

Daniel 9:20-27
SA230305

“Israel’s 70 Weeks”

1. Daniel chapter 9 is one of the most important prophecies in all the Bible for a number of reasons.

- **We** will not only see the supernatural nature of God’s Word in giving such detail about the future of Israel,
- **But** we will also “SEE” the future of Israel and the world.

2. We left off last time with Daniel realizing that Israel’s 70 years of judgment was about to come to an end as he calculated the days in the book of Jeremiah.

- **Which** then led him to confess his sins and the sins of the nation, crying out to God to fulfill His promise to restore them after the 70 years.
- **Which** brings us to where we are today.

v.21 1. There are several things to note here.

- Daniel was doing what WE need to be doing as well in light of where WE are as a church and a nation.

2. Praying, supplicating, confessing personal sin
AND the sins of our nation.

- **Which** is a prerequisite to God forgiving and restoring.

3. Secondly, notice it was “while” Daniel was
“understanding from the books” and “praying”
that he heard from God.

- **What’s** my point?

4. It’s important for us to realize that if we want to
hear from God, we have to be spending time in
His Word and in prayer.

- **THAT** is when God speaks to us.

5. Notice as we noted last week that it’s the angel
Gabriel God sends to Daniel and who appears to
be the “main” messenger to the nation of Israel.

- **Why?**

- **He’s** the one who brings the message to Daniel here.

- **He’s** the one who brings the message to Zacharias in the Temple concerning the birth of John the Baptist.

- **He’s** the one who came to Mary with the announcement of Jesus’ birth.

6. In contrast, Michael the archangel is the one that
“watches over” the nation of Israel and appears
to be more of the warrior.

- **Daniel 12:1 says,** "At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book.
- **Jude 1:9 says,** "Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"
- **Revelation 12:7 says,** "And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought..."

7. Notice also that Gabriel was caused to "fly swiftly."

- **No** doubt angels always fly swiftly but the wording would indicate God sped him up somehow.

8. We will see later in chapter 10 that he is "slowed down" by demonic opposition.

- **At** which point God sends the bruiser Michael to help him break through.

9. And notice also he reached him at the "time of the evening offering."

- **This** is very interesting to me and shows Daniel's heart and commitment to God in a

way you wouldn't understand if you didn't know their history.

10. You see there **WAS** no more "physical" morning and evening offering at this point.

- **Explain**

11. Hence while Daniel could no longer make a "physical" offering in Jerusalem, he "could" make a "spiritual" offering wherever he was and so he did.

- **Praying** every morning and evening at the appointed time.
- **And** in the middle of the day as well as we are told he prayed 3 times a day.

v.22 1. Notice he says he gave him "skill to understand."

- **God** expects us to "understand" prophecy, that why He gave it to us.

2. Yet so many today completely ignore it and hence have NO CLUE what is going on today.

- **And** never let anyone tell you that you can't!
- **God** has given us the ability by His Word and His Spirit.

v.23 1. Notice that it was at the "beginning" of Daniel's prayer the "command went out."

- **The** moment God heard Daniel He moved on his behalf.
 - **And** there are a couple of things I want you to note about this.
2. First of all, God hears you the moment you cry out to Him.
- **But** it is up to Him how quickly He responds.
 - **Scripture** tells us God hears us even before we pray.
3. The next thing to notice is Gabriel got there about 3 to 4 minutes after Daniel started praying.
- **Which** shows how fast angels are especially coming from 3rd heaven where God was.
4. And once arriving Gabriel tells Daniel why God is answering his prayer.
- **It** is because he is “greatly beloved”.
 - **How** would you like to hear that from God!!!!?
5. You have!
- **Jesus said in John 15:9, “AS the Father has loved Me, so I have loved you.”**
 - **Isn’t** it great to know that we are “greatly beloved” by the Lord!
6. It is interesting that while we are all “beloved” of the Lord there are only two in the Bible

specifically called “beloved” and that is Daniel and John.

- **Who** were both men of the Word, prayer, and prophecy.
- **Which** would indicate to me that prophecy is very important to the Lord.

v.24 1. Verse 24 sums up the entire future of Israel and the world in a few verses.

- **Then** the rest of the chapter breaks it down into details.

2. Notice it starts out “70 weeks are determined for **YOUR** people and the Holy City.”

- **That is** this prophecy applies specifically to the Jewish people and the nation of Israel.

3. This is not a prophecy of the church.

- **It** is the fulfilling of a promise by God to the nation of Israel.

4. And it is interesting as well that once you reach Revelation chapter 4, you never see the church at all until the 2nd Coming.

- **Why** is that?
- **Because** the church is gone at this time due to the Rapture of the Church.

5. Speaking to the church in the first 3 chapters of Revelation it is all in “gentile” or “church” terminology concerning the Messiah.

