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1,260 Days, 42 Months and A Time Times and Half a Time.

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

1,260 Days, 42 Months

And

A Time Times and Half a Time.

Topics.

- 1,260 days and 42 Months in the book of Revelation.
- Time, times and half a time in the book of Daniel.

A PERSONAL NOTE

Though I have always loved reading and studying the Scriptures and have now walked with Christ and in God's grace for around fifty years the following studies should not be taken to be dogmatic, inflexible or the final word on the matter since I am fully aware that my mind is limited by mortality and that greater understanding of God's revelation is continually becoming clearer before our eyes as we move closer to the time of Christ's glorious return in glory.

1,260 DAYS AND 42 MONTHS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

In the time of John one Hebrew month was thirty days which means 1,260 days is forty-two months. Following are the only two verses that speak of 1,260 days:

- I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth." (Rev. 11:3).
- The woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days. (Rev. 12:6).

For information concerning the woman fleeing into the wilderness, click or tap [Revelation](#) and select chapter twelve.

Following are the only two verses that speak of 42 months:

- Do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months. (Rev. 11:2).
- The beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. (Rev. 13:5).

Revelation chapter seventeen shows us that the secular anti-Christian global world superpower and the apostate ecclesiastical beast (symbolised by the ten-horn beast and the great prostitute woman full of abominations) are so closely linked that they are often spoken of as one beast hostile toward Christ and his people. The 1,260 (forty-two months) symbolise that the space of time for the reign of the final latter-day secular anti-Christian global world superpower and the apostate ecclesiastical beast, is limited and that both these powers will exist during the same space of time. The anti-Christian global world superpower and the apostate ecclesiastical beast first began during the civil power of the pagan Roman Empire, which was over time transformed into the ecclesiastical power of the Popes and Bishops of Rome (symbolised by the great prostitute woman full of abominations riding on the back of the ten-horned beast with seven heads full of blasphemy) (Rev. 17:1-6). The power and supremacy of the Popes and the Roman Papal Church eventually surpassed the power and supremacy of the Emperors of Rome.

As history passes by these two powers (secular and religious) combine to become one global anti-Christian superpower in the latter days that will dominate world affairs during the 1,260 days (forty-two months) that the man of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:1-4) (an antichrist) (1 John 2:22) is given to tread down the outer court of the temple (i.e., the holy city Jerusalem) (Rev. 11:2). We are also told that the blasphemous two-horned beast like a lamb also appears during this same space of time in which he, by lying signs, miracles and wonders deceives the inhabitants of the earth to make and worship an image for the ten-horned beast. (Rev. 13:11-14). The 1,260 days is the length of time the ten-horned beast, the great prostitute woman full of abominations and the false prophet is given to prosper in their ungodly rule over the inhabitants of the earth in the latter days.

This does not necessarily mean that these beasts will only exist for this length of time, but it does mean that they will only prosper and prevail for forty-two months from the time, the man of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:1-4) (an antichrist) (1 John 2:22) sets up his headquarters in the holy city Jerusalem. The holy city is to be trodden under foot by the Gentiles (Rev. 11:2) (i.e., the man of lawlessness with his beast empire) for forty-two months, the same as the twelve hundred and sixty days. It is very likely that this beast empire and the man of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:1-4) are in positions of power sometime before the 1,260 days, but when they reach their peak and move their headquarters to the Holy city their reign will be limited to forty-two months.

SUMMARY OF THE 1.260 DAYS

This space of time embraces the blasphemous beast with ten-horns and seven heads; the great prostitute woman full of abominations; the two witnesses who prophesy; the two-horned beast like a lamb that speaks blasphemy who by lying signs, miracles and wonders deceives the inhabitants of the earth into making and worshipping an image for the ten-horned beast.

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NOTE: the ten-horned beast will most likely be an alliance of sovereign countries (much like NATO is today, whose head is the man of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:1-4).

For further information concerning the ten-horned beast click or tap, [Overview of Topics in Revelation](#) and select the title: "The Ten Horned Beast."

TIME, TIME AND HALF A TIME IN THE BOOK OF DANIEL

The expression, time, times, and half a time is accounted by most commentators and theologians to be (1 year + 2 years + ½ year = 3½ years), which is 42 Hebrew months of 30 days each, or 1,260 days. Following are the only two verses that use the expression, time, times and half a time are:

- He (a hostile antichristian ruler) shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time. (Dan. 7:25).
- I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the stream; he raised his right hand and his left hand toward heaven and swore by him who lives forever that it would be for a time, times, and half a time, and that when the shattering of the power of the holy people comes to an end all these things would be finished. (Dan. 12:7).

Here the expression, "a time, times, and half a time," refer to that space of time when the antichristian rulers' reign and all that is hostile to God comes to an end and the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven are given to the people of God to be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions will serve and obey them. Later we are told:

- From the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days. (Dan. 12:11).

