

THE SIXTY-NINE WEEKS OF DANIEL

End Times Bible Study – Pt. 5

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Daniel 9:24-27 c/f Luke 21:5-8

I. THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

*“For **twenty-three years**—from the thirteenth year of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah until this very day—the word of the Lord has come to me and I have spoken to you again and again, but **you have not listened** Therefore, the **Lord Almighty** says this:*

*‘Because you have **not listened** to my words, I will summon all the peoples of the north and **my servant Nebuchadnezzar** king of Babylon,’ declares the Lord, ‘and I will bring them **against** this land and its inhabitants and against all the surrounding nations.*

*I will completely **destroy** them and make them an object of **horror** and **scorn**, and an everlasting ruin This whole country will become a **desolate** wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon **seventy years**.” Jer. 25:3, 8-9 & 11*

Why **seventy** years?

*“But in the **seventh** year the land is to have a **Sabbath** of rest, a **Sabbath** to the LORD. Do not **sow** your fields or **prune** your vineyards. Do not **reap** what grows of itself or **harvest** the grapes of your untended vines. The land is to have **a year** of rest.” Lev. 25:4-5*

The Year of **Jubilee**—every **50** years.

*“The **fiftieth** year shall be a **jubilee** for you; **do not sow** and **do not reap** what grows of itself or **harvest** the untended vines. For it is a **jubilee** and is to be **holy** for you; eat only what is taken directly from the fields.” Lev. 25:11*

Why did God establish the **Sabbath Years** and the Year of **Jubilee**?

God wants His people to **trust** Him for their daily **needs** and to give Him the **glory** for everything.

*“The land enjoyed its **sabbath** rests; all the time of its **desolation** it **rested**, until the seventy years were **completed** in fulfillment of the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah.” 2 Chron. 17:15-21*

Nebuchadnezzar **conquered** Judah in 605 B.C. and **deported** many of the people to Babylon including Daniel.

*“While I was speaking and praying, **confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel** and making **my request** to the LORD my God for his holy hill— while I was still in prayer, **Gabriel**, the man I had seen in the earlier vision, came to me in **swift** flight about the time of the evening sacrifice.*

*He **instructed** me and said to me, ‘Daniel, I have now come to give you **insight and understanding**. As soon **as you began to pray, an answer was given**, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed.*

Therefore, consider the message and understand the vision. . . ” Dan. 9:20-23

II. THE SEVENTY WEEKS OF DANIEL

*“Seventy ‘**sevens**’ are decreed for **your people** and your **holy city** . . .”*

1. Seventy-sevens are **periods** of _____.

*“I Daniel, understood from the **Scriptures**, according to the word of the LORD given to **Jeremiah** the prophet, that the **desolation** of Jerusalem would **last seventy years**.”* Dan. 9:2

Seventy-sevens: 70 years X 7 years = 490 years.

2. The **recipients** of the prophecy is for the _____ people, not the Church.

*“. . . for **your people** and **your holy city** (Jerusalem) . . .”*

There is **no mention of the Church** anywhere in the text.

*“. . . this chapter is **specifically** God’s program for the people of **Israel**, as Daniel would obviously interpret it. To make this **equivalent** to the **church** composed of both Jews and Gentiles is to read into the passage something **foreign** to the whole thinking of Daniel. The **church** as such has no relation to the city nor to the **promises given specifically to Israel** relating to their restoration and repossession of the land.”*

—Dr. John Walvoord: *Daniel-The Key to Prophetic Revelation*, 220.

The PROPHECY in Daniel 9 is for the **Jewish** people!

3. The word “**decreed**.”

“Seventy ‘sevens’ are **decreed** . . .”

“**decreed**” = “to be determined, settled, or marked out

GOD’S 490 YEAR PLAN FOR ISRAEL (Two categories + Six purposes)

CATEGORY #1: _____.

“Seventy ‘sevens’ are **decreed** for your people and your holy city to **finish** transgression, put an **end to sin**, to **atone** for wickedness.”

CATEGORY #2: _____.

“Seventy ‘sevens’ are **decreed** for your people and your holy city . . . to bring in **everlasting righteousness**, to seal up vision and prophecy and to **anoint the most holy**.”

“Know and understand this: From the **issuing of the decree** to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, (“Messiah the Prince” KJV & NASB) comes, there will be seven ‘sevens,’ and sixty-two ‘sevens.’ It will be **rebuilt** with **streets** and a **trench**, but in times of **trouble**.” Dan. 9:25

Daniel 9:20-27

THE SEVENTY SEVENS

O F D A N I E L ' S P R O P H E C Y

9:26

9:24-25

9:27

PART #1 = 483 years

The 69 Weeks of Daniel 9:24-25

Seven 'sevens' + Sixty-two 'sevens' = Sixty-nine 'sevens'

$$49 \text{ years} + 434 \text{ years} = 483 \text{ years}$$

$$7 \times 7 = 49$$

$$7 \times 62 = 434$$

1. Jerusalem will be rebuilt.

2. The "Anointed One, the ruler comes."

²⁴ "Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy."²⁵ "Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.' It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. — Daniel 9:22-25

PART #2 = 7 years

The 70th Week of Daniel 9:27

"One 'seven'"

7 years

The Tribulation
3.5 yrs

The Great Tribulation
3.5 yrs

²⁷ 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 on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him." — Daniel 9:27

490

Y E A R S

“. . . From the issuing of the **decree** to restore and **rebuild Jerusalem** until the **Anointed One**, the **ruler**, (“Messiah the Prince”) comes, there will be **seven** ‘sevens,’ and **sixty-two** ‘sevens.’ It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble.” Dan. 9:25

THE EVENTS DURING THE 483 YEARS (Daniel 9:24-25)

1. During the 483 years of PART #1, **Jerusalem** will be _____.

“It will be **rebuilt** with streets and a trench, but in times of **trouble**.”

