

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

KAPONO: Would you bow your heads and join me in a word of prayer? Oh, Lord our God, when I, in awesome wonder, consider all the things Thy hands have made. Lord, we bless Your name this evening. So many things to be thankful for, Lord. We thank You for the breath of life, Lord, and allowing us a place to be, being together to worship and praise Your name, Lord, and fellowship as well.

But Lord, we thank You for this time that we can get into Your word. Would You speak to us this evening, Lord? We thank You again for this time. Protect it and bless it in Jesus' name. Amen.

PASTOR JD: Amen and amen. And good evening and welcome. How are you guys doing tonight?

[ Congregations says, "Good!" ]

Oh, that's not too bad. You can be seated then. If you weren't good, I was going to make you stay standing through the whole thing. Those of you online that are joining with us, we want to welcome you as well.

And before we get into our study of God's word, I do want to mention that this Sunday after Second Service, is Tamayo Perry's Celebration of Life. And it is on the North Shore, at Ehukai Beach Park, and it will begin at 3:30, which should give those who are planning to attend enough time to get

This, of course, presupposes that your pastor doesn't, you know, go too long again. Actually, I need to not do that because I got to get up there, so there will probably be a lot of traffic. But I wanted to announce it again today. We announced it last week. I will announce it again this Sunday.

But the most important announcement that I want to make and really request is that you pray for his wife, Emilia, Krista, Sarah, so many people. He touched so many lives, and he was all about Jesus. Everything was Jesus.

And interesting, I spent some time with Emilia tonight to kind of plan the officiating of the service. And she was sharing with me about, you know, because he was a lifeguard on the North Shore, and he would rescue people, bring them to the shore. They were, you know,

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

clinically dead. He would perform CPR, and he would pray that the Lord would bring them back so he could lead them to Christ. And He did several times. How's that one?

[ Applause ]

I don't know if any of you ever had an opportunity to, you know, talk with him when he would come, which, you know, he worked on Sundays. So when he was able, he would come, bring his wife with him. Sometimes he'd just come by himself. And when he would come by himself, he would always sit right in the front row. And he always had a smile on his face. And I always — he was so cool.

I remember the first time I met him, I just, I told him, I said, man, you are so cool. I didn't know, you know, who he was. My son did. But I just said, man, I wish I was as cool as you. And he was like, Pastor, you have no idea, man. God is speaking to me through you. I'm like, are you sure you got the right church? Yeah, he's like, man, this is my — and so he's telling everybody on the North Shore, "You gotta — you got to come to my church and hear my pastor."

And so I just want to give you a heads up after Sunday you might have a lot of new people. And would you please love on them and welcome them? Because that's where they're going to be from, is the North Shore. Because they're already asking everybody, you know, what was that church Tamayo went to? God's going to use his death to bring, I believe, a lot of people to Christ. And I believe He already is.

So please pray to that end, is what I'm asking you to do. And pray for me too, by the way. I always know that God is going to do a mighty work by virtue of the spiritual warfare. And so in preparing, you know, my message for Tamayo's Celebration of Life, the enemy is already all over me. And now I'm — you know, this isn't my first rodeo. You know, I know when — I know when the demons are just moving in. And it manifests in a myriad of ways.

But I'm still not so proud as to, like the Apostle Paul, you know, not be willing to humble myself and just ask for prayer, for boldness, as Paul would ask. And also pray for the spiritual warfare that is, I mean, off the charts, which always tells me God is going to do a mighty work at this service.

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

And so please, selfishly pray for me too, because there's going to be like thousands and thousands of people there, and it's going to be livestreamed all over the world. And so I just want to be a good representation of my Master and my King and my everything, my Jesus, and honor Tamayo who was all about Jesus. So please pray.

The North Shore is a very interesting place for those of you who know. The locals know the — there's an oppressiveness about the North Shore. And a lot of these guys that made it through the big opioid, you know, crisis a number of years ago — many didn't, by the way, make it through — the surf community and just the whole North Shore. But there were some survivors, and the ones who made it through, some have come to Christ.

Some, I believe, are about to come to Christ. So what a profound privilege it is for us as a church body. We've got a lot of people that are going to be helping out. And those of you that are volunteering, I just want to give you a shout out and say thank you. We — what a profound opportunity for us as a church to shine the light of Jesus in such a dark place and after such an unthinkable tragedy for him to die the way he died.

