

Daniel's Seventy Weeks

by Keith Malcomson

This sermon delves into the intricate prophecy of Daniel's 70 weeks, highlighting the accuracy of the timeline, the significance of historical events like the destruction of Jerusalem, and the future implications of the final seven years. It emphasizes the need for prayer, understanding the urgency of the prophetic hour, and being prepared for the fulfillment of biblical prophecies in our generation.

Scripture: Daniel 9:24, Matthew 24:15, 2 Chronicles 36:23, Nehemiah 2:1, Matthew 24:21, Ezra 7:7, Revelation 13:14, Luke 21:20

Topics: "Prophetic Timelines", "Preparedness for Fulfillment"

Description

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Transcript

I'm here tonight, praise God. We're turning to Daniel chapter 9 in our Bible study tonight. Very important study as we come to this next message in the Heaven's Rule.

That is the series title and we've seen from week to week and I believe it's so important for the hour that we are living in in our world that we do understand, we believe, we see the teaching of scripture that the heavens do rule. It is so important as a church of God that we realize no matter what the political situation is, the social or the economic, the heavens rule. In other words, the throne of God rules in the affairs of men.

God is in control when everything seems in chaos. When we can't rely on politics and leaders, we can look higher to heaven, to the Lord Jesus Christ who is enthroned on high and who will reign until all his enemies are made his footstool. Here tonight, we come to our next message in Daniel chapter 9 and I've called this Daniel's 70 weeks.

Daniel's 70 weeks and we're going to pray here but I'm tonight going to do something different. I'm going to join the reading of the text with my prayer. In fact, what I'm going to do here and if you've read Daniel 9 before, you'll understand what I'm saying here.

I'm actually going to read Daniel's prayer going from verse 1 down to verse 19. We're going to read, this is our text but his prayer and I'm not going to spend a lot of time teaching or preaching on his prayer or expounding it. I would love to but I would need another entire night just on the prayer.

Please study the prayers of Daniel and we'll come back to this maybe next Wednesday night in our Bible study but we're going to read this text and I'm going to stop short of reading about the prophecy contained here and the vision because we're going to teach on that. We're going to spend most of our time on that but here tonight because we'll only spend a short time on Daniel's prayer, we're going to read it and as I read from Daniel 9, will you allow me to make Daniel's prayer my prayer tonight and in fact our prayer tonight. Can we from our heart, even as we read or listen, can we make this vital prayer of a man of God at a critical crisis, at a very vital time in history, in world history, in governments.

Can we make his prayer our prayer, very personal to you and I. In his brokenness can we become broken, in his repentance and confession of sin can we make this very personal as we come to Daniel's 70 weeks here tonight. Read in Daniel chapter 9 beginning in verse 1 down to verse 19. In the first year of Darius, the son of Azarias, of the seed of the Medes which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans and verse 2. In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet that he would accomplish 70 years in the desolations of Jerusalem and I set my face unto the Lord God to seek by prayer and supplications with fasting and sackcloth and ashes and I prayed unto the Lord my God and made my confession and said let's make this prayer our prayer tonight.

Oh Lord the great and dreadful God keep in the covenant and mercy to them that love him and to them that keep his commandments. We have sinned and have committed iniquity and have done wickedly and have rebelled even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets which speak in thy name to our kings and our princes and our fathers and to all the people of the land. Oh Lord righteousness belongeth unto thee but unto us confusion of faces as it is this day to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and unto all Israel that are near and that are far off through all the countries whether thou hast driven them because of their trespasses that they have trespassed against thee.

Oh Lord to us belongeth confusion of face to our kings to our princes and to our fathers because we have sinned against thee. To the Lord God belong mercies and forgiveness though we have rebelled against him neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God to walk in his laws which he set before us by his servants the prophets. Yea all Israel have transgressed thy law even by departing that they might not obey thy voice.

Therefore the curse is poured out upon us and the oath is written in the law of Moses the servant of God because we have sinned against him and he has confirmed his words which he speak against us and against our judges that judged us by bringing upon us a great evil for under the whole heaven hath not been done as had been done upon Jerusalem as it is written in the law of Moses all this evil is come upon us yet made we not our prayer before the Lord our God that we might turn from our iniquities and understand thy truth. Therefore has the Lord watched upon the evil and brought it upon us for the Lord our God is righteous in all his works which he doeth for we obeyed not his voice and now O Lord our God that has brought thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand and has gotten thee renowned as at this day we have sinned we have done wickedly O Lord according to all thy righteousness I beseech thee let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem thy holy mountain because of our

