

DANIEL'S FINAL WEEK

Donna Vanliere



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In the novel portion of this book, Zerah, Emma, and Lerenzo read from ESV Bibles, and Elliott reads from an NIV Bible.

Italicized Scripture is author's emphasis.

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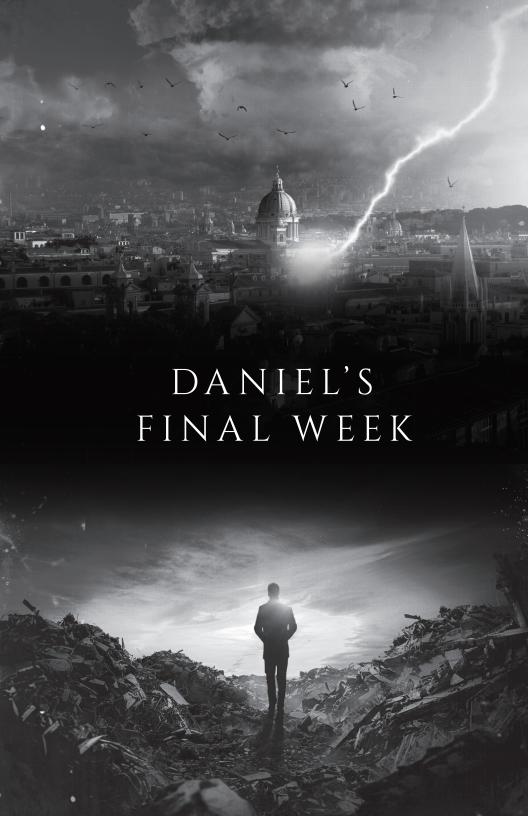
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For Val Clemente, who searches the Scriptures and knows that things are looking up!

OTHER HARVEST HOUSE BOOKS by Donna Vanliere

The Time of Jacob's Trouble
The Day of Ezekiel's Hope



Daniel, I have now come to give you insight and understanding...
After the sixty-two "sevens," the Anointed One will be put to death
and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come
will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a
flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been
decreed. He will confirm a covenant with many for one "seven."
In the middle of the "seven" he will put an end to sacrifice and
offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that
causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.

Daniel 9:22, 26-27 NIV

When they cry to the LORD because of oppressors, he will send them a savior and defender, and deliver them. And the LORD will make himself known.

Isaiah 19:20-21

CHAPTER 1

The heavens shudder and galaxies, long held fast by gravity, retreat as if cowering in fright. Stars shake loose from their orbits and tumble to earth as Satan screeches before heaven's throne. With access permitted by the Most High, the ancient serpent has once again flown through the air relinquished by the first Adam thousands of years earlier and stands before God, condemning those sealed by the Lamb's blood.

"No! No!" the great dragon shouts as the heavens tremble, and he grabs his sword as myriad angels sweep over the deceiver of the whole world to fight his demonic legion who, millennia ago, fell from their heavenly place with the father of lies. Beelzebul's wings spread and his face twists in rage as he charges the throne. "I won't let you!"

Michael the archangel tosses the prince of demons aside, and when the lawless one regains his footing, his wings rise high over his head like a black, menacing storm as he flies toward Michael.

"I cast you to the ground forever!"

The Creator's voice thunders throughout the heavens as the god of this age crumples before him, begging for his life. "I am the prince of the air!" Satan pleads. "The earth belongs to me!"

The Righteous One will hear no more. The accuser is barred from heaven forever, and Michael lifts up the murderer and tempter and hurls him to earth as the armies of heaven wage tremendous war against the adversary's vicious legion, throwing them from the heavenlies.

A mighty angel turns to the angelic throng and souls throughout heaven. "Rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them!" Together, God's armies watch Lucifer fall as a magnificent star from heaven for good. "But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"

The dragon falls to the bottomless pit, where an infinite number of his demonic horde have been locked away for centuries on end. An angel of God illuminates the penetrating dark, holding a key and looking at the destroyer raging in vengeance. Satan takes the key and unlocks the pit as his hellish army, grateful to their master, shriek on their release, blackening the skies and filling the air with a heinous and incomprehensible evil.

