

Keys to Prophecy



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#6 - A Future and a Hope

Last night we studied Daniel 8 - There Daniel sees a vision of a Ram - Goat - and Little Horn

It is interpreted to him by the Angel

The Ram = Kings of Media and Persia

The Goat = Kingdom of Greece

How much Daniel would understand of this we do not know for sure.

However, since Medo-Persia conquered Babylon only about 10 years later

And since the vision took place in Shushan - By the river Ulai - Which was the territory of Media

It seems that the words "Media and Persia" would have some meaning to Daniel

That power must have already been on the rise in the East - Although not yet threatening

As for Greece - The Bible word is Javan - The ancient term for the peninsula we now call Greece

Greece was simply a distant people way to the west - and probably not a political threat at this time

And the Little Horn - Well that caught Daniel's attention simply because of what it did in the vision

Destroyed the Sanctuary (temple) - Ended its worship - Cast down truth - Championed error in its place

Destroyed God's people - and even went after the Prince of the Sanctuary = Daniel's God Himself

How does someone attack God? - By going after His reputation and His children

Defiling the truth about salvation - about God's character - His intentions - lies - deceit

Persecuting God's children - His people - Israel - the Church

This desolation matches the current condition of Jerusalem - Destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 - 40 years prior

This vision could not help but bring back very painful memories

Like a New Yorker who lost family in the Twin Towers seeing video footage of the towers falling

Then the angel asks - How long will this be allowed to continue? Until when - Looking for the terminus

And the answer - Until evening-morning 2300 - Then will be restored the Sanctuary

Why did this hit Daniel so hard? - He was sick for days - Wiped out - Emotionally incapable of functioning

He had to call in sick

Finally the grief process played out to where he could again go about the King's business

But even then he was astonished at the vision - And no one understood it

Something about this vision stuck in Daniel's heart like a dagger - For years - What was it?

☐ We get a clue in Chapter 9 (867)

Daniel 9:1-2 ¹In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the lineage of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans—

²in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the LORD through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

About a dozen years have passed since the vision of Daniel 8 -

- It is about 538 BC -
Babylon has fallen to Medo Persia on the night of Belshazzar's feast

Daniel has seen the first part of his earlier vision come true - Medo-Persia - The Ram - is in power

Babylon the Head of Gold has given way to the Chest and Arms of Silver - Daniel 2

The Lion has been replaced by the Bear - Daniel 7

Cyrus was leading the army - As prophesied in Isaiah 44-45 (700)

And the prophecy included that Cyrus would also give decree for Jerusalem and Temple to be rebuilt

Darius takes over the government - Probably to handle affairs while Cyrus finishes his military campaigns

- v.2 - Daniel is studying the prophecies of Jeremiah - Where he predicted a 70 year length to the Babylonian captivity
There are two such passages in Jeremiah

- Jeremiah 25:11 (755) *And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.*

God sends the word through Jeremiah - You will serve the king of Babylon 70 years

- This prophecy is dated in v.1 - within the year following the 1st defeat of Jerusalem by Babylon - 605 BC
When Daniel was taken captive - Daniel has been in Babylon every one of those 70 years, so far

After a few years, Jerusalem rebelled against Babylon and tried to exert independence again

- In 597 Babylon came and re-conquered Jerusalem - Took more hostages - installed a new government
Within the next year, God re-stated the previous prediction that Jerusalem would serve Babylon 70 years
So settle in for the long haul

- Jeremiah 29:10 (780) *For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.*

After a few more years - The Jewish king and people rebelled again

- Finally - in 586 BC - The Babylonians attacked a 3rd time - They destroyed the city and Temple
And left the whole region decimated and depopulated

Daniel had been taken captive - as a young man - at the first defeat of Jerusalem - in 605 BC

- Ever since - For 68 long years - Daniel has been counting the years - until the promised time of return
605-538 = 68 years - according to inclusive reckoning (which includes 605 as year 1)
Daniel is a very old man - probably mid to upper 80s

For some reason now Daniel is double checking his prophetic understanding- Rereading the Scriptures

Things are right on track - Yet Daniel is concerned

So he reaffirms his understanding of the promise of God's prophet Jeremiah - of 70 years - Then restoration

- Daniel 9:3-5 ³*Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.*

⁴*And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments,*

⁵*we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments.*

Now Daniel turns to prayer - No casual prayer - But with fasting - sackcloth - ashes - Serious focused prayer

He starts his prayer by reminding God that He "keeps His covenant" - You are a promise keeping God!