sins and for the iniquities of our fathers Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us now therefore O our God hear the prayer of thy servant and his supplications and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate for the Lord's sake O my God incline thine ear and hear open thine eyes and behold our desolations and the city which is called by thy name for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousness but for thy great mercies O Lord hear O Lord forgive O Lord hearken and do to fear not for thine own sake O my God for thy city and thy people are called by thy name Amen and may God make that our prayer tonight as we come to this we may we experience something of the spirit of this man of God who approached God in prayer and as a result remarkable things were set in place praise God we're dealing here in our next message in the heaven's rule and it's called Daniel's 70 weeks Daniel's 70 weeks I told you we're going to deal with numbers here tonight in this message and I've got three points the first two points are going to be brief the third point we are going to expand four verses of Daniel's third vision here a vital vision that the Lord gave him and it's called Daniel's 70 visions my first point tonight is 70 literal years our message is called Daniel's 70 weeks but this first point that I'm going to deal with is 70 literal years not 70 weeks but 70 years notice how this chapter starts it actually begins with 70 years and it's going to finish with 70 weeks you won't fully understand the 70 weeks if we don't look at the 70 literal years at the beginning of this chapter look with me in verse one here for a moment it says in the first year of Darius the son of Azazirus of the seed of the Medes now notice here it's in the first year of Darius the Medes you'll remember that he is the king appointed over Babylon by Cyrus when the city is taken by the Medo-Persian armies on the night of Belshazzar's feast this is the first year of Darius in other words it's the year that follows after Belshazzar being killed the end of the Babylonian empire and this new empire the Medo-Persian empire ruled by King Cyrus the Great this is the first year of Darius the Mede ruling over the city of Babylon and it was during this 70 it was during this first year that this entire chapter takes place notice what else he says about King Darius that he was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans in other words he was made king someone made him king there's someone higher than Darius who was higher than Darius it was Cyrus the Great and notice as well he was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans in other words it's a smaller realm than the entire empire of the Medo-Persian empire Cyrus was over the empire but here you have Darius is over the Chaldeans or those in around the city of Babylon or the region of what we know as Iraq and we are told here notice in what happens in this first year of Darius in the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by the books the number of the years what does that mean it actually means that Daniel was studying the books the scriptures the word of God the Bible of his generation I believe he was studying the book of Jeremiah maybe Isaiah and maybe other portions of scripture but it actually says that he understood in other words you know what the word understand actually means it means that all the parts are put in place to have knowledge is to have the facts all gathered together to have understanding means it fits together like a jigsaw so he is staying here he had to be reading the Bible he had to be studying it and as he was reading the word of God it says Daniel understood by the books the number of the years in other words it dawned on him everything fitted into place now notice here this is the first year after the end of the Babylonian empire the Babylonian empire has just come to an end 70 years of the Babylonian empire and it is in this first year of Darius of the Medo-Persians it is at this time that suddenly we're told that Daniel understands by the books do you know the Bible and prophecies in the Bible give you understanding about the day you live in and the hour you're you live in and I believe especially for us we are going to have remarkable experiences in our day in our generation where we suddenly begin to understand we're going to see the events happening in our world in politics in the economy and suddenly as we study Bible prophecy we're going to go now I understand just like Daniel you see this was a momentous change in world history that he lived through he saw and he actually understood by the books the number of the years in other words

he discerned from studying the word of God the hour he lived in suddenly the years became momentous and he realized that the hour he lived in was prophesied in the Bible it says in verse 2 where of the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah in other words he was reading the book of Jeremiah he had understanding of the prophecies of Jeremiah all those years previous that he would accomplish 70 years in the desolation of Jerusalem this is my first point 70 literal years if we're going to understand this chapter this is where we have to understand this is where we have to start with these 70 literal years that's my point what am I meaning literal 70 years I mean 70 years means 70 years you can't spiritualize them you can't call them symbolic they are real 70 years now Daniel said he understood in studying the book of Jeremiah he was reading it he begins to understand the years the number of the years do you know what he's reading in Jeremiah is a prophecy in Jeremiah 25 and Jeremiah 29 about a period of judgment on the Jewish people of 70 years there are two distinct prophecies given about a period of seven 70 years and Daniel as he read he suddenly understands what he is reading and how it fits into his day and generation do you know what had just happened 70 years of Babylonian rule had suddenly come to an end a remarkable thing do you know that the kingdom of Babylon had been an empire for 70 years do you know in the book of Jeremiah in chapter 25 Jeremiah prophesied that at the end of 70 years that the Lord was going to punish the king of Babylon that God was going to judge Babylon yes Babylon was going to be used by God to discipline Israel and to carry them into captivity to chasten them to bring them under the rod God was going to use Babylon but he also said at the end of 70 years I am going to bring Babylon down I'm going to judge its king did it happen yes as Daniel literally read the book of Jeremiah he begins to understand this is the hour 70 years were accomplished on the kingdom of Babylon do you know how old Daniel is here he is a man of about 83 years old he'd come to Babylon at about the age of 16 now he'd lived for 67 years in Babylon the news here he has just witnessed the fulfillment of a of 70 literal years in which Babylon has been judged Babylon has been a kingdom 70 years now at the age of 67 years he goes 67 years ago I actually was carried captive from Jerusalem I was one of the first captives carried away it is now 67 years and in Jeremiah it talks about another period of 70 years that's going to be accomplished now as Daniel is reading he says if God has judged Babylon then that means he is also going to restore Israel he's going to restore the temple he's going to restore the city he's going to send us back again all of this affected him seeing the judgment on Babylon and God fulfilling Bible prophecy stirred up his heart gave him understanding and it impacted him greatly to realize very shortly God is going to begin fulfilling his plan to restore Israel again very shortly he'll have been in Babylon the city of Babylon for a period of 70 years he'd been there since the year 605 BC do you also realize in this chapter it was almost 50 years since the temple had been destroyed and in the book of Jeremiah it talks about God restoring the temple again rebuilding the city restoring him almost 50 years so Daniel is at a momentous time he has begun to see Bible prophecy fulfilled a literal fulfilling of 70 years upon the nation of Babylon he's approaching his 70th anniversary in captivity he is also looking it is almost 50 years since the temple was destroyed it's 50 years almost since any blood ran upon the altar since prayers were offered in the holy of this is a momentous hour church I believe we're living at such an hour I believe that's why God has given us these messages on Daniel we are living at a momentous hour and you know what we better begin to understand the hour that we live in by the books by the prophets by the word of God we can begin to understand as we look at our world as we look at world events it's not a normal hour it's not business as normal we are reaching a remarkable hour of prophecy it is utterly remarkable Daniel actually knew that 50 years before in the year 586 BC that the temple was destroyed by the Babylonians and God said he would judge them for that do you realize that God had a remarkable plan to fulfill in all of this 70 literal years are going to be fulfilled 70 literal years do you know Daniel took 70 literally now write that down write it in the margin your Bible and write it upon your mind I've read a lot of commentators Bible teachers and they'll try to say this 70 years it

