

# “DANIEL’S SEVENTY WEEKS”

Daniel 9:24-27

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## INTRODUCTION

This is one of the most amazing prophetic passages in all of Scripture.

Even if one is of the disposition to disbelieve the supernatural nature of prophecy, one can hardly deny the supernatural nature of this prophecy—even by the most liberal standard of dating the book of Daniel—which would be about 160-170 BC.

This passage brings us chronologically right up to the time of Messiah—that is the time of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ!

- It shows us the accuracy of OT prophecy.
- It verifies the miraculous nature of Scripture.
- It supports the inspiration and inerrancy of Scripture.
- It shows us the accuracy and seriousness of the historical narratives and prophetic portions of the book of Daniel.
- It gives evidence that **God is truly in control of all that is happening in our world.**
- **Moreover, this passage shows that the future events predicted in the Bible will surely come to pass.** If He so accurately predicted the coming and the work of His Son, the Messiah, then He surely will fulfill the events that are still remaining to be fulfilled.
- Just as this passage gave hope to the Israelites in captivity, so it should give hope to God’s people in the world today. **No matter how bad things get, God will resolve the world’s crises and will bring His Son back to conquer the “desolator” of the last days and to set up His kingdom!**

We must remember that this revelation was in direct answer to the prayer of Daniel in chapter 9! Daniel was concerned for the immediate needs of his people in their return from captivity. *The Lord gave Daniel a great deal more than what he asked for!*

**Take heed to the message that the Lord has given you about the fulfillment of all prophecy and the bringing in of everlasting righteousness.** (Note Gabriel’s exhortation to Daniel in v. 23b:

## TAKE HEED AND GAIN UNDERSTANDING!

Several factors are necessary to determine:

- What length are the “weeks”?
- To whom does the prophecy refer?
- To what do the **six** items of verse 24 refer that will be accomplished by the end of the 70 weeks?
- To what decree does v. 25 refer?
- How do we explain the division into **seven** weeks and **sixty two** weeks?
- What are the “plaza and moat” and the “times of distress”?
- Is “Messiah the Prince” the same as the “prince who is to come”?

- What does it mean that Messiah is “cut off” after 69 weeks and that He “has nothing”?
- Who are the people who destroy the city and the sanctuary? (v. 26).
- Do the “end” of the city and “to the end” refer to the same thing? And to what do the “war and desolations” refer (v. 26)
- Who makes a firm covenant and then later breaks it, and with whom does he make it? (v. 27)
- What is the “middle of the week”?
- What is the stopping of “sacrifice and grain offering,” and what does the “wing of abominations” refer to?
- Who is the “one who makes desolate” and what is “the complete destruction, one that is decreed” that is poured out “on the one who makes desolate”?

Let us look at these one by one.

1. The Length of the “weeks?”
2. To whom does the prophecy refer?
3. Explain the **six** items of v. 24 that will all be accomplished by the end of the 70 weeks.
  - Finish the transgression
  - Make an end of sin
  - Make atonement for iniquity
  - Bring in everlasting righteousness
  - Seal up vision and prophecy
  - Anoint the most holy *place*.
4. When was the decree made mentioned in v. 25?
5. What is the intended division between 7 and 62 weeks?
6. Explain the plaza and moat and times of distress.

7. Is there one prince in this passage or two?
8. How is Messiah “cut off” and why does He “have nothing”?
9. What people destroy the city and the sanctuary?
10. Explain the “ends” in v. 26 and the “war” and “desolations.”
11. Who makes and later breaks a covenant, and with whom?
12. What is the middle of the week?
13. What is the stopping of “sacrifice and grain offering,” and what does the “wing of abominations” refer to?
14. Who is the “one who makes desolate” and what is “the complete destruction, one that is decreed” that is poured out “on the one who makes desolate”?

#### CONCLUSION

What an amazing prophecy!

What an amazing God!

What a great Bible we have!

What great confidence and assurance we ought to have for our future and the future of our world!