

Easter: Easily Found, yet Sadly forgotten

Hebrews 10:7

- Scripture tells us **4** times in Revelations that Jesus is “**The Alpha and Omega, The Beginning and The End**” meaning everything starts with Jesus and it ends with Jesus, and still much of what we see that is celebrated in this world is done in an attempt to forget about Jesus. In fact the excuse the academia makes concerning why it doesn’t believe in Jesus is that it’s a fairy tale used to keep people in line or in check, but in reality it really is something that is made up by man wow!
- Charles Darwin the man who is called the father of evolution Attended Cambridge University with intention of becoming a clergyman, so he was familiar with Jesus but had never surrendered his life to Jesus, this is what happens when were interested in learning about the Lord but we don’t want to submit our lives to the Lord. Afterward you’ll hear a whisper that grabs our attention saying everything didn’t begin and end with Jesus there was something else.
- Today we’ll see that there is not > **Heb 10:7-** says of Jesus “**Behold I have come in the volume of the book, it is written of Me, to do Your will O’ God**”. **Acts 17:11** says we need to “**search the scriptures daily to find out whether these things are true**”. The first mention of Jesus is found in Gen 1:26- where God is creating the earth, universe, living creatures and man, God says “**Let us create Man in Our Image according to Our Likeness and He will have dominion over everything in the sea, the air, the fields, and the creeping things on the ground**”.
- Our is a word that is plural but also singular in nature, it shows how there is One God in three Persons, The Father, The Son, The Holy Spirit, and we are the only one of God’s creation who is made in His image. This is what separates human life from animal life, aquatic life, angelic life, as only man possesses > **1. Personality-** feelings, knowledge a will, **2. Morality-** Conscience, Judgments, **3. Spirituality-** Commune with God or knowingly reject God. Man unlike any other creation can do all these things freely as we have a choice to either serve or rebel.
- This brings us to the very first prophecy given in scripture that Satan will hurt Jesus physically but He will survive, and Jesus will crush him spiritually, landing a blow so severe that Satan will never recover from again allowing us to be set free from the curse of sin and death once and for all > **Gen 3:15-** which of course speaks of the cross, Satan will bruise Jesus heel, but when He rises from the dead He will deliver a death blow that will crush his plans forever Amen!
- From **Genesis 1** until the book of Daniel we read the establishment of the Nation of Israel, and the Kings from which the promise of Abraham that will one day produce the Messiah flows, but because of their disobedience they are taken into captivity and the royal line seemingly stopped so what will happen, did God renege on His promise about the Messiah? **Dan 1:17** says that he was given the ability to understand the times and the seasons, and so in the **1st** year that Darius the King of the Medes-Persians had taken over Babylon Daniel seeks the Lord in **Dan 9:1-10**.

- In these verses we read Daniel who came to Babylon a teenager now an old man repenting for the sins of his people admitting that because of their disobedience they are in this mess, but also recognizing God's great mercy and grace that He had made them a promise to return them back to the land after **70yrs** and he fully expected God to do it. **Dan 9:21-23**- Gabriel speaks with Daniel telling him his prayers have been heard and then gives him some clarity on his vision.
- **Dan 9:24-27**- in the beginning Daniel thought all this was about Israel and the Jews, but what he is about to find out that everything that has happened to them in Babylon and their soon return to Jerusalem is all about Jesus. The word "weeks" means sevens, so Gabriel was speaking about **70** periods of **7yrs** or **490yrs**, so this isn't about them returning back to Jerusalem shortly but Who is going to be entering into Jerusalem eventually, and that is Jesus Christ Himself.
- In his prayers Daniel wanted three things **1st** that his people be forgiven of their sins against the Lord, **2nd** that the city Jerusalem be rebuilt, **3rd** that the temple be restored. This all happened in the **490yrs** that Gabriel mentions to Daniel, when King Artaxerses issued the decree authorizing Nehemiah to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the walls and restore the gates that was **445 B.C.** So Gabriel tells Daniel these things will be accomplished but then in **V25** takes a week off the calendar making it **69** weeks instead of **70**, this reduces the time from **490yrs** to **483** yrs.
- When you count **483** solar yrs and the Jewish calendar it brings us right to **Mk 11:1-10**- Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey, **Lk 19:38-46**, but the Pharisees rejected Him and He cried because they should have been waiting on him as He is fulfilling prophecy but like I said easily found but sadly forgotten, and like when He began His public ministry He goes back into the temple and drive the money changers and crooks out just as he had done three yrs earlier.
- Everything about Jesus was prophesied from **His parents** > **Is 7:14**- born of a Virgin, **Lk 1:26-34**- the same Gabriel who spoke to Daniel all those years ago, **His birth** > **Mic 5:2**, in **Math 2:1**- says Jesus is born in Bethlehem, **His upbringing** > **Hos 11:1**- says Jesus would go to Egypt, **Math 2:14-15**- because of Herod killing the babies Joseph and Mary take Jesus to Egypt until the danger is over. His death **Is 53:4-5,7**, **Math 16:21-27**- Jesus knew He needed to die for our sins.
- If that wasn't enough what about Israel itself, Daniel was told that the city and the temple would be restored, how could that happen if there is no longer a Jerusalem. Israel was completely removed from Jerusalem and scripture said this would happen > **Is 66:8**- it's never happened before that a people were removed from their homeland completely and then given it back, **Ezek 37** **2,000** yrs before it happened received a vision telling him Israel will live again and a rebirth of the nation would happen, well they were all over in Russia, Germany, spread all over Europe and the U.S. a people without a homeland until **1948** and Harry Truman supported it.

- Since then there has been nothing but fighting, **1967** Israel fought the **6** day war with the Arab states Egypt, Syria and Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen, completely outnumbered everyone thought surely this is the end of them being a nation again, but God. Over **20,000** Arab troops died and fewer than **1,000** Israeli's until the Arab states gave up and declared Israel the victor, afterward **1973** Yom Kippur war led by Egypt and Syria with help from Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Libya, Jordan, Kuwait, Sudan, Morocco, all came against Israel for **2** weeks and **5** days Israel suffered less than **3,000** casualties while the Muslim nations over **15,000**.
- Even with all the prophecy in Jerusalem there are three main religions Judaism, Islam, Christianity, with the Dome of the Rock located where the Jews will rebuild their temple and the antichrist will come in and defile it according to scripture. So like Jesus said we need to study God's Word in order to remain faithful to His truth, otherwise we will be deceived with all the fads and lies, trusting in things that cause us to doubt God's unfailing Word instead of trusting it.