wasn't literal it was rough or it was vague or it was symbolic the 70 meant perfection multiplied by 10 and they go on and they wax eloquent in trying to figure all of this out and make it symbolic so that God won't be embarrassed I want to tell you the number 70 Daniel took it literally he said that he understood by books the number of years this the number 70 was a literal number to be taken literally and we need to understand that that is the first essential thing these 70 years were being fulfilled in Daniel's day when he looked at the Bible it said 70 years and he believed it he believed it was literal my second point here the necessity of prayer the necessity of prayer it says in verse 3 and this is the result as he saw this the hour he lived in as he began to understand Bible prophecy as he began to apply it and see that he was in a momentous hour a vital hour of the fulfilling of Bible prophecy do you know what he done next he went to prayer and this is my second point not only a literal 70 years my second point the necessity of prayer the necessity of prayer if all you do is get intrigued by prophecy you want to argue about it talk about it you're fascinated about it you want to hear about it but it never drives you to a practical awakening of praying in a certain way the way we read here tonight if it doesn't drive you to repentance in prayer to confess in your sins to groaning over your neglect of the word of God then you do not understand Bible prophecy you see the second point here the necessity of prayer look at verse 3 and I set my face unto the Lord God to seek by prayer and supplication with fasting and sackcloth and ashes look at the effect on Daniel as he begins to understand by numbers the hour he lives in through Bible prophecy that he is at the beginning of a significant event oh yes it's not 70 years yet since the temple was destroyed only 50 years but he is in that time frame that period that hour he may not see the full fulfillment of this but he is at the beginning of it you know what he does he goes to prayer he sets himself to seek the face of God he seeks God in prayer and supplication he adds fasting onto it why is he praying because he is seeing the fulfillment of Bible prophecy from verse 4 to verse 19 we see his prayer you see he knew it was an hour for all of this to begin to happen in about three years he's going all of this is going to begin to get restored over the next couple of decades he begins to see the hour he lives in and he is gripped in prayer do you realize it's absolutely necessary to pray for the fulfillment of Bible prophecy you see you can hear about everything that's going to happen in this hour oh God is going to pour out his spirit on Israel other things are going to happen in our world but if you don't pray into it you don't believe those prophecies you really don't I'm talking about the necessity of prayer that prayer goes hand in hand with Bible prophecy where God has prophesied God's people must never say God's just going to do it it doesn't matter about me God always raises up a vessel of prayer to see it accomplished in fact if you went to Jeremiah 29 where it talks about the 70 years in relation to Israel and to Jerusalem and God restoring his people listen to what else it says in verse 12 then shall ye call upon me when in the time that you realize it's time for the 70 years to come to end then shall ye call upon me and you shall go and pray unto me and I will hearken unto you and ye shall seek me and find me ye shall search for me with all of your heart and so Jeremiah prophesied that in this hour that fulfilling of the 70 years that you the people of God are going to go to prayer you're going to begin to seek me to do this thing even though it was prophesied even though God sovereignly said it must happen and he cannot lie yet there's got to be a praying people to bring it forth to bring it to pass since do you honestly think that in these last days that God simply prophesied in the Old Testament to Daniel all the way through to John and Revelation and you think the church can be apathetic and sit back and do nothing and that all these things just come to pass anyway no way absolutely no way since there there is direct prophecy that will sovereignly come to pass but God will stir up the people who are going to begin to pray it says in verse 20 and whilst I was speaking in prayer that's when right in the midst of this beautiful prayer whilst I was speaking and praying and confessing my sins and in verse 21 whilst I was speaking in prayer even the man Gabriel whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning being caused to fly swiftly touched me about the time of the evening oblation what a remarkable thing and in fact in verse 23 it says and at the

beginning of thy supplications Gabriel speaking on them at the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth I am come to show thee in other words as Daniel is praying Gabriel comes forth and touches him and actually tells him as soon as you began to pray I was commanded to come and to show you what I'm about to show you isn't that a remarkable answer to prayer imagine you begin to pray and before you reach the end of it an angel from heaven Gabriel is standing there and he taps you on the shoulder and says I'm here to answer God has sent me and commanded me to fly very swiftly since all it takes is a length of a prayer from an angel to go from the throne room of God to your very side in whatever situation you are I assure you these are remarkable things where Bible prophecy gets caught up in prayer and it meshes together and here the angel Gabriel he says I've come to give thee skill and understanding do you know what hour this was at it was at the time of the evening oblation what's the evening oblation that's what happened from three o'clock to four o'clock every day in Jerusalem in the temple the offering up of prayer that's what happened a lamb was sacrificed on the altar there were sacrifices offered unto God there hasn't been a temple or an altar for 50 years and yet here is Daniel at the hour of the oblation from three to four what's he doing he's in prayer he's daily in prayer he's remembering oh the temple might be gone but the prayer time isn't gone I'm still offering up my sacrifices unto God do you realize that a part of his prayer was for the restoration of Israel the 70 years are almost complete what's he praying for Lord forgive us Lord restore us Lord have mercy upon us an angel is sent to answer his prayer do you realize that very year that Daniel was praying and we read elsewhere in the Bible in Ezra chapter 1 and many other scriptures we read concerning Zerubbabel a politician of royal blood and Joshua the high priest took a band of 42,000 Jews on an 800 mile journey back to Jerusalem what a remarkable thing that his prayer was caught up in this it was that same year as Gabriel came to answer his prayer that Cyrus the great had his heart stirred up and we are told in 2nd Chronicles 36 that the Lord stirred up Cyrus's heart in the first year of his reign to do what Jeremiah prophesied in sending the people back to begin rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem do you see all of this comes together God uses world events to work in his people to bring forth his plans and his purposes this is a remarkable thing now listen carefully before we go on to our third and our final point Zerubbabel and Joshua led the 42,000 back to Jerusalem everything is destroyed the buildings the walls this entire city the temple everything is destroyed and they begin to rebuild the temple they finally lay the foundation of the temple and they begin to weep and rejoice here is the fulfilling of Bible prophecy there's only one problem it's actually 20 years too early 22 years early you say how can that be possible it's 20 years before the end of the 70 years were they working before time no listen a second they laid the foundation their enemies rose up they become discouraged legal legislation come in against them they become overwhelmed they felt hopeless and you realize for 16 years they stopped the work of God 16 years they grew so discouraged nothing else happened do you see how all this fits together that even the discouragement of God's people it couldn't be justified but God brought that in and weaved it in so that finally 16 years later that God stirred up Zechariah and Haggai to begin prophesying to them and their hearts are stirred again and they finished the temple how long was it 70 years since the temple had been destroyed 70 long years and the temple was in the place and again blood sacrifice was made don't tell me that there isn't literal numbers here don't tell me that we can't take Bible prophecy literally we absolutely can and Gabriel came to give Daniel skill understanding to show him and he commanded him therefore understand and to consider all the things that I say unto you my third my final point now I'm only getting warmed up here so just settle in for the night here as we begin to look at this prophecy in a closer way my third point here 70 prophetic weeks we've seen 70 literal years we've seen the necessity of prayer and connection with prophecy but here's third of all in Daniel chapter 9 and this is my entire message and this is my third point 70 prophetic weeks you see there's the third vision of Daniel and Gabriel brings it to him chapter 7 has the first vision of Daniel do you remember what it was it was the

