

The Daily of Daniel

Introduction

“There are in the Scriptures some things which are hard to be understood and which, according to the language of Peter, the unlearned and unstable wrest unto their own destruction. We may not, in this life, be able to explain the meaning of every passage of Scripture; but there are no vital points of practical truth that will be clouded in mystery. When the time shall come, in the providence of God, for the world to be tested upon the truth for that time, minds will be exercised by His Spirit to search the Scriptures, even with fasting and with prayer, until link after link is searched out and united in a perfect chain. Every fact which immediately concerns the salvation of souls will be made so clear that none need err or walk in darkness.

....Those who lived in past generations were accountable for the light which was permitted to shine upon them. Their minds were exercised in regard to different points of Scripture which tested them. But they did not understand the truths which we do. They were not responsible for the light which they did not have. They had the Bible, as we have; but the time for the unfolding of special truth in relation to the closing scenes of this earth's history is during the last generations that shall live upon the earth.

Special truths have been adapted to the conditions of the generations as they have existed. The present truth, which is a test to the people of this generation, was not a test to the people of generations far back.” 2 Testimonies 692,693

“There is no excuse for any one in taking the position that there is no more truth to be revealed, and that all our expositions of Scripture are without an error. The fact that certain doctrines have been held as truth for many years by our people, is not a proof that our ideas are infallible. Age will not make error into truth, and truth can afford to be fair. No true doctrine will lose anything by close investigation. We are living in perilous times, and it does not become us to accept everything claimed to be truth without examining it thoroughly; neither can we afford to reject anything that bears the fruits of the Spirit of God; but we should be teachable, meek and lowly of heart. There are those who oppose everything that is not in accordance with their own ideas.” Review & Herald 1892-12-20

“We have many lessons to learn, and many, many to unlearn. God and heaven alone are infallible. Those who think that they will never have to give up a cherished view, never have occasion to change an opinion, will be disappointed. As long as we hold to our own ideas and opinions with determined persistency, we cannot have the unity for which Christ prayed.” Review & Herald 1892-07-26

“Men have made desperate efforts to explain what they thought to be intricate scriptures; but too often their efforts have only darkened that which they tried to make clear.” COL. 110

The Daily of Daniel

The Daily: Assumed root of the following. (*tāmîd*) continuity. Most frequently this word is used in an adjectival genitive construction with ‘*ôlâ* for the continual whole burnt offering made to God every morning and evening (Ex 29:42; Num 28:6, 10, 15, 23; Ezr 3:5; Neh 10:34; cf. Ezk 46:15, every morning; and the continual *minhâ*, Num 4:16 Neh 10:34; Lev 6:13. The word is used alone to designate the daily burnt offering in Dan 8:11-13; 11:31; 12:11. Numbers 4:7 refers to the “bread of continuity” meaning the bread that was always there.

The word is also used adverbially in connection with the cult to denote constancy in cultic duties (e.g. Aaron’s breastplate, Ex 28:29-30). **Some passages, however, stress constancy of personal devotion.** e.g., Hosea 12:6, **“Turn to your God; keep mercy and justice and wait on your God continually.”** The Psalms likewise urge, **let his praises continually be in your mouth** (34:1; 71:6), **hope continually in the Lord** (71:14); **let God’s truth continually preserve you** (40:11); **let prayer be made to him continually** (72:15), and **keep his law continually** (119:44). Isaiah promises that **the Lord will continually guide those who respond to the social needs about them as evidence of true spirituality.** Indeed, **“Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually”** (1Chronicles 16:11). W.C.K.

What about the word “sacrifice” that is used in conjunction with the daily?

“Then I saw in relation to the “daily” (Dan. 8:12) that the word “**sacrifice**” was supplied by man’s wisdom, and does not belong to the text, and that the Lord gave the correct view of it to those who gave the judgment hour cry. When union existed, before 1844, nearly all were united on the correct view of the “daily”; but in the confusion since 1844, other views have been embraced, and darkness and confusion have followed.” Early Writings of Ellen G. White Page 74 Par. 2

It is obvious from this inspired statement that the word ‘sacrifice’ does not belong in these texts so we will remove it.

Let’s look at the first group of verses in Daniel where “the daily” appears. See Daniel 8: 9-14

“And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the **daily** was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given him against the **daily** by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.

Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the **daily**, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.” Dan. 8:9-14

Now let’s look at the following verses to see if the Scripture itself gives further light. We find the angel, Gabriel, gives Daniel the explanation for the preceding verses. See Daniel 8:15,16 and verses 23 – 25.

