

THE LADDER OF HOPE DANIEL 12:1-3

I. The **Tribulation**

Vs.1 At that time

The time of the end

When the antichrist ascends to power

No other time in history will be as bad as this

Jesus said something almost identical to this—there will be a time of unprecedented pain and tribulation (see Matthew 24)

This time is called by many different names 26 times it is called "the Day of the Lord" The indignation (see Isaiah 26 and 34) The day of God's vengeance (see Isaiah 63) The great day of His wrath (see Revelation 6) The day of the wrath of the Lamb (see Revelation 6)

How bad can it get?

The details of this period of time are outlined in Revelation 6-19

War

<u>Famine</u>

25% of the world killed

One third of the earth, sea, and fresh water eliminated

Demons released
Antichrist and his armies slaughtering millions
Sores breaking out all over flesh
The sun scorching people
Darkness covering the earth

The special target of this period of time will be the <u>Jewish</u> people

That's why the message is address to the Jewish people telling them to get out of town now

Jeremiah calls it the time of Jacob's trouble (see Jeremiah 30:7)

Who is Michael? He is the angelic version of a superhero The great prince, or sar in Hebrew He's called the chief prince He's called Michael the <u>archangel</u> (see Jude 9) He had the special task of defending God's covenant people, the Jews

How will Michael stand up? (See Revelation 12)

During the tribulation period, all of hell's forces

will be released with the sole purpose to

obliterate the nation of Israel

Who is the woman?

The nation of <u>Israel</u> (see Genesis 37)

Joseph had a <u>dream</u> about moon and stars

In the Old Testament, <u>Israel</u> is often portrayed as a woman

Who is the child of the woman? Christ

Jesus ascends into heaven

The woman (Israel is left)

Michael will stand up at the very worst of times and Daniel's people will be delivered

Why such hatred against the Jews? That's why Cain killed Abel (see Genesis 4) That's why Pharaoh wanted to kill all the male children born in Egypt (see Exodus 1:8-22) That's why Saul tried to kill David (see 1 Samuel 18:11 and 25, 1 Samuel 19:9-10, 1 Samuel 19:11 and 15, 1 Samuel 20:31-33, 1 Samuel 23:9, and 1 Samuel 23:25-26)

That's why King Herod killed all the babies in Bethlehem (see Matthew 2:16-18)

That's why Satan said to Jesus, "Jump down." (See Luke 4:9)

That why Sheikh Asad Tamimi said that the killing of the Jews would continue

Anti-Semitism is demonically inspired

Not only will the people be preserved, they will be <u>resurrected</u>

When the Bible speaks of resurrection it is always speaking of the physical body being brought back to life

Not a metaphor

It is always the hope of Israel (see Job 19:25)

The hope of resurrection was why Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son (see Hebrews 11:19) Jesus said, "For the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation" (John 5:28-29)

Everyone will live forever, the soul is eternal; it's just a question of where they will live For New Testament believers, the resurrection will happen at the rapture of the church (see 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

After the first resurrection, there will be a 1,000 year period and then a second resurrection (see Revelation 20)

The angel showed Daniel that his people would be delivered—they would be resurrected and they would live forever

IV. Remuneration (v. 3)

The resurrected will have the ability to reflect God's glory

The wise are believers, fools are unbelievers; that's how the Bible describes it

Psalm 14:1

IV. Remuneration (v. 3)

If you are a saved person, you will shine; if you are a saved person who brings many to Christ, you'll shine brighter (v. 3)

You are saved by grace and you are rewarded in eternity based upon your faithfulness on earth (see Matthew 6:20, 1 Corinthians 3:8, 9:24-25, and 2 Corinthians 5:10)

IV. Remuneration (v. 3)

If you want to plant something that will last a year, plant a flower

If you want to plant something that will last a lifetime, plant a tree

If you want to plant something that will last forever, plant the gospel in the heart of another human being