four beasts coming up out of the sea chapter 8 has the second vision do you remember what that was that was the ram and the goat the Medo-Persian empire and the Grecian empire now here in chapter 9 we have Daniel's third vision and we're gonna look at this four short verses but remarkable I would dare say this is one of the most remarkable prophecies in the entire Bible utterly remarkable now I hope you have your thinking caps on here I try to stir you inspire you now I want you to be intellectually engaged I'm gonna make you make sure you've got a pen and paper make sure that you try to concentrate or you can go back over this afterwards but I'm going to explain to you a prophecy that deals with numbers numbers of years that affected the generation of the early church but it will also affect our generation the last generation a utterly remarkable vision given to this old man this old prophet in Babylon a man of prayer a man in tune with God a man of the Bible who studied Bible prophecy away with your foolish dreams and I understand prophecy by the written scriptures now let me take you to the 70 prophetic weeks of Daniel look at verse 24 with me here tonight as we look at this this is remarkable verse 24 it says 70 weeks and this is Gabriel speaking to Daniel he's already dealt with the 70 weeks or sorry the 70 years we've already looked at that now we're going to look at another vision he begins 70 weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city notice very carefully here 70 weeks what does that number mean I believe it's a literal number the word weeks there means sevens another word 77 Gabriel is speaking to him it's in the context of the fulfilling of 70 years in connection with Jerusalem and God's people Israel 70 literal years now Gabriel comes amidst all the prayer of this and he begins to speak another vision another prophecy about 70 weeks that are going to take place or 70 sevens now these weeks are not made up of days neither are they neither can you multiply them in some strange way because if you took them as literal days they would be a year and a half but they are years they are prophetic weeks and they actually turn out to be 490 years if you multiply 70 by seven in other words it's 77 that's what the angel's saying here he says 77 are a period of 490 years now look at it just like there's been a period of 70 years now there's a period of 490 years and certain things are going to happen it's a prophecy 70 years are determined upon thy people now look at this very carefully 77s are determined upon thy people the Jewish people and upon thy city which means the city of Jerusalem this isn't for Babylon it's not for New York it's not for Dublin or London it's not for Berlin it's actually to do with the city of Jerusalem these 490 years are connected to the city of Jerusalem in Judah and they are also connected to the literal people of Israel to Daniel's people not the church of our generation but specifically to the physical racial group connected to Daniel the prophet it's his people and it's his city and these 490 years are determined in connection with that city notice what the word determined here means listen very carefully this word determined means to a lot to cut off or to decree it means to sever into different portions in other words these 490 years they are cut out from time from the rest of time from the time of the Gentiles these 400 years are cut out and in fact they are severed into different portions this is setting a time frame that is going to be divided up or split into sections and we're going to see tonight these 490 years were split into three different sections and then the third last section was split in half which means 490 years get split in four there is clear teaching here that this is literal years not spiritual not symbolic not natural days not natural weeks these are 490 years literal years that have a connection to the city of Jerusalem now the actual word determined here is used of a tailor you know what a tailor is in a shop who actually makes a coat he'll take different bits of material cut it in line then put it together and then give you a complete coat but that complete coat is made up of certain determined bits of material and the right person putting them together has a complete coat that's what determined means that Daniel is being told this 490 years is severed up into different parts four distinct parts actually comes together as a complete plan our purpose of God what a remarkable thing here and he also goes on in this verse to say that there are six things connected in these 490 years six things are going to come to completion in other words six things are the goal or it's going to take this 490