He acknowledges and confesses Israel's sin and rebellion - Identifies himself with it

He accepts the fact that Israel deserved the captivity - Because they forsook God

He takes full responsibility - We rebelled - We pulled away from God's protection

Israel never was a strong enough nation to withstand the conquering powers around them
 It was only by God's mighty protection that they became free and remained free
 By serving idols, they rejected God's protection - for the "protection" of pagan gods
 God sent warning after warning - Prophet after Prophet - For centuries - Unheeded
 Finally God - in honoring their free choice - had to let natural events take their course
 Babylon conquered Jerusalem - and took the Jews into captivity

Daniel reminds God of his promises and mercy - To forgive - To restore
 This sounds so similar to the issues of Daniel 8 - Desolation - followed by restoration
 But where as Jeremiah said 70 years, then restoration - Daniel 8:14 says 2300, then restoration

With that in mind - Now notice how Daniel ends his prayer - Notice the words he uses

Daniel 9:17-19 *¹⁷Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate.
¹⁸O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies.
¹⁹O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name."*

v.17 - Let your face shine on Your sanctuary which is desolate

v.18 - See the desolations of Your people and your city

v.19 - Hear - Forgive - Listen and act - DO NOT DELAY

Can you hear Daniel's heart? -

He seems burdened by fear that God might extend the 70 year time of desolation and captivity
 Where would he get such a fear? - Is this the same fear that caused his distress in 8:27 - Sick for days...

The desolations described in Chapter 8 - brought on by the evil actions of the Little Horn -
 match the current condition of Jerusalem and the Temple
 The question went out - How long... - Until when... - Will these desolations be allowed to carry on?
 The answer - Unto evening-morning 2300 - Then will be restored the Sanctuary

Daniel seems to see the 2300 as somehow relating to the 70 years captivity - that it meant a lengthening
 Why else would he have been so devastated at the end of Daniel 8's vision?
 Maybe the Jews had not repented and sought God as they should - So God was lengthening the captivity
 So Daniel sets out to pray - confessing - repenting - for his people
 And trying to hold God to his promise - given thru Jeremiah - of 70 years captivity - then restoration

Gabriel had tried to tell him - This vision is not for now - Not about the current desolation of Jerusalem
 It refers to the time of the End - To the latter end of the indignation - To many days in the future
 But it seems Daniel's fears overshadowed the angel's clear words
 So with a broken heart - Daniel sets out to try to hold God to his original promise

Daniel 9:20-21 *²⁰Now while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God,
²¹yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering.*

In answer to Daniel's prayer - Gabriel shows up again - Daniel recognizes him from his last vision - 8:16
 The same angel who tried to explain the vision of Daniel 8 - Returns in response to Daniel's prayer

Daniel 9:22 *And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.*

I have come to give you understanding - You didn't get it 12 years ago - So let's try again
 At the end of Daniel 8 - Daniel says clearly - I did not understand - No one understand - I was upset!

Daniel 9:23 *At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision:*

- Consider the matter and understand the VISION
- What vision? Has Daniel received any new vision in Chapter 9? - NO NEW VISION!
So what vision must the Angel be referring to? - The same one Daniel remembers him from - Daniel 8
The one Daniel did not understand - That the angel now comes to give him understanding of

Let me reinforce this connection between Daniel 8 and 9 with a little fun with words

- The main word for “vision” in Chapter 8 is “chazon” - With three very significant exceptions...
 - 8:1,2 - Daniel had a vision - “chazon”
 - 8:13 - The angel asks - How long the “chazon” - This view of devastation under the little horn
 - 8:15 - Daniel saw the “chazon” and sought to understand it
The “chazon” refers to the whole vision Daniel saw - illustrated by the large box →
- 8:16 - Gabriel is instructed to make Daniel understand the vision - A new word - “moreh”
- 8:17 - Gabriel says - The “chazon” is for the end-time
- 8:18 - Daniel faints and is revived - Then the angel continues his explanation from v.19-26
- 8:26 - The “moreh” of “the evening and the morning” is true - But seal up the “chazon”
- The part of the “chazon” about the evening-morning is called the “moreh” - 8:14
This “moreh” is a sub-portion of the larger vision - “chazon”
- 8:27 - Daniel was astonished at the “moreh” portion of the “chazon”
It was the “evening-morning” part of the vision - called the “moreh” (v.26) that wiped Daniel out
The same part the one like a man had instructed Gabriel to make sure Daniel understood - v.16
- 9:21 - Daniel recognizes the same angel from the “chazon” at the beginning - Referring to the Dan 8 vision
- 9:23 - The angel now tells Daniel to consider the matter and understand the “moreh”
The rest of the vision had already been explained in chapter 8
- The “moreh” is - the portion of the “chazon” referring to the “evening-morning” - as stated in 8:26
- The 2300th evening-morning - then restoration - of 8:14
- That part of the “chazon” which Daniel did not understand - according to 8:27
- That part of the “chazon” which Gabriel no comes to explain - in response to Daniel’s prayer - 9:23
- So what the angel is now going to explain - is specifically about the “evening-morning” portion of Dan 8
Called the “moreh” - which has astonished Daniel - and caused him 12 years of grief
- Daniel 9:24-27 = God’s explanation of the 2300 - of Daniel 8:14 - the “moreh”

