



A book that goes along with this Daniel series is *End-Time Secrets of Daniel 8–12*, which can be obtained by:

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We now continue our studies on:

The Story of Daniel 8 and 12

Prophecy Research Initiative
presents

The Story of Daniel 8 and 12

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These conclusions are always tentative since new light constantly unfolds.

Lesson Six –
Daniel 8 & 12

How Daniel Describes The Time of the End



God's people can conclude that Bible prophecy, pointing toward some "end," is based on the following special principles:

1. The end will arrive without surprises – God's people are "children of the light."
(I Thess. 5:5)
2. Spiritual preparation for that time will create the needed adjustments for God's "future kingdom!"
3. When Jesus comes again, a prior intimate friendship with Him will bring ecstatic joy in relating to Him!

We have tentatively concluded in previous lessons that an end-time application can be attributed to the prophecy of the Ram, the he-goat, the palace at Shushan, the Ulai River and the horns of those two creatures recorded in Daniel 8.

Now we want to raise the timing question in a much deeper way:

**How can we be sure of what that
end-time meaning is?**

Why is it important to query ourselves at this juncture relative to time?

Here are a few thoughts to ponder during our analysis:

1. Later, we're going to study a prophecy of a "little horn" which will become a dominant key to unlocking Daniel 8. The era we assign to that power will influence our prophetic interpretation.

2. There are unique “clocks” that God put into this chapter. How we “tell time” here will affect our grasp of Daniel 12, which has the most concentrated battery of “time pieces” in the Bible.
3. The “time” we assign to that horn may affect our personal preparation for earth’s final events.

Daniel 8–12 uses the phrase “time of the end” five times.

- The Hebrew words are *es qes* (*eth qets*).
- Daniel tells us about a myriad of events that occur during this time.
- We will discover that it is a period of time.
The “end of time” will be a point in time.

Without knowing what *es qes* means, we might assume it applies to when Jerusalem fell; or when the papacy lost its power; or perhaps for some, the year 1844; and still others, when Jesus comes. Stunning as it might seem, none of these apply!!!



Daniel was confused in chapter 8. He misunderstood what the 2300-year clock meant. It was so emotional that he admitted in 8:27: *“And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days.”*

This is why Gabriel had to come back to him again and again. He didn't understand what “end” meant!



But that benefits us. We can see how God unfolded end-time prophecy to Daniel, little by little. In turn, that helps us to see, in smaller time units, the amazing information in those prophecies.

Let's look at this es qes deeper:

es – means *a time or season of opportunity.*

It is the *time when God acts.* (Psa. 119:126)

It is a *time when the end is consummated.* (Dan. 12:9)

qes – means *to sever, to cut off.*

Together: This is *a period of time when the season of opportunity is cut off.*

We've already been given clues as to when this is!

1. Babylon has fallen and the Medo-Persian "Ram" symbol has begun to act!
2. It is when God has two groups of people who are emerging as a force for the "Ram of God."
3. Jesus is between the banks of the Ulai River when he tells Gabriel: "*Make this man [Daniel] to understand the vision.*" (Dan. 8:16)

Gabriel then comes close to Daniel (making him afraid for a short time) and then speaks these words about that Ram and he-goat, plus the little horn:



“Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.” (Dan. 8:17)

What vision? The word is *ha hazon* – the Ram, he-goat and little horn vision. “Daniel, those are actually far in the future!” But – how far?

At the “time of the end” this prophecy will unfold. Interesting is a note from the Biblical Research Institute: “The explicit emphasis in the vision audition of chapter 8 focuses on the endtime.” (vss 17, 19 and 26 are referred to) (DARCOM-D430, 453:3)

Can we get even closer to understand when that time really is?

Shortly before Daniel was taken captive, another prophet named Habakkuk arose. It seems that God was creating a “preface” to Daniel’s prophecies when he wrote “timing study helps.” Let’s look at these amazing clues:

“And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

“For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.” (Hab. 2:2-3)

Let's look at some of these words:

“vision” (*hazon*) – in prophecy the allusion is the conflict between good and evil.

“run” – means to become “fluent” quickly.

“appointed time” – the Hebrew word here is *moed*. This is important to remember. It is a time for something God *sets aside*. If God sets it aside – it is sacred.

“end” – here it is again, *qes* – “at the end it shall speak.” This is at the “appointed time,” also called the “time of the end,” when the vision applies. (Daniel 8:19 will tell us more about that later.)