years to complete these six different promises of God to accomplish in human history he emphasizes these six promises that are based upon Jesus' death on the cross they're also partially experienced by God's people now the church but they will have a final manifestation at the return or completion at the return of Jesus Christ this is God's plan to restore Israel and it includes these six blessings remember these six blessings aren't attached to the church or to some Gentile city it's the city of Jerusalem and it's to Daniel's people listen what they are very briefly to finish the transgression to make an end of sins to make reconciliation for iniquity to bring in everlasting righteousness and to seal up the vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy all of this is connected and I don't have time to stop here but these are all connected to the 490 years now let's begin to look at these different sections of this prophecy it is the most remarkable prophecy we're dealing with tonight verse 25 now therefore sorry no therefore and understand Gabriel wants Daniel to know and to understand to have knowledge and to actually be able to put the bits together to understand the jigsaw of prophecy to put everything in its right place listen carefully he's now going to explain the 490 years in its different parts that make up the complete 490 years listen what he says from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to rebuild Jerusalem unto Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks or a period of 49 years and three score and two weeks so already we see here in verse 25 he has split 490 years into two he's given two periods of time not 490 years anymore he actually takes out the first two bits seven weeks which is 49 years 62 weeks which is a period of 434 years and there's only one week left so we see here in this verse he gives you the time frame of two separated out periods of time out now listen I want to warn you here tonight that I got an F when I done mass that's the lowest mark you can get all our teachers said you can't fail subjects in GCSE you nobody fails that's a lie I got an F and everything apart from mark and I don't boast in that but I'm just telling you I am not a mathematician but you know what in written maths I always got an F I always came last but in mental arithmetic when I was sitting in the class and my teacher done the entire class mental arithmetic do you know I got top marks in mental arithmetic you see I knew the answer but I didn't know how to get there she she thought I cheated in the in the test she she looked at my marks afterwards said Malcolmson stay behind and when I stayed behind she made me reset the mental arithmetic she would just call it out and I would write down and she was shocked again I got top marks at mental arithmetic but you know what I never knew I could never work out how to get there but it didn't change the fact that I got the right scores and I got the right marks but sadly my teacher never apologized to me she just looked at me in disbelief going how in all the world did this guy ever do it he gets an F in written maths trying to work it out but he gets the right destination now I'm telling you that for a reason you may not understand how all this works but you've got to understand the beginning and you've got to understand where it ends in other words I hope your mental arithmetic is good and you understand this but if you don't understand all of the years and all of the ins and outs that's fine just understand the basics here and while my maths teacher wouldn't have congratulated me I will congratulate you so let's go to this I'm just preparing you setting you up for this so you listen to me tonight from the going forth of the command to rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah these two periods of time 49 weeks and sorry 49 years and then 434 years will take you to Messiah now notice what it's saying here it's giving you two periods of time when you add them together then you say as soon as the command is given to rebuild Jerusalem as soon as that command is actually given to rebuild the entire city of Jerusalem you can actually count down until when the Messiah comes or the Christ or the anointed one you can count the years 483 years Daniel was getting a prophecy and said Daniel listen to me when the command is given count 483 years and Messiah will be alive until the days of the ministry of Messiah isn't this remarkable this is extraordinary that Daniel was given a prophecy that was going to go right down until the days of the Lord Jesus Christ and his public ministry what an accurate this is literal prophecy we're dealing with it's not symbolic it is not fake it is very accurate and we're to take it literally

now let's break it down again to these two parts the first part is 49 years 49 years and notice what it says in verse 25 it says the street shall be built again and the wall in troublesome times so from the given of the commandment until the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem and the rebuilding of Jerusalem is going to be 49 years from the given command and it's going to be in troublesome times are times of great pressure great distress trouble of great anxiety from the enemy just because you get trouble in your life and the enemy is fighting you and all hell fights this church do not think that we're not in the center of God's plan and purpose you might feel like all hell is coming against you in your life and you go where is God's plan in fact that could be the very hour of the fulfilling of God's plan God could be fulfilling his plan in your life personally and you don't recognize it you're so aware of the battle you're caught up in the battle do you know when this was fulfilled in the days of Nehemiah do you realize when Nehemiah was sent back to Jerusalem this is a prophecy that from the given of the command to the complete finishing of Jerusalem is 49 years who received the command it was Nehemiah and he is going to see the rebuilding of the walls and the street of Jerusalem you know at times they had to have a sword in one hand and a trial in the other hand that's 49 years up to Nehemiah's day then there's another period of 434 years look at me with me in verse 26 and after underline that word after very important and after three score and two weeks or after 434 years and notice it says after so we have a time frame Daniel is given exact information the given of a command the rebuilding of the walls now after the 62 weeks are the 434 years shall Messiah be cut off and not for himself do you see how accurate this prophecy is it's an extraordinary prophecy first of all seven sevens are a period of 49 years the command is given to rebuild the wall to be finished in a period of 49 years by the completion of 49 years it's finished Jerusalem its walls and its streets but where does this begin when did it begin do you know in the bible from Daniel chapter 9 after Daniel chapter 9 and the prayer given there there were four decrees given by three different Medo-Persian kings concerning the city of Jerusalem or the temple in Jerusalem four different decrees and we read about them in the book of Ezra and the book of Nehemiah and the history of the restoring of Jerusalem four different decrees how do we know which one of the decrees it is the first decree was in the first year of Cyrus we read about it in second chronicles 36 and it was a decree to rebuild the temple that's the first one the second one is in the second year of Darius and we read about it in Ezra chapter 6 that was to complete the temple the third decree was in the seventh year of Artaxerxes and it is in Ezra chapter 7 that was to beautify the temple now listen is it one of these three decrees that that Gabriel was speaking about that you begin counting from no it couldn't be do you know why because it was all about the temple the building of the temple the completion of the temple the beautifying of the temple and even after those three decrees were fulfilled still the walls were down still the buildings were down it still wasn't fulfilled it the three previous ones were only concerning the temple I'm telling you how to know God's time and the beginning of time and but there is a fourth decree here and I believe it's when the time begins it was in and you'll find it in Nehemiah chapter 2 it brings us right down to Nehemiah who was Nehemiah he was a cupbearer in Shushan or Susa the capital of the Medo-Persian empire he is working for the king and look at it here is the 20th year of Artaxerxes in Nehemiah chapter 2 and here's Nehemiah going about his business you know for three months he has been praying and weeping hearing about Jerusalem he had heard that the gates are still burnt out the walls are still down there still isn't a full fulfillment of prophecy and you know what there he is he's only a humble cupbearer he's not a prince he's not a prophet he's not a preacher all he is is a cupbearer for Artaxerxes and this is the 20th year of Artaxerxes do you see how prophecy breaks in here is a simple humble man praying and as he brings the cup to the king he doesn't realize God is about to start the clock God is about to begin the countdown to Messiah isn't this extraordinary a prophecy is going to start on this day in a normal nine to five job and here's a normal worker he's not in spiritual ministry God through his prayers through what's happening here is going to start the clock on the 49 years he doesn't