Chazon
8:1-14

Moreh
8:14

Were we able to decipher the meaning of the 2300 evening-morning period yet? - No - No starting point given
What should we now expect from the explanation of the angel? - Keys to the 2300 - That’s why he came
Understand the “moreh” - The 2300 evening-morning portion of the vision of Daniel 8
Do you see that Daniel 8 and 9 go together like chips and salsa - like peanut butter and jelly?

So - Here we go - Let’s get the full explanation now of the “moreh” - The 2300 evening-morning portion of Daniel 8
Let’s go through these verses and lay out the basic facts - before we try to do any interpreting
We will fill out a chart as we go - (A completed chart is on the last page of these notes)

Daniel 9:24 *Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city,
To finish the transgression, to make an end of sins,
To make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness,
To seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.*

- v.24 - 70 sevens are determined - or cut off - delineated - subdivided - From what?
- From the “moreh” the angel came to explain to Daniel - the 2300
Remember - In these verses the angels is explaining the “moreh” - the 2300 part of Daniel 8

For what purpose - For Daniels people and city - The subject of Daniel’s prayer
The rest of v.24 has deep inferences about another chance for Israel to follow God right
Also strong references to the coming of Messiah

- So we have the initial vision - moreh - of the 2300
- And 70x7 - or 490 - are cut off from the 2300

Daniel 9:25 *Know therefore and understand,
that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince,
There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks;
The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.*

- v.25 - From decree to restore and build Jerusalem - Until the time of the coming of Messiah the Prince
Will be $7 \times 7 (49) + 62 \times 7 (434) = 69 \times 7 (483)$
So the 70x7 (490) is divided into three portions - $7 \times 7 (49) + 62 \times 7 (434) + 1$ remaining 7
- The first 7 sevens (49) seem to be the time of rebuilding - An extended and difficult time
The street = plaza; wall = diggings - The foundations or trenches
Much opposition from surrounding peoples - As well as internal distraction and disunity
- Then an additional 62 sevens (434) reaches down to the time of Messiah

- Significantly - We finally got a starting point - The degree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem
From there - a total of 69 sevens - or 483 - will reach down to Messiah the Prince

Daniel 9:26 *And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself;
And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.
The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.*

- v.26 - After the 62 sevens - Messiah will come - And then Messiah will be CUT OFF - but NOT for Himself
- THEN - after Messiah is cut off - The people of the “prince to come” will destroy the city and sanctuary
There will be war - And the desolations of city and sanctuary by the Little Horn will take place

This is the important point Daniel missed in the first place
The desolations of the Little Horn are not the desolations in the time of Daniel - Caused by Babylon
But something that will happen in the future - AFTER Messiah has come - and been cut off
This is so important - That Gabriel repeats himself - With added perspective

Daniel 9:27 *Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week;
But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.
And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate,
Even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.*

- v.27 - He will confirm the covenant with many for one seven - The final seven of the 490
- And in the middle of the seven - He will bring an end to sacrifice and offering
So let’s split the final seven into two sections of $3\frac{1}{2}$ - to identify the mid-point
- THEN will come that abomination that makes desolate

What does Daniel learn from this

1. The command to restore and build Jerusalem will come - soon - on schedule - as promised and prophesied
At the close of the 70 year time period of Jeremiah 25 and 29
2. Daniel’s people will get another chance to fulfill their original mission and destiny
God will give them 7 times as long as the captivity for their second, and final, chance

3. The 2nd chance time period will culminate with the coming of the Messiah
 Messiah will arrive 69 sevens away - from an identifiable future starting point
 The command to restore and build Jerusalem

This is BIG NEWS - This is HUGE - Immense - Titanic

This totally eclipses the news of the 70 year captivity ending

This eclipses the rebuilding of the city and sanctuary

This is the event toward which all God's people have looked since sin began

The event which every aspect of the sanctuary ritual prefigured - pointed forward to

This is the first concrete time-clue in the history of the world about when Messiah will actually come

This is like God's angel showing up today and giving us the timing of the 2nd coming