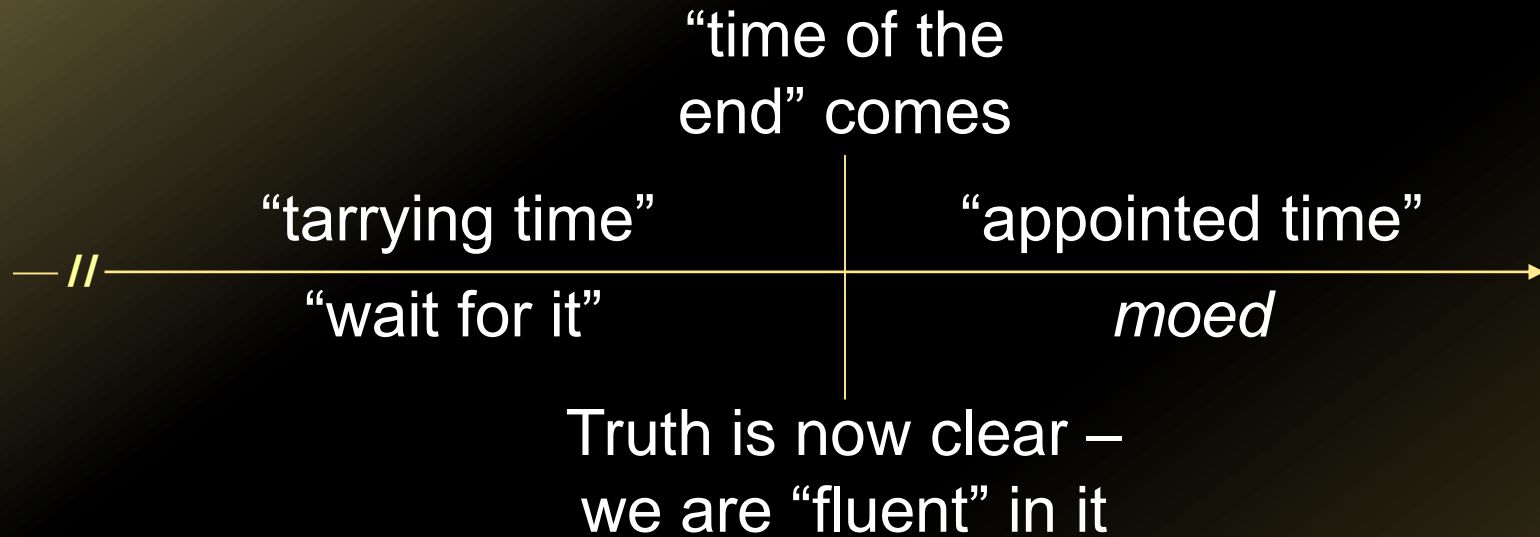
Now a new thought is raised. Before the “time of the end” is a unique timing matter called a “tarrying time.” Notice that this phrase is tied to the “appointed time,” which follows some “end:”

*“Though it tarry [the vision], wait for it;
because it will surely come, it will not tarry.”*

This is not double talk. It means there is a “tarrying time,” and when it ends, the vision won’t delay any longer. It comes. What comes? The “appointed time,” at the “time of the end,” that is talked about in Daniel’s *ha hazon* vision.

Let’s look at this on a graph:

“Though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.”



The appointed time (*moed*) is a period of time. Before we move back to Daniel to show details of this link, let’s review other references to the “tarrying time” tied directly to this.

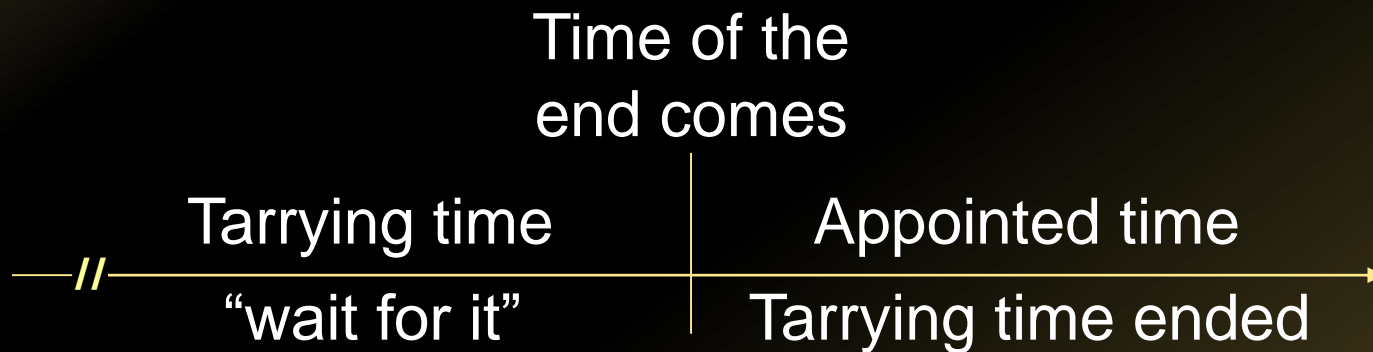
“For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God [you have prepared], ye might receive the promise.”

What promise?

“For yet a little while [tarrying time], and he that shall come will come [Second Coming!], and will not tarry [tarrying time ends].”

(Heb. 10:36-37)

That's exactly what Habakkuk talked about!
BUT now we have another event tied to the
end of the tarrying time – the Second
Coming of Jesus!



**Ram
He-Goat,
Little Horn**

Time of the
end comes



What does all this mean?

- The “appointed time” relates to the end of the “tarrying time.”

- The “appointed time” is when the *ha hazon* vision unfolds.
- Following the *ha hazon* vision, Jesus comes. We don’t know how long after, but the implication is that He “is even at the doors” when the appointed time begins.

One other passage now from Revelation:

“And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven,

*“And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be **time no longer.**” (Rev. 10:5-6)*

Most expositors see this as meaning:

1. It is a prophecy that a delay is about to end.
2. It is best interpreted as: “*time is no longer delayed,*” referring to a tarrying time about to end.