realize he's just about to go into the building business he doesn't realize what God is just about to begin here but you know what the you know the story Artaxerxes says what's wrong what's wrong with you I can tell and he begins to pour out sorry he says a little prayer he says oh God help me and then he begins to tell him Artaxerxes makes a decree and it says in Nehemiah chapter two and one and it came to pass in the month Nisan which is Passover when they slay the lamb that's very important because of where this ends because of Messiah being cut off Messiah is going to be cut off at Nisan in Passover says in Nehemiah two and one in the 20th year of Artaxerxes the king he makes a decree and he sends Nehemiah back do you know what that led to 49 years of rebuilding work and do you realize that over these next years those gates are going to get put in place those walls are going to get put in place homes are going to get restored everything is going to be back in its place the ministry is going to be back in there what a remarkable thing since I believe you the church of the 21st century here in 2021 you and I are caught up in prophetic fulfillment in a way that you can't imagine I believe we're at the center stage of the final fulfillment of bible prophecy we're on the edge of one of the greatest eras of the fulfillment of prophecy and most of the church don't realize it we need Daniels again we need Nehemiah's again we need men we need churches we need spiritual movements that are going to begin to pray and God is you know it doesn't matter if you're a humble man in a workplace it doesn't matter if you're an old lady in a house it doesn't matter if you're a mother with children begin to pray begin to understand the hour that you and I live in you see the 70 weeks begin with a historic dateable event in a workplace as Nehemiah is talking to this great king Artaxerxes it is dateable we have an actual date from history for it we can give you the exact hour it happened it's a literal person you can't spiritualize this that is utterly impossible do you know the archaeologists have revealed to us the year of Artaxerxes ascension to the throne as the year 465 bc it is a rock solid date in history do you know also some have worked out the hour the day when Artaxerxes gave his decree the 14th of march in the year 445 bc that's how some bible teachers have so defined it it was nisan it was the time of the fulfilling of prophecy i'm telling you something extraordinary but you know what those gates those walls are going to get rebuilt in an hour of great trouble nehemiah is going to go into seven and into seven chapters of severe opposition from the enemy now let's look at the second we looked at the first 49 years now let's move to the next six next period 62 weeks from the rebuilding of jerusalem until messiah is going to be 62 weeks or a period of 434 years do you know the jews of the first century had this in their bible they had daniel they had daniel chapter 9 many of them studied it they they could have counted down the years from artaxerxes the countdown to the hour of the messiah to when he would be cut off do you know what they could read in their bible that the messiah they were looking for who was going to come to rule over all nations that this messiah there was a time count there was a period of time to when messiah was going to be cut off the word cut off means to kill or to murder it's not talking about something normal it's talking about messiah being cut off that word is also used for cutting a covenant or the beginning of a covenant or the making of covenant here they read in their own bible the exact number of years literal years maybe many of them spiritualized it maybe many of them made them symbolic years and they missed the messiah who realized these years with a countdown to not only messiah coming and it says there in this prophecy after three score and two weeks shall messiah be cut off but not for himself messiah is going to be killed but not for himself and you know that it was for you and i what a remarkable thing that this led all the way to nisan and to the death of the lord jesus christ and the fulfillment of bible prophecy since i've got much that i'd love to see here tonight but we need to cut to the chase many years ago there was a book written about 140 years ago by an irish man who was born in dublin city his name was robert anderson robert anderson and he actually heard the gospel in dublin at a meeting and got born again mightily met the lord jesus christ his sins were forgiven he believed that jesus died for him and he repented of his sins well he went to trinity college and become a