4. The desolations by the Little Horn - as described in the vision of Daniel 8 - will come after Messiah
 Therefore the Babylonian desolation in Jerusalem is not what Daniel 8 was addressing
 And therefore - the 2300 evening-morning time period is not a lengthening of the current captivity

Daniel got his answer - loud and clear - to his great comfort -

Plus a exciting sneak-peak at the time of the coming of Messiah

What can we now learn from this

490 are cut off from the 2300 - For Israel to fulfill its destiny

The 490 begins with a Command to restore and build Jerusalem

49 + 434 - Will reach down to Messiah

During the final 7 - Messiah will be cut off

In the middle of that final 7 - Messiah will bring an end to sacrifice and offering

So - when was the decree given to restore and build Jerusalem

- Let's begin to construct a time-line - and put in some dates

Actually there were THREE decrees about rebuilding Jerusalem and temple - 536 - 520 - and 457 - Found in Ezra

1. 1st year of Cyrus - c. 537 BC - Ezra 1:1-4 (443)
 The decree was probably issued late in 537 which would allow the Jews to actually return in Spring 536
 Thus fulfilling the 70 years of captivity
 Go build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem -
 To be financed by those who stay behind and with help from the king's treasurer
 The temple foundation was laid with great fanfare - But the...
 Project stalled almost immediately due to outside opposition - Lawsuits filed and restraining orders issued
 These were overturned by the 2nd decree - given by...
2. Darius I - soon after 520 B C - Ezra 6:1-12 (448)
 Telling those who had filed the work-stop lawsuits - to not only stop opposing the work
 But to assist the work with full and immediate payment from the king's treasury - On penalty of death
 Under this decree the temple was quickly completed and dedicated -
 But the city remained largely in ruins - with the wall broken down - Until - some 60 years later...
3. 7th year of Artaxerxes - This decree went into effect in the AUTUMN of 457 BC - Ezra 7:1-26 (449)
 Pretty much a blank check to tap the king's treasury for whatever was needed for the work in Jerusalem
 Also, restored the rights of local government to the people in Jerusalem
- (4.) 20th year of Artaxerxes - 444 BC - Nehemiah obtained letters from the king for timbers from the King's forest
 To provide for the rebuilding of the city walls, the fortress, and a house for himself, the new governor
 This was not a decree to rebuild - But just assistance to move the job forward
 Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem that fall - and directed a 52 day completion of the walls
 But much of the now enclosed area was still in ruins

It can be argued that - If the first decree had done the job - the second decree would not have been needed
 If the second decree had done the job - the third decree would not have been necessary

Also - Just being practical - It is immediately apparent that...

Starting with either 537 or 520 BC - 483 years falls short of the time of the coming of Messiah - Jesus

But watch what happens when we apply these time spans to the third decree - 457 BC

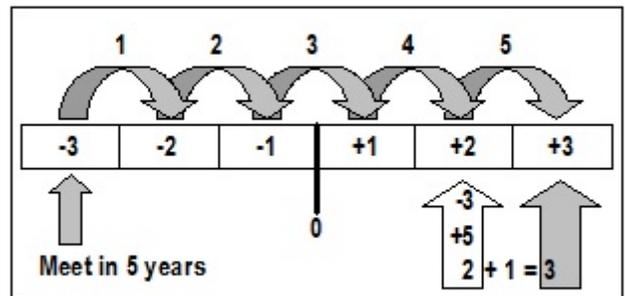
The proof is in the pudding - so to speak - Does it work?

- v.25 - From the command to restore and build - Fall of 457
 If we count down 7 sevens (49) + 62 sevens (434) - Should bring us to the time of Messiah
 The first portion of this time period - the 7x7 - seems to correspond to the rebuilding time of the city
 But details of this time are very sketchy except that the wall was finished in 444 BC
 The second period (the 62x7) spans the time on down to the arrival of Messiah

- So if we add 483 years onto 457 BC - What does that take us to?
 Before we can determine that - We need to have a short lesson in " Bible" math

- Let' put up a short BC-AD time line - From 3 BC to 3 AD
- If sometime in the middle of 3 BC - I were to say to you -
 "Meet me back here in exactly 5 years, and I'll give you a million dollars"
 You would want to be sure to get your math right - It is worth a lot to you

- So - When would you show up? - Let's do the math:
 -3 (BC) +5 = 2 (AD) - Right?
 So you would meet me at this same time in 2 AD



But now - Watch what happens when you count it out year by year on the time line

- From mid 3 BC to mid 2 BC = the 1st year
- From mid 2 BC to mid 1 BC = the 2nd year
- From mid 1 BC to mid 1 AD = the 3rd year
- From mid 1 AD to mid 2 AD = the 4th year
- From mid 2 AD to mid 3 AD = the 5th year