Satan wings his way in fury to Jerusalem, where the wounded or dead are being recovered from the ruins left by the massive earthquake that toppled a tenth of the city, killing 7,000 people. To his horror, the two hated witnesses who were murdered here have risen from the dead and into the skies in front of the watching world. Lucifer knows that if he is to rule the entire planet there has to be one final bloodbath—Israel must be annihilated and the Jews destroyed so his enemy cannot return and reign from there.

The ruler of this world hovers above the city, listening as the swine below cry out in fear and watching as the body of Victor Quade is pulled from the rubble, his head bloody from a monstrous wound. Hearts are broken as news spreads throughout the globe that their hero, the very one who saved them from the devastating plagues and hatred of the two witnesses, appears to be dead. The evil one waits for two days as more cameras and phones are focused on the horror of Victor's wound and seemingly lifeless body before making his move.

Two thousand years ago, he entered Judas and, to his delight, Judas betrayed the devil's great enemy. Satan roared in triumph as his enemy died on a cross outside of Jerusalem, but the enemy rose in devastating victory and today he lives, and his people who reek of Satan's own end live as well. But now, for all eternity, they will die, and he will live forever.

With blackest rage he swoops down through the air and slithers

into the body of Victor Quade, who has been laying lifeless for two days. Victor's eyes flash open, his mouth turns up in a smile, and the world gasps.

CHAPTER 2

Jerusalem, Israel

 Δ s chaos grips Jerusalem following the earth's shaking, many of the bloodied and wounded stand in awe of what they're witnessing. Victor Quade had been dragged from his hotel ruins two days ago and left lying lifeless atop the rubble. No one could survive such massive injuries; his body had appeared broken and covered with blood. The city had been gripped in fear and turmoil as citizens pulled bodies from the earthquake wreckage, and there had not been a stretcher or gurney available for the remains of Victor Quade, the man who had done more for peace than anyone in history when he confirmed a peace covenant with Israel nearly three-and-a-half years ago, bringing calm to the Middle East like never before. While antisemitism had been escalating throughout the earth, millions of Jews from every nation had immigrated to Israel, where Victor's peace covenant kept them safe. As part of the European 10 (or E10 for short) world governing body, Victor had promised hope, healing, and peace for the entire globe. Without him, what would happen to the planet now?

Following the tremendous assault on the universe, images and videos of volcanoes erupting, meteors falling, and some mountains crumbling and islands moving or vanishing from their spots shared screen time with pictures of this great man's mangled and bloody body. Victor Quade's gaping wounds had been shown on every screen throughout

the universe as his corpse lay next to thousands more atop the city's ruins for the world to see and mourn. The globe had been covered in dark shadows as it grieved, and every eye had looked on in despair at his seemingly deceased form.

But from the shadows of death, a flash of his eyes and the twitch of a finger sets the Internet and news outlets ablaze. When Israeli prime minister Ari hears the crowd scream, he stops the interview he is giving with several international news correspondents and pushes his way through the wall of people, his heart pounding at the sight. Victor Quade, the man responsible for peace in the Middle East and for the rebuilding of the Jewish temple, is alive!

"Our Messiah," a woman next to Ari whispers through tears.

Several in the crowd hear her and begin shouting and crying. "Our Messiah lives!" "Our Messiah has come!"

Prime Minister Ari stumbles over the rubble to get to Quade, hollering for others to help. Amid the countless bodies around him, Victor rises to his feet by himself and walks to the street, stepping over the corpses strewn all over the ground. Prime Minister Ari falls before him, breathless. "Messiah!" He reaches for Victor's hand and begins to weep. Others clamor for him, reaching out to touch his clothes, while others burst into tears, unable to control their emotions.

