

INTRODUCTION

- * We are in the midst of considering the prophetic portion of the book of Daniel.
- * Last week, we began looking at chapter 9 and saw the impact of reading God's Word upon Daniel himself. As Daniel read from the Law of Moses and the prophetic writings of Jeremiah, he began to confess his, and his people's, sins. Daniel then interceded upon behalf of his country, beseeching God to stay His anger and extend His mercy. Today, we see the Divine Response to Daniel's prayer - additional prophecy!
- * We want to consider two preliminary thoughts, prior to a technical consideration of the prophecy of the Seventy Sevens given to Daniel.
 - First, regarding the beloved nature of Daniel. God took great pleasure in His faithful servant!
 - Second, regarding the telescopic nature of Prophecy. Prophecy is future oriented and, many times, we are only given highlights of several future events which may appear to blend together in our view. Hence, many times, prophecy has multiple projected fulfillments. We will see an application of that telescopic nature of prophecy in the fulfillment of this prophecy of the Seventy Sevens as we are specifically told that there are two major fulfillments.

INSTRUCTION

I. THE FOCUS OF THE WEEKS (v. 20, 24)

II. THE PURPOSE OF THE WEEKS (v. 24)

III. THE DIVISION OF THE WEEKS (v. 25-27)

A. The Seven and Sixty-Two Weeks (v. 25)

1. TEXTUALLY
 - a. The Initial Point of the Sixty-Nine Weeks
 - b. The End Point of the Sixty-Nine Weeks
2. CHRONOLOGICALLY
 - a. The Initial Point of the Sixty-Nine Weeks
~ **SEE CHRONOLOGY ON BACK** ~
 - b. The End Point of the Sixty-Nine Weeks
 - i. *THE CONFUSION*: 483 - 445 BC = 39 AD (remember ... no year 0)
 - ii. *THE EXPLANATION*
 - * The Prophetic "Year" is 360 days 30 days per month (cf. Genesis 7:11, 24; 8:4; Rev. 11:2-3; 12:6, 14; 13:5)
 - * The 483 "years" => 483 x 360 = 173,880 prophetic days
 - * It has been calculated that Artaxerxes decree would have been on approximately March 14, 445 BC (Gregorian)
 - * Adding the prophetic days => April 6, 32 A.D.
 - * Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21: 1-11; Luke 19: 37-44; Zechariah 9: 9)
 - iii. *THE CONFIRMATION*
 - * John's Ministry began in 28 A.D. - the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar (Luke 3: 1-3) ... Tiberius began his reign in 14 AD
 - * Jesus' 1st Passover (John 2:13, 18-20) ... " the Jews said, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, ...' "
 - => Herod began building the temple in 18 BC ... 46 years would be 29 AD (the beginning of Jesus' ministry)

B. The "Gap" (v. 26; cf. Matthew 24:6-8; Luke 21:20-24)

- * Messiah will be cut off ... but not for Himself
- * The people of the prince will destroy the city and the sanctuary (Romans destroyed Jerusalem ... 70 A.D.)

C. The Seventieth Week (v. 27; cf. Revelation 11:1-13; 13)

1. THE PRINCE WHO IS TO COME
2. THE COVENANT (cf. Revelation 11:1-3; 13:5) ... made for one "seven" ... the seventieth week!
3. THE SACRIFICE (cf. Revelation 11:1-2) ... there will be a sacrifice; hence, a Temple!
4. THE ONE WHO MAKES DESOLATE (cf. Revelation 11:18; 13:4,8; Daniel 11:36-38) ... He will bring an end to the sacrifices
5. THE POURING OUT (cf. Revelation 14:9-10; 15:5 - 16:21) ... the pouring out of God's Bowls of Wrath

INTROSPECTION

- * DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THE REMAINDER OF THE PROPHECY WILL BE FULFILLED - LIKE THE BEGINNING HAS BEEN?
- * ARE YOU LIVING A LIFE THAT IS EXPECTANT OF CHRIST'S RETURN?
- * HOW ARE YOU PREPARING YOURSELF FOR THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS THAT MAY OCCUR IN YOUR LIFETIME?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * Spend more time considering the fulfillment of this final week recorded in Revelation 11-19. The first half of the week is contained within Revelation 11:1-13. The remainder of the week coincides with the issuing of the mark of the beast and the pouring out of the wrath of God.

609 BC ... Josiah sides with Babylonians and attacks Necho at Megiddo (2 Kings 23:28-29 ... Josiah killed at that time)
 ... **Pharaoh Necho captures Jerusalem and takes Jehoahaz prisoner to Egypt; makes Jehoiakim king of Judah**
 605 BC ... Egyptians lose to Babylonians at Carchemish under Nebuchadnezzar
 601 BC ... Nebuchadnezzar captures Jerusalem (1st attack); 1 Kings 24:1,7 ... Jehoiakim becomes vassal for 3 years
 598 BC ... Jehoiakim rebels/dies; Jehoiachin (and captives) taken to Babylon;
 ... Zedekiah is set up as King by Nebuchadnezzar (2 Kings 24:10-17)
 590 BC ... **Jeremiah's prophecy of 70 years (Jeremiah 29:2,10; 2 Kings 24:12) ... during 8th year of Nebuchadnezzar**
 588 BC ... Nebuchadnezzar begins siege @ Jerusalem (1 Kings 24:20 - 25:1)
 586 BC ... Nebuchadnezzar destroys Jerusalem
 559 BC ... Cyrus II becomes king of Persia
 550 BC ... Cyrus II defeats Media and becomes king of both empires
539 BC ... Cyrus II invades Babylon (October 9)
 ... Darius the Mede is made to reign over the Chaldean province (Oct 29)
 ... Daniel seeks to understand the 70 yr of Jeremiah (Daniel 9)
 ... **Cyrus allows the Jews to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple (Ezra 1; Isaiah 44:28)**
 536 BC ... Daniel 10-12 is given in the 3rd year of Cyrus
 530 BC ... Cyrus II dies ... Ahasuerus (Cambyses II) and Artaxerxes (Smerdis) become kings for brief periods
 522 BC ... Work on temple stopped during Artaxerxes reign until 2nd year of Darius (Ezra 4:24)
 521 BC ... Darius I becomes king ... not same Darius as Daniel (that Darius was a general who was given Chaldean governorship)
 519 BC ... Darius' decree - Work on temple resumed (Ezra 4:24)
 514 BC ... Temple completed (Ezra 6:15)
 486 BC ... Xerxes becomes king after Darius I dies (some have Darius dieing in 485 BC)
 479 BC ... Esther becomes queen (Esther 2: 16)
 465 BC ... Artaxerxes I becomes king after Xerxes is assassinated
 458 BC ... Artaxerxes' decree establishing the Law of YHWH as law of land for Israel ... Ezra returns (Ezra 7)
445 BC ... **Artaxerxes' decree via Nehemiah to allow Jerusalem and walls to be rebuilt (Nehemiah 2: 1-8)**
 433 BC ... Nehemiah returns to Artaxerxes
 424 BC ... Darius II becomes king after Artaxerxes I dies; (Xerxes II and Sogdianos both reign and assassinated)
 404 BC ... Artaxerxes II (Xerxes II) becomes king