

AT THAT TIME MICHAEL SHALL ARISE



(Daniel 12)

Daniel was a young man when taken captive to the land of Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar in approximately 604 B.C. He was from a noble family. His name bears the meaning God is my judge. Through the entire time Daniel lived in that foreign land, he displayed faithfulness to God. His testimony before King Nebuchadnezzar always gave credit to God for his success in the interpretations of dreams, even before he went as far as to interpreting the dreams. He said, Blessed be the name of God forever and ever! For wisdom and might are His! He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and sets up kings, He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding! He reveals the deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness and the light dwells with Him! (2:20-22). He made sure that in that environment of paganism, the king knew where he stood and in Whom he believed. So, before the interpretation of his dream the first time, Daniel made known to all that the credit belonged to

God, the revealer of the secret things. He put himself under the direction of God and not one time did he take the credit for it. His loyalty to God spread all over Babylon Empire and God did not overlook his acts of faithfulness to Him. He was called, the "greatly beloved man."

From the beginning, Daniel set his heart to be faithful to God. No action taken against His beliefs, intimidated him to change or forsake His God, to the point of risking his life, when thrown to the lions' den. Daniel's life became a beacon of light shining his faith in the true and only God. His life bears similarities to that of Joseph, in the field of interpreting dreams and becoming successful after that. Both were elevated to a high position in government. A student of the word of God, Daniel understood the number of years Israel must stay in Babylon, written by the Prophet Jeremiah. He then set his heart to seek the will of God for his people. He sought God by prayer and supplications, with fasting and sackcloth and ashes (9:3). He did not demand God to fulfill what had been written in the book of Jeremiah; he humbled himself instead and interceded for his nation. God, David said, will not forsake a contrite heart; He will not despise such heart, as it was the heart of Daniel. God, in return, revealed to Daniel more than he had asked for. He revealed to him the far future that has been prepared for his people Israel.

It is not a pleasant or glorious future to start with, but one of correction and judgment and afterward, one of deliverance. Israel will have to go through the fire of judgment which will bring death to a great number of people (Zach. 13). There is out of the seventy weeks allocated to Israel, one that is about to come, when the world will no longer be the same, for it will be affected by the judgment of the seals, trumpets and last the judgment of bowls; three types of judgment, each increasing in intensity and severity of degree.

The signed agreement with the devil (the antichrist) by Israel (Isaiah 28: 13,18-20) will bring destruction to the entire world; the antichrist will take over the world, turning it into one world order, as the nations have been pressured right now to surrender their sovereignty to one world order. Israel, seemingly to many of us, is the nation that will usher the antichrist to his position, when they sign the agreement with the antichrist. Amidst his success, the antichrist will come to an end with none to help him (Dan. 11:45b) for the Lord YAHSHUA will slay him with the breath of His mouth and bring him to an end by His appearing at His coming

(II Thess. 2:8b). But before that happens, that period of seven years remaining in God's calendar for the nation of Israel will be a time of trouble, straitness and distress such as never was since there was a nation till that time (Dan. 12:1a). At the time of the end the Bible says, **Michael shall arise**, the great prince who defends and has charge of Daniel's people (Daniel 12:1). We see Michael as a defender also in Daniel 10: 20-21: Then he said (the angel), Do you know why I have come to you? And now I will return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone, behold, the prince of Greece will come. But I will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth or the Book of truth. There is no one who holds with me and strengthens himself against these [hostile spirit forces] except Michael, your prince. As a warrior, Michael will fight the devil and will defeat him Revelation 12:7-9: then war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels went forth to battle with the dragon and the dragon and his angels fought. But they were defeated, and there was no room found for them in heaven any longer and the huge dragon was cast down and out- that old serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, he who is the seducer of all humanity the world over; he was forced out and down to the earth, and his angels were flung out along with him.

We see in chapter thirteenth of Revelation that the antichrist will arise after the devil is cast down to the earth. The time arrived for him to take charge of the earth through the son of perdition, the antichrist. In signing a covenant with the devil, Israel performed the ultimate adulterous act. It being the only nation with whom God has a covenant, it will cause great destruction upon themselves and the rest of the world. Even the heavens we see and the earth will shake before God's judgement.

When the devil is sent to earth, he will be very angry. He will take out his anger on the woman (Israel) who gave birth to the male Child - (YAHSHUA). Israel, more than any other nation, is hated by the devil for that reason. Now that he is on the earth, he will try once again to destroy it. It is amazing to me that Israel will sign a covenant with her worst enemy while rejecting her true Messiah. At that time, there will be a war between Michael- Israel's angel and the devil. Satan, will lose the battle and will be bound and hurled into the Abyss until the thousand years were at an end (Rev. 20:20). The devil will not rest until he has destroyed the chosen people of God, or the remnant of Israel. His purpose will be thwarted however, and he will (finally) be hurled into the fiery lake of burning brimstone,

where the beast and the false prophet were; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever (Rev. 20:10).

This will be the last battle between good and evil, holy and unholy. After this, there will be no more sin and evil to deal with. Everything will be made new: New heaven and new earth; the new Jerusalem will descend out of heaven from God, all arrayed like a bride beautified and adorned for her husband; the abode of God will be with men; He will live among them; and they shall be His people, and God shall personally be with them and be their God (Rev. 21: 1-3). And there will be no more death, no more tears no more anguish, nor grief nor pain (Rev. 21:4). Victorious at last! The remnant – the 144,000 will rejoice in the presence of the Lamb in heaven singing a song only they can sing. They represent the nation of Israel by 12,000 from every tribe. They were ransomed from the earth from among men as the firstfruits for God and the Lamb. They were pure, and blameless before the throne of God (Rev. 14). The archangel Michael waits the time when he will arise to defend and fight for Israel; we the bride of Christ wait for the time of our redemption from this earth, praying, Even so come LORD YAHSHUA!