Prime Minister Ari rises to his feet, shouting, "Our Messiah has come!" The prime minister lifts Victor's hand high into the air as the swarm of onlookers grows, pressing in closer, many of them sobbing. Finally, after centuries of waiting, the Jews' Messiah has arrived, and there are no words to express their feelings—only wailing and tears.

"Death could not keep me from saving you!" Victor exclaims over the sobbing and cheers. The sound is deafening as the people roar and celebrate with dancing, shouting, cursing, and crying.

Zerah Adler breaks through the throng waving his arms and yelling. He has been traveling through Israel and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ, who sealed Zerah as one of his 144,000 servants three-and-a-half years earlier, appointing him to preach all over the world. Zerah was present when the two witnesses were shot, lay dead for three-and-a-half days and then came to life again to rise into the heavens. He

knew this moment was coming, the great time of deception when his own people would believe that Victor Quade was Messiah, and he has been spreading the word through the nation that the Jews must flee.

"Get out of Israel!" he shouts. "Victor Quade will murder all of you!" Many rush to attack him, but as they do so, they hit an invisible boundary that sends them tumbling onto the debris. "When you worship Victor, you are worshipping Satan! Do not worship darkness," Zerah hollers over the noise of their voices. "Worship Hashem, who raised his son Yeshua from the dead. Choose Yeshua Messiah and live! Get out of Israel now! This resurrection is a work of Satan! Go! Go! Go! Do not be deceived! Quade wants to kill you!"

Victor Quade smooths his hair, which is thick with dried blood, and brushes off his dusty and gore-splattered suit. To a world filled with fear and hopelessness he looks like a savior who has broken the bonds of death, a larger-than-life redeemer who will fearlessly guide them into the future. He walks over the rubble to a man whose arm hangs broken at his side from the earthquake. Victor gently puts his hand under the man's arm and the man cries out in pain, but as Victor lifts the arm higher and higher, it straightens as the bones seem to fuse back together. Victor raises the arm over the man's head and the man waves it, crying as he does. "Messiah," the man whispers, overcome with emotion as the eager mob presses in closer.

A woman with her child in her arms begins to break down as Victor steps closer to them. The mother removes the makeshift bandage on one side of the child's face; it has been mangled in the disaster and it appears that a cavernous hole resides where her eye once was. Victor places his hand over the little girl's face and whispers something that no one can hear. When he removes his hand, the little girl looks out at the crowd with both eyes, and her mother bawls as the throng around them shouts in praise at the miracle that has taken place.

"Do not be deceived by what you're seeing!" Zerah shouts over the roar of the masses. "Hashem warned us about Victor. He is the one who Adonai calls the lawless one. He is going to stop all sacrifices and set himself up inside the temple as Hashem. Hashem told us that his coming is by the activity of Satan with all power, false signs, and lying

wonders. You are witnessing lying wonders! Quade's sole purpose is to deceive the world and to destroy every Jew. Listen to me! Get out of Israel!"

Victor touches the arms or faces of those around him as he steps to see Zerah eye to eye. "I know you," Victor sneers, his chest pounding with hatred for Zerah. "I remember the show you put on in Italy, but you don't seem to know who I am or what I will do to you. I will execute you as I killed those two maggots who lay sprawled here for days."

Zerah is small in comparison to Victor and the hoodie he is wearing is much bigger than his small frame can fit. "Unlike most of the world, I know who you are," Zerah says loud enough for those around them to hear. "I know all of your lord's ancient names. I know that he masquerades as an angel of light and you are his puppet. I know that your powers and the signs and the wonders that you do are from Satan to deceive those who will follow you. And I know that you won't touch me or any of Hashem's servants spreading the word of Yeshua around the world. You killed Hashem's two servants only because their time of prophesying was complete according to the work of Hashem. He breathed life into them, and today they live with him."