By the way, just so you know, he had a smile on his face when they found him floating on the water after the shark attack. He was just kind of like I — don't grieve for me. I'll never forget one — we will get to our study tonight.

But just one last thing. I think it was Pastor Chuck said one time. He said, if I am up here and I just die, have a heart attack while I'm preaching, because I'm, you know — he used to say — he said — you know people would ask him, Chuck, why aren't you retired? And he said, because I'm not tired. I love that.

So he preached to his dying day, literally. It was a Tuesday in October. And he preached that sermon on Sunday. And that was Pastor Chuck for you. But I remember one time he said — I think it was at one of our conferences — he said, if I die and have a heart attack and drop dead at the pulpit, don't you bring me back. I will be so mad at you. I like that. That's the — for the believer, we grieve, but we don't grieve as those without hope.

All right. Well, wow, what a chapter we have tonight. I've been looking forward to this. *Daniel Chapter 9*. It is clearly — probably goes without saying — well known, but, of this chapter, many a Bible teacher and prophecy teacher has said of this that it is one of the most

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

powerful chapters in terms of Bible prophecy in the entirety of the Bible because of what is contained within it.

And it's so amazing that the Savior himself would quote from this chapter that we're going to study tonight. It's recorded in *Matthew 24*. And actually the vision that Daniel receives and that Gabriel interprets for him Jesus also refers to, not directly, but also in *Matthew 24*.

What Daniel is going to see in this vision took place. And Jesus said it would happen exactly as Daniel was shown it would happen.

So there's so much tonight, and I want to do the best I can by the Holy Spirit to really just mine the nuggets that are here and the takeaways – and I say takeaways, plural – but the main takeaway, which I hope you know is synonymous with the title. I'm titling these expositional studies of God's word because there's always kind of a main theme or a main takeaway that just comes leaping out of that chapter or that portion of scripture that you're teaching.

And what really struck me about *Daniel 9*, aside from the prophecy, just — which, by the way, the prophecy in this chapter is prophecy that is happening in real time as we speak in our day at breakneck speed. And how many ages ago was this prophecy given, this vision given to Daniel?

But here's what really struck me was that the prophecy, the vision that Daniel received was vis-à-vis his praying. And I thought to myself, this is prophecy prompting prayer, and ironically, conversely, it's prayer prompting prophecy. Stay with me. I haven't completely lost it, okay? Daniel is studying Bible prophecy. And because he's studying Bible prophecy, he starts praying about the prophecy that he's studying. So then God answers his prayer about the prophecy, which leads to more prophecy from prayer.

Should I try that again? Did you get it? Prophecy prompts prayer, and in turn, prayer prompts prophecy. And here's Daniel studying Bible prophecy. And we're going to see it right out of the chute. So why don't we pray and ask God to just bless our time in this amazing chapter?

Father, thank You. (Deep sigh) We cannot thank You enough for just this particular chapter here in this amazing Book of Daniel. How applicable it is to our lives in this the last days in

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

which we're living, the emphasis on Bible prophecy that we're now seeing begin to come to pass, exactly as Daniel was shown, I mean exactly, precisely down to the day, as we're going to see.

And Lord, for someone like Daniel to be studying Bible prophecy and then to, as a result of it, pray the most magnificent prayer, Lord, I would just ask that that would get through to us, that You would get through to us with that, so that when we leave here at the end of our time together in Your word tonight, we're going to take with us these truths, these powerful truths to apply to our lives personally, especially when it comes to Bible prophecy, which we love and study and are learning about.

So Lord, thank You in advance for that which You're going to do as You speak into our lives in and through this particular and amazing chapter, Chapter 9. So Lord, speak, please. Your servants are listening. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Let's jump in *verse 1*. **“In 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— in the first year of his reign [This is the prophetic time stamp, very important] 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 70 years in the desolations of Jerusalem.”**

Boom! First two verses. Did you catch that? Here's Daniel. He is studying Bible prophecy. Wait, what Bible prophecy? Is he watching a Bible Prophecy Update? Yeah, it's on Jeremiah's YouTube channel. He's studying Bible prophecy, the words written by the prophet Jeremiah that the Lord had given to him, the word of the Lord through the prophet Jeremiah.

And notice this word of the years **“specified,”** specificity, specific prophecy concerning the number of years that they would be captive there in Babylon. And he learned in his study of Bible prophecy that it would be 70 years.

