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Book: The *Final Countdown: Daniel's Seventy Sevens and the Decree Everyone Missed*

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Potential Interview Questions

How did you come about writing this book?

I really had not planned on writing another book, but in the spring of 2022, we republished Lyn Mize's book: *The Open Door*. Lyn was one of my closest friends who went to be with the Lord in 2011. We felt that the Lord wanted us to make his book available to the Church because it is an excellent resource that can be instrumental in helping believers qualify to rule and reign with Jesus when he returns. The same week that it was introduced on Amazon we discovered another important book written by Dr. Christian Widener titled: *Witnessing the End – Daniel's Seventy Sevens and the Final Decree Everyone Missed*. We immediately contacted him and he has allowed us to condense his important message to alert everyone to his remarkable findings.

Doesn't the Bible say that no one is to know when the Lord is going to return? Isn't Jesus going to return as a thief?

Well, Jesus told us in Matthew 24:36: "*But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only...*" On the surface, it looks like we are not to know, however, the day and hour we cannot know about has to do with what the previous verse said in Matthew 24:35: "*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*" The timing that we are not to know about has to do with the end of the millennium and not when the Lord is to return. The Apostle Paul told us in 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3 that the Lord will come like a thief in the night, but he goes on to point out in verse 4: "*But you, **brothers**, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.*" In other words, Christians (brothers) should NOT be taken by surprise.

Dr. Christian Widener discovered another decree regarding the prophecy in the book of Daniel that everyone missed. Please tell us a little more about this.

In Dr. Widener's award-winning first book: *The Temple Revealed*, he uncovered where the Temple was located on the Temple Mount. Josh McDowell wrote in the Foreword: "the implications of his findings are nothing short of world-changing." While doing his painstaking research he learned that the city of Jerusalem and its walls had been rebuilt a second time in the period from 1537 to 1541 by Sultan Suleiman. He then discovered that Suleiman's decrees had been etched on stone plaques providing us with a permanent record. By connecting the dots back to the prophecy in Daniel he has been able to **unseal** the final key to the book of Daniel: God foreknew and ordained another decree that everyone missed.

Potential Interview Questions (continued)

You have a little bit different take on the timing of the Rapture. Please describe what the term Phased Rapture means.

The phased rapture that I describe in the book is really not a new idea. Many of the great men of God in the Philadelphia church age in the 18th and 19th centuries taught this. There were men like J. Hudson Taylor, founder of the China Inland Mission, Dr. A. B. Simpson, founder of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, John Wilkinson, founder of the Mildmay Mission to the Jews, Joseph A. Seiss, one of greatest prophecy scholars who ever lived, and Dr. Ray Brubaker, founder of God's News Behind the News. In addition to all of these great men of God who believed in this doctrine, I also show in the book where the Lord himself taught this principle. Believers who are living a life that is found pleasing to Him will be accounted worthy to escape the great tribulation in the Firstfruit rapture. The remainder of the church who have not been watching for the Lord's return and who have been living as lukewarm believers will go through the 3 ½ years of great tribulation. They will then be raptured just before God pours out His wrath.

What is one of the main signs when the Great Tribulation begins?

Jesus predicted a future abomination of desolation, which He said Daniel referred to that was recorded in Matthew 24: 15,21:

15) Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (whoever reads, let him understand)...21) For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

This abomination of desolation will occur when the Antichrist appears on the Temple Mount at the very beginning of the Great Tribulation. He was also referred to as "*the man of sin*" by the Apostle Paul in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4.

Isn't it wrong to discuss dates? Couldn't you be wrong?

In our book, we show how God is a date setter (see page 10). If the analysis in this book is correct then the Second Coming of Christ will take place in 2027. This computation is based upon Dr. Widener's discovery of the decree made by Sultan Suleiman in 1537. Since he restored Jerusalem between 1537-1541, it is possible that the start date for the initial decree may be off by a year or so. However, the best evidence points to 1537 because of other corroborating evidence Dr. Widener gives in his book, particularly his case for the Jubilee cycle ending in 2027. In addition, Jared Kushner's recent book: ***Breaking History*** presents valuable evidence that the peace covenants made with many nations crucially marked 2020, as the start of the final 70th Week in the Second Fulfillment of Daniel's Seventy Weeks.

