

Prophecy In Daniel and The 70 Weeks

Daniel is one of the premier prophets in the Old Testament and also one of the exile prophets. The unique thing about the three major books of prophecy is the fact that none were written in Israel: Ezekiel, Daniel, and the Revelation all were inspired outside of the region of Israel.

The Jews in Exile

I. The Reasons for the Exile

- A. Israel had neglected the Sabbaths
 - 1. The Sabbath Day (Exodus 23:10-20)
 - 2. The Land Sabbath (Leviticus 25:1-7)
 - 3. The Jubilee Sabbath (Leviticus 25:8-10)
- B. The indictment against the People
 - 1. II Chronicles 36:21
 - 2. Ezekiel 20:12-13

II. Daniel's Prophecy in Babylon

- A. Daniel 9:24-27 - The starting point of this prophecy are the six major accomplishments of verse 24. Daniel says that seventy weeks are determined upon the people (Israel), and thy holy city (Jerusalem). Without context we can't understand this; we must place it in the context of Jeremiah's prophecy, that the Children of Israel were to be in Babylon for 70 years. Then we consider the Hebrew translation and the ministry of Jesus four hundred and eighty-three years later as prophesied. All this was done to accomplish these six things:
 - 1. To finish the transgression – to put a stop to the antichrist.
 - 2. To make an end of sin – to cleanse Israel.
 - 3. To make an atonement for iniquity – to bring Israel back into fellowship with God.
 - 4. To bring in an everlasting righteousness – to institute a new covenant.
 - 5. To seal up the vision and the prophecy – when Jesus sits on King David's throne for 1000 years, all Bible prophecy is completely fulfilled.
 - 6. To anoint the most holy – Jesus is anointed as King of Kings, or Jesus anoints the Holy of Holies in the temple and makes it clean

III. From the going forth of the command to restore and rebuild Jerusalem (Daniel 9:25)

- A. Verse 25 tells us a starting point and stopping point.
 - 1. Starting point (from the command)
 - a. The starting point is 457 B.C. (Ezra 7, Nehemiah 2).

2. Stopping point (till Messiah the prince) will be 483 years

a. The end point $483 - 457 = 26$ A.D. + 1 year between 1 A.D. and 1 B.C. = 27 A.D. Jesus was in the synagogue at Nazareth (Luke 4)

b. 27 A.D. was the year of Jubilee and Jesus stood up and read out of the book of Isaiah 61 "to preach the acceptable year of our Lord" (Luke 4: 16-30). Jesus preached this in his home town in 27 A.D. and he was cut off. They discredited his Messianic claim, they questioned his origin, and they tried to kill him.

c. Isaiah 53:3 "...he is despised and rejected of men"

IV. The time of Israel visitation they understood not (Luke 19:41-44).

A. John says in his gospel chapter 1 that at no time had any man seen God, but then he goes on to say that of the Only Begotten of the Father, we have seen His glory.

B. When Jesus dwelt among men 2000 years ago it was God dwelling among men. Who could ever reject the teaching of Jesus? What logical person could ever reject the miracles of Jesus? What person could reject the ministry of Jesus? No logical man could reject what Jesus did or said; what men reject is the fact that Jesus is God. It was not understood 2000 years ago and it is not understood today. The boldest, yet truest statement the world has ever known is when Jesus said "I and Father are one"; coequal, copowerful, and coessential.

V. The suspension in the 490 of Daniel (The Great Mystery)

A. We know from Daniel 9:24 that 490 years are determined, but there is suspension in that time period. Jesus came 483 years after the prophecy and the command to rebuild. Jesus suspended the prophecy.

B. The suspension is not for Israel. It is for us gentiles to come into fellowship with the Father through Jesus the Son

C. The Mystery of the Church age

1. The time of the Gentiles (Luke 21:24)

2. The fullness of the Gentiles (Romans 11:25)

3. The numbering of the Gentiles (Revelation 11:2)

D. When the prophecy clock that stopped with the ministry of Jesus begins to tick again, then will the last week of the 70 weeks commence, which is the 7 years of the tribulation.