“And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and **shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.** And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.” Dan 8:23-25

*What is the subject at the center of these texts? The **mighty and the holy people.** Yet in verses 9 -14, God’s people are not mentioned. One of the subjects of verses 9-14 is ‘the daily’. Why would the angel give Daniel an explanation of a group of texts with two different subjects in each? I believe that ‘the daily’ has been interpreted for us in Dan 8:23-25. Why do I believe this? Let’s look at some more evidence for this conclusion. What are the characteristics of the mighty and the holy people? They are the people who seek the Lord continually, who continually seek for God’s strength and power in their lives in order to overcome the evil one. They are continually giving thanks. They hope continually, obey continually and abide in Him continually. God’s holy people are continually striving to do his will. They have also been continually present in the earth, from the time of creation. God has always had faithful witnesses.*

“For this cause also thank we God without ceasing. . .” 1 Thessalonians 2:13; “Pray without ceasing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:17; “Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.” 1 Chronicles 16:11; “I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.” Psalms 34:1; “Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress.” Psalms 71:3; “But I will hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more.” Psalms 71:14; “So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever.” Psalms 119:44; “Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually.” Psalms 119:117; “Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.” Daniel 6:16; “But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.” Acts 6:4

“Notwithstanding the prevailing iniquity, there was a line of **holy men** who, **elevated and ennobled by communion with God, lived as in the companionship of heaven.** They were men of massive intellect, of wonderful attainments. They had a great and holy mission--to develop a character of righteousness, to teach a lesson of godliness, not only to the men of their time, but for future generations. Only a few of the most prominent are mentioned in the Scriptures; but **all through the ages God had faithful witnesses, true-hearted worshipers.**” Ellen G. White Patriarchs & Prophets p. 84

“**In all ages the Lord has had a people** who, while holding communion with God, have by word and character called that attention of their fellow-men to the grand themes that are of eternal interest to humanity. Saints and martyrs of former ages, and the disciples who were privileged to hear the lessons from the lips of Jesus, were holy and self-denying. They were beloved and honored of God above many who in our day profess to be disciples of Christ and teachers of the people,--not because God is a respecter of persons; not because a clearer, brighter light shone upon them, but **because they steadfastly believed the truth, and practiced it in the daily life.** These men faithfully improved their talents, and God registered them among His profitable servants. They were acknowledged and honoured by God because they were faithful to the light which shone upon them. To those around them they reflected that light received from the Light of the world. By their close connection with heaven, their pure and holy conversation, they became channels of light and blessing to the world. **They walked humbly with their God,** rejoicing, not in the favor and praise of men, but in the light of truth. They did not seek ways, nor fashion excuses, whereby they might evade obedience to the commandments of Jehovah. **The chosen of God believed His word, rested on His promises, and their steadfast confidence and strong faith made them willing and able to suffer the loss of all things for His dear sake.**” E.G. White Bible Echoes 01-04-1897

Let's now compare verses 9-14 with verses 23-25 again, remembering that verses 23-25 were given to Daniel as an explanation of the previous verses.

<p>And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. And <u>it waxed great, even to the host of heaven;</u> and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. <u>Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host,</u> and by him the daily was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. <u>And an host was given him against the daily by reason of transgression,</u> and it cast down the truth to the ground; <u>and it practiced, and prospered.</u> Daniel 8:9-12</p>	<p>“And in the latter time of their kingdom, when <u>the transgressors are come to the full,</u> a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And <u>his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; and he shall destroy wonderfully,</u> and <u>shall prosper, and practice,</u> and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and <u>he shall magnify himself in his heart,</u> and by peace shall destroy many: <u>he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes;</u> but he shall be broken without hand.” Daniel 8:23-25</p>
<p>Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. Daniel 8:13,14</p>	

Here we have two groups of texts, which are a description by Daniel, of what he saw and was told in vision . The first group is what Daniel was shown first, the second is an explanation given to him by the angel as an explanation for the first vision.

And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man. And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision. So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision. Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright. 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. Daniel 8.15-19

Let's now put the texts side by side so we can see their correlation more clearly.

And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.
Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host and **by him the daily was taken away**, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.
And an host was given him against the daily by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.

he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand."

and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall and **shall destroy the mighty and the holy people**.

And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: when the transgressors are come to the full, and shall prosper, and practice.

Now let's put 'mighty and holy people' in all the places that 'daily' appears in the prophecies of Daniel and see if it makes sense.

And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and **by him the mighty and the holy people was (were) taken away**, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given him against the **mighty and the holy people** by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered.

Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the **mighty and the holy people**, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. Daniel 8:9-14

And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the **mighty and the holy people**, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. Dan 11:31

Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand. And from the time that the **mighty and the holy people** shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. Dan. 12:10-12

Let's look at the texts again, with some amplification.

And out of one of them came forth a little horn (*papacy*), which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land (*Palestine*). And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven (*made himself to be God*); and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host (*said that he was God*), and by him the (mighty and the holy people) (*who continually seek God's face*) (*were*) taken away (*persecuted and killed throughout the known world, almost to extinction*), and the place of his sanctuary was cast down (*God's system of worship done away with. Sunday worship by 'Christians'. People were told they could not go to God personally, but had to go through a priest*). And an host (*armies & power*) was given him against the (mighty and the holy people) (*who continually seek God's face*) by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced, and prospered. Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the (mighty and the holy people) (*who continually seek God's face*), and the transgression of desolation (*Papal system*), to give both the sanctuary and the host (*all that represents God*) to be trodden under foot? And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. (*This time period began in 457 BC and covers the Dark Ages down to October of 1844*) Daniel 8:9-14

And arms shall stand on his part (*armies will support him*), and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength (*change God's word and laws*), and shall take away (*scatter, persecute and kill*) the (mighty and the holy people) (*who continually seek God's face*), and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate (*put their beliefs and traditions, Sunday worship, in place of God's word*). Daniel 11:31

Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand. And from the time that the (mighty and the holy people) (*who continually seek God's face*) shall be taken away (*persecuted and killed*), and the abomination that maketh desolate (*papacy, Sunday law*) set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. Dan 12:10-12

Now look at Revelation 3:5-7 to see if it supports the above conclusion, since it is dealing with the same subject and time period.

“And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the **saints**, and to **overcome them**: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.” Rev. 3:5-7

These prophecies are all dealing with God’s laws, His word, His people and what is happening to them. The subject ‘sacrifice’ which the translators inserted into the KJV should rather be, God’s “mighty and holy people” and the adverb ‘daily’ refers to those who continually seek God’s face. This conclusion was come to after much soul searching and sincere prayer, pleading with God to reveal the truth to me about ‘the daily’. We are in the last days and if this is to be understood, now is the time. I believe God has answered my prayer.

“He has given His people the truth with power through the Holy Spirit. He opened His Word to those who were searching and praying for truth. But when these messengers gave the truth they had received to the people, they were as unbelieving as the Israelites. Many are cavilling over the truth brought to them by humble messengers” (MS 75, 1899). {1BC 1116.4} {ST, April 18, 1900 par. 8}

“Let us read and study the 12th chapter of Daniel.

It is a warning we shall all need to understand before the time of the end.”

Ellen G. White Letter 161, July 30, 1903

We can’t truly understand Daniel 12 or other references to the daily until we understand what ‘the daily’ is.

“We are close to the time spoken of by Daniel the prophet: "At that time shall Michael stand up, that great prince that standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation, even to that same time: but at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one whose name shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever" Daniel 12:1-3. **The Lord is about to do a short and effectual work in the earth.**” E.G. White Manuscript Releases Volume Five p. 212

“There are men among us who profess to understand the truth for these last days, but who will not calmly investigate advanced truth. They are determined to make no advance beyond the stakes which they have set, and will not listen to those who, they say, do not stand by the old landmarks. They are so self-sufficient that they cannot be reasoned with. They consider it a virtue to be at variance with their brethren, and close the door, that light shall not find an entrance to the people of God. It will require heavenly wisdom to know how to deal with such cases. Light will come to God’s people, and those who have sought to close the door will either repent or be removed out of the way. The time has come when a new impetus must be given to the work. There are terrible scenes before us, and Satan is seeking to keep from our knowledge the very things that God would have us know. God has messengers and messages for his people. If ideas are presented that differ in some points from our former doctrines, we must not condemn them without diligent search of the Bible to see if they are true. We must fast and pray and search the Scriptures as did the noble Bereans, to see if these things are so. We must accept every ray of light that comes to us. Through earnest prayer and diligent study of God’s word, dark things will be made plain to the understanding.” Signs of the Times, 1890-05-26

“God was, in the beginning, dishonored by the holy pair in Eden, because they held the word of Satan above the word of God. This is the difficulty with the people to-day. If they would take God’s word **just as it reads**, and have reverence for it, and receive the sacred oracles of God as his voice, there would be a growing regard for the law of Jehovah.” RH. 1888-12-18

