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Prayer meeting. Monday Evening 26th November, 1962. Ebenezer, Clapham.

Opening Hymn:- 1048 " We've no abiding city here;"
Tune:- 348

1st Lesson:-.....Daniel 12th Chapter

GOSPEL STANDARD BAPTISTS

Address:- Daniel was a most exemplary character and one to whom the Lord gave extraordinary wisdom in interpreting dreams, in sound knowledge and in many things, but when it comes to the close of this prophecy and Daniel is informed of the times, certain future events, and some spaces of time, he declares that he does not understand these matters; and if Daniel could not understand them, to whom the Lord had revealed His secrets, then how can we? These are things of great purport with God Who knows all things from the end to the beginning. There are certain things that it is not desirable for us to know, neither is it essential to the salvation of our souls. What is so essential, is that we may possess a knowledge of Christ, and of that glorious and everlasting gospel in our soul's experience, to know Whom we have believed, and to be brought by divine grace to put our implicit trust in Him.

But here, in this chapter, are evidently certain predictions concerning the Redeemer and events attending them, before the end, right on to the resurrection of the dead. Then comes this enquiry from Daniel:- "O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? (verse 8) It all seemed beyond Daniel's mind to understand or comprehend what the end of these things would be, or even when they would be. They were not clear to his mind. How true this is often with us! It is not for us to see the end from the beginning, that is known only to God; and even when we are in things, in circumstances, in providences, mysterious dispensations of the Lord's Hand, or when the future may look dark and heavy, and, to us, uncertain, we may often feel like Daniel did when he said "O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?" It is a mercy if we can turn to the Lord concerning matters that may be so dark to us, even in relation to some future things. But following this enquiry, there is DIRECTION; the Lord answered Daniel very

kindly and tenderly, and said to him " Go thy way, Daniel." He did not actually tell Daniel when the end of these things would be, but He gave him a personal direction:- " Go thy way, Daniel;" as though He would say ' that is what concerns you'.

In the last verse of this chapter He says:- "Go thy way till the end be." The Lord did not intend that Daniel would live until the end of these things which were being predicted. These words seem to indicate one or two things that can be a direction to us, as though the Lord would say:- ' You may leave these matters in My Hands, commit them to Me, leave them to Me, go thou thy way, discharge your duties, or whatever responsibilities you have in your position, or office, go thou thy way, put your trust in Me'; and so often it can be the best for us.

This is followed with a confirming promise to Daniel:- " Thou shalt REST, and STAND in thy LOT at the end of the days," and after all, this is the main point. This was an assuring word to Daniel:- Thou shalt STAND in thy LOT." What a mercy if this proves to be so with us, that each of us shall stand in our lot with the Lord's redeemed people at the end of the days, at the end of the days with us, when our appointed time allotted here, has been fulfilled, that we shall stand in our lot, with the Lord's people, be with them where they are, who have gone before, and have that part with them that they enjoy. Thou shalt rest from all labour, trouble and affliction, thou shalt have eternal rest. A very tender and confirming word was this to Daniel.

May we feel it to be so, even with us, to go our way, to follow on until the end shall be, and eventually to prove this:- And "thou shalt rest and stand in thy lot at the end of the days".

Closing Lesson:- Daniel 2 verses 16/28 inclusive.