So five years from mid 3 BC does not take you to 2 AD - but to 3 AD

On the time line there is no ZERO year - only a ZERO point - Time is the space between the points

- To calculate across the BC-AD zero point - You have to do the normal math - And add ONE.
 Did you get that?
 Sorry - You don't get your million until a year later than you thought

- Now let's apply our Bible math to the Prophecy of Daniel 9
- Starting in 457 BC - Let's do the math: -457 (BC) + 483 = 26 AD
- Add one - for crossing the BC-AD zero point = 27 AD
 Starting in the FALL of 457 BC - Brings you to the FALL of 27 AD

What happened in the fall of 27 AD?

- Luke 3:1-3 (993) - *¹Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins...*

- vs.21-23 *²¹When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. ²²And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased." ²³Now Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age...*

The 15th year of Tiberius Caesar corresponds historically with 27 AD!
 Jesus began his ministry at his baptism - when he was anointed by the Holy Spirit for his work as Messiah

Peter said the following - when preaching to Cornelius the Centurion from Caesarea

- ☐ Acts 10:38 (1063) *...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.*

Jesus, himself, announced his ministry this way...

- ☐ Mark 1:14-15 (968) *¹⁴Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."*

Notice - "the time is fulfilled" - What time? Is this just a casual off handed statement? That would make no sense
The time for the coming of Messiah was clearly outlined in Daniel 9 - Jesus announces it's fulfillment

Shortly thereafter - Jesus visited Nazareth - In the Synagogue on Sabbath - He gave the Scripture reading

- ☐ Luke 4:16-17 (994) *¹⁶So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. ¹⁷And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:*

NOTICE - Jesus deliberately picked his passage to read

- ☐ v.18-21 *¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."
²⁰Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."*

Jesus deliberately picked this passage - About the coming of Messiah - Then he announced - It is now fulfilled!

In the fall of 27 AD - Right on time - Jesus began his ministry - And announced it as fulfilling the TIME

This is strong verification that we have the right starting date for the prophecy - 457 BC - the third decree
But there is more!

- ☐ v.26 - After the 62x7 - therefore after the first two periods had expired - after the 483 years - or after 27 AD
- ☐ Messiah shall be cut off - But not for himself! - Was Messiah cut off? - YES - Why did Jesus die?
- ☐ Romans 4:25 (1088) *...who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.*
- ☐ 2 Corinthians 5:21 (1114) *For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

Jesus was sinless - The wages of sin is death - His death was for my sins, not His own - And for my salvation!

- ☐ 1 Peter 2:22,24 (1163) *²²"Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth"...
²⁴who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.*
- ☐ Isaiah 53:5-6 (710) *⁵But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.
⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.*

□ v.8 ⁸...For He was cut off from the land of the living;
For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

v.12 ¹²...Because He poured out His soul unto death,
And He was numbered with the transgressors,
And He bore the sin of many,
And made intercession for the transgressors.

When Jesus died - He was cut off "not for himself" - He died for you and me - For every lost human being
Jesus - was God himself - in human flesh - taking the consequences of sin for you and me

□ John 3:16 (1027) *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

God so loved the world - all of us - that He gave Himself - as the only begotten Son -
That whoever believes may not perish - but have eternal life
God provides for all - While preserving the choice of all - as to whether or not to receive his gift

□ So - after Messiah arrives - and is cut off - for the sins of the world
□ THEN will come the people of the prince who is to come - That evil prince - the Little Horn
Who will desecrate the sanctuary - take away the daily - cast down the truth - Trample God's people

v.27 - What will happen during that final week? - the final 7?

□ He will confirm "the covenant" - God's promise to come as our Savior - The ultimate sacrifice for our sins
Messiah fulfilled that promise - He came - Announced - Taught - Healed - He showed us the Father
In the middle of the Week - He will bring an end to Sacrifice and Offering
What did the sacrifices and offerings look forward to? - The true Lamb of God - the ultimate sacrifice

So Jesus began his ministry right after his baptism - in the fall of 27 AD - When he turned 30
How long did Jesus minister? - 3 ½ years

□ When did Jesus die - at Passover - In the spring of 31 AD - Right exactly in the middle of the "week"
His death brought an end to all the sacrifices -
The sacrifices were symbols pointing forward to His death
The real had arrived - That which prefigured was pre-empted by the reality

What happened at Jesus death that verified the ending sacrifice and offering

□ Mark 15:37-38 (988) ³⁷And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last.
³⁸Then the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

Notice - from top to bottom - The tear started where no human hand could reach

That curtain was a heavy tapestry, some 30 feet tall

One person could not have ripped it - Much less started the tear at the top - some 30 feet high

There could not have been a better symbolic gesture on God's part to signify the **ending** of sacrifice and offering

That "Most Holy Place" represents the throne room of God

In Jesus - we now have access where no one could go before

Notice how the book of Hebrews applies this concept...

