

Winter Texan Bible Study 2019 ~ Pastor Bill Waddell
Prophecies of Daniel Lesson 4 ~ January 29, 2019

Dan. 9:20-21 – It tells us in **V. 1** of this chapter that Daniel has set his heart to pray for his people, the Jews, that God would forgive them and restore them to their land and allow them to rebuild their Temple. Daniel has read Jeremiah's prophecy that said that there would a 70 year exile and he's noticed that that date is drawing close, so he's praying that God would indeed go through with it. What Daniel asks for and what he gets are two different things. He asks for a small thing but he gets a big thing. He asks for the most he feels he can and God does way more. He asks for quick fix solution to an immediate, he gets a permanent solution to all our problems

1. We are going to consider the most amazing prophecy of the Old Testament.

Sir Isaac Newton once famously said that we could stake the truth of Christianity upon this one prophecy. We have seen that with regards to Jesus' second coming, "No man knows the day or the hour", but, according to this prophecy in Dan. 9, the exact opposite was true about Jesus' first coming. God doesn't tell us the timing of the events of the future because we would make a mess of it just like we do everything else we get our hands on. Nevertheless, God did want the Jews and world to know an exact day in the life and ministry of His Son, so He gives a prophecy that allows to calculate the exact day!

2. The scope of this prophecy is larger than Jesus' 1st coming. It covers the highlights of everything up to and beyond His 2nd coming.

- It's a prophecy to the Jews and through the Jews to the rest of the world. **Dan. 9:24a**
- It's the nature of all God's prophecy.
- The Jews are God's signal and time piece. "What is God up to in a global sense?" Watch what is happening to the Jews!
- It's for 490 years. These are not weeks of days but weeks of years he's speaking of here. **Dan. 9:24b**
- It's sums up many things and brings in everlasting righteousness at the end of those years. **Dan. 9:24c**
- A key to the interpretation is to understand that 483 of the 490 are contiguous and the final 7 years are a period of time that will not start ticking off until certain events trigger them.
- 483 of the 490 years were predicted and fulfilled to the day!
- If you were God, and you were going to predict a specific day of the 3-year ministry of your Son, the Savior of the world, what day would it be? Let's read about Palm Sunday and then we will consider it unusual aspects: **Lk. 19:28-44**

3. Dan. 9:25 - This is a very exact amount of time: A very specific, mathematical prophecy here for 69 of the 70 weeks, or 483 of the 490 years.

Through the angel, God pins down an exact day 483 years in the future. It's a day to be known and understood – **V. 25a**. The trigger that starts the clock ticking: "Decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem". We know and they knew when this was: Artaxerxes 445 B.C. decrees that the walls and city be rebuilt and sends Nehemiah to do it in **Neh. 2:1-8**. **We know this exact date: March 14, 445 B.C.** thanks to the research of Sir Robert Anderson, Head of Scotland Yard, and he published his findings in his book "**The Coming King**" in 1894. So if the Jews had this date, why weren't they standing waiting for their Messiah 483 years later on the date predicted? Because they didn't believe it! It's a Mathematical prophecy that requires us to know a number of things in order to pin down the day that is being spoken of:

- a. Requires us to be able to add: $7+62$ weeks = **69 weeks or 483 years**.
- b. Requires us to know the date it starts: **March 14, 445 B.C.**
- c. Requires us to know the number of days in a year, which is how much? 365? No ~ Biblical year was **360 days always!**
- d. Working the equation: $67+2$ (7's) = 69 weeks of years or 483 years. $483 @ 360$ days/year = The number of days == **173,880 days** until the Messiah. Some commentators say, "That was about the time of Christ." God doesn't deal in approximations!

- e. Now we know when to expect the Messiah: March 14, 445 B.C. plus 173,880 days = **April 6, 32 A.D.**
Some try to figure this come up with different results and it is because they are figuring on a Friday crucifixion which is disproved in three passages in the N.T. Jesus spent most of His ministry keeping a secret: He would not let them exalt Him as Messiah. On several occasions the Jews attempted to make Jesus king but He refused or evaded them: Then a day came, 4 days before His crucifixion, that He not only let them, but He orchestrated it

Lk. 19:30 – Jesus arranges for His **own ride**.

--**V. 40** – So important that the **rocks would cry out!**

--**V. 41** – **He held them accountable** to know the day!

--**V. 42** – “but now”? when? Not His crucifixion! His fulfillment of the most date specific prophecy in the OT!

--**VV. 43-44** – “didn’t recognize the time of their visitation”

--Destruction of A.D. 70 Jews are without a land for almost 2000 years.

--Not until May of 1948 do they return - one year after the book of Daniel along with the other books of the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered—do you **suppose that was a coincidence?**

Jesus held them accountable to know that day. God means what He says and says what He means. Suppose He’s still that way? Or has He changed

“Wages of sin is death”

“Free gift of God is eternal Life in Christ Jesus”

“He who has the Son has the life, he who does not have the Son does not have the life”