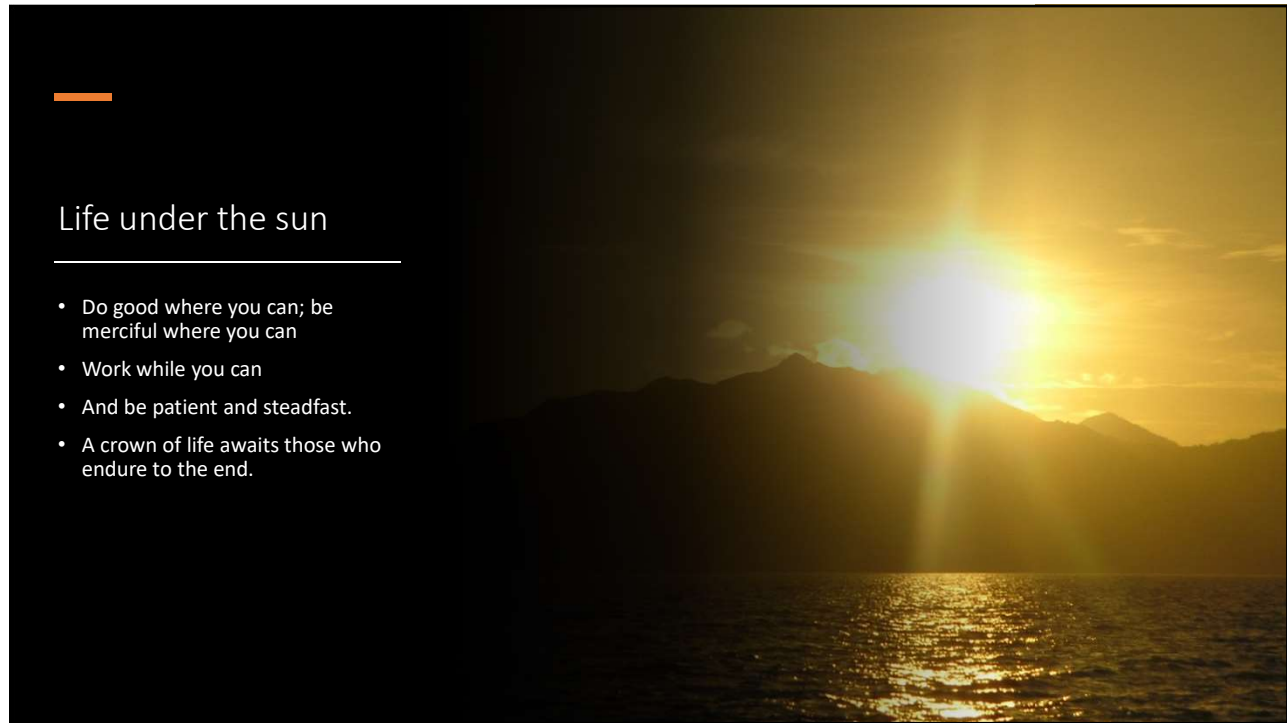
13



Life under the sun

- Although God gives us many blessings, we live “under the sun”. This world is profoundly broken, and under a curse
- Only God can break the curse.
- The greatest danger is to believe that we have the strength to fix what cannot be fixed
- With so many blessings God has given, there are still many things we can do nothing about.

14



Life under the sun

- Do good where you can; be merciful where you can
- Work while you can
- And be patient and steadfast.
- A crown of life awaits those who endure to the end.