This verse relates to the 4th commandment of the Decalogue – “*who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein.*”

- This is an announcement that the *tarrying time* is about to end.
- It happens when the 4th commandment is of importance to the whole world!
- When a “little book” has been opened to understanding, which is the unsealed portion of Daniel!!! (2SM 105)

“time is no longer [delayed]”

What time period comes next in John's prophecy?

Amazing, amazing:

42 months – 1260 days!

Now, let's get back to Daniel.

We now have a foundation to build upon.



“And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.” (Dan. 8:19)

Gabriel had said that he would make Daniel “understand;” now, “I will make thee know what shall be in the last end” of the “indignation.”

“Last end” is a Hebrew word, *acharyth*, which means prophetic future related to the second coming! What follows is wonderful information. We, again, come to that “*appointed time.*”

“At the time appointed the end shall be.”

(Dan. 8:19)

At the appointed time – the end will occur. That is a **predetermined time**.



Notice the above phrase carefully.

If we can determine when the “appointed time” is, we will know when the “time of the end” is!

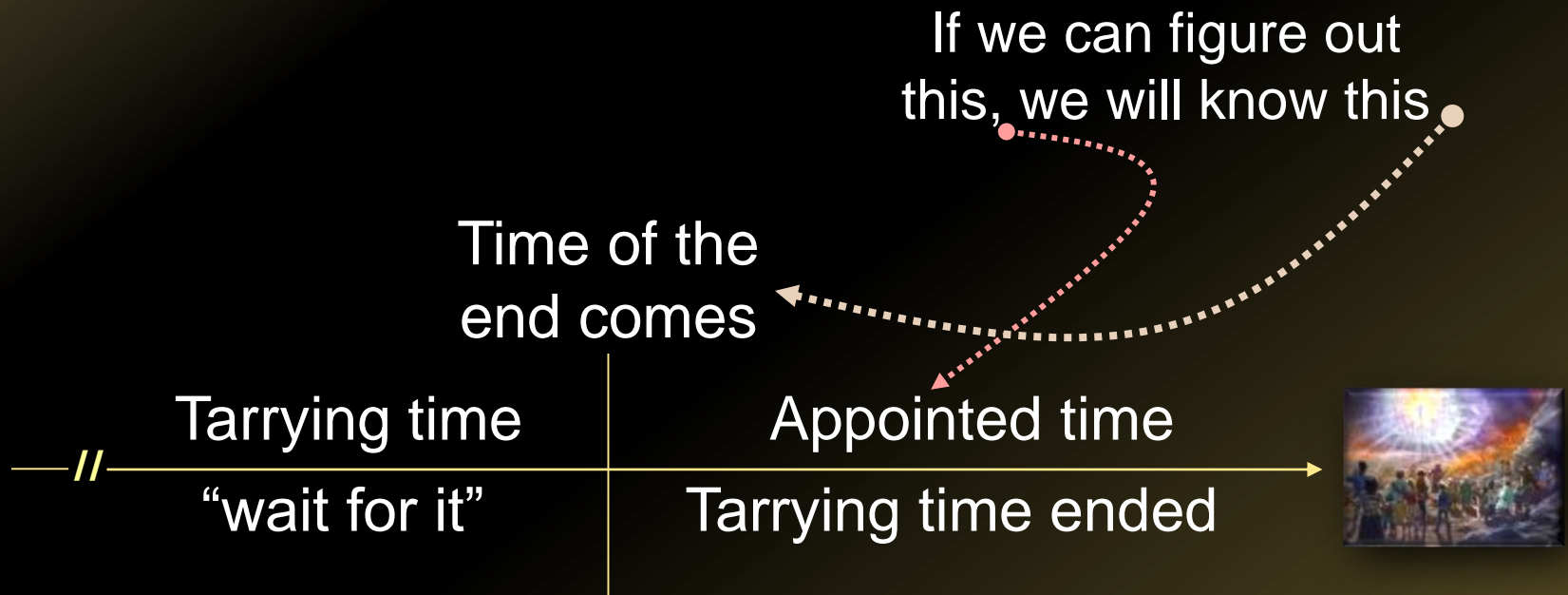
THAT is what Daniel 12 will tell us.

Back in verse 17, Gabriel told Daniel that he was going to help him know when the “time of the end” was. Now we know it begins at the “appointed time” – plus ... when the “tarrying time” ends!

If we can figure out this, we will know this



Back in verse 17, Gabriel told Daniel that he was going to help him know when the “time of the end” was. Now we know it begins at the “appointed time” – plus ... when the “tarrying time” ends!



*“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the **time of the end**: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.... And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the **time of the end**.”*

(Dan. 12:4, 9)

Jesus not only told us to go to Daniel where he speaks of the abomination of desolation, but in the very heart of that abomination message are timing prophecies associated with this end. Incredible!