□ Hebrews 10:19-21 (1154) ¹⁹Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

The Veil is Jesus - Through Jesus we can see God while being safe from His burning glory
When Jesus' body was torn - and his life ripped away - the veil ripped - to show us what that meant
We no longer come to God through the blood of lambs and goats - Which prefigured calvary
But through the blood of Jesus - Sacrificed once for all humanity - It is finished!

- Having passed by the altar - and had our hearts sprinkled with his blood - forgiving us of our sins
- Having passed by the laver - and been washed pure - cleansed from all unrighteousness
- We can now walk boldly into the presence of God -
- And in Jesus - Our true high priest - We don't have to stop in the Holy Place any longer
- In Jesus - We can enter the Holy of Holies - Into God's presence - Before the throne of Grace

The High Priest - on earth - was only allowed to come into the Most Holy place - once a year
 On a special day called the Day of Atonement - Which we will study shortly
 But Jesus has gone - on our behalf - to reside permanently in the Most Holy Place
 And in Him - We are THERE - Even though we are still down here

- AND THEN - after Messiah arrives - and is cut off - for the sins of the world - in the middle of the week
- THEN will come that abomination that will make desolate the sanctuary and the daily
 And will continue until the consummation which is determined

Notice - The angel makes his main point twice - in vs.26 and 27

- AFTER Messiah has come - been cut off - THEN comes the Little Horn's desolations
- AFTER Messiah ends sacrifice and offering in the middle of the 70th week -
 THEN comes the abomination that makes desolate...

Daniel 8 is not about the Babylonian desolation of the Sanctuary in Daniel's time -
 Or a lengthening of that 70 year captivity - as Daniel was so fearful of -
 Which broke his heart - and sent him to prayer
 Daniel 8 is about something that takes place after the coming of Messiah

NOW - What about the rest of the 70th week - the 3 ½ years after Messiah was cut off - after Jesus' death?
 The prophecy says (v.24) - 70x7 are cut off for Daniel's people - Israel -

- That includes 3 ½ more years - Which would conclude in AD 34.
 The prophecy says (v.27) - That Messiah would confirm the covenant for ONE week - yet be cut off in the middle
 How was God's covenant with Israel confirmed during the 2nd half of the 70th week - The final 3 ½ years?

1. The disciples were instructed to take the gospel to the world

- Matthew 28:18-20 (967) *¹⁸And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

2. The disciples were instructed to begin their work in Jerusalem and Judea

- Luke 24:46-48 (1023) *⁴⁶Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸And you are witnesses of these things.*
- Acts 1:8 (1051) *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

That is pretty clear - isn't it? - Start in Jerusalem - And work your way out to all the world

Here we discover an interesting story set in the natural ethnic bigotry of the human heart

In reading the Gospels and the book of Acts - It is clear that the Jews, in the time of Christ, were isolationists
 They believed they were God's special people - and God's ONLY special people
 That they alone were special to God - and God had little or no interest in any other people
 So they divided the world into two categories - Jews (Us) and Gentiles (Them - everyone else)

They believed that it was spiritually defiling for them to go into a Gentile's house or eat with him
 That mingling with Gentiles would make them unclean - Because Gentiles were unclean - Dogs

Jesus' disciples were all Jews - Raised to believe that the God of the Bible was only interested in saving Jews
 When you have been raised with a bias - that bias is hard to break
 When certain things have been instilled in you by your home and society since childhood
 Those things are exceedingly hard to modify in your mind and thinking - That is human nature

So when Jesus told the disciples to be his witnesses to the whole world -
 They evidently thought he meant "the Jews" in the whole world
 And they set out to do just that - Find the Jews everywhere
 And tell them that Jesus of Nazareth is their Messiah and Savior

It took God several years - to convince the early church that God was also interested in saving non-Jews
 That God loved and wanted to save everyone - even Gentiles - US - the WORLD
 So for several years - The Gospel of Jesus as Messiah - was taught exclusively to the Jews
 More than fulfilling the balance of the final 3½ years of "confirming the covenant" with Israel

God had to allow circumstances - and persecution - to scatter the disciples
 The Jewish leaders harassed the disciples for several years - Putting them in prison - Beating them
 But then - when Stephen was martyred - An intense persecution ensued,
 scattering of the disciples and their message - Acts 6:8-8:4 (1079)

☐ Acts 7:57-60 (1059) *⁵⁷Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; ⁵⁸and they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.*

☐ Acts 8:1 (1059) *¹Now Saul was consenting to his death. At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.*

☐ Map - Persecution Scatters the Church

☐ Acts 8:14-25 (1059) As a result of this persecution - Philip began to preach in Samaria - And many believed!