Victor is fuming, his face is flush as he begins to lift his hand to strike Zerah, but he stops. When being hailed as Messiah, he can't strike anyone just yet. He swears but keeps his voice low and his tone calm. "Get out of my country."

Zerah shakes his head. "This is Hashem's land. He has said of Jerusalem, 'I have put my holy name there."

"My holy name is here now," Victor seethes.

Zerah is unmoved. "As it is written, 'And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshipped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire."

Victor's eyes blacken, and he shakes his head, laughing. He steps close to Zerah's ear so only he can hear. "You and all these Jew pigs clamoring around me are dead. You will see who has the real power."

"He is our god!" shouts a man in his mid-to-late forties with dark

hair flecked with silver and wearing a white cassock, running up the temple stairs to Victor. He kneels before Victor and takes his hand, kissing it.

"You?" Victor says, looking at the man. "You turned the fountain waters red in Versailles. The E10 watched you perform many miracles. You created gnats from dust just as the two wicked sorcerers from here did. You stopped their curse of frogs from overtaking Berlin." He helps the man to his feet. "Your power is beyond impressive. What is your name?"

"My name is Ubel," he says, bowing low. "I was a misguided priest for many years, a stupid sheep blindly following a weak and powerless shepherd. From east to west and north to south, since the earth purged the hate from among us, I have been proclaiming you as our world's leader. I have been declaring that you alone can save us."

"I have heard you," Victor says, putting his hand on Ubel's shoulder. "You have been a faithful witness to my calling."

Ubel bows low again. "I flew here as soon as I heard that you were in the earthquake. Now that I see that you have defied death, I know that my proclamations have been true. You are our savior and god. You truly are our Victor." Ubel turns to the masses around them. "Our savior lives!" He raises his hand to the sky and flings an imaginary ball to the earth as fire falls from the heavens, leaping off the rubble. The crowd falls back, gasping at the sight.

Victor and Prime Minister Ari laugh in delight and Victor puts his arm around Ubel. "You will be very useful to my work, Ubel," Victor says.

"You are the holy one," Ubel says. "Everyone must know who you are." Victor claps him on the shoulder, and they walk together toward the temple stairs, stopping to heal the broken and wounded bodies lining the street. Frenzied cries and shouts echo in Jerusalem as word spreads throughout Israel and the world about the miraculous power that Victor Quade and his holy prophet possess.

Zerah follows after them, calling out to the pack that is pushing against Victor. "Look up to the sky!" he shouts as they press closer to Victor. He points upward to the swirling red and green auroras

over their heads. "Hashem told us there would be wonders in the sky! Hashem wants you to look up to his incredible wonders and power, not to man's false wonders." The people ignore him, calling out to see more of Victor and Ubel's power. "Don't look to them," Zerah pleads. "Hashem tells us they are false and wicked leaders. Hashem says when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel—flee to the mountains! Victor Quade is that abomination!"

Very few are listening to Zerah as all of Jerusalem follows after their messiah and savior, weeping and wailing as they do. "Do not take anything out of your house," Zerah hollers. "If you are working, do not go back to take what belongs to you. Just run and flee and save your lives!" Some stop following Quade and listen as Zerah implores them to run. "Great sorrow is coming, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. Get out of Israel and call on Yeshua!" Victor stops and pivots, stepping nose to nose with Zerah. "The time is fulfilled," Zerah says to him without blinking. "And your time is short. Your end is at hand."

Furious, but aware of the throng pressing in on him, Victor nods at Ubel, and together they run up the temple stairs, waving at the watching world. As they approach the temple, the doors fling open by the power of their presence and the multitude shrieks in amazement. Victor leaps onto the wall and springboards to the roof of the temple, and the entire globe staggers in wonder at this miraculous phenomenon. He truly is god! Atop the temple, Victor raises his hands over his head in victory. There can be no delay; his plan must be set into motion at once, and Ubel will be his greatest asset.