Now, please will you again use your God-given imagination and come with me into this chapter and let's put ourselves there? Okay, here's this man of God. He's in his probably late 80s at this time, perhaps. And he's reading, studying this prophecy, and he's going, wait a minute, 70 years from the captivity when they destroyed Jerusalem.

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

And so he starts, and he pulls out his app. (Chuckle)

No. He figures out, wait a minute, 70 years. The prophecy was that this would last for 70 years. Do you know how many years we have left? If it's 70 years, we're talking we're really close because there's only like three or four more years left.

So there — we're there with Daniel. I don't think he slept that night. He's all excited. Bible prophecy — 70 years — three years. We're at the end, you guys! We're at the end! And he would yell and he would spit on everybody like I do every week. Now watch what he does.

**“Then [Verse 3] I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. And [Verse 4] I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, [And now here's Daniel's prayer recorded for us] [Listen to this prayer] “O Lord, great and awesome God.”**

You think Daniel's a little bit excited about the Bible prophecy he's just studied and how close they are to the end? Now he's just going to praise God.

**“O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, [Now watch, verse 5] We have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments. [That's why we're here in the first place] Neither [Verse 6] have we heeded Your servants the prophets...”**

Again, likely doubtless referring to Jeremiah, Isaiah, who were prophesying about Judah's destruction, and the Babylonian captivity, and being laughed at, ridiculed, mocked, spit on, their lives threatened. You know, Isaiah, it's believed, was sawn in two, Isaiah, the prophet. That's a horrible way to die.

How many times did Jeremiah think, well, this is it. They put him in a pit; leave him to die. And then I think this guy's name is Hananiah, rescues him with a bunch of guys, gets the ropes, and pulls him out. If I'm Jeremiah, I'm like, you know, you're not getting rid of me that easy.

When it's time and God's through with me, that's when you'll get rid of me but not a day before. So you might want to kill me but unless and until God's through with me, it ain't

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

going to happen. So you can you throw me in the pit, which I don't particularly like, but you're not going to kill me.

So doubtless he's referring to these prophets and how that the Israelites would not heed, take heed to the prophecies from these prophets **"...who spoke in Your name to our kings and our princes, to our fathers and all the people of the land. O Lord, [Verse 7] righteousness belongs to You, but to us shame of face, as it is this day— to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, those near and those far off in all the countries to which You have driven them, because of the unfaithfulness which they have committed against You."**

This is an idiom. In the original Hebrew: shame of face. We would maybe compare it to something like: Shame on us. Shame on you. And notice the emphasis in Daniel's magnificent prayer of praise and thanksgiving and confession. That he is very careful as he is prayerful to, when he prays and praises God, to in no way hint in any way that He was unjust. It was their unfaithfulness. We're going to see this again a moment.

**"O Lord, [Verse 8] [And here he says it again] to us belongs shame of face, to our kings, our princes, and our fathers because we have sinned against You. To the Lord..." [Verse 9]** Now watch this kind of a shift. Because he goes from just adoration, being in awe, this reverence of revering God and praising God and thanking God, to confessing to God. And then now he's pleading for mercy from God. You see, the progression there?

**To the Lord [Verse 9] our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him. We have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets.**

**Yes, [Verse 11] all Israel has transgressed Your law and has departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse and the oath written in the Law of Moses, [This is a reference to Deuteronomy 28 and 29] the servant of God, have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against Him. And he has confirmed..."**

Notice **"we."** Did you get that? We. I'm not praying like that. I'm saying, they sinned against You, God. They did. No, we. I sinned. I mean, maybe not as bad as those guys did because I'm Daniel the prophet, after all. But still he's — no, this is a humble man who sees

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

himself as God sees him: a sinner in need of grace and mercy and forgiveness. I think one real quick thing here before we move to *verse 12* is something I'm learning. I haven't learned. I never want to come off like, you know, I've arrived. I've, you know, learned.

No, I'm — I've got a lot to learn. And one thing I have to learn is that I still have a lot to learn. So I'm learning in my prayer life not to have too many “theys” in my prayers, or even worse, “I's” in my prayer, aye-yai-yai prayers. More “we” prayers, the word, “we.” Lord, we [We] are in need of Your mercy, O God. Be merciful unto us, O God.

