## Lesson 6: *Prophetic Time Periods* Monday, May 6, 2024

Ryan Day

## Compare Revelation 11:3 and Revelation 12:5, 6, 14, 15 with Daniel 7:25. What similarities do you see in these prophetic periods?

<sup>25</sup> He shall speak *pompous* words against the Most High,
Shall persecute the saints of the Most High,
And shall intend to change times and law.
Then *the saints* shall be given into his hand
For a time and times and half a time. — *Daniel 7:25*

<sup>2</sup> But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot *for* forty-two months. <sup>3</sup> And I will give *power* to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."—*Revelation 11:2, 3* 

<sup>5</sup> She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. <sup>6</sup> Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.—*Revelation 12:5, 6* 

<sup>14</sup> But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. <sup>15</sup> So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood.—*Revelation 12:14, 15*  <sup>5</sup> And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.— *Revelation 13:5* 

This was the period of time in which the light of the gospel had significantly dimmed; hence why it's called the dark ages.

During these 1,260 years, the Word of God—His two witnesses—were clothed in sackcloth. Their truths were hidden under a vast pile of tradition and ritual. These two witnesses still prophesied; the Bible still spoke. Even amid this spiritual darkness, God's Word was preserved. There were those who cherished it and lived by its precepts. But in comparison to the masses in Europe, they were few. The Waldenses, John Hus, Jerome, Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, John Calvin, John and Charles Wesley, and a host of other Reformers were faithful to God's Word as they understood it.

<sup>10</sup> And it grew up to the host of heaven; and it cast down *some* of the host and *some* of the stars to the ground, and trampled them. <sup>11</sup> He even exalted *himself* as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily *sacrifices* were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down. <sup>12</sup> Because of transgression, an army was given over *to the horn* to oppose the daily *sacrifices*; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did *all this* and prospered.

<sup>13</sup> Then I heard a holy one speaking; and *another* holy one said to that certain *one* who was speaking, "How long *will* the vision *be*, *concerning* the daily *sacrifices* and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled underfoot?"

<sup>14</sup> And he said to me, "For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed."—*Daniel 8:10-14* 

"In as much as the taking away of the continual mediation of Christ is made the beginning of a prophetic period, there must be some definite act at some definite time which, in form and intent, takes from Christ His priestly work in the heavenly sanctuary. This act was the official decree of an ecclesiastical counsel held at Rome in 503 A.D., by which it was declared 'that the pope was judge as God's vicar, and could himself be judged by no one' (see Har-douin's Councils, vol. 2, p. 983; Labbe and Cossart's Councils, vol. 4, col. 1364; and Bower's History of the Popes, vol. 1, pp. 304-305). The work of Clovis, King of the Franks, who earned for himself the title of 'the eldest son of the church' by his campaigns to subdue the kingdoms hostile to the Papacy, contributed much toward putting into practical effect this claim of the Papacy, which finally resulted in establishing the Pope as the head of the Roman priesthood which has usurped the priestly work of Christ, and has established another system of mediation in its place. The work of Clovis came to its climax in the period 503 to 508, and this period herefore becomes the natural one from which to date the 1290 years of Daniel 12:11, which would accordingly end in the period 1793-1798, at the same time as the 1260 years of Daniel 7:25."—*Bible Readings for the Home Circle,* p. 229, 1914 edition



