

## L.7 - Motivated By Hope - Thursday: The Longest Prophetic Timeline

1. It's easy to get lost in unfamiliar details of Daniel 9 – Look for the Big Picture
  - a. God's commitment is a long-term commitment to His people.
2. Let's look at A Big Picture BACKGROUND of Daniel 9?
  - a. **Daniel 2** – Destroying Rock = Jesus – BUT what gives Him the right?
  - b. Rock from OUTSIDE the statue = JESUS – **BUT** what gives this “Outsider” the right to destroy?
  - c. **Daniel 7** – One like the Son of Man = JESUS – He has made judgment that must be executed
    - **But** what gives Him the right to judge and pronounce a sentence?
  - d. **Daniel 8** – High Priest cleanses the Sanctuary = JESUS – He has inspected and identified all sin
    - **But** what has He done that makes Him WORTHY to examine and deal with every sin?
  - e. **Daniel 9** – The Messiah [JESUS] is “Cut Off”
    - He has taken on the debt of sin AND offered Himself to PAY for every sin.
    - **THEREFORE**, He must IDENTIFY, JUDGE, DESTROY all sin.
  - f. THE BIG PICTURE: EVERYTHING ZOOMS IN and HINGES on Jesus
3. **GOD GIVES PROOF – Daniel 9:25-27** – ***“Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times. <sup>26</sup> “And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined. <sup>27</sup> Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.”***
4. God is the Sovereign King – but the start of this prophecy is in the hands of a Foreign Human Ruler. WHY?
  - a. This event MUST be public / verifiable / international / conspicuous
  - b. God is not bound by the whims of pagan kings
    - Fulfilled in Ezra 7:7-26 – 457 B.C.
    - **“It All Starts NOW”**
      - 7+62+1 = a UNITED period of 70 weeks / MULTIPLIED BY 7 days in a week = 490 DAYS
      - 1 Day = 1 year in Bible prophecy = 490 years (with things happening along the way)
    - (Fulfilling v.25) The Messiah (meaning “Anointed One”) was baptized and anointed by the Holy Spirit to begin His ministry 483 years later – ON TIME at the beginning of the 70th prophetic week (in the Fall of 27 AD)
    - (Fulfilling v.26-27) In the very center of the 70th week (after 3.5 years of ministry), the Messiah was Cut off
      - In the Spring of AD 31...putting an end to the need for animal sacrifices.
5. Jesus begins and ends His EARTHLY ministry ON TIME ... AS PROMISED
  - a. **Galatians 4:4** – But ***when the fullness of the time had come***, God sent forth His Son
  - b. **Romans 5:6** – For when we were still without strength, ***in due time*** Christ died for the ungodly.
  - c. **John 7:8** – You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for ***My time has not yet fully come.***
  - d. **DA 59.3** – We learn that the Magi knew from the OT that Jesus' coming was Near

6. The start of the Daniel 9 prophecy is ALSO the starting point of the the 2,300 years of Daniel 8:14
  - a. All the time prophecies of Daniel fit INSIDE the longest prophetic timeline – 2,300 years (1260, 1335, 490)
    - **Acts 17:31** – *...He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained.*
    - Jesus also began the Judgment in Heaven on time when
  - b. When we lead someone to understand the 70 Weeks of Daniel 9, it opens several more doors.
    - Accepting the Day for a Year principle
    - Accepting the ending of the 2,300 years in 1844
    - Accepting the truth of the Jesus' ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary.
    - AND the conviction that Jesus is returning soon – when the Judgment Hour is complete.
  
7. Practical Take-aways
  - a. In Daniel 9, Daniel sees prophecy fulfilling around him when Babylon is conquered by Persia
    - He consults the scrolls and knows the 70 years prophesied by Jeremiah are ending soon
    - SO — He Prays Earnestly
  - b. WE see prophecy fulfilling around us! / WE