



Increase of Knowledge

Lesson Fifty-Nine

1. According to the words of the angel to Daniel, when might the world look for an increase of knowledge?

“But thou, O Daniel, _____, seal the book, even to the _____ of _____: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” Daniel 12:4.

Note: “Whether this running to and fro refers to the passing of people from place to place, and the great improvements in the facilities for transportation and travel made within the present century, or whether in means, as some understand it, a turning to and fro in the prophecies, that is, a diligent and earnest search into prophetic truth, the fulfilment is certainly and surely before our eyes. It must have its application in one of these two ways; and in both of these directions the present age is very strongly marked.” Uriah Smith, Daniel and the Revelation, pp. 378, 379.

The “time of the end,” as spoken of in the text, refers to a period just prior to the end, in which a wonderful increase of knowledge was anticipated.

2. Under the Roman power, how long were the saints to be persecuted?

“And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the _____; because it is yet for a _____.” Daniel 11:35.

Note: The time of the end, it appears from this text, was even then an appointed time, in the mind of God. This is not strange, when we learn that the judgment and the end itself are both said to be appointed times, in the Scriptures. Acts 17:31; Daniel 8:19. The close of the period allotted for this persecution (1798) was to mark the beginning of “the time of the end.”

3. How long, according to the prophecy, was the little horn, which represents the Roman power, to persecute the saints?

“And he shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws; and they shall be given into his hand until a _____ and _____ and the _____.” Daniel 7:25.

Note: “This prophetic period of twelve hundred and sixty years began in 538 A.D; the law of God was changed, and the Sabbath of the decalogue was trampled under foot of men. Both the law of God and the saints of God were bound for ‘a time, times, and a half’ by the powers which exalteth itself above Jehovah, as described in Daniel 7:25. The persecution tended only to scatter the power of the holy people; and at the time of the end both the law of God and the people were restored. The ‘time, times, and a half’ ended in 1798. Since that time the Word of God has been freely circulated among the people. The prophecies have been studied, the judgment message of the fourteenth chapter of Revelation has been proclaimed, and in 1844, at the close of the twenty-three hundred days, light shone from the sanctuary above, revealing the true Sabbath of the Lord.” Stephen N. Haskell, The Story of Daniel the Prophet, p. 300.

It is a singular coincidence that immediately following the overthrow of the papal power, in 1798, the British and Foreign Bible Society was organized; and the Bible has since been

translated into more than two hundred dialects, and sent to every part of the globe. "As knowledge has increased, the wonderful truths for the time of the end have spread from country to country, preparing the way for the coming of the Son of Man." Stephen N. Haskell, *The Story of Daniel the Prophet*, p. 300.

4. In the line of scientific inventions, have there been any remarkable developments since 1798?

"It was recently stated in the *Scientific American* that within this time more advancement has been made in all scientific attainments, and more progress in all that tends to domestic comfort, the rapid transaction of business among men, the transmission of intelligence from one to another, and the means of rapid transaction of business among men, the transmission of intelligence from one to another, and the means of rapid transit from place to place and even from continent to continent, than all that was done for three thousand years previous, put together." Uriah Smith, *Daniel and the Revelation*, p. 379.

5. When were some of the principal inventions brought out?

"Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have _____ out _____." Ecclesiastes 7:29.

Note: The steamboat in 1807; steam printing-press in 1811; railroad cars in 1825; reaper and mower in 1833; telegraph in 1837; sewing-machine in 1846; telephone in 1876; air travel; radio and other communication marvels. It will be noted that none of these inventions were before 1798.:

6. What has the Saviour said should precede the end?

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world, for a _____ unto all _____; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14.

Note: Luther, the Wesleys, and others could not, in their day, proclaim the Lord's coming to be near, as the full development of these signs had not taken place. But now, the gospel has gone to nearly every tribe in the world; the sun and moon have been darkened, and stars have fallen, as predicted by our Saviour. See "Our Lord's Great Prophecy," Lesson 58.

7. When we see all these things, what are we to know?

"When ye shall see all these things, _____ that it is near, _____." Matthew 24:33.