



## Things To Come: Week 4

### God's Timeline:

### Daniel's Prophecy of the 70 Weeks

#### Audio & Notes at:

<http://www.htchurch.com/things-to-come>

#### Video at:

<http://www.htchurch.tv>

#### Scripture Passage: Daniel 9:1-3. 17-27

*(1) In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans, (2) in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood the number of the years by books, which came of the Word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. (3) And I set my face toward the Lord God, to seek by prayer and holy desires, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes...*

*(17) And now, O our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his holy desires, and cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake. (18) O my God, bow down Your ear and hear. Open Your eyes and behold our ruins, and the city which is called by Your name. For we do not present our prayers before You on account of our righteousnesses, but because of Your great mercies. (19) O LORD, hear; O LORD, forgive; O LORD, listen and do. Do not delay, for Your own sake, O my God; for Your city and Your people are called by Your name.*

*(20) And while I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin, and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my cry before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God; (21) yes, while I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, touched me in my severe exhaustion, about the time of the evening sacrifice. (22) And he enlightened me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I have now come out to give you skill and understanding. (23) At the beginning of your prayers the commandment came out, and I have come to explain. For you are greatly beloved; therefore understand the matter, and attend to the vision:*

*(24) Seventy weeks are decreed as to your people and as to your holy city, to finish the transgression and to make an end of sins, and to make atonement for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. (25) Know therefore and understand, that from the going out of the command to restore and to build Jerusalem, to Messiah the Prince, shall be seven weeks, and sixty-two weeks. The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in times of affliction.*

*(26) And after sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself. And the people of the ruler who shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. And the end of it shall be with the flood, and ruins are determined, until the end shall be war. (27) And he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week. And in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the offering to cease, and on a corner of the altar desolating abominations, even until the end. And that which was decreed shall be poured on the desolator. (MKJV)*

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## **1. What are these 70 Weeks?**

These 70 weeks is actually a period of 490 years. Every one of these weeks is not a week of seven days, but it is a week of seven years. In other words, each of the weeks which Gabriel refers to is seven years in length, not seven days in length.

### **1.1 In Hebrew, “70 weeks” is actually “70 sevens.”**

The word which is translated “week” in many Bibles is really just the Hebrew word “seven.” So what he says in Hebrew is “70 sevens are decreed as to your people.”

The number seven is also extremely important in the Hebrew Calendar.

- There is not only a seven of **days** but a seven of **weeks**. (Pentecost)
- Feasts of the seventh month
- There is also a seven of years: the year of release
- There is also a larger seven: a *seven of seven years* or 49 years, followed by the 50th year, which is the Year of Jubilee. In the Jubilee Year they had a release of debts, but in addition, property was returned to people and slaves were set free.

### **1.2. The context of Daniel 9 shows that these are 70 sets of seven years.**

The Jewish people had been sent away by God to Babylon for a period of 70 years.

- God had commanded them to let the land lie fallow every seven years.
- God gave Judah a chance to be blessed at the very last moment if they would release their slaves and do the right thing.
- They reneged on their pledge to do this.
- They had also disobeyed 70 times, and had never given the land the rest that God had commanded, to let it lie fallow every seventh year.

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God said the land was going to enjoy 70 Sabbaths because there had been a total of **490 years** in which the people disobeyed and the land did **not** get its Sabbaths. So the reason Israel was in Babylon 70 years was because they owed the land 70 Sabbaths.

*And they burned the house of God, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem, and burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all their beautiful vessels. And those who had escaped from the sword he [King Nebuchadnezzar] carried away to Babylon, where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia. This was to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her Sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years. (2 Chron. 36:19-21)*

## **2. Another 490 Years Are Given By God**

### **2.1 490 years were decreed for Israel to do certain things.**

*Seventy weeks are decreed as to your people and as to your holy city, to finish the transgression and to make an end of sins, and to make atonement for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. (Dan. 9:24)*

### **2.2 What is the hidden significance of the number “seventy times seven?”**

490 stands for God forgiving His people and giving them grace, giving them another chance to accomplish their mission - only this time with the ability of God and not Man. Israel failed in the first 490 years but succeeds in the second 490 because of Jesus!

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### **3. How long are these years?**

These prophetic years are not 365 days long, but they are years of 360 days each.

### **4. When do the 490 years start?**

There is only one decree that matches this correctly: the decree from King Artaxerxes to Nehemiah, recorded in the Book of Nehemiah. That happened in March of 445 B.C.

### **5. When do the 490 years end?**

Gabriel was saying, therefore, that from the time of that decree, it would be 483 years until Messiah the Prince would come. This was fulfilled on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Nisan, A.D. 32.

*"If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation." (Luke 19:42-44)*

### **6. What Would Happen After Messiah Came?**

*And after sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself. And the people of the ruler who shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. And the end of it shall be with the flood, and ruins are determined, until the end shall be war. (Daniel 9:26)*

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## **7. The Wicked Prince And The Remaining Week**

*(26b) ...And the people of the ruler who shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. And the end of it shall be with the flood, and ruins are determined, until the end shall be war. (27) And he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week. And in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the offering to cease, and on a corner of the altar desolating abominations [idols], even until the end. And that which was decreed shall be poured on the desolator. (Dan. 9:26b-27)*

### **7.1 Is Jesus the “he” of verse 27?**

There are good reasons why this is not Jesus.