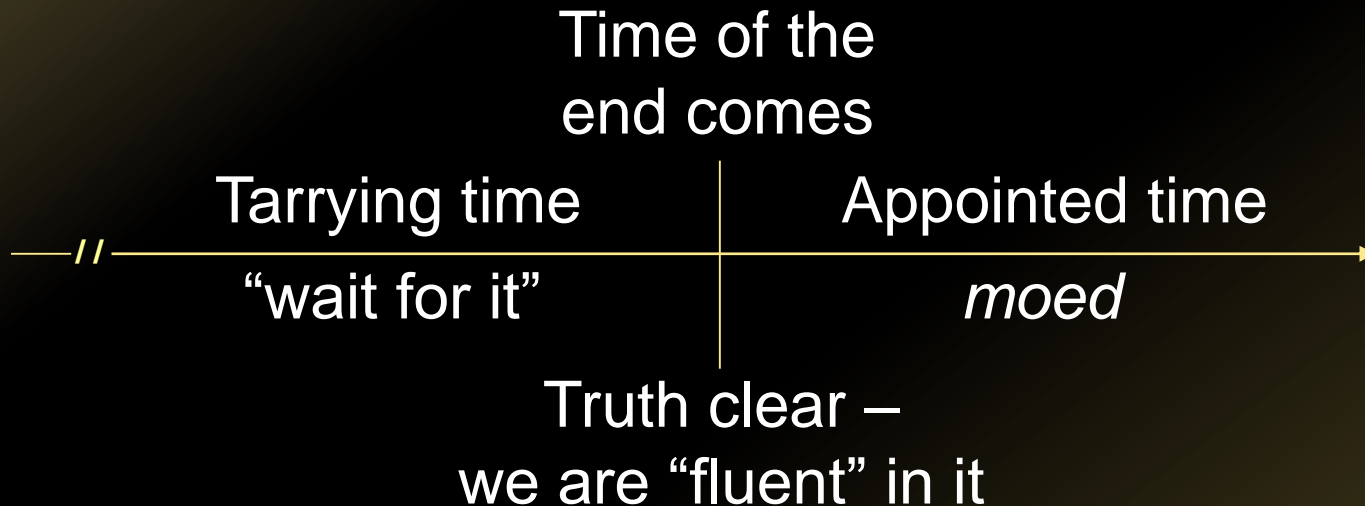
God is not leaving the end-time issues to “whenever-it-happens” mentality.

In Noah’s day there were timing prophecies that led right up to the flood.

Is God going to play games with the last group of people who will actually represent His character corporately?

I don’t think so.

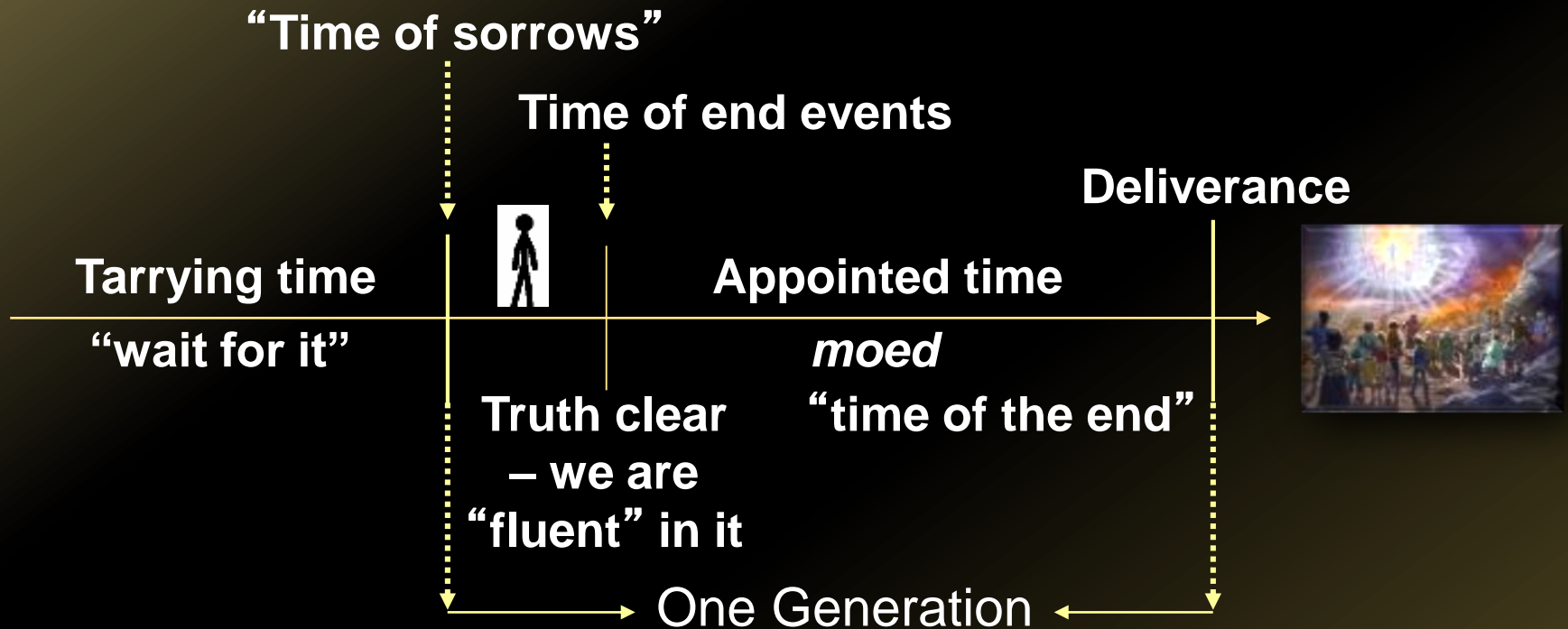
What have we learned so far about Daniel's clocks?



