



Go for God!

## “DANIEL’S PROPHECY OF CHRIST & ANTICHRIST!”

### Daniel Chapter 9:23-27

#### > UNDERSTANDING THE LAST DAYS SCENARIO

#### MATTHEW Chapter 24:1-22

- In verses 1-2 Jesus describes the future destruction of the temple, which took place in 70A.D. Then He unveils the global deceptions, conflicts, catastrophes, and persecutions taking place and becoming more intense before His Second Coming. Now in verses 15-22 He reveals that Israel will be back in the land, will rebuild the Temple, the Antichrist will commit the “*abomination of desolation*” in the midst of what is called the “*Great Tribulation.*” Let us discover and define these events and terms as we take a look into the future, which is quickly becoming our present.

- As a sign of the soon second coming of Messiah, our Lord Jesus Christ, Jews will be returning to the land of Israel according to Deuteronomy 30:3; Isaiah 43:6; Ezekiel 34:11-13; 36:24; 37:1-14.

- In Isaiah 10:20-23 we read, *And it shall come to pass in that day that the remnant of Israel, and such as have escaped of the house of Jacob, will never again depend on him who defeated them, but will depend on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth. The remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob, to the Mighty God. For though your people, O Israel, be as the sand of the sea, a remnant of them will return; the destruction decreed shall overflow with righteousness. For the Lord GOD of hosts will I make a determined end in the midst of all the land.*

- Israel became a nation on May 14th, 1948 with a population of 800,000, today in 2022 Israel’s population is 9,500,000, Jewish world population is 15,200,000.

- The church will be *raptured* before the *Tribulation / Great Tribulation* (a seven-year period before the return of Christ (Rev. Ch. 6 – 9)). The *Rapture of the church* is when God removes all believers from the earth (1 Thess. 5:1-9; 2 Thess. 2:6-7) making way for God’s righteous judgment and wrath to be poured out on the earth dwellers during the Tribulation period. The *Rapture* is described primarily in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:50-54, Revelation 3:10.

- At the same time, there will be terrible conflict in Israel during the end times. That is why the time period is known as the *Tribulation / Great Tribulation*, and the “*time of Jacob’s trouble*” (Jeremiah 30:7).

- What will happen to Israel in the “*latter times / last days*”:

(1) Israel will be invaded by Russia, Iran, Turkey, and surrounding Muslim countries (Ezekiel chapters 38-39).

(2) The antichrist will make a 7-year covenant of “*peace*” with Israel (Isaiah 28:18; Daniel 9:27).

(3) The Temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem in the first three and a half years of the seven-year tribulation (Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:15; 2 Thess. 2:3-4; Rev. 11:1).

(4) The antichrist will break his covenant with Israel. Worldwide persecution of Israel will result (Daniel 9:27; 12:1, 11; Zech. 11:16; Matt. 24:15, 21; Rev. 12:13)

(5) Israel will finally recognize Jesus as the Messiah (Zechariah 12:10). Israel is regenerated, restored, and regathered (Jeremiah 33:8; Ezekiel 11:17; Romans 11:26) at Christ's second coming.

- We know that verses 15-22 are given for the Jewish people, how so?

(1) The *abomination of desolation* can only happen in the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. (The Temple is rebuilt during the first half of the tribulation according to Revelation Ch. 11, 2 Thessalonians Ch. 2)

(2) People are fleeing from Jerusalem.

(3) Jesus mentions the Jewish Sabbath.

(4) Jesus gives us factual insight by telling us to read and understand Daniel, the Jewish prophet. Let us go to Daniel Ch. 9:20-27 for understanding.

> UNDERSTANDING DANIEL'S PROPHECY (Daniel 9:20-27)

Daniel's prophecy of the seventy "weeks" ('seven') (v24-27) provides the chronological framework for Messianic prediction from Daniel to the establishment of the kingdom on earth and also a key to its interpretation. Its main features are as follows:

(v24) The entire prophecy is concerned primarily with Daniel's "people" and their "holy city"— i.e. Israel and Jerusalem. For what purpose:

> First coming of Messiah, the Christ:

- *To finish the transgression*

- *To make an end of sins*

- *To make reconciliation for iniquity*

> Second coming of Messiah, the Christ:

- *To bring in everlasting righteousness*

- *To seal up vision and prophecy*

- *To anoint the most holy place*

(v25a) Two princes are mentioned; the first is named the "Messiah the Prince" (v25); the second is described as "the prince who is to come" (v26), a reference to the little horn of Daniel Ch. 7:8, whose "people" would destroy the rebuilt Jerusalem after the cutting off of the Messianic Prince (26).

(v25b) The "seventy weeks" of the prophecy are weeks of years, an important sabbatical time-measure in the Jewish calendar. Violation of the command to observe the sabbatical year brought the judgment of the Babylonian captivity and determined its length of seventy years. Cp. Lev. 25:1-22; 26:33-35; 2 Chr. 36:19-21; Dan. 9:2. Also compare Gen. 29:26-28 for use of "*week*" to indicate seven years.

