

GROUP/FAMILY

Session 9

- Watch the sermon titled: "The End of Days" on Jesse Campbell Ministries YouTube Channel;
- Dive deeper into the text through Devotions 1207–1212 (on <u>YouTube/podcast</u>) and share them with the one you are discipling.
- Apply your life to the Bible alongside your group or family with the honest questions in this lesson.



GROUP/FAMILY SESSION 9

This Week's Sermon exposits Daniel 11:2-12:13 Devotions 1207-1212 provide in-depth review and further application of these final chapters of Daniel. Join us in Revelation next! For more resources, visit: jessecampbellministries.com

Context

It is put-up or shut-up time with your belief in the Word of God. It is easy to believe the practical Proverbs. It makes Christians seem crazy to believe apocalyptic prophecy. One comes with the other. The Bible is to be believed holistically, or we just abuse it by believing it selectively – picking the parts we like as true and discarding the rest. So, what's it going to be?

Here is God's message through Daniel about the end. The words "a time, times, and half a time" represent three and a half years. "A time" is one year. "Times" means two years. Add "half a time" to these and the sum is three and a half years (1 + 2 + .5 = 3.5). This is the second half of the seven years of tribulation (3.5 + 3.5 = 7) called "the Great Tribulation" in Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Revelation 7. So, we have seven years of tribulation, but then the Antichrist will break his treaty of peace with Israel and usher in the greatest suffering known in the history of the planet. That will be the Great Tribulation – the time, times, and half a time first prophesied in this text.

3.5 years is 1,260 days using the Babylonian and ancient Jewish 360-day year, so 1,290 days gives 30 extra days for the judgments prophesied in Matthew 24:29-31 and 25:31-46. The 1,335-day period allows time for the establishment of God's kingdom as prophesied in Daniel 7:13-27.

The Big Idea of the Text

In the absolute final days before glory forever breaks through, there will be historically immense suffering, deliverance for those in Christ, resurrection, and reward.

Connecting the Session to the Sermon

Our sermon gives a running start to today's text by covering the details in the preceding chapter about the world's final dictator. He is the Beast of the Book of Revelation and we know him colloquially as the "Antichrist." Daniel 11 gives prophetic details about his blasphemous selfaggrandizing. He will run his mouth about God and proclaim himself to be god in the temple. This is the abomination of desolation. The opening words of this text, "At that time..." refers to the Antichrist's rise in Daniel 11:36-45 wherein the archangel Michael will be working overtime to take care of Israel in the Tribulation.

NOTES:

Biblical Text (CSB) - Daniel 12:1-13

At that time Michael, the great prince who stands watch over your people, will rise up. There will be a time of distress such as never has occurred since nations came into being until that time. But at that time all your people who are found written in the book will escape. 2 Many who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to eternal life. and some to disgrace and eternal contempt. 3 Those who have insight will shine like the bright expanse of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

4 "But you, Daniel, keep these words secret and seal the book until the time of the end. Many will roam about, and knowledge will increase."

5 Then I, Daniel, looked, and two others were standing there, one on this bank of the river and one on the other. 6 One of them said to the man dressed in linen, who was above the water of the river, "How long until the end of these wondrous things?" 7 Then I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the water of the river. He raised both his hands toward heaven and swore by him who lives eternally that it would be for a time, times, and half a time. When the power of the holy people is shattered, all these things will be completed.

8 I heard but did not understand. So I asked, "My lord, what will be the outcome of these things?"

9 He said, "Go on your way, Daniel, for the words are secret and sealed until the time of the end. 10 Many will be purified, cleansed, and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly; none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand. 11 From the time the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. 12 Happy is the one who waits for and reaches 1,335 days. 13 But as for you, go on your way to the end; you will rest, and then you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance at the end of the days."

Applying Our Lives to the Text

- Verse 1 describes the greatest suffering ever known, but there are glimpses of hope. For context, Michael the "<u>great prince</u>" is the archangel and he is pulling overtime to guard God's people in the last days. What is the other glimpse of hope in verse 1?
- Verse 2 describes resurrection. What follows that resurrection and *why*?
- To what two godly endeavors does verse 3 inspire you? Explain.
- In what way is this current Bible study a partial fulfillment of verse 4?
- Look back at verses 5-7. For clarity on what "a time, times, and half a time" means, see our Context portion at the beginning of this session.
 Verse 7 describes a profound concoction of devastation and hope.
 What is the devastation and what is the hope?
- Review verse 10. Does it describe our present reality? Is it actionable, or merely descriptive? Explain.
- The Antichrist will allow worship in Israel, but then change his mind drastically (v.11). He will do what Antiochus Epiphanes did, but on a larger scale, proclaiming himself god in the temple. Is this the abomination of desolation? (See <u>Matt 24:15-28</u>.)

The Takeaway: So What Church?

There is hope on the other side of the suffering prophesied in this text. Because of what God has patently prophesied, we as Christians are to absolutely expect to suffer. In fact, the greatest deliverance in the history of the universe is immediately preceded by the most intense suffering in the history of nations.

We will hope in Christ through every ounce of suffering and we will hope side-by-side, TOGETHER as a group within His Church!

For Parents:

SHOW YOUR KIDS JESUS IN THIS PASSAGE

At the end of days, right before Jesus makes everything new, there is good news and bad news. The good news is that Jesus is making absolutely everything that was wrong in the full history of humanity forever RIGHT. The bad news is that, right before all of that, the people alive at the time will go through the hardest stuff ever.

That is a big deal because there has already been a lot of suffering.

God's Word tells us about all of this ahead of time so that we will know that He is Lord. People will pick up the Book of Daniel and the Book of Revelation and know what to expect and how to find hope. Before these storms come, we will share the news of the peace that comes through the gospel of Jesus Christ with everyone we can! Ready, GO!

FOLLOW ALONG

To cover the subsequent scripture in Daily Devotions 1207-1212, subscribe to Jesse Campbell Ministries on YouTube or on most podcast apps.

OTHER OFFERINGS

With an abundance of Bible Books to cover just like this study, there's plenty more to explore and learn from JCM, such as:

- Dear Skeptical Friend: The Gospel of Luke for Groups
- Holy Dissident: Isaiah for Groups
- Letters to My Sons: The Pastoral Epistles
- Into The Fray: I Corinthians
- The God of All Comfort: II Corinthians
- Reason For Hope: 6 Apologetic Sessions for Groups
- The Sacred Acts: Ordinances of the Church
- The Revival Project: A Transformative Study of Nehemiah
- And many more!

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ABOUT JCM

Dr. Jesse Campbell is the founder and head Pastor of The Redemption Church, located on the outskirts of Seattle, WA. Jesse has a strong calling to preach the Bible as it is written. In the midst of a socially and religiously starving culture, his biblical foundation for understanding and preaching the gospel in a strong, clear, and concise manner has earned him a large following in a short amount of time. He's grown the JCM platform quickly, has been featured on national radio shows, and has been a guest speaker across the nation at many churches and large events.

Originally from the Pensacola, FL area, Jesse moved with his family to Nashville and worked at Lifeway Publishing for a while before completing his pastoral education. He was led to launch his own biblically-based church, The Redemption Church, in 2020.

Jesse is married to his wife, Jessi, and they have 4 children. Together they also run a conference for bereaved parents, in memory of their son, Aiden, called Aiden's Hope. When Jesse and Jessi aren't investing their time in JCM or The Redemption Church, you can find them on the bleachers cheering on many baseball games or hiking in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.