

DARKNESS BEFORE DELIVERANCE [1]

DANIEL 11:36-42;45b. 12:1-13

2 PETER:3 2-4; 8-13

DANIEL – A BOOK OF TWO HALVES [2]

1) Stories about Daniel and companions. Chapters 1-6

- Loyalty to God
- Resistance to temptation to conform

2) Daniel – God’s mouthpiece and messenger. Chapters 7-12

COMMON THREAD

- Responding - as people of faith - to life’s challenges
- Discerning God’s leading and guiding
- Assurance of God’s ultimate supremacy

DANIEL THE MAN [3]

- 1) NO COMPROMISE**
- 2) Effective COMMUNICATOR of God's Word**
- 3) CONSISTENCY in lifestyle and prayer**

AN IDEAL ROLE MODEL

“His heart was fully committed to the Lord all his Life”

DARKNESS BEFORE DELIVERANCE [4]

Daniel 7-12

ESCHATOLOGY

- **Study of the last things**
- **Reflecting on times to come, near or far ahead**

- **God reveals Himself :**
Through inspired/inspiring prophets and teachers
AND
- **Through the passage of time and the events of history**

DARKNESS BEFORE DELIVERANCE [5]

- Daniel 7-12
- APOCALYPTIC/APOCALYPSE [To uncover/reveal]
- A book claiming to reveal knowledge/secrets previously unknown
- Bizarre symbolism, fantasy, imagination

WHY?

- Code language to share a particular view of world events
- Encouragement to stand firm for God for better times ahead

HISTORY IS HIS STORY

THE KING WHO EXALTS HIMSELF 11: 36-42; 45b [6]

Who?

- **Antiochus IV - again!**
- **Epiphanes = “God manifest”**
- **A figure of ongoing Jewish fear and loathing**
- **But comes to a bad end**
- **His fate a illustration of God’s overruling**
- **All people/nations subject to His righteous judgement**

THE TIME OF THE END 12:1-13 [7]

- **Change of mood and atmosphere**
- **Hope and Confidence**
- **Assurance of God's ongoing protection**
- **Resurrection!**

When?

- **The scroll of human destiny is sealed**
- **God alone will answer in His good time**

2 PETER 3: 2-4; 8-13

[8]

- See History from God's perspective**
- Live today holy and godly lives**
- Look forward to new heaven/new earth**
- Take Daniel as our role model**

DARE TO BE A DANIEL!