very educated man a remarkable man but he was spiritual never think to be spiritual you you aren't intelligent you can have a heart on fire as well as a mind on fire and god wants us to have these together but sir robert anderson become a great man of the scriptures and a bible prophecy do you know as he worked through college and then went out into work he become the assistant commissioner of crime for the london metropolitan police force or for scotland yard in fact he was the highest ranking officer to look after um jack the ripper all those murders of women in london he was the top officer overseeing that entire investigation he was in that position from 1888 through until 1901 well here let me tell you about a book that he wrote he he wrote one book called daniel in the critics den showing that the book of daniel was accurate literal true history but he wrote a second book called the coming prince or the 70 weeks of daniel he also wrote about 17 17 books in total and in fact his books were read by william gladstone that was the prime minister of great britain for 12 years they were read by kaiser wilhelm the second of germany who led the first world war and also by queen victoria of great britain all these individuals read these prophetic books of an irish man born in dublin you ought to know your history great things have come out of this island that's affected the entire world well he wrote a book in 1881 140 years ago about this very prophecy that i'm dealing with a remarkable prophecy and queen victoria given a word um an award for it he died in 1918 through the spanish flu listen for a second this is what he actually said about this prophecy it began in the 14th of march in the year 445 bc and it was confirmed by archaeology concerning king artuxerxes and in a period of 483 years he calculated this by not using a 31 day month but a 30 day month a 360 day year and he come to 173 880 days and he come to a final date of the 6th of april 32 in ad what a remarkable thing he went and worked all of that out to the very day where did that bring him to the very date that jesus rose uh rode into jerusalem on the back of a donkey and four days later he was going to be crucified since there's other people other men that have worked out different dates remember like my mass teacher you may not know how you got there but from the giving of that decree through to jesus being crucified this period takes you right into the ministry of christ whether it was the year 30 ad or whether it was 33 ad this period of time takes you right there before the cutting off of messiah even if your mass was odd it takes you right to this unique hour let's go a bit further on this verse 26 and it says and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the sanctuary now what's this speaking about after the end of this period of years of the 483 years three things are going to happen number one messiah is going to get cut off in other words here listen to me there's seven more years left or one week we've already looked at 483 years but there's seven years left but you know this prophecy shows there's a break in between it after the 483 years messiah will be cut off afterwards it also goes on and says there's going to be another two events before the final seven years listen carefully before we close on this you know i hope i haven't lost you tonight many years ago i think it's heading towards 30 years ago there was a great bible teacher from singapore called paul tan he came to our church in scotland i was on the back row of the church i loved his preaching often as he preached and taught the word of god but that night he taught on daniel's 70 weeks he taught from this chapter and as i listened him by the end of it i was taking my note i went i don't have a clue what he's talking about and you know that night i laughed to myself smugly and i said lord i'll never teach on this chapter you and this church know that i've taught on this many times i preached on it referred to it god helped me god took vengeance on me by giving me such a burden to understand it i just hope you weren't like me on that night but i want to warn you tonight if you're here near the end of this message and you're going what is this guy speaking about i want to warn you be very careful you could become a preacher a teacher of this very prophecy one that you don't understand one that goes over your head one that you can't comprehend god could actually give you a love for it and make you to understand it since he did with me he did with me bear with this but it says in verse 26 there's a second thing messiah gets cut off but there's a second thing here verse 26 and the people of the prince

that shall come and destroy the city and the sanctuary it shows us that between this um between the 483 years being fulfilled and the final seven years there's going to be certain things happen messiah gets cut off but also the city of jerusalem and the temple gets destroyed again this happened 40 years after the death of christ in the year 70 a.d in other words now between the end of the previous time we're no longer looking at the fulfilling of the last seven years there is a gap in between it and the people of the prince shall come and destroy the city and the sanctuary messiah gets cut off jerusalem is going to get destroyed and still we're waiting for the final seven years since the seven years are not joined onto the 483 years this actual prophecy shows there is a gap there's a time lapse and not only is there two events there's a third one i'm going to show you here but notice with the destruction of jerusalem they talk about the people of the prince and the next verse it talks about a prince that's going to come and initiate the last seven years but here it talks about the people who destroy jerusalem the people who destroy the temple in a.d 70 that a prince is going to come out of that same people who's going to initiate the last seven years of history now notice carefully as we come down to the close here the prince in verse 27 in the very next verse is connected to the last week of daniel a period of seven years and yet here's the people who are caught up in destroying jerusalem it's talking about his people if you find out who the people were who destroyed jerusalem you'll know what nationality you'll know what affiliation that the antichrist is going to have in the last days he is called a prince and he's going to initiate the last seven years of time in bible prophecy if you find out who the people are you will know something about the culture of this man you see the people who cut off christ and destroyed the temple who were they we knew it was the roman empire it was the fourth beast of daniel and of the book of revelation it was the roman empire that had jesus christ crucified and also destroyed the temple and the city of jerusalem beginning in ad 70 and it carried through for some 40 years that they come back and destroyed and scattered the people it was in ad 70 that titus the great general of the roman armies led an army against jerusalem and destroyed it he killed about a million people scattered many others and he wanted to put down he renamed the city but listen to me some modern scholars have pointed out that some of the main regiments of titus that destroyed the city of jerusalem were not romans or italians they were syrians and arabs just note that down some of the main regiments that went in and burnt down titus was a roman the generals and captains were romans by nationality by citizenship but many of the soldiers were actually syrians and arabians do you know what syria is remember what syria was antiochus that we dealt with there last week do you remember antiochus who ruled a portion of the grecian empire he was a syrian leader the old empire of syria and antioch was his capital well it was from this very region that the main regiments that burnt down the city in jerusalem that burnt down that raided the temple titus was their general a roman this is the roman empire but they're syrian soldiers and i'm going to deal more with this next week when we come to it so there's three things messiah gets cut off jerusalem is destroyed but there's a third thing here in verse 26 and the end thereof shall be with a flood and unto the end of the war desolations are determined three things happen between these two determined points of bible prophecy between the end of the 483 years and the beginning of the seven years these three things happen messiah is cut off the jerusalem is destroyed by a certain kind of people and then it goes further and saying that there'll be a flood until the end wars and desolations you know what i believe this is talking about that ad 70 was only the beginning of war wars and of desolation of the city of jerusalem do you realize since ad 70 that the city of jerusalem has been besieged 23 times attacked 52 times captured and recaptured 44 times and destroyed at least twice do you realize that all through these years that jerusalem has been marked by wars by violence by desolation straight down to this hour that we are living in and i believe we'll yet see ezekeiel's war very very shortly do you know what i believe this third part carries us all the way through until the final fulfillment of the last seven years let me bring you down to the last seven years here are the last week one week or a period of seven years we find