“The Bible, **just as it reads**, is to be our guide. Nothing is so calculated to enlarge the mind and strengthen the intellect as the study of the Bible. No other study will so elevate the soul and give vigor to the faculties as the study of the living oracles. The minds of thousands of ministers of the gospel are dwarfed because they are permitted to dwell upon commonplace things, and are not exercised in searching for the hidden treasure of the word of God. As the mind is brought to the study of God’s word, the understanding will enlarge, and the higher powers will develop for the comprehension of high and ennobling truth.” RH. 1897-09-28

“Men have made desperate efforts to explain what they thought to be intricate scriptures; but too often their efforts have only darkened that which they tried to make clear.” COL. p.110

I have also done a study on Daniel 12 as well as a study guide for the Prophecies of Daniel and The Revelation.

Thoughts On Christian Living
www.thoughtsonchristianliving.org

Arlen Davis
24 NW Ponti-Moro Ct.
College Place, WA 99324
Phone/Fax 509 526-0230

E-mail: arlendavis@charter.net

Interpretations for the “Daily” down through the years

Josephus	100	“The continual (daily) sacrifice” (of the Jews)
Olivis	298	“The sacrifice of Christ on the cross”
Ibn Ezra	1092	“Temple sacrifices”
Vallanova	1297	“The sacrifice of Christ on the cross”
Brute	1300	“Christ’s sacrifice and priesthood”
Wycliff	1384	“The sacrifice of Christ on the cross”
Obравanel	1437	“Temple sacrifices”
Amsdorf	1500	“The preaching of the gospel”
Funck	1566	“The true gospel”
Ribera	1591	“Temple sacrifices” (ref. To Antiochus)
Viegas	1599	“The abrogation of the Mass-Eucharist”
Downham	1634	“The Doctrine and Worship of God according to His Word”
Huit	1644	“Daily Worship of God in the church”
Tillinghast	1655	“The civil power of the Roman Empire”
Parker	1677	“True Worship”
Sherwin	1687	“Civil Rome”
Beverly	1703	“Transfer from one empire to the next”
Rudd	1757	“Pure worship of God”
La Flechere	1785	“True worship of God and Jesus”
Bell	1796	“True Worship”
Wood	1803	“Divine Worship”
Cunninghame	1803	“Worship in the Church”
Cunninghame	1807	“Justinian (Pagan Rome)”
Scott	1810	“Temple of Solomon” site taken away by Mohammedans Himes “Pagan Rome”
Irving	1826	“True Worship” (of the Eastern Churches)
Bayford	1826	“The Lamb of God in the blood sacrifice”
Reid	1827	“True Worship”
Hooper	1829	“Temple sacrifices” taken away 606 BC
Cooper	1833	“True worship”
Mason	1834	“Instituted worship of God in the churches”
Campbell	1837	“Pagan Rome” (seat, power and authority)
Tyso	1838	“The Jewish nation and activity”
Miller’s Broadside	1843	“Pagan Rome – abomination”
Dowling	1843	“Jewish temple sacrificial system”
Crosier	1846	“Ministry of Christ”
Arnold	1848	“Jewish Sacrificial System”
Fry	1849	“Civil authority”
Nichols	1850	“Pagan Rome” (Civil Power) 508 AD - 538 AD
Bickersteth	1850	“The Jewish economy—nation” – Babylonian captivity. Also a future application applying to Rome
Keyworth	1852	“Mohammedanism”
U. Smith	1853	“Pagan Rome – Paganism”
Faber	1855	“Praise & Thanksgiving”
Nolan	1864	“Christ’s ministry”
Maitland	1865	“Spiritual Worship”
Bell	1869	“Paganism”
Nicole	1874	“Christ’s church” and sanctuary services
Manning	1892	The Roman Catholic Shrine & Eucharist “taken away” by schism and Protestantism
Jones	1905	“Christ’s service in Heaven”
Haskell	1906	“Paganism”

E.G. White did not endorse any of the interpretations that were held in her day. (1827 – 1915)

Bunch	1930	“Christ’s ministry in Heaven”
SDA (Smith)	1944	“Paganism” – Revised Editions
Ford	1978	“Temple sacrifices (types)”
Maxwell	1981	“Christ’s ministry”
Wheeling	1986	“Perpetual Sabbath” -- Covenant
Barry	1990	“Scepter of Power”
L. A. Davis	1997	“People of God” (the mighty and the holy people -- Dan. 8:24) as revealed by the Angel Gabriel