☐ Acts 8:26-39 (1060) Next - God sent Philip out into the desert to teach the Ethiopian - Near Gaza - He believed!

☐ Acts 8:40 (1060) Then - Philip finds himself in Azotus - Preaches his way up to Caesarea - And many believe!

☐ Acts 9:1-30 (1060) God called Saul of Tarsus - Who had assisted in the stoning of Steven
 And who had set out on a career of murdering Christians
 God hit him over the head with a bolt of lightning - on the road to Damascus
 And called him specifically to become the Apostle to the Gentiles - See also Acts 26:12-18
 Paul starts by preaching the Gospel in Damascus

☐ Acts 9:31-43 (1061) Peter preaches in Lydda and Joppa - God confirms his work with amazing miracles

☐ Acts 11:19 (1064) Some who were scattered at this time went as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch
 But they initially preached only to the Jews - Some Greeks also heard - And believed!

☐ Acts 10:1 - 11:18 (1062) Finally - God gave Peter a vision - instructing him not to call any man common or unclean
 God told Peter to go with some men to Caesarea and not ask any questions
 Peter took some witnesses along - just in case he needed backing up later
 Arriving there - Peter found a whole house of Gentiles waiting to hear the Gospel
 As he began to preach - The Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles -
 Just like He had fallen on the disciples at Pentecost
 Peter got the point - How can we refuse water baptism to those who just got the Holy Spirit?
 He baptized those Gentiles, and he stayed there and taught them for several days

When Peter returned to Jerusalem - A bunch of Jewish Christians accosted him
 “How could you do such a terrible thing - Going to Gentiles - staying and eating with them?
 Peter told his story - His witnesses backed him up - And finally - They got the point

- Acts 11:18 (1064) *When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, “Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life.*

Yet still - for decades -
 The early Jewish Christians struggled with the idea of sharing Jesus with the Gentiles
 And at times gave Paul all kinds of grief as he worked among the Gentiles
 Old habits die hard - Old ideas die hard

For 3½ years or more - God allowed the Disciples - through their internal prejudices
 To appeal directly and exclusively to the Jews - for them to accept Jesus as their Messiah

You see - It was not crucifying Christ that brought an end to the Jewish nation being God’s missionary people
 We all participated in killing Jesus - No one is ever rejected for killing Jesus
 Our sins nailed him to the cross - and in the process HE nailed our sins to the cross
 We are all guilty of crucifying Christ - and His crucifixion is our salvation
 But if we reject what Jesus did for us - as our Messiah - that is where we run into trouble
 Even God won’t violate our free will - to save us - Even though He died for us

But the Jews persistent refusal to repent and accept that Jesus was their Messiah
 To the extent that they began killing the messengers Jesus had sent out...
 Eventually - God had to turn elsewhere to get the word out to the world - about their Savior
 God won’t give up the rest of the world - Just for the sake of one ethnic group
 God loves all peoples - He bore the penalty of sin for all peoples - He is out to save all peoples

Finally - After much patience - that extended even beyond the 490 years
 God handed the mission challenge off to the Church - and sent them to do what the Jews would not

Thus ultimately fulfilling Jesus’ parable of the Wicked Vinedressers

- Matthew 21:43 (957) *Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it.*
 See Isaiah 5:1-7 (657); Galatians 3:7,26-29 (1121); 1 Peter 2:9,10 (1163)

Through Jesus - for 3 ½ years - God called the Jewish people to receive their Messiah - Instead they crucified Him
 For another 3 ½ years - and more - God’s ambassadors - disciples - called the Jewish people to receive their Messiah
 Finally when the Jewish leaders began killing the disciples
 God moved on - and turned the job of telling the world about their Savior over to the disciples - The church

That doesn’t mean God doesn’t love Jews - as individuals - He died for them as much as anyone else
 But their national calling - Begun with Abraham - came to an end - with the rejection of their Savior
 We will look at that whole scenario - in an upcoming presentation

We have seen enough tonight to know beyond a doubt that...
 This prophecy is perfectly fulfilled in the life, ministry and death of Jesus Christ
 That the accurate fulfillment of the 70 weeks prophecy - verifies that our time frame is correct
 That the angel’s explanation of the 70 weeks was intended to give Daniel understanding of the 2300

So if the 490 were to be “cut off” from the 2300 - Beginning in 457 BC - When is the END of the 2300?