it in verse 27 and daniel 9 27 and we're going to finish here some of you are glad i know it but daniel 9 27 the final week or the final seven years since everything has been perfect accurate according to literal numerology a time scale was set in place even the things that have happened in between have been accurate now we come to the last week look at verse 27 and he that is the prince mentioned in the previous verse a prince who's going to rise up out of the people who destroyed jerusalem could he be a syrian or ace and a syrian or a middle eastern arab we'll look at that maybe next week and he this prince shall confirm the covenant with many for one week this is the final week do you realize this conferment of the covenant is connected to one week or a seven year period it is a literal period of years it begins with an event and it ends with an event it is actually marked out it's initiated by a man called the prince who's going to be connected to those people who destroyed jerusalem in ad 70 and he shall confirm a covenant that word confirm doesn't mean to make a covenant it means to establish it or to strengthen it or to make it very very strong that's what it actually means he's going to establish a covenant maybe it was there before but he will establish it for a period of seven years since this is going to mark the beginning of the last seven years of bible prophecy of the fulfillment of this 490 years and it says that he is going to confirm the covenant with many with many in israel remember this is concerning jerusalem and the people of daniel the jews this last seven years is connected to the city of jerusalem this prince who's coming from a certain people is going to be part of the revived roman empire that's his political system but he's also going to rise up in a certain nation in a certain area of the world not america not europe not australia he is going to rise up in the middle east and he's going to be a part of the political revived roman empire how exact is this listen to what he does he confirms a covenant with israel for seven years and in the midst of the week in other words at three and a half years he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease notice what happens he stops the sacrifices being made in the temple and the oblation to cease this would show me that this seven-year covenant made between the antichrist and israel is going to have tied into that seven-year covenant or agreement tied into it is going to allow them to have blood sacrifice i believe that this will be connected to the rebuilding of the temple the third temple that's just about to happen in jerusalem i believe they're going to start their blood sacrifice and it's going to be allowed by this prince of a middle eastern nation who's going to be part of the last world global government he's going to start this covenant but halfway through he's going to stop the blood sacrifices remember what we said last week antiochus who went into israel jerusalem the temple and put up the statue with his face on it and began to offer the the blood of a pig and he brought an abomination in there this prince this is the real one antiochus was only a shadow this is the real one he's going to cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease and for the over spreading of abomination he shall make it desolate even until the consummation and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate notice here in this last seven years in the middle of the year he puts an abomination in the temple we're going to see more of this in daniel chapter 10 and in daniel chapter 11 but it's speaking about what happened in daniel chapter 8 with antiochus where he put that image in the temple do you realize this last seven years there's going to be a rebuilt temple the jews are going to restart their blood sacrifice halfway through the middle of the week three and a half years in antichrist is going to go in there he's going to stop the blood sacrifice and he's going to put up an abomination of desolation this is what jesus refers to in matthew chapter 24 he gives the mark and the sign of the coming of the lord jesus and of the end of the world he says in matthew 24 when ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation spoken of by daniel the prophet stand in the holy place then you're gonna know what are you gonna know verse 16 then let them that be in judea flee to the mountains why what is it that the abomination that this prince this little horn this antichrist is going to place in the temple in jerusalem an image of himself he's going to stop the blood sacrifice he's going to break the covenant with israel and he's going to raise up an abomination an image right in there that's going to be connected to

every individual in the world that takes the mark of the beast on their forehead or the right hand what is this image of the beast what does it indicate jesus goes on and he actually says in verse 16 then let them flee to judea into the mountains for then shall be great tribulation the abomination of desolation initiated by a man of peace a great politician is going to initiate the great tribulation that will last for three and a half years since i've given you a remarkable prophecy split down into four i know it can be hard to follow but i want you to be gripped by the awe what what we have said tonight 70 literal days daniel was there praying for it now since i got i believe we're approaching we're approaching the beginning of the final seven years i don't know how close we are like daniel i don't know whether it's three years away or 20 years away but you know what i do know this is a generation everything is converging on this hour they're getting ready to rebuild the third temple in jerusalem all the technology is there for a mark a chip to be put they want to do it by 2025 to have what your mobile is in your body by 2025 on the high street all a bible prophecy is coming to pass and we are the church of this last hour as we close here can i ask you will you be a daniel will you be a nehemiah in this last hour we are the last generation the church that god has chosen for this hour will bible prophecy stir you up and everyone that's heard me teach on daniel whether in this church or in other countries that are listening into us are you going to be moved to pray is this going to impact your prayer life are you just a lazy listener are you someone intrigued by prophecy but it never comes to point of prayer of fasting of supplication of putting on sackcloth and ashes that means repentance and brokenness and affecting your lifestyle are you affected tonight or is it merely tickling your ears please close with me as we close in prayer here tonight father i pray for us as a church limerick city church here lord god we are living in an hour like daniel we are living in an hour like nehemiah all of the rest of bible prophecy remarkable prophecies are being set in place right across our world our world has changed and will never be the same again we are living in a prophetic hour we are living in a global hour of radical change of religion politics economy education of social life of health our world will never be the same again and yet your church is asleep my god give us daniels again give us nehemiah's again give us a people who see the urgency of the hour oh god send gabriel again send your angels again grant us understanding that we are going to be impacted by these prophecies not merely to be entertained but to suddenly understand like daniel the hour that we live in that this is an hour spoken of in the bible and it's an hour that we're called to pray amen lord god help us lord god help us and may god give you understanding of the word of god a bible prophecy may you come to understand by studying the word of god that this isn't just another hour the day for enjoying bible prophecy preaching and talking about it without living it out is over since the church of our generation i'm hearing it from every direction people used to believe this and preach it and teach it those same churches are in utter confusion in this hour they're actually in denial denying that this is this is serious where we've come to they're all telling themselves life will get back to normal i'm telling you we're in the last days i don't know whether it's three years or 20 years we have i don't know neither do you but i assure you this is it there's no more dress rehearsal this is it we're embarking on it either you'll miss it or you're going to be a vital part of it god bless you tonight

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