THE FOUR DECREES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT REGARDING JERUSALEM

DECREE #1: Cyrus, King of **Persia** (2 Chronicles 36:23 & Ezra 1:1-4; 5:13)

“This is what **Cyrus** king of **Persia** says: ‘The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has **appointed** me to build a **temple** for him at **Jerusalem** in Judah.’
2 Chron. 36:23

DECREE #2: Darius, King of **Persia** (Ezra 6:7-12).

“Do not **interfere** with the work on this **temple** of God. Let the governor of the Jews and the Jewish elders **rebuild** this **house of God** on its site.” Ezra 6:7

DECREE #3: Artaxerxes Longimanus, King of **Persia** (Ezra 7:11-26)

This decree **wasn't to build anything** but was related to **providing** the **finances** needed to reinstate the **articles** to assist in worship.

According to 2 Kings 25:13-17 when Nebuchadnezzar **sacked** Jerusalem, he **destroyed** the **Temple** and took all the **articles**, (the equipment) used for **worship** (see Ex. 36-40) made of gold, silver, and bronze to Babylon (c/f 2 Chron. 36:7).

So here in Ezra 7, **Artaxerxes** is paying to have them all replaced.

Artaxerxes said:

“**Deliver** to the **God** of Jerusalem all the **articles** entrusted to you for **worship** in the **temple** of your God. And anything else **needed** for the temple of your God that you may have occasion to supply, you may **provide** from the royal **treasury** . . . **Whatever** the **God** of heaven has **prescribed**, let it be done with **diligence** for the **temple** of the God of heaven.” Ezra 7:19-29 & 23

DECREE #4: Artaxerxes Longimanus, King of Persia (Neh. 2:5 & 7-8)

Nehemiah was the **cupbearer** to King **Artaxerxes** and when he heard that the **wall** of Jerusalem was **broken down** and that its **gates** had been **burned**, he was stricken with **grief** and **prayed** asking God to give him **favor** with Artaxerxes so that he could go back to **Jerusalem** to **rebuild** the wall and the city.

*“If it **pleases the king** and if your **servant** has found **favor** in his sight, let **him send me to the city in Judah** where my **fathers** are buried so that I can **rebuild** it.”*

*I also said to him, ‘If it **pleases the king**, may I have **letters** to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will **provide** me safe-conduct until I arrive in **Judah**? And may I have a **letter** to **Asaph**, keeper of the king’s **forest**, so he will give me **timber** to make **beams** for the **gates** of the citadel by the **temple** and for the **city wall** and for the residence I will occupy?’ And because the **gracious** hand of my **God** was upon me, the **king granted** my requests.” Neh. 2:5 & 7-8*

WHICH DECREE IS THE RIGHT ONE?

Gabriel said in Daniel 9:24 that it would be the **decree** that was to:

*“. . . restore and rebuild Jerusalem . . . It will be **rebuilt** with streets and a trench, but in **times of trouble**.”*

Nehemiah **rebuilt** the city and the wall in “*times of trouble*.”

*“. . . half of my men did the work, while the other half were **equipped** with **spears, shields, bows** and **armor**.” Neh. 4:16*

The **correct** decree is **#4** and we know according to Nehemiah 2:1 that **Artaxerxes** gave this decree in the month of **Nisan** during his **twentieth year** which we know from the historic record was **445 B.C.**

2. The “**Anointed One**, the ruler will _____.”

If you count **173,880** days (**483** prophetic years of 360 days) from **445 B.C.** when **Artaxerxes** gave the **decree** to **Nehemiah** to **rebuild** Jerusalem, the “**Anointed One**” should arrive.

In 1895 Sir Robert Anderson made a detailed study of Daniel's Prophecy in his book, *The Coming Prince*. He calculated the 483 years from 445 B.C. (When Artaxerxes decreed to Nehemiah to rebuild Jerusalem) allowing for the Lunar calendar that the Jews used, their Passovers, and Leap years— and discovered the day the Anointed One arrived was the exact day Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey (Matt. 21:1-11; Mk. 11:1-11, Lk. 19:28-44, and Jn. 12:12-19).

“Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”
Zech. 9:9

THE EVENTS AFTER THE 483 YEARS (Daniel 9:26)

“After the sixty-two ‘sevens,’ the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.” Dan. 9:26

EVENT #1: The Anointed One will be cut off.

The phrase “cut off” means to “kill or destroy” and is used in Lev. 7:20, Prov. 2:22 and Ps. 37:9 to describe a person who is given the death penalty for a crime.

EVENT #2: A ruler is going to “destroy the city and the sanctuary.”

Jesus told the disciples that both of these events would take place:

Jesus predicted his own death:

“From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.” Matt. 16:21

“When they came together in Galilee, he said to them, ‘The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised to life.’ And the disciples were filled with grief.” Matt. 17:22-23

“Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside and said to them, ‘We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!’ ” Matt. 20:17-19

Jesus predicted the coming destruction of the Temple:

“Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, ‘As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; everyone one of them will be thrown down.’”

Luke 21:5-6

The Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D. by the Roman General Titus to stop the constant Jewish rebellions once and for all. You can read Flavius Josephus’ account of the horror of this siege at: <http://www.rjgeib.com/thoughts/desolation/josephus.html> and here: <http://www.christianitytoday.com/history/issues/issue-28/ad-70-titus-destroys-jerusalem.html>

EVENT #3: Another ruler is coming.

“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 on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.” —Dan. 9:27

III. GUIDELINE FOR LIVING

GUIDELINE #8: Maintain Biblical _____ in everything.

“Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.” 1 John 2:15-17 (NLT)

“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.” Gal. 6:7-8