1. We are in the “tarrying time” now.
2. Something occurs to end that period.
3. Then begins the “appointed time.”
4. The “time of the end” alludes to the time and events which transition these two periods.
5. Sometime, approximating the “end” of the “appointed time,” Jesus will come.
6. That “appointed time” = ram, he-goat and little horn vision.

There is something exciting that we can add to this graph. Recall our study of Matthew 24 and Luke 21, where Jesus said that when all those things “begin” to come to pass, everything would be done in “one generation?”

We are in THAT generation – THAT is truly the beginning of the “end,” called the “time of sorrows.”



In the days of Ezekiel there was widespread apostasy among God's people. A saying was in the land that God addressed through this prophet.

“Son of man, what is that proverb that ye have in the land of Israel, saying, The days are prolonged, and every vision faileth?”

(Eze. 12:22)



**God now responds –
this is His metaphor:**

“Tell them therefore, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will make this proverb to cease, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel; but say unto them, The days are at hand.... For I am the LORD: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged.... [T]hey of the house of Israel say, The vision that he seeth is for many days to come, and he prophesieth of the times that are far off. Therefore say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; There shall none of my words be prolonged any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done, saith the Lord GOD.”

(Eze. 12:23, 25, 27-28)

“And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.” (Rom. 13:11-12)

“The end is near, stealing upon us stealthily, imperceptibly, like the noiseless approach of a thief in the night. May the Lord grant that we shall no longer sleep as do others, but that we shall watch and be sober. The truth is soon to triumph gloriously, and all who now choose to be laborers together with God, will triumph with it. The time is short; the night soon cometh when no man can work.” (9T 135 – 1909)

“Daniel is to stand in his lot and place, bearing his message that the time of the end is near.”
(PUR 11-06-1902)

“The words of the angel to Daniel relating to the last days were to be understood in the time of the end.” (DA 234)

“The God who gave Daniel instruction regarding the closing scenes of this earth’s history will certainly confirm the testimony of His servants as at the appointed time they give the loud cry.”
(21MR 436)



Expositor
E. G. White
1906

Let's look at the 19th verse once again. It holds an incredible clue, showing why all this is very end time!

“And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.”

(Dan. 8:19)

The NIV perhaps has the best rendition of this verse:

He said: “I am going to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath, because the vision concerns the appointed time of the end.”

Let's look at the phrase: *“in the time of wrath”*
associated with the *“time of the end.”*

- The “appointed time” is also called:
 - “The time of wrath”
 - The Hebrew word here is *zaam*, and with one exception, means God’s wrath.



God’s wrath comes during the “appointed time.”
In the context of this Danelic prophecy, this can refer only to the very end of time.

Let’s look at some of the issues regarding this.

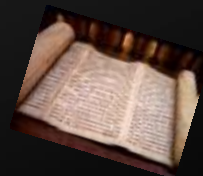
“For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act.” (Isa. 28:21)

Perazim and Gibeon were places God “supernaturally acted” to help His people against the Canaanites.

When does this occur?

“Protestantism shall give the hand of fellowship to the Roman power. Then there will be a law against the Sabbath of God’s creation, and then it is that God will do His ‘strange work’ in the earth.” (7BC 910 – 1886, LDE 130) This outlines a distinct sequence.

At this point it is important to check our perceptions of God's end-time judicial actions.



We often think of His judgment in terms of a review of the books, such as in Daniel 7:9 and Revelation 20:12. God's judgments are also expressed through punishment and judicial wrath. Calamitous warnings and chastisements are part of God's plans to bring end-time reactions – final decisions.

Recall the prophecy Christ gave to the disciples regarding the ultimate outcome of the abomination – “*desolation*” (Matt. 24:15). That is God's final judicial act when nothing is left. This is a “land curse” against His creation, which was dishonored.

Wrath Against Nations

“To our merciful God the act of punishment is a strange act. ‘As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked.’ (Eze. 33:11).... Yet He will ‘by no means clear the guilty.’ ‘The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked.’ (Ex. 34:6, 7; Nahum 1:3). By terrible things in righteousness He will vindicate the authority of His downtrodden law. The severity of the retribution awaiting the transgressor may be judged by the Lord’s reluctance to execute justice. The nation with which He bears long, and which He will not smite until it has filled up the measure of its iniquity in God’s account, will finally drink the cup of wrath unmixed with mercy.” (FLB 338)