**Verse 12. “And He has confirmed His words, which He spoke against us and against our judges who judged us, by bringing upon us a great disaster; for under the whole heaven such has never been done as what has been done to Jerusalem. [Verse 13] As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth.”**

Wow. Bear with me on this for a moment. There's two things here. First, we're getting just judgment by way of this disaster, exactly as the Law of Moses said it would be like. It has come upon us. And we brought it upon ourselves. So that's number 1 .

But number 2, you would think that in response to that, better said, the first response would be to pray. But Daniel says, “**yet we.**” Now, I'm having a hard time with that because we know that Daniel was a man of prayer.

He had a window there in Babylon at his place that he would pray, you know, three times a day. That's what got him thrown in the lion's den. Remember that whole set up, that plot that they had against him because the other guys were jealous of him because he was going to be their boss?

So they, you know, they had to get rid of him. So they thought here's how we're going to do it. And it backfired. Boy, did it backfire. That lion's den that they had Daniel — who got a great night's sleep, by the way, that night. They were cast into that very lion's den that they got the king to cast him into.



**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

Reminds me of that proverb. You set a trap for a man; you'll fall into that very trap that you set. So think about that. You set out to, you know, trap somebody or set somebody up or, you know, do something to somebody.

Well, be very careful because — ask Haman about — well, you can't. It's too late. He built those gallows, these spikes to impale Mordecai on. And the very spikes that he prepared to impale Mordecai on, he himself, get this, with his sons, were impaled on. So but he includes himself, to his credit.

**“Yet we have not made our prayer before the Lord our God.”**

How is it? Why is it? And I will include myself in this. Since Daniel did, I can't get away with not including myself in this. But why is prayer always a last resort instead of a first response? This is what Daniel is lamenting about and praying.

Lord, You would think — all this disaster has come upon us — you would think that our first response would be: pray. But we didn't. If we would have but prayed, we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth.

Listen, it's not just to pray for the sake of praying. You're praying with purpose. We call them precision prayers, not peripheral prayers. Because I think it's an apt description of the purposeful, effectual, and fervent prayer of one who is righteous in Christ.

As James says, it accomplishes much. There's something we're wanting to accomplish in this prayer. What's the — where are the goalposts? The goalpost is repentance, that we might repent, turn. That's what repent means. It's a change of mind. You do a 180, you turn around. But we didn't.

Oh, I, so many times — I'll just be very candid with you. I have so many times asked God to be merciful to me and not pay me as my prayerlessness deserves. Lord, please, don't pay me as my prayerlessness deserves.

Be merciful to me. Have you ever heard the phrase — or maybe you said it yourself — I probably said it, so don't, you know, feel bad And I'm not trying to make anybody — I'll quit looking at everybody when I say this. I'm prayed up. How'd do you do that? You're prayed up? What's your secret? Can you text me the link? [PrayedUp.com](http://PrayedUp.com).

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

Like you're prayed up; you prayed all you need to pray, and you need not pray anymore. (Struggling to find words) I am speechless. That's a miracle unto itself. How about when the Apostle Paul says, **"Pray continually without ceasing."**

You see, there's no such thing as okay, I, (Stumbling over words) They have an app for that. You start the prayer clock. Boom! I'm going to pray for 3 hours and 35 minutes today, and then I'm done praying. How about that, as one said, constant, conscious communion with God all day, every day, all night, every night. You're always talking to the Lord.

One time when my daughter was young — I pray audibly because I'm an auditory learner and visual. But, you know, it has come in through the ear gate. Well, like, I'll read the word out loud because, you know, not just read it to myself. I read it out loud so it's going in. You know, some of us are thicker than others, so we gotta have two, you know, entry points. So I hear myself praying.

And you know I'm just talking to God like, you know, just like I'm having a conversation. You know, it's not this big thee, thy, thou. You know, it's like, you know, one of the things — I've shared this before — that changed my prayer life and my only regret — I knew it was the best thing I could have ever done because my only regret was that I didn't do it sooner — I just started, on occasion, referring to my Heavenly Father as Baba, Abba, Papa, Abba, Daddy.

And it just — what it did — it wasn't irreverent, but what it did, is it just relationally, intimately changed the dynamic of my prayer life. And it was less formal, and it was more intimate. And it was honest and real and raw sometimes. But I'm just talking to the Lord out loud and in my office upstairs.

And just — because this is not a monologue. It's a dialog, right? Prayer's a dialog. You know, He talks back through His word. So I'm just talking to the Lord. He's talking to me, speaking to my heart. And we're having a great time. And my daughter walks up — she's very young at the time — and she's like, Baba, are you talking to yourself?

