



DANIEL

THRIVING IN A SHIFTING CULTURE

UNTIL THAT TIME
KEY SCRIPTURE | Daniel 7–12

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024
CEDAR VALLEY

DISCUSSION GUIDE

In Daniel 1–6 we have seen several famous stories from the life of the prophet Daniel and his three friends who were taken from their home in Judea to live in exile in Babylon. While in Babylon, Daniel interprets dreams for the kings of Babylon. These dreams demonstrate how God is sovereign over all kings and kingdoms, and these kingdoms will one day be replaced by God's everlasting kingdom. In Daniel 7–12, there is an interesting shift. Now Daniel is the recipient of dreams and visions about the future, and he is unable to interpret them. So, the angel Gabriel interprets the visions for Daniel. These four visions are about a succession of different future kingdoms depicted as beasts, each beast symbolizing the arrogance of each ruler and kingdom. God promises to overthrow all these kingdoms and set up His kingdom and rescue His people. This promise fills all believers throughout time with hope! God is in control and reigns over every ruler and nation. The end of all things is inevitable, but God is control of all history. How, then, should God's plan for the future affect the way we live now? Daniel 12 gives Daniel (and us) some instructions. We must live with expectancy!

QUESTIONS

Icebreaker: Are you an optimist or a pessimist about the future? Why?

1. Read Daniel 12:1–13. Daniel 10 and 11 layout a vision of things that will take place before Jesus comes, but Daniel 12 is about what will take place at the end of all things. After reading Daniel 12, does the book end the way you would expect? Explain.
2. In Daniel 12:1 the angel tells Daniel about a book with the names of people written in it. Do you think this is the same book mentioned in Psalm 69:28, Philippians 4:3, and Revelation 20:15? What is the significance of having your name written in this book?
3. Daniel 12:2 is a clear place in the Old Testament that talks about the final destination of the righteous and the wicked. The angel also refers to the righteous as "wise ones." Why does he do this? What does it mean to be wise?
4. In 12:6, Daniel wanted to know when all the things that angel describes about the end will happen. How does the angel respond (12:7)? What do you think about this response?
5. In Daniel 12:9 and 12:13, the angel tells Daniel to "go your way." What do you think this means? Read Jeremiah 29:4–10 for help.

6. Daniel 12:13 is also another clear Old Testament passage that describes the resurrection. What do you think the inheritance is that is mentioned here?
7. Are you ready for the return of Jesus? Pastor Neal said we should do two things to get ready: make as many disciples as we can and follow God, not the culture. How does this challenge you with your current priorities?

NOTES

For more Scripture references on the end times, read Matthew 24 (Mark 13 & Luke 21) and watch these Bible Project videos on book of Revelation.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5nvVVcYD-0w>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QpnIrbq2bKo>

DIGGING DEEPER

There will be a Cultivate Breakout on the book of Revelation called *The Final Countdown* Sundays, Feb. 16–Mar. 9, 2025! If you're interested in learning more about Revelation, please join us in the Theater at 10:30 a.m.