- Let’s do the math - Subtract 490 from 2300 - And you have... 1810

- Add 1810 to 34 (the end of the 490) - and you arrive at... 1844

That comes awfully close to home - to our day - doesn’t it?

- ❑ So - according to the prophecy - what is the significance of 1844?
That is a huge - multifaceted - topic - which deserve much more time than we can give it tonight. Our time is up
But we can quickly conclude a couple of general points from what we have already seen in the prophecy
- ❑ 1. 1844 - is in the END TIME (v.17) - the “latter time of the indignation” (8:19)
God has appointed a time to bring an END to the misery of sin - 8:19
He will not let this mess go on forever - He will bring it to an end

Daniel 2 - put us in the toes of iron and clay - With the next event being the Stone - Kingdom of God

Daniel 7 - put the judgment of the little horn after 1798 - the end of the 3½ times
After which Jesus will receive the Kingdom and give it to His saints

Now Daniel 8 - extends to 1844 - as being the “end time” - the “latter time” - leading up to the END
We live in the END TIME - deep into the End Time - And I believe near to the END -
Jesus is coming again - SOON - We will look specifically at that subject in a future topic
- ❑ 2. 1844 - takes us into the time of JUDGMENT
Daniel 7 - put the judgment of the little horn after 1798 - the end of the 3 ½ times
And we will see on future nights - further Sanctuary understanding will expand on this judgment concept
- ❑ 3. 1844 - brings us to a time of predicted RESTORATION
A restoration of the sanctuary - A lifting up of the truth - A bringing back of the daily
As we look at history - we should find something significant happening around 1844
- which has to do with the Gospel - truth - and a message to prepare people for the coming of Jesus
- which is continuing today - We live in that time of restoration
An End-time message which includes Gospel truths set in the context of the Old Testament Sanctuary
Revelation predicts exactly that - But that will have to wait for a future night

Right after God told Israel they would spend 70 years in Babylon - He gave them a beautiful promise

- ❑ Jeremiah 29:10-11 (760) ¹⁰For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.
¹¹For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

God is a God of restoration

Sin has caused incredible damage to God’s creation

How and why God would allow this will be the focus of our next topic

But God will not leave his creation to waste away forever under the desolations of transgression

God will restore - And He declares a time of restoration - Of the truth - Of the gospel

In the end time - Before Jesus comes again -

God will rebuild the spiritual sanctuary which the Little Horn has destroyed

Truth will be raised up

The Gospel as taught in all of Scripture - Old and New Testaments - will be proclaimed

We live in that End Time - In that time of judgment and restoration -

The Little Horn is being judged - Soon to be executed - Jesus is soon to come

Right now - The restoration is in progress all around us - You can be part of it

Are YOU a seeker of TRUTH?

I believe that truth is being restored all around us - Do you want to know what that is?

These are urgent times - Every day is precious

And you are so precious to God - That He gave his life to rescue you from the desolations of this world of sin

And He sent this message - to warn and instruct - and call you from the desolations of error to the freedom of truth

Are you listening? - Are you interested? - Are you a seeker of truth?

The remaining nights of this seminar - Will focus on restoring these truths - from the Word of God - the Bible
And putting them into their proper prophetic and historical perspective

We will continue the journey with our next topic -

☐ **Cosmic Conspiracy - The real power behind global terror?**

There is a Crisis in the Cosmos - Who is the one instigating and perpetuating this crisis?
How can a good, loving God allow evil, pain and suffering?
How did sin begin? How will it end? And how can you be on the winning side!?

In order to have a fulfilling relationship with God - We must understand his character
Revelation 12 - Along with Isaiah and Ezekiel - Give us a glimpse into the origin of evil
And Revelation also shows us how God will bring evil to a final, merciful end
All while staying true to who God is - God is LOVE

70 Weeks - Cut off from the "evening-morning 2300" - the "moreh" (8:14)							
70 x 7 = 490 Years 2 nd Chance for Jews and Jerusalem				1810 Years (Balance of 2300)			
7 x 7 = 49 Years Rebuilding	62 x 7 = 434 Years		1 x 7 = 7 Yrs Messiah				
			Cut Off		Desolations		
			Confirm Covenant		Abomination that makes desolate		
			3 ½		3 ½		
			End Sacrifice				
<u>Decree</u> 457 BC Fall	483 Years → (69 x 7)		<u>Baptism</u> 27 AD Fall	<u>Cross</u> 31 AD Spring	34 AD	1810 Years → (Balance of 2300)	1844 AD