It's like, no, I'm talking to God. She said, you talk to God like that? I said, yeah, you want to talk to Him? I've got — I have connections in high, very high places. This is what Daniel is doing. I mean, he's just being real and honest and praying about prayerlessness.

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

Just the absurdity of it, the insanity of it. You're on the receiving end of unspeakable disaster after disaster, and you won't pray?

**“Therefore [Verse 14] the Lord has kept [Listen to this] the disaster in mind and brought it upon us; for the Lord our God is righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice.”**

We're the ones that are unrighteous. You, O Lord, are righteous. Your judgments are right and just. We deserve this. But there's something here too before we move on to *verse 15* that I don't want us to miss. Do you see what I see, that if Israel would have prayed and repented, that God would have relented?

Because that's what I'm getting out of *verse 14*. **“The Lord has kept the disaster.”**

Why is God keeping the disaster in mind and on us? Because we've not prayed and turned and repented. The implication being that if we would have prayed and repented, then God would have relented, and the disaster would have stopped, and it would no longer be brought upon us. You know, sometimes when adversity strikes, it is the heavy hand of the Lord on our lives to discipline us, to correct us, to redirect us, to get us to repent.

*Verse 15*, **“And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand and made Yourself a name, as it is this day— [And here he goes again] [I'm like, Daniel, He got it already] We have sinned, [Daniel, please] [He heard you the first eight times] We have done wickedly!**

**O Lord, [Verse 16] according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people are a reproach to all those around us.”**

We're the laughingstock of the town. We're a reproach. For Your name's sake, not for us; we don't deserve it, but in Your mercy and for Your name's sake, turn Your anger away from us. Turn Your fury away from us. This prayer — and we're almost done. I think there's four more verses of it. It's just, it's so marvelous and magnificent.

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

But remember, please don't forget this. This was prompted by prophecy. Had it not been for his studying of prophecy in the Bible, as it were, from the prophet Jeremiah, this prayer would not have been birthed and given way to what we're about to see it give way to.

**“Now therefore, [Verse 17] 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.”**

By the way, keep in mind too, he's mourning, sackcloth, and ashes, and he's not only praying, he's fasting and pleading with God.

**“O my God, [Verse 18] 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, [Which are as filthy rags] but because of Your great [Listen to this word] mercies.”**

I think the best prayer to pray is, Lord, be merciful to me. I think God finds that irresistible. And we don't — and is that not what mercy is? God not giving us what we do deserve. And grace, conversely, is God giving us what we don't deserve. And God does both. Are you kidding me? That's who He is, and that's how He is.

**Verse 19, “O 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.”**

You see what he's doing here? And he's fully right in every respect to pray this way. God, it's for Your name's sake. I'm pleading with You. I'm praying to You. I'm asking you. Hear, forgive, listen, act. Don't delay any longer. Do it now, for Your sake, for the sake of Your name and the people, Your people called by Your name. Man, that's a prayer.

For those who study the prayers in God's word, of which there are many, by the way, this particular prayer of Daniel is right at the top of the list. That's a powerful prayer. Well, now *verse 20*. This is so interesting and I hope encouraging.

**“Now [Daniel] 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, [Verse 21] Yes, while I was speaking in prayer, [Somebody interrupted me] the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly**

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

**swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. [Hang on] And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, “O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.”**

Okay, wait now. Wait, wait, wait. That's what I think they call a fast answer to prayer. And the Archangel Gabriel flies in? This is the — this is why we have angels flying, I guess. I guess this is the go-to reference; I don't know. I don't know if they have wings. There's no mention of wings. I don't think that Gabriel needed wings. He just flew in immediately to answer Daniel's prayer. And he hasn't even finished praying.

While I'm praying — I'm telling you guys, if we're sitting around, you know, talking story with Daniel. Oh, let me tell you about the time I was praying. I mean, right, in the middle — I wasn't even done praying. Boom! Here comes Gabriel to answer my prayer.

Man, how cool is that? Does that encourage you? God heard. God listened. God acted I can just picture in the heavenlies, here's God listening to His beloved servant. We're going to talk about that in a second. Daniel praying, pleading. And He's like, Gabriel, get down there. I'm on it. Boom! Flies. Right there. (Struggling to find words)

I mean, if I'm Daniel, I mean, first of all, I'm like, well, that was fast. Gabriel, it's you again. Now listen to what Gabriel says in *verse 23*. This should be so encouraging to anyone who's struggling. You pray and it seems like maybe your prayers are bouncing off the ceiling and God is so slow to respond to your prayers. Listen to what Gabriel tells him.

