

RESTORE & REBUILD

70 Weeks



483 Years

“In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.” – Daniel 8:1

In the year 538BC, Daniel had a vision from God. **(2-14)** It consisted of four main parts, namely: a Ram, a Goat, a Horn and lastly a 2300 days prophecy connected to a cleansing of a sanctuary. Daniel wanted to understand this vision and the angel Gabriel was commanded to help him understand. **(15-26)** He explained all but the 2300 days prophecy, as Daniel fell ill. The story jumps to **Daniel Chapter 5** where the Medo-Persian Empire conquers the Babylonian Kingdom and continues in **Daniel 9:1** *“In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans”*.

Here we find Daniel, though concerned about the Temple of God that is in ruins and his people in captivity, studying the Scriptures for answers. He is convinced the reasons for this is because of the sins of his people and starts to pray and confess the sins of Israel, asking God for forgiveness. (3-21)

While Daniel was praying, the angel Gabriel returned saying, *“I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding....I am come to shew thee; ...therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision”*

God heard the prayer of Daniel, and Gabriel was sent again to explain the last part of the vision, the 2300 days but more specifically the part pertaining to Israel.

The 70 Weeks

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

The Word “*Determined*” according to the Strong’s concordance is “*to cut off*”, and in Bible Prophecy one prophetic day equals one literal year (*Number 14:34, Ezra 4:6*) – Seventy weeks would be 490 days, which would mean, according to the Bible: 490 Years are cut off (*from the 2300 days, or years*) for Daniel’s people, Israel. They are given 490 years to finish transgression and bring an end to sin.

All that is needed is to know what event starts the 490 years and then the exact time for its end will be known.

*“Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.” – **Daniel 9:25***

Here is shown that this 490 years prophecy starts with the commandment given to restore and build Jerusalem. In **Ezra 7:11-26** we find that it was the Persian king, Artaxerxes, in 457 BC who gave this commandment. **Verse 25** also says that the building of Jerusalem and its walls will be done in seven prophetic weeks (49 years) - *For more on this read Nehemiah and Ezra.*

On the 69th prophetic week (483rd year), in 27 AD we will come to the “*Messiah the Prince*”.

If we search the scriptures in order to find the Messiah, we will be led to **John 1:41** “...*We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ*”. In the verses prior to this (29-40), John the Baptist refers to this Messiah as Jesus, who is the Lamb- and Son of God. The word “*Messiah*” means “*The anointed*”. The question is, was Jesus anointed in 27AD?

“Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.” – Luke 3:21-22

With the baptism of Jesus, the Holy Spirit descended upon Him and God the Father Himself testified verbally that Jesus was indeed His Son, and this is *“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.”* – **Acts 10:38**

Jesus was in 27AD, at His Baptism, anointed by God the Father with the Holy Spirit. Shortly afterwards He would say *“The time is fulfilled”* (**Mark 1:9-15**), referring to this prophecy.

“And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city

and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.” – Daniel 9:26

Sometime after Jesus’ baptism, He will be cut off or killed but prophecy states that it won’t be for Himself.

“And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.” –Daniel

9:27 Jesus will confirm the covenant with the Israelites for one prophetic week (7 years). In the middle of these 7 years, in 31AD, Jesus was killed for the sins of this world.

“Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;” – **Colossians 2:14** With the death of Christ the sacrifices and all the ceremonial laws which pointed to the Him, the Perfect Lamb, came to an end.

“How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;” - **Hebrews 2:3** For the first 3.5 years, Jesus Himself confirmed the covenant with His people, and after His death on the cross it was His disciples who for the last 3.5 years shared the plan of Salvation with them. This is why Jesus said in **Matthew 10:5-7**, *“Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:*

But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” It was because their time was not done yet, and if they would only accept Him as their Saviour, they could, as His chosen people, spread the gospel to the Gentile nations around them. (*Luke 24:47*)

Unfortunately, in the final year of the 490 years, in 34AD we read of the following account, *“Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.”* It ended with Stephen saying, *“Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers*

*persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers: Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it. When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him...” – **Acts 6:9, 7:51-58***

Probation closed for Israel as a nation with the leaders stoning Stephan to death, not willing to

receive the gospel truth. We can see this principle explained elsewhere, *“When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:”* – **Luke 13:25**

Whenever Jesus is seen standing, a door is closed, which signifies the close of probation for someone.

“And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great

lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison. Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.” – **Acts 8:1-4**

The commission Jesus gave His followers were now being fulfilled to the very letter. *“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”* – **Mark 16:15-16**

The gospel was now to be taken to the whole world, to every creature; this meant every created being which was capable of believing. **John 3:16** says, *“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son,*

that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” Whosoever means anyone, it does not matter the race, the language or the tribe.

“They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.... Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.... For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.... And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.” -
John 8:39, 56; Romans 4:3; Matthew 3:9

The Jews thought Salvation could be obtained through having the blood of Abraham, being his direct descendants, but Jesus said that this was not the case, they had to have the faith of Abraham and bear the fruits of the Spirit.

“Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these. For if ye thoroughly amend your ways and your doings; if ye thoroughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbour; If ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after

other gods to your hurt: Then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever.” – Jeremiah 7:1-12

The Jews thought rightfully so, that they were God’s chosen nation and church. But they thought they could never fall out of God’s grace. The prophecy of the 70 weeks should be a warning to all, that although God is longsuffering, He is not FOREVER suffering. Being a literal Israelite or part of a certain organization or church does not and will not ever secure one’s salvation. The Israelites, and even we today, should not look at the temple or church as our means of salvation nor to our physical bloodline as some do.

Salvation is available to every human being by the grace of God, through Jesus Christ to all that believeth in Him and obey Him.
(Titus 2:11, Hebrews 5:9)

Israel failed in giving this message of Salvation to the world and probation closed for them as a “*chosen*” nation. The messages contained in **Revelation 14:6-12**, is the final message to a dying world.

Each one of us has an individual responsibility to share this message with the world. Will we fail to fulfil this commission? Will probation close on us?

“Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.”

1 Corinthians 10:11

Daniel 9:24

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