

- (6) One of them said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river,
- Q "How long will it be before these astonishing things are fulfilled?"
- N (7) The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, lifted his right hand and his left hand to ward heaven, and I heard him swear by him who lives forever, saying,
- P "It will be for a time, times, and half a time. When the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things will be completed."
- N (8) I heard, but I did not understand. So I asked,
- Q "My lord," [not the term that so often represents the deity, but one frequently used to address a prominent human being] "what will the outcome of all this be?" [literally, "what is the latter part of these?"]
- C (9) He replied, "Go your way, Daniel,
- P because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end." [better, "a time of end"] (10) "Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand. (11) From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. (12) Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days.
- C (13) As for you, go your way till the end.
- P You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance."

This conclusion to Daniel's book is still part of his last vision, which runs through chapters 10-12. Its narrative portions are clearly expressed and raise no problems, but some aspects of the commands, of the predictions, and even of the questions need to be discussed. These will be examined in the order in which they occur. First, however, we need to mention three subjects on which this conclusion can be expected to touch: