Studies in Daniel

Daniel 12:1-3 Rev. Paul R. Martin, Alliance Bible Church of McHenry

Concluding the Vision & Final Words

Stephen R. Miller, in *The New American Commentary* writes a summary of Daniel 11 and points out the following three observations:

- The reality of the God of the Bible is demonstrated. Campbell relates: "In the first 35 verses
 there are at least 135 prophecies which have been literally fulfilled and can be corroborated by
 a study of the history of the period." There must be a God in heaven Who revealed these
 matters.
- 2. The divine omniscience and omnipotence of God is set forth. God has supreme knowledge and power over history.
- 3. For those of us who live after the predicted events have occurred, there is the confidence that since the previous prophecies have been literally fulfilled, the subsequent promises will just as surely literally come true.

Daniel 12:1-3

- I. Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands *guard* over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.
 - A. Verse 1 correlates with Revelation 6-19 and gives a sense of the severity of that time.
 - B. Michael the Archangel will (need) to come to Israel's defense because her warfare will be with a fallen archangel, Lucifer (satan himself).
 - C. There has never been such distress and war in the history of the world since there was a single nation.
 - D. God will supernaturally deliver His people. The people of God, Jews and Gentiles, will never suffer the wrath of God.
- II. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting comtempt.
 - A. Everlasting eternal life, as well as resurrection of the body, is clearly taught in the Old Testament.
 - 1. Abraham believed God would raise his son from the dead (Gen 22)
 - 2. Job expected to see Christ in the flesh upon the earth (Job 19:25-27)
 - 3. The psalmists expected eternal life (17:15, 49:15, 71:20)
 - 4. Isaiah and Hosea believed in a future resurrection
- III. Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.
 - A. Those who have insight (who are wise): wise in the Scriptures and the knowledge of God, who proclaim the Gospel message and teach the truth.
 - B. Those who lead the many to righteousness: who are soul winners and evangelists, who share their faith and disciple those who become followers of Jesus.