

#452 Thomas Paine and God Trying Men's Souls – *Common Sense, Rights of Man, Age of Reason*

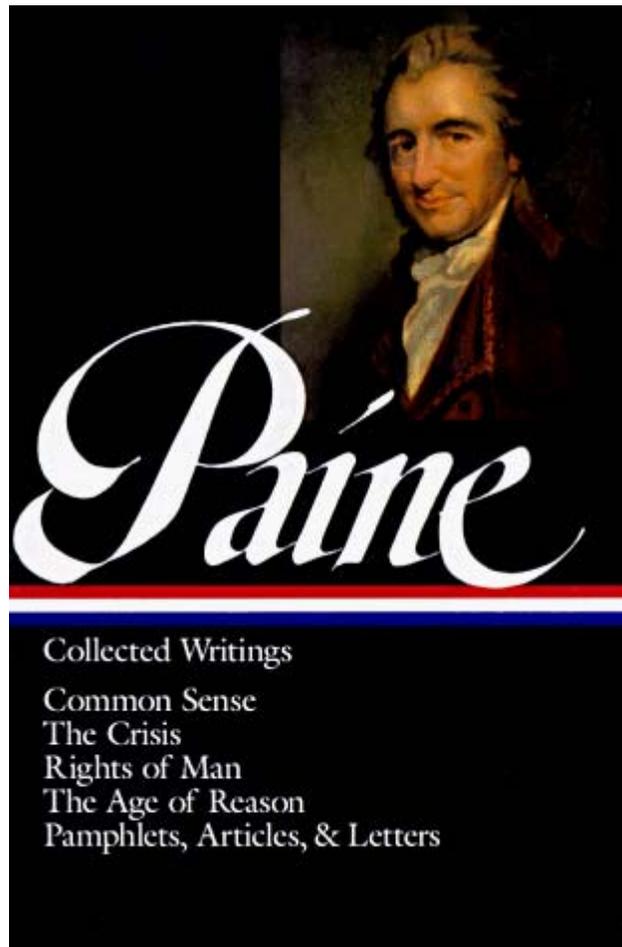
We have not yet completed our work on Daniel 12:10 and [Many Shall Be Made White](#), but we are nonetheless transitioning from that particular title to [Thomas Paine and God Trying Men's Souls](#). Few works of men were more representative of the Age of Reason and of the Enlightenment than those of Thomas Paine. It is always fascinating when the Lord uses a man to fulfill the prophecies of the Lord through that man's very own negative words or writings about the Lord, either through the denial of the existence of the Lord, or through a lack of understanding of the true nature of the Lord and of the spiritual war, or especially through denying His power over, or ordainment of, the affairs of men. Such a man was Thomas Paine.

We introduced Thomas Paine in Unsealing [#76 Double Her Double – The 6th Double: The American Revolution and the French Revolution](#). Paine's writings, such as the pamphlet titled *Common Sense*, greatly influenced the political thinking of the leaders of the [American Revolution](#). He later became a famous figure in Paris during the [French Revolution](#). "I know not," wrote former President John Adams in 1806, "whether any man in the world has had more influence on its inhabitants or affairs for the last thirty years than Thomas Paine."

Key Understanding: *Thomas Paine*. Thomas Paine was closely connected to both the American and French Revolutions in the late 1700's through his writings, *Common Sense, Rights of Man, and Age of Reason*. Paine's writings are an outstanding example of the impact of the Age of Reason/ Age of Enlightenment on the doctrines surrounding the birth of America.

We will understand Paine's specific role in prophecy, but first, here is a brief introductory summary on Thomas Paine from Wikipedia.

Thomas Paine (January 29, 1737 – June 8, 1809) was an English and American intellectual, scholar, revolutionary, deist, and idealist, who spent much of his time in America and France. A radical pamphleteer, Paine anticipated and helped foment the American Revolution through his powerful writings, most notably *Common Sense*, an incendiary pamphlet advocating independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain. An advocate of liberalism, he outlined his political philosophy in *Rights of Man*, written both as a reply to Edmund Burke's view of the



French Revolution and as a general political philosophy treatise, and in *Common Sense*, a treatise on the benefits of personal liberty and limited government, in which he considers society a representation of human ideals, and government a necessary evil. Paine was also noteworthy for his support of deism, taking its form in his treatise on religion, *Age of Reason*, as well as for his eye-witness accounts of both the French and American Revolutions.

Key verses will continue to be:

Daniel 12:10 (KJV) 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.

Isaiah 1:18 (KJV) COME NOW, AND LET US REASON TOGETHER, saith the LORD: though your sins be as SCARLET, they shall be as WHITE as snow; though they be RED like crimson, they shall be as WOOL.

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