- These 490 prophetic years (70 weeks, or 70 x 7-year periods = 490 years) are each 360 days long. This is proved by the biblical references to the seventieth week of seven years, which is divided into two halves (v27), the latter half being variously designated as “a time and times, and half a time” (Dan. 7:25; cp. Rev. 12:14); forty-two months (Rev. 11:2; 13:5); or 1260 days (Rev. 11:3; 12:6). In this connection it should be remembered that, in the grand sweep of prophecy, prophetic time is invariably so near as to give full warning, so indeterminate as to give no satisfaction to mere curiosity (cp. Mt. 24:36; Acts 1:7).

(v25c) The beginning of the *seventy weeks* is fixed as “the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem” and its wall. The only decree in Scripture authorizing the rebuilding of the city and its wall is recorded in Nehemiah Ch. 2; dated in “the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes” (which is March 14, 445 B.C.), this is well attested in ancient history. From this date as a beginning, the first sixty-nine weeks reach to “the Messiah, the Prince,” which is the first coming of Jesus Christ, who is the “lamb of God” to be sacrificed for our sins (fulfilling Isaiah Ch. 53), He is Messiah and Savior!

(v26a) At a later time, after the “sixty-two weeks” which follow the first “seven weeks” (i.e. after sixty-nine weeks), two important events will take place:

- 1 week known in Hebrew as shabua equals a 7 year period, at the end of 69 weeks (7+62=69), which is 69 x 7 = 483 years = 173,880 days; the command to rebuild and restore Jerusalem was given on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 445 BC (Nehemiah 2:1-8), until Messiah, Jesus was hailed as Messiah on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 32 AD, which is exactly 173,880 days! (“Hosanna” - Mt. 21:9-15; Mk. 11:9-10; Jn. 12:13)

- Jesus gives reference to this day Luke 19:28-44.

- Messiah will be “cut off” (Christ crucified!) and will have none of His regal rights (“but not for Himself”), to be the believing sinner’s Savior!

(Sidenote: Why 7 plus 62, the 7 weeks 7x7=49 years, this is from when the command was given 445B.C. to the last Old Testament prophet Malachi 397B.C., then there is silence from God until John the Baptist, then Jesus is hailed as Messiah, which is adding 62 weeks that equals the 69 weeks or 483 years.)

(v26b) “And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary” – Titus and the Roman army did both in 70A.D. Jesus prophesied this event in Matthew 24:1,2; Luke 21:5-6. The Jewish people were then dispersed throughout the world without a homeland. Both events are placed before the seventieth week of v. 27.

**(v27) The main events of the final “one week” (7-year tribulation) are as follows:**

**(a) There is a seven –year “covenant” made by the future Roman prince (the “*little horn*” of Daniel 7:8, which is the antichrist) with the Jews.**

**(b) In the middle of the week there is a forcible interruption of the Jewish ritual of worship by the Roman prince who introduces “*abomination*” (Mt.24:15; Rev. 13) that renders the sanctuary desolate.**

**- In Revelation 13:5-8 we read, *And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. It was granted to him to make war with the saints (those saved in the 7-years tribulation) and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.***

**(c) At the same time he launches persecution against the Jews. And the end of the *seventieth week* brings judgment upon the desolator and also brings “*everlasting righteousness*” (v. 24—i.e. the blessings of the *Messianic kingdom*). The proof that this final week has not yet been fulfilled is seen in the fact that Christ definitely relates its main events to His *Second Coming* (Mt. 24:6,15). Hence, during the interim between the sixty-ninth and seventieth weeks is the Church age set forth in the New Testament, not revealed in the Old Testament.**

**(d) The interpretation, which assigns the last of the *seventy weeks* to the end of the age is also found in the writings of the early church. When this *seventieth week* was referred to during the first two and one-half centuries of the Christian Church, it was almost always assigned to the *end of the age*. Irenaeus places the appearance of Antichrist at the *end of the age in the last week*; in fact, he asserts that the time of Antichrist’s tyranny will last just one-half of the week, three years and six months. So likewise Hippolytus states that Daniel “*indicates the showing forth of the seven years which shall be in the last times.*”<sup>1</sup>**

**- Understanding the Antichrist – 2 Thessalonians Chapter 2**

**> What should the Christian do?**

**- Fulfill the “Great Commission” before the “Great Tribulation.” Mark 16:15-“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”**

**- Next be ready for the RAPTURE!**

Live according to Rev. 3:7-13. ***“Keep His Word!”*** Do not ***“deny His name,”*** and God will keep us ***“from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.”*** The word ***“dwell”*** is *katoikeo* in Greek, which speaks of permanence. Thus the judgment referred to is directed against the earth-dwellers of that day, against those who have settled down in the earth as their real home, who have identified themselves with the earth’s commerce and religion. The church will not be *tested*; our sins were judged and paid in full by the blood of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

We’re going up in the rapture, we’re the bride of Christ, we’re not *earth dwellers*, rejoice in Philippians 3:20-21 - ***For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.***