

Series: The Book of Daniel

Sermon: The Long Way To Certain Deliverance

**Passage: Daniel 11:2 - 12:13 (ESV)**

Illustration:

Need: The plans and purposes of God may be long but they are certain, determined and will conclude in ultimate victory!

### I. Times of Trouble Precede the Time of Israel's Deliverance (**11:36-12:1**)

- We must remember that the book of Daniel deals with national Israel & the gentile world kingdoms.
- 11:2-12:4 give incredible detail of the 70 weeks of years revealed in 9:24-27.
- 11:2-35 = 370+ years of past history (536-163 BC). 135 statements of prophecy already fulfilled.
- 11:21-35 = Antiochus IV Epiphanes from 8:9-22 (the little horn, after the four horns, after the great horn on the Goat that defeated the Ram of Daniel's second vision in chapter 8) the archetype of Anti-christ.
- 11:36-45 = a still future world leader, Anti-christ, like Antiochus IV but far greater in power and ability (the little horn, after the 10 horns on the fourth beast of Daniel's first vision in chapter 7).
- Anti-christ will bring great tribulation, "a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time" (12:1; Jer. 30:7; Matt. 24:21-22; Matt 25; Rev. 13-18)
- As powerful as Anti-christ will be, his end will be sudden and definitive (**11:45; 9:27; 8:25; 7:11, 26; 2:44-45**) as God has decreed at the return of the Lord Jesus Christ (Rev. 19:19-20; Zech. 14:1-4).

### II. Israel's Deliverance is Certain and Secure (**12:1-13**)

- At the end of this time, national Israel will ultimately be delivered by God as He promised (12:1).
- Bodily resurrection will occur for those of God's chosen earthly people who by faith trusted His promises (12:2; Get. 22:5; Heb. 11:19; Job 19:25-26; Isa. 25:8; 26:19; Hos. 13:14; Ps. 16:9-10).
- The delivered children of Israel will be rewarded for their faithfulness (12:3).
- The time of tribulation under Anti-christ will be "for a time, times and half a time" (12:7; 7:25; Rev. 12:14) or 3 1/2 years.
- Those who respond to God will understand and remain faithful; the wicked will not understand and remain in their wickedness (12:10)
- Until then, Daniel was to continue on faithfully until his death. Then in the future he too would be numbered among the faithful delivered (12:13).

### III. Concluding Principles from Daniel for Believers:

- God is absolutely sovereign over all creation, human authority and history.
- God is faithful and active in the lives of His faithful people at all times.
- People of God must expect to experience times of suffering.
- God's will, plans and purpose will be completed exactly as the scripture reveals.
- The Son of Man has come to provide salvation and will return to establish His Kingdom.
- We too have "a way" to go till the end - actively making disciples.
- We too have an "allowed place at the end of days" - with Christ at His return.