- **Then** after John is “called up” in chapter 4, the terminology of the Messiah suddenly changes to Jewish Messianic terminology.
6. Which is why I believe the Rapture is shown in Revelation chapter 4 with John being “called up” at the beginning of the chapter.
- **He then** sees the Great Tribulation from Heaven with God and the angels rather than from the earth with men.
 - **And** from this point we don’t see “gentile” messianic terminology again until the 2nd Coming in Chapter 19 when the church comes back with the Lord.
7. Now what does he mean 70 weeks are determined for the nation of Israel?
- **He** is speaking of 70 weeks of years which was a common phraseology among the Jews in this day.
 - **Even** as we speak of “decades” being 10 years they spoke of “weeks” being groups of 7 years called a “heptad.”
8. Hence this was simply another way of saying 490 years are determined prophetically for the nation of Israel.
- **However**, we will see it has a specific start date and is broken up into “segments” as Gabriel will describe.

9. Notice now what God says will happen once these 490 years with Israel are completed.

- **Transgression** and sin will be over.
- **The** world will be reconciled with God.
- **Everlasting** righteousness will begin.
- **All** vision and prophecy “sealed up” will be obvious.
- **And** lastly Jesus will be anointed as the Most Holy to rule and reign forever.

10. That is when the 2nd Coming takes place and Jesus will take his throne for 1000 years here on this earth.

- **Then** at the end of that, He will create a new heaven and new earth that has never been tainted with sin.

v.25 1. Again, “know therefore and understand.”

- **What** an amazing prophecy!
- **Do** you realize what just happened here.

2. Gabriel just told Daniel the “exact day” the Messiah will be revealed to Israel as their King!

- **And** it will be from the “going forth of the command to restore and rebuild Jerusalem”.

3. And we know historically that this command was given by King Artaxerxes to Nehemiah allowing the Jews to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem on March 14th, 445 BC.

- **He** then says that after 7 weeks and 62 weeks, or 69 weeks of years which is 483 years, their Messiah will arrive at Jerusalem.
 - **And** Zechariah says he ride in on a donkey.
4. And since 483 years is 173,880 days, we simply calculate that many days from the command to Nehemiah. We come up to April 6th 32 AD which we know was the Passover that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.
- **God** gave the “exact” day Jesus would ride in and they STILL missed it!
 - **You** see how important prophecy is!
5. It also shows us that our calendar is either off one year or this was right at the time of Jesus birthday.
- **One** gospel says He was “about” 33.
6. And notice lastly it says the street and walls of Jerusalem will be rebuilt in troublesome times.
- **This** is referring to Nehemiah and all the opposition he faced when trying to rebuild the walls after coming back.

v.26 1. Next it says when He rides in He will be “cut off.”

- **The** word is “karat” and means “public execution.”
- **They** had NO excuses!

2. But notice it won't be for Himself.

- **It** will be for us and the sins of the world on the cross.

3. Who are the people of the prince who is to come?

- **The** Romans are the people, and the prince is the anti-Christ that comes out of it.

4. But up to this point that only covers 69 of the 70 weeks.

- **What** about the final 7?

5. Very clearly God's prophetic timeclock for Israel "temporarily stopped" at that point and

Revelation tells us it will restart after the Rapture of the church.

- **During** their final 7 years we will be in heaven at the wedding supper of the Lamb as His bride.

6. Paul calls this the "mystery of the church."

- **And** theologians call it the "church age."
- **And** it was not revealed until after Jesus' death.

7. If you want to do the calculation of the days given here, you will have to use a 360 day calendar because that is what they used in the day this prophecy was given.

- **And** incidentally that is what God uses throughout the Bible.

8. There were multiple times they tried to make Jesus their King before this, but He didn't allow it.

- **Why?**
- **It** wasn't time yet, it had to wait until "that" day.

9. This is why in Luke's account it says Jesus wept over the city as He rode in because they didn't know "their" day.

- **It** was ALL spelled out for them in detail to the DAY!

10. So, when does the clock start again?

- **Daniel** reveals it will begin again once the anti-Christ comes on the world scene and signs a peace treaty with Israel and their neighbors as we will see in a moment.
- **Look** at verse 27.

v.27 1. He is now speaking of the final week or final 7 years of the Great Tribulation.

- **Notice** he will confirm a covenant with them for one week or 7 years.
- **And** it will be a peace treaty that the world will believe will finally bring peace to the Middle East.

2. But in the middle of the week (3 ½ years) in it all falls apart.

- **Explain.**

- **Rebuild** 3rd Temple and restart sacrifices.
 - **Explain** vacant area on Temple Mount.
3. “But in the middle of the week” everything changes.
- **He** will declare HIMSELF god, stop the sacrifices and worship, and demand the Jews and the rest of the world worship HIM.
4. Jesus said in Matthew 24, “When you see the abomination of desolation standing in the Holy Place flee.”
- **Revelation 13:14-15** He sets up an image as well.
 - **This** is what Jesus calls it the “abomination of desolation”.

“And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.”...

“He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.”

5. “Even until the consummation”

- **This** abomination will last until the final consummation when Jesus returns in the clouds in glory.

6. Two amazing prophecies you can't miss.

- Jesus' first coming as King to the day and of the 2nd Coming to the day!
- **Explain.**