Wrath Against Individuals



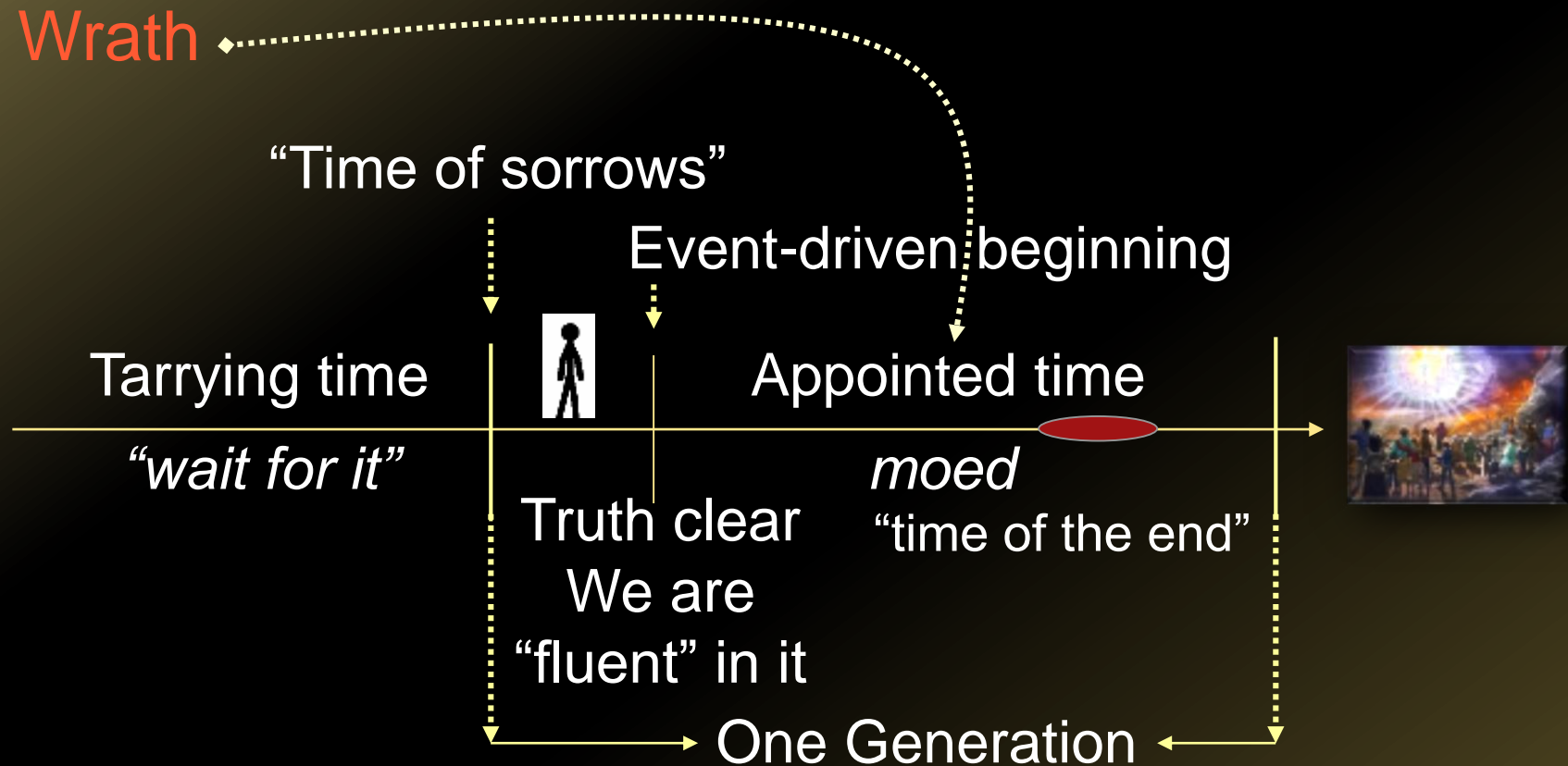
“The Lord does not delight in vengeance, though he executes judgment upon the transgressors of his law. He is forced to do this, to preserve the inhabitants of the earth from utter depravity and ruin. In order to save some, he must cut off those who have become hardened in sin.... The work of wrath and destruction is indeed a strange, unwelcome work for Him who is infinite in love.” (ST 08-24-1882)

“The bolts of God’s wrath are soon to fall, and when He shall begin to punish the transgressors, there will be no period of respite until the end. The storm of God’s wrath is gathering, and those only will stand who are sanctified through the truth in the love of God. They shall be hid with Christ in God till the desolation shall be overpast. He shall come forth to punish the inhabitants of the world for their iniquity, and ‘the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain.’” (TM 182-183)