Here the 1,290 days refer to that space of time after the abomination that makes desolate is set up 1,290 days. (Dan. 12:11). All, of these verses point to the latter days, near the return of Christ in glory. There is no doubt that there have been certain periods in history where the events of Daniel's visions appear to fit, however it should always be kept in mind when interpreting prophecy, that expressions of prophecy used in one historical age often contain seeds of fulfilments which spring to fruit in greater detail in a future age with its final and perfect fulfilment being at the end of the age. The words of Daniel did not come to their final-end in his era, nor the events of the visions of the Apocalypse in the overthrow of any one nation or the corruptions of any one church era, which means that the constantly-recurring period of three and a half years, or forty-two months, or twelve hundred and sixty days, remains to be perfectly fulfilled in a future age. It is impossible to show, with any degree of certainty, that the city of Jerusalem has ever been trampled underfoot by the Romans or any others for the exact space of three and a half years. No time-period set down by any theologian perfectly fits John's prophecy they can only be taken to be a prelude as to what is to come in the latter days of the false prophet who will bring about great apostasy and the tyranny of the man of lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:1-4) (an antichrist) (1 John 2:22) in the Holy Land and upon the global Christian church. For these reasons, it is better to accept that, the period of forty-two months, three and a half years (the half of seven, the complete and divine number), is the symbol of a period that is:

- Just prior to the kingdom of the world becoming the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rev. 11:15).
- Limited in length.
- Under the control of Him who holds the seven stars and lives through the ages.
- Will be fulfilled in its ultimate perfection in the last three and a half years prior to Christ's return in glory.

It has been intelligently pointed out by some that forty-two months (three and a half years), is far too short a term for the great prostitute woman full of abominations to reign over the kings of the earth, and all nations to drink of the wine of her fornication and for this beast power to gain so much authority, power, honour and riches, as chapter thirteen, seventeen and eighteen shows that it has. Added to this they claim that three and a half years, is also far too short for the afflictions and persecutions of the faithful that this beast power inflicts upon them. However, John tells us that the four angels, that were to kill a third of mankind had been prepared for the hour, the day, the month, and the year (Rev. 9:15), and that God had prepared a place for the woman to flee to for 1,260 days. (Rev. 12:6), which means that many of these things are being prepared now and will be fully prepared when what is being spoken of now concerning this latter-day space of time begins. This final space of limited time is the climax of the great prostitute woman, the false prophet and the beast empire reaching the peak of their secular and religious reign, power and influence over the earth. Added to this, it is most likely that these events refer to that space of time in the latter days, after the head of the world beast power has moved his headquarters to Jerusalem, which means his empire would have existed long before that time.

The apostle Paul when speaking of the return of Jesus in glory said:

- Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day (the day of the Lord) will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4).

It is most likely that all the events embraced in the 1,260 days are from generation to generation being prepared and that their hostile antichristian spirit symbolised by the dragon will reach its climax during the final three and a half years, beginning from the time the global world beast power moves his headquarters to Jerusalem.

The following four events occur during this final space of time:

1. The two-witness prophesy in sackcloth. (Rev. 11:3).
2. Jerusalem and the true church, is trodden under foot by the Gentiles. (Rev. 11:2).
3. The woman flees into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God. (Rev. 12:6).
4. The beast utters blasphemous words, and exercises authority for forty-two months. (Rev. 13:5).

All four events run parallel with each other during the same space of time; the beast arising and exercising his power; the Gentiles trampling upon the Holy city and true church; the woman abiding in the wilderness and the witnesses prophesying in sackcloth. This means that all these four events begin together and end together. This is easy to understand since it would only take one global crisis (i.e. money crash, global war, massive terrorist attack, the rise of Moslems, a viral plaque or great earthquake etc.), to rapidly begin a whole series of major events.

Throughout generations theologians have stated different periods of time and different Roman kings as a fulfilment of these events, but as time passed they have all been found lacking, since there is no specific time-period in history that perfectly fits all the events surrounding the two-witness prophesying (Rev. 11:3); the Holy city, being trodden under foot by Gentiles (Rev. 11:2); the woman fleeing into the wilderness (Rev. 12:6) and the blasphemous ten-horned and two-horned beast exercising authority over the earth. (Rev. 13:5), which leads to the conclusion that these remain events are yet to come to pass.

It is interesting to notice: a commentator made the following interesting observation: the time of the beast's reign and tyranny is expressed by months, while the time of the church being in the wilderness, and the prophesying of the witnesses, is expressed by days. He explains the reason for this is that the beast and his followers are the children of darkness and of the night, over which the moon presides, from which the months are numbered, while the church and the witnesses are children of the day, over which the sun rules. Since it is difficult to know with absolute certainty, what all these symbols and time periods may mean, and it is certain that as we get closer to Christ's return much more, light will fall upon these prophecies giving us greater understanding of their fulfillment. For these reasons it would be foolish to be dogmatic, however, what we can know for certain is that:

- The expressions, 1260 days, forty-two months and times, times and half a time, all refer to a space of time filled with great hostility toward God, His Son, His Kingdom and His people.
- The faithful who truly proclaim the Gospel during the reign of the beast empire will endure a sorrowful time
- The reign of the beast empire is limited and will come to an end at its appointed time.
- The kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdoms of Christ and his people.

The apostle Paul, when speaking of Lord Jesus Christ return in glory and our being gathered together to him said:

- Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day (the Lord's return in glory) will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. (2 Thessalonians. 2:1-4)

This refers to the man of lawlessness (an antichrist) (1 John 2:22), setting up his headquarters in Jerusalem and deceiving many into believing that he is the true Christ, or at least a saviour or someone who they believe can bring peace to earth and save the planet. This is not difficult to understand when we look at the American elections, wannabe Presidents with very skilful and authoritative oratory make speeches promising a better and prosperous America, the masses believe the one they vote for will save America and restore it to its pristine earlier years, yet all have failed. America continues to slowly, but consistently fall into greater debt, violence, crime and murders and financial hardships for the lower class and gun deaths continue to rise.

FOOTNOTE

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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