

Distress – DELIVERED!

November 18, 2018 – Daniel 12:1-3

“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. But at that time your people – everyone whose name is found written in the book - will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

Did the Old Testament Believers have the hope of the Resurrection? Of course! This Old Testament passage clearly teaches the resurrection.

This section of Daniel also demonstrates for us that as we get closer and closer to the Last Day, that the world will actually get worse and worse. There will be a time of great Distress.

Vs. 1 – 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. But at that time your people – everyone whose name is found written in the book - will be delivered.

What type of things stress you out? – Driving in Traffic? Now knowing if you will pay the bills? The Death of a friend or relative? Listening to the violence on the news? Politics? Family Problems? Problems in the Congregation? False Teaching in the World, in the church? Persecution of Christians. Being put to death for Christ? The Death of a child?

Trouble should not surprise us as Christians, because God tells us that it is bound to come.

But we need NOT Fear! God also tells us that we will be DELIVERED!

Hebrew = Yam-mah late - = Escape / Rescued / Released

Vs. 2 – Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.

Vs. 3 – Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Jesus uses similar words in **Luke 21: 23** – How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be GREAT DISTRESS in the land and wrath against this people.

Luke 21: 26-28 – Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. **27** – At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. **28** – When these things begin to take place stand up and lift up your heads, because your REDEMPTION is drawing near.

And so keep your head up as you eagerly await the day when Christ Jesus comes again. Amen!