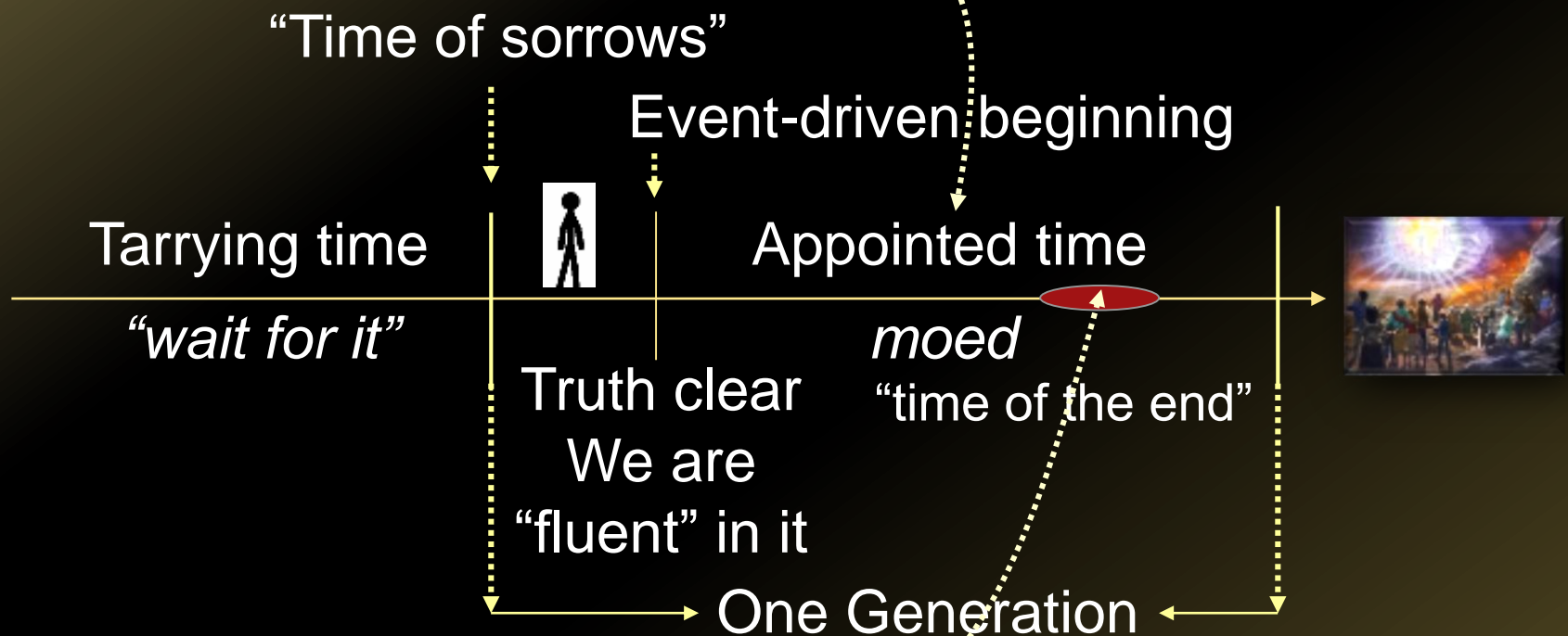
We can now add God's wrath to our diagram:

Wrath



We can now add God's wrath to our diagram:

Wrath



Especially here

The “Time of the End” is a short period of time in which most of the apocalyptic prophecies are fulfilled.

Daniel 8–12 opens up major keys of information as to what that all represents.

Important allusions to the “time of the end” are elsewhere in Scripture and are helpful to review.

They must parallel what is in Daniel, or a misinterpretation occurs.



Let's look first at what John was inspired to share in that wonderful book of Revelation.



“The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.”

(Rev. 1:1-3)

Notice! →

That Book begins by warning that it relates to an “end:”

*“things which must shortly come to pass”
“for the time is at hand”*

There are two ways these might be viewed:

1. Events that must occur soon in John’s day, following his discourse – **OR !!!**
2. Events that must occur in the context of their final fulfillment. **Please take note!**

These concerns are vital to how we begin our venture into John’s apocalyptic Book. Context **is** our best friend in evaluating what John means.

The timing statements are:

“things which must shortly come to pass”

“for the time is at hand” (Rev. 1:1-3)

The context event is:

“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.” (Rev. 1:7)

This means that the “testimony” that Jesus gives (the whole book), which came from God the Father, is related to the time surrounding the Second Advent! **Now comes this stunning thought!**

If Daniel is unfolded in Revelation and Revelation is related to the *parousia*, then Daniel – at least the sealed portion that is unsealed in Revelation – must be Second-Coming oriented also!

“In the Revelation all the books of the Bible meet and end. Here is the complement of the book of Daniel. One is a prophecy; the other a revelation. The book that was sealed is not the Revelation, but that portion of the prophecy of Daniel relating to the last days. The angel commanded, ‘But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end.’ Daniel 12:4.”

(AA 585)

This gives us helpful light into Daniel. Which portion was sealed that is opened up in Revelation? The *ha hazon* vision (ram, he-goat, little horn, plus chapters 11 and 12).

Therefore, we can now expect them to relate to the Second Coming of Jesus!



Time of the End





The great purpose of all prophecy is to bring us to key focal points in redemptive history.

“Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry.” (Heb. 10:35-37)

“Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts; for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.” (James 5:7-8)

Is there really an “end” “point in time” concept in the Bible? Somehow we want to deny an “end.”

“Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.” (Matt. 28:20)

“And when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for such things must needs be; but the end shall not be yet.” (Mark 13:7)

“And ye shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.” (Mark 13:13)

We have seen a “time of the end” and, in these texts, the “end of time.”

One brings us to the final **period** of decision; the other to the final **reward**.

In the days of Noah, God presented a template of mercy to earth’s evil inhabitants. He gave them warning **periods** and then **signs of the “end.”**

These represent a beautiful invitational pattern to God’s plans in giving a period of time to repent (which is a warning not to delay), then final signs. In those He is saying: “This is going to be it!”

There are four divine key apocalyptic strategies that are replicated over and over in prophecy:

1. General warning of devastation
2. Specific time period – long
3. Special signs – supernatural
4. Specific time period – short

Then – “the end!”