**“At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you...”**

What? Wait, you mean you were dispatched as soon as I started praying? Yeah, that's what I just said. As soon as you began to pray your supplications, there was a dispatch sent out and I responded to the call.

**“...and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved.”**

Stop! Don't you find it interesting that John, the Apostle John, John, the writer of the Book of Revelation John, the three epistles John, the Gospel John, in which he's not at all bashful

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

to write by the Holy Spirit that he was the disciple that Jesus loved. Oh, and actually he's right to say that because he was beloved.

Now watch this. Daniel, greatly beloved, is the writer of a book of prophecies unveiling the future. And John, who is greatly beloved, is the author of a book about prophecy revealing the future. You want to connect those dots?

Now, what does that mean? Well, I haven't gotten any prophecies. I must not be loved. Don't do that. That's not at all what that means. And it's not like the other disciples. I could just see Peter on this, you know. I don't think he was too happy about John writing about how he beat Peter to the tomb when Jesus rose from the dead.

And then John's the one that's always, you know, writing **“and the disciples AND Peter.”** You know, it's kind of like, wow, you guys, you need to work this out, you guys. But it's not that Jesus didn't love the disciples. You know how it is as parents. You have a different relationship with your children. You don't love one more than the other, even though they try to get that out of you. Do they do that to you? Who's your favorite son, my boys ask me. Well that depends. No. (Chuckling)

We'll see. How about — I have an idea. It depends on the day, the week. How am I going to love one child more than the other? That's, that's, that's — no. But I have a different relationship with my son than I do with my other son and my daughter.

Do you know that a family of five — I know I've said this before. Just let me have this one. A family of five has 25 relationships. No wonder we have dysfunctional families. You know how I get that, right? If you have five people in a family, you got 25 relationships in that family. And you wonder why there's relational dynamics. But Daniel's relationship with God was such that he was greatly beloved.

So Gabriel says, **“Therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision: [Now watch this. Verse 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.”**

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

Did you catch that? You got that, right? Self-explanatory, right? Not so fast. 70 weeks. Daniel, here's the prophecy, the interpretation of the prophecy. I'm going to explain it to you so that you understand it.

**“70 weeks [Or 70 sets of seven years] are determined for your people.”** Now, this is where it's going to get really interesting. **“Know therefore and understand [Notice the specificity] 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. [That's 69 sets of seven years] The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.”**

Okay, wait. When did this happen? The command went forth to restore and build Jerusalem and the streets and the wall: Nehemiah, not Ezra. Some people try to, you know, suggest that it was Ezra. No, you're going to get messed up big time. This is when Nehemiah was sent to Jerusalem to rebuild — it was in the rubble — rebuild the wall, the streets.

But we have a timeline here that it will have been seven weeks and 62 weeks from that time. Watch this. In his book, *'The Coming Prince,'* Sir Robert Anderson calculated the seven plus 62 weeks, 69 weeks, 69 groups or units of seven years. However you want to see it or say it, it would total 483 years, or 173,880 days.

You know, there are people that really get into this. Hang in there with me on this, okay? This is — it's worth the wait, okay? From this and other scripture, Sir Robert Anderson surmised that we could know the exact date based chiefly on this specific prophecy in *Daniel Chapter 9*.

We could know the exact date based on that, that Jesus would make His triumphal entry into Jerusalem in the exact fulfillment of this prophecy. Do you know what that date was? I mean, down to the gnat's eyebrow in its accuracy. And yes, gnats still have eyebrows. I haven't used that for a while.

That date was April 6th, 32 A.D. 173,880 days, which is exactly the periods of seven years that Daniel was given this vision of and had it interpreted by Gabriel. And it gets better. You ain't seen nothing yet.