How can a person make sure that they will be able to escape the coming time of tribulation?

Participation in the coming Firstfruit rapture will be for those believers who are making themselves ready for His soon return. They will pattern their life after Enoch's life: "...*Enoch was taken up so that he did not see death: He could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God*" (Hebrews 11:5). Those who will be taken will be people of faith who are walking with God, living a life that will be found pleasing to Him. They will be actively watching for the soon return of the Lord and fervently telling others to get ready. They ***will always be praying they may be accounted worthy to escape*** as instructed by Jesus in Luke 21:34-36.

Potential Interview Questions (continued)

Could animal sacrifices begin soon?

Dr. Christian Widener helps explain this subject as follows: "...while not explicit in Scripture, one of the necessary preconditions for restoring sacrifices is the ability to pray openly on the Temple Mount (which is precisely what was called for in the Peace to Prosperity plan)." (Widener, pp. 307-8) People then ask if the Temple needs to be rebuilt to have animal sacrifices. Not necessarily. An article that helps explain why can be found on our website and it is located under the *Supplemental Articles* for our book *Daniel's Prophecies Unsealed*. The article is entitled: *Thanks to Trump: Pascal Lamb Could Be Sacrificed on Temple Mount for the First Time in 2,000 Years*.

The Sanhedrin has constructed a temporary altar that can be transported to the Temple Mount and then removed once the ceremony has been completed. Dr. Widener goes on to say: "...with all the preparations that have been made, **there is good reason to believe that the prophecy will soon be fulfilled literally**. It may not be a return to full sacrificial services, with the slaughter of thousands of animals, **but some form of priestly services could once again be seen in Israel**." [Emphasis Added] (Widener, pp. 307-8)

Please explain the importance of the Parable of the Ten Virgins.

The Parable of the Ten Virgins can be found in Matthew 25:1-10. It is included in the Olivet Discourse, which was one of the last writings that the Lord gave us before His crucifixion. The entire Olivet Discourse can be found in Matthew 24 & 25, with similar accounts in Mark 13 and Luke 17 & 21. It is important to point out that the traditional interpretations state that Jesus was speaking to the Jews or that He was only telling us what has already been fulfilled with the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem in 70 AD. The proper interpretation is that Jesus addressed three different groups of people: the Jews in Matthew 24:4-31, the Church in Matthew 24:32 to Matthew 25:30, and the Gentiles in Matthew 25:31-36. With the proper division of the scripture, it can be seen that Jesus was addressing the Church in the Parable of the Ten Virgins.

In this parable, all 10 virgins were Christians because all did possess their oil, which stands for the Holy Spirit who was given to each of them upon their conversion. Only the five wise virgins who were ready went to be with the Bridegroom when He returned. The 5 foolish virgins, however, did not carry along the extra measure of oil that the 5 wise virgins carried in their jars. The 5 wise virgins were ready because they were obedient to the Word of God, which commands us to be "filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18). Because the 5 wise virgins were filled with the Spirit, they allowed Him to direct and empower their life.

It is important to note that the extra oil had to be bought by the foolish virgins (v.9). While the indwelling spirit is a free gift from God that cannot be bought, being filled by the Holy Spirit involves effort on the part of the Christian, requiring our submission to Him (Galatians 5:16-25) in order to crucify the flesh and allow Him complete control. As a result, the 5 wise virgins were properly equipped when the Bridegroom arrived. The wise virgins were ready because of their faithfulness, while the foolish virgins were not prepared due to their own lethargy in providing their extra measure of oil to keep their lamps burning.

Listeners need to ask themselves whether or not they are a wise or foolish virgin. The answer will have an important impact on where they spend the remainder of this decade.