- The Jews did not destroy the City.
- Jesus never made a 7-year covenant.
- Jesus didn't cause sacrifices to cease.
- Jesus didn't defile the Temple.

### **7.2 Can we identify the “he” of verse 27?**

- He is a prince or captain of some type.
  - His people destroyed Jerusalem in the year 70 AD.
  - He confirms a covenant with many for one seven (i.e. 7 years).
  - In the middle of that week he causes sacrifice and offering to cease.
  - He is involved in causing abominations in the Temple.
  - There is a punishment which will be poured out on him.
  - We must conclude therefore that he is the Antichrist!
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### 7.3 When does the 70<sup>th</sup> Week begin?

Only 483 of the 490 years have elapsed and so we await the final week or 7 years.

- The City was destroyed some 40 years after the end of Week # 69.
- No Roman or Middle Eastern leader has made a 7-year covenant with Israel.
- We have 3 significant witnesses besides Daniel who say these are future events: Jesus (Matthew 24); Paul (2 Thessalonians 2); and John (Revelation 11-12).

Jesus will not return to the Earth until the mysteries of God are completely fulfilled.

- The mystery of the Church.
- The mystery/times of the Gentiles.
- The mystery of iniquity.
- The mystery of Israel.

### 7.4 Events of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week.

The 70<sup>th</sup> Week is commonly although incorrectly called the Tribulation. This last set of seven years begins when Antichrist confirms a covenant with Israel and others. Why does Israel enter into this agreement with Hell?

- Possibilities: desire to rebuild their Temple; fear; pressure; weariness.

*14 Therefore hear the word of the Lord, you scornful men, who rule this people who are in Jerusalem, 15 Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death, And with Sheol we are in agreement. When the overflowing scourge passes through, it will not come to us, for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood we have hidden ourselves...." 18 Your covenant with death will be annulled, and your agreement with Sheol will not stand; When the overflowing scourge passes through, then you will be trampled down by it. (Isaiah 28:14-15, 18 NKJV)*

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This final seven years, is divided into two halves. The first three and a half years seem to be what Jesus called the beginning of sorrows, or birth pangs. The second three and a half years is the time during which the Antichrist has authority to rule.

- That second half is referred to in other places in the Bible as 1260 days, or as 42 months, or as “time, [two] times, and half a time.”
- In the exact middle of the 7 years, the Antichrist commits an abomination of desolation, which means he defiles the Temple of God.
- Jesus said that this Abomination begins what He called the Great Tribulation – a time of terror unequalled in the history of the world.
- During the reign of Antichrist, God also begins to pour out His judgments on the unbelieving world again, as He hasn’t done since the time of Noah. Many will curse God and refuse to repent, but many will come to faith in God.

At the end of the 70th Week, Jesus returns personally from Heaven, destroys Antichrist, and sets up His Kingdom on Earth. As we said last week, He rescues Israel and begins to turn the Earth into a paradise!

*1 Behold, the day of the Lord is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst.  
2 For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, but the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. 3 Then the Lord will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. 4 And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east... 5b Thus the Lord my God will come, and all the saints with You. (Zechariah 14:1-5 NKJV)*

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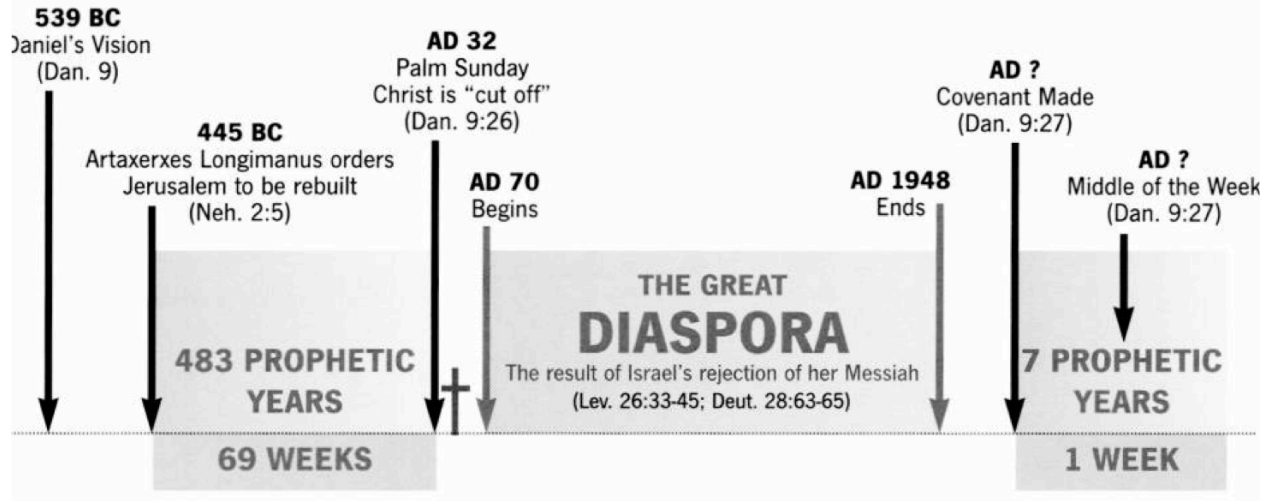
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# THE 70 WEEKS OF DANIEL

Daniel 9:24-27 — A Broad Outline of God's Prophetic Timetable



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## The 70th Week