**Verse 26, “And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off...”**

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

Stop! What does that mean? The Messiah, Jesus, will be crucified. He makes His triumphal entry, and then He's going to go to the cross, and He's going to be cut off, and He's going to be crucified and die, “...but not for Himself. [He died for us]

**And the people of the prince... [Wait, who's this now?] ...the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.”**

Wait. Let's go back to the crucifixion because we know how that ends. Wait. The city's going to be destroyed? Yeah. The sanctuary is going to be destroyed? Yeah. Who's going to destroy it? This prince that's going to come. Who's that? Rome. This happened? Yeah. **“The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.”**

This was fulfilled exactly as Jesus said it would in *Matthew 24*, when the disciples were just, you know, pointing to the temple from there on the Mount of Olives, as I'm sure on a bright, sunny day, it just glistened. All the gold was just so brilliant you couldn't almost look at it. And Jesus says, do you know that there won't be one stone left on another? That temple is going to be destroyed.

And 38 years later, in the year 70 A.D., this verse this prophecy, was fulfilled down to the gnat's eyebrow, exactly as Jesus said, one stone won't be on another. This is the beginning of *Matthew 24*, which prompted the prayer, the question about prophecy, which is what *Matthew 24* is. At the beginning, this would have been inconceivable.

Are you kidding me? Not one stone. These stones were tons. They're huge. Those of you that have been to Israel with us, you see the ruins. Why was not one stone left upon another?

Because they had gold in the middle. And the Romans wanted that gold. So they had to get one stone off of the other to get that gold, and the fire would melt it so they could get it. But all those stones, that temple was completely destroyed in 70 A.D.

And it started the desolation where the Jews now would be — would no longer be a people, and they would flee Jerusalem and be dispersed among all the nations of the world until 1948.



**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

Now, last verse. I mean, to say the best for last would be a gross understatement here. This is the verse that Jesus quoted in *Matthew 24*. He refers to Daniel the prophet, when what Daniel the prophet said in Chapter 9:27 — this is before chapters and verses — but He's quoting. Jesus himself is quoting this last verse, *verse 27 of Daniel Chapter 9 in Matthew 24*, concerning the time of the end.

And here we are tonight, like Daniel was back then, studying Bible prophecy, going we're at the end! 70 years. We've got three years tops. If my calculations are right, I gotta get the word out. This is the end. This is how it ends! Ahhh! Here we are.

Fast forward to our day today. This is not hyperbole. Literally. *Verse 27* is happening now. It's beginning to come to pass. And it's just — I'll stop using the gnat's eyebrow. That poor gnat's dead already anyway. We're just, I mean, so close to this being fulfilled. Listen to the prophecy. How specific is this?

**“Then he [The Antichrist] shall confirm [Enforce, make stronger, make greater] a covenant with many...”** [*“With THE many” in the Hebrew*]

This has got Bible commentators kind of twisted up. Is this many nations, or is it with the many, speaking idiomatically of Israel? I think it's all the above. “...for one week.” Why one week? Because we still got one week left. It was 70, and we stopped at 69 at the crucifixion. Sixty-two plus seven. Then the Messiah is cut off, He's crucified. 69 weeks have been fulfilled, passed. Check, check, check, check.

But we still got one more week of seven years to go, a.k.a. the 7-year tribulation. That's the last week. It's affectionately referred to as Daniel's 70th week, and rightfully so because the 69 weeks of years of seven years are done, over.

And so for the last approximately 2000 years, we've been waiting on standby for that 70th and final set of seven years, the 70th week of Daniel, also known as the time of Jacob's trouble. Who's Jacob? Israel, not the church. This is all to do with Israel, not the Christian. So he is going to enforce, make great.

And this, by the way, would imply that there's already a peace deal on the table. It doesn't say that he makes a deal. No, he makes stronger an existing covenant. I'll let that sink in. There's already something on the table, but the Antichrist is going to enforce it.

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

In the Arabic language, my native tongue, it's the same word in the Hebrew: Ekbir, ekbir. I'm going to make something — oh, I guess is similar to the root when you — I hate to even utter the words, Allahu Akbar. Ekbir, Akbar: greater. That's not Allah is great. It's Allah is greater.

Don't miss that. Because when you say Allah is greater, greater than who? If you just say Allah's great, great. But when you say Allahu Akbar, Allah is greater, that's Lucifer who said he would and declared that he would ascend his throne higher than the Most High. So this is what that word means. It means to make it stronger, ekbir, Akbar, greater for that last period of seven years.