In Noah's Day – General Warning

The Flood of Noah did not come as a surprise. Something strange happened when Enoch was 65, from which time “he walked with God.” He was given a prophecy that as long as his son was alive, the judgment of the flood would be withheld; but as soon as he died, the flood would be sent forth. Enoch named his son to reflect this. Thus, the name Methuselah signified “his death shall bring.” Indeed, in the year that Methuselah died, the flood came.

Specific Time Period – long

The “Time of the End” is now prophetically defined.



Noah began to preach and to build the ark, demonstrating that there was a place of safety.

In 120 years he warned that the world would be destroyed.

Specific Signs that were Supernatural

The grand entrance of the animals into the place of safety began.



The dumb animals became an example to man, entering the ark before the door was closed!

Specific Period – short

Warning: Noah and his family were in the ark.
The last animal marched into that giant ship.
Would anyone follow?

This was their
last opportunity.



Would you accept the position that at the
“time of the end” God is not going to be as
merciful and informative? Do you think that as
this world faces its last days, God’s will say to
the last generation:

“Keep guessing – someday, someday?”

As we approach the last period of earth's history,
the same "template of mercy" is presented to the
world through God's chosen people!

General Period of Mercy:

1929 Church—State, Vatican

Methuselah

Specific Period of Mercy – long:

One Generation

120 years

Unusual Signs:

Abomination, Wrath

Animals march

Specific Period of Mercy – short:

3½ years

Door about to close

We are now in that specific (long)
period of mercy – the “one generation.”

In Daniel – God is focusing on the special “signs” that are signals that the end is near and when the short, specific period will begin. That comprises man’s final opportunity. For many who are “shaken out,” it will be too late!

Examples of the short time that we will study in great depth later:

*“And I heard the man clothed in linen ...
sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall
be for a **time, times, and an half**; and when he
shall have accomplished to scatter the power
of the holy people, all these things shall be
finished.”* (Dan. 12:7)

*“From the time that the daily [sacrifice] shall be
taken away, and the abomination that maketh
desolate set up, there shall be **a thousand two
hundred and ninety days**.”* (Dan. 12:11)

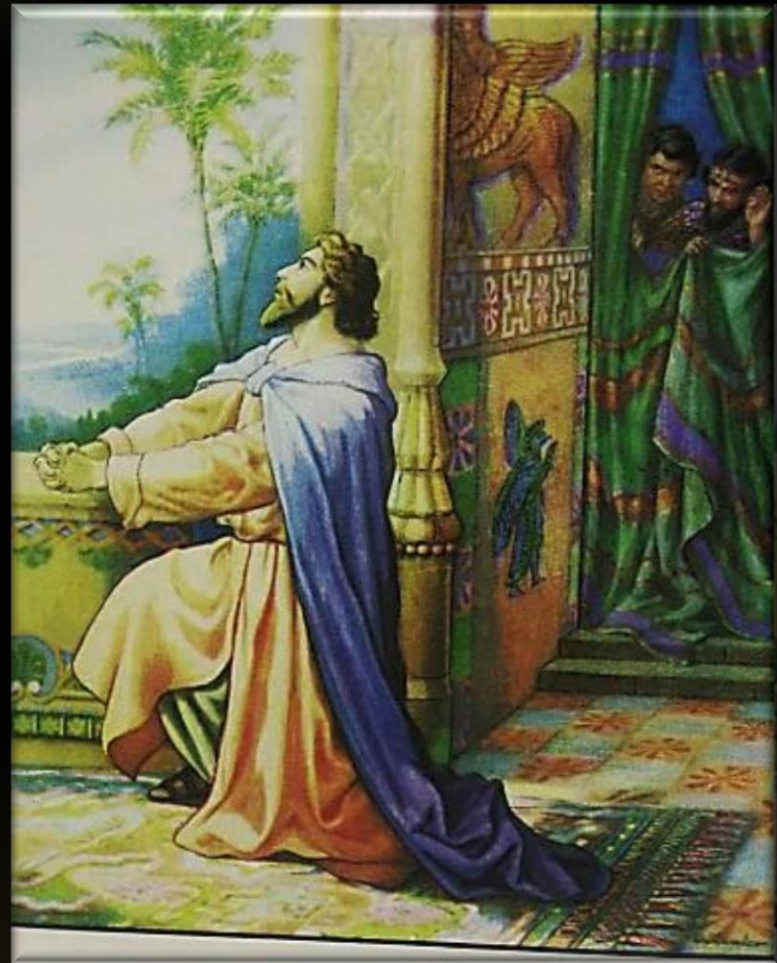
*“And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, **even to the time of the end**: because it is yet for a **time appointed**.”* (Dan. 11:35)

*“And **at the time of the end** shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.”* (Dan. 11:40)

*“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, **even to the time of the end**.”* (Dan. 12:4)

This connected
man was entrusted
with prophecy that
was meant
for you and me in
this 21st century –
earth's
final century!

As you will
soon see!





Do you sense the importance of this hour?
Do you see the final drama
that has now begun?

“Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.” (Rev. 12:12)

The End

Next Lesson:

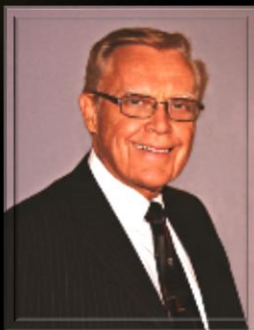
That Evil “Little Horn”



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