

# SIGNS OF THE APPROACH OF END TIMES

SCRIPTURE: DANIEL 12:1-3

## INTRODUCTION

THIS WORLD IS IN THE FINAL AGONY OF THE DEATH OF THE PRESENT AGE. THE DILEMMAS FACING WORLD LEADERS APPEAR TO BE INSOLVABLE. OUR WORLD IS ACHING AND CRYING FOR THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST AND HIS DOMINION WHICH WILL BRING PEACE TO THE WORLD AND A RESTORATION OF LIFE TO THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN THE FAITH.

### I. HIS COMING WILL BE AT A TIME OF DISTRESS

DANIEL 12:1A NIV AT THAT TIME MICHAEL, THE GREAT PRINCE WHO PROTECTS YOUR PEOPLE, WILL ARISE. THERE WILL BE A TIME OF DISTRESS SUCH AS HAS NOT HAPPENED FROM THE BEGINNING OF NATIONS UNTIL THEN.

A. HIS RETURN WILL BE NECESSITATED BY THE WORLD SITUATION

1. PERPLEXING INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS
2. THE GREATEST DILEMMAS OF HISTORY
3. THE WORLD WILL BE STRESSED TO THE MAXIMUM

B. OUR WORLD IS POISED FOR HIS RETURN

1. WORLD ECONOMY
2. WORLD FAMINE
3. GLOBAL TERRORISM

### II. HIS COMING WILL BE A TIME OF DELIVERANCE

A. THE DUAL NATURE OF THE DELIVERANCE

1. DELIVERED FROM DISTRESS THROUGH RAPTURE

1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-17 FOR THE LORD HIMSELF WILL COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN, WITH A LOUD COMMAND WITH THE VOICE OF THE ARCHANGEL AND WITH THE TRUMPET CALL OF GOD AND THE DEAD IN CHRIST WILL RISE FIRST. AFTER THAT WE WHO ARE STILL ALIVE AND ARE LEFT WILL BE CAUGHT

UP WITH THEM IN THE CLOUDS TO MEET THE LORD IN THE AIR. AND SO WE WILL BE WITH THE LORD FOREVER.

2. DELIVERED THROUGH DISTRESS BY MARTYRDOM

REVELATION 6:10, 7:14 NIV

WHEN HE OPENED THE FIFTH SEAL, I SAW UNDER THE ALTAR THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN SLAIN BECAUSE OF THE WORD OF GOD AND THE TESTIMONY THEY HAD MAINTAINED. AND HE SAID, "THESE ARE THEY WHO HAVE COME OUT OF THE GREAT TRIBULATION; THEY HAVE WASHED THEIR ROBES AND MADE THEM WHITE IN THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB.

- B. THE CONDITION OF THE DELIVERANCE

DANIEL 12:1B NIV BUT AT THAT TIME YOUR PEOPLE -- EVERYONE WHOSE NAME IS FOUND WRITTEN IN THE BOOK -- WILL BE DELIVERED.

REVELATION 20:15 NIV IF ANYONE'S NAME WAS NOT FOUND WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE, HE WAS CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE.

### III. HIS COMING WILL BRING A RESURRECTION TO JUDGEMENT

DANIEL 12:2 NIV MULTITUDES WHO SLEEP IN THE DUST OF THE EARTH WILL AWAKE: SOME TO EVERLASTING LIFE, OTHERS TO SHAME AND EVERLASTING CONTEMPT.

- A. A RESURRECTION OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE UNRIGHTEOUS

- B. THE TWO JUDGEMENTS

1. THE BEMA JUDGEMENT
2. THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT

- C. THE REWARDS

DANIEL 12:3 NIV THOSE WHO ARE WISE WILL SHINE LIKE THE BRIGHTNESS OF THE HEAVENS, AND THOSE WHO LEAD MANY TO RIGHTEOUSNESS, LIKE THE STARS FOR EVER AND EVER.