But! Sorry, I woke a couple of people back up. We're almost done. Don't worry. **“In the middle of the week...”**

Stop. Three and a half years. This comports with *2 Thessalonians 2*. We know this powerful, prophetic chapter very well, right? Because Paul, writing to the Thessalonians in the context of the rapture, which is in *verse 3*, by the way, because the Antichrist cannot be revealed until the church is removed. It's not the great falling away. It's the great catching away. It's not the apostasy. It's the rapture. It's not a spiritual departure. It's a physical departure in the rapture, *2 Thessalonians 2:3*, and then he's revealed. He cannot be revealed until the church is removed.

And the time of the Gentiles, the fullness of the Gentiles— Don't get those two confused. I messed them up — the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And now God shifts His — all the focus of His attention. Now that He's taken His Gentile bride, the fullness of the Gentiles, pre-tribulation, now He's going to focus on the Jewish nation for this last seven-year period.

And at the three-and-a-half-year mark — **“In the middle of the week he [The Antichrist] shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. [Remember Antiochus Epiphanes we talked about?] And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate...”**

This is the abomination that causes desolation that Jesus referred to. When you see the abomination that causes desolation, that Daniel the prophet spoke about, run. What is believed is going to happen is — and by the way, this *Daniel 9:27* is what commences the 7-year tribulation, not the rapture.

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

When this is inked, if I can say like that, that's when the 7-year tribulation clock starts ticking. This is what starts it. Because it's that specific. And at the three-and-a-half-year mark, the Antichrist — and part of this covenant is going to be — and this is what Israel will do anything and stop at nothing for: Their temple. Be he God or devil, you give us a temple, we'll worship you. No, for real.

So the Antichrist is going to, as part of this covenant, he's going to sweeten the deal, make it greater. You can have your temple. Where do we sign? So the temple will be rebuilt. Then at the three-and-a-half-year mark, this Antichrist is going to put his image in the Holy of Holies, and he will, like Antiochus Epiphanes, sacrifice a pig, likely, and sprinkle the blood which will be the abomination that causes desolation.

For the last three and a half years, the Jews will flee to that place that was prepared for them, and God will protect them for the last three and a half years of the 7-year tribulation. And that's when they're going to come to a true saving knowledge of their Messiah, when they realize that this is not their Messiah. This is the false Messiah. And by the way, Antichrist doesn't just mean against Christ, it means in the place of Christ.

And this is what Paul says in *2 Thessalonians*, that he will set himself up in the temple, declaring himself to be God, demanding to be worshiped as God, saying he is God at the three-and-a-half-year mark. And he will commit this abomination that causes desolation. And that's when the Jews are going to realize this is not the Messiah.

So “...**even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.**”

Okay, I'm going to close this way. We're Daniel. We just got done studying some Bible prophecy, didn't we? I want to pray.

In fact, you know what? Stand up. Because Kaponi is not going to close us in song tonight. And no, I am not going to sing, so... Oh, no. Stop, stop. I would not do that to you. I love you too much to do that to you.

So I want to pray because this is what prophecy does. It prompts prayer and prayer prompts prophecy. Do you realize this? Just this *verse 27* many a Bible teacher has spent weeks teaching just on this one verse? That's how packed full it is. Why?

**Daniel 9**  
**When Prophecy Prompts Prayer**  
**Pastor JD Farag**

Because, like Daniel, we're that close. Man, if I'd have known we were this close, I would have read the prophecy sooner. I didn't realize. I mean 70 — and it's 67 or 68 or for us it's — we got that last seven. We've already got 69.9999999. And that 70 is about to happen because Israel is already ready. They're ready. They're just waiting. They've got everything ready.

Am I yelling? I'm so excited. Because you know what this means? It means only one thing for us: We're going home. We're going home.

[ Applause ]

So I don't know, maybe, you know, I'll pray, but — and then I'm going to just leave — (Chuckle) bye — and just go pray. Lord, come quickly. Like Daniel, I'm going to praise Him and adore Him and thank Him and confess to Him.

You know, I don't have as much to confess as maybe some of you, but I'll confess. I'll use “we,” that's fine, you know, take one for the team. But I'm also going to plead with Him. Turn Your anger away, Your wrath away. Come get us. Maranatha! Lord, come quickly. So let's pray.

Father, thank You. Wow. I'm breathless. I'm speechless. I just — this is so encouraging, so exciting. Lord, thank You. Thank You for Bible prophecy, not just because we want to be in the know, no. Thank You for Bible prophecy because it's a gauge, a clock to tell us just how late the hour is before You come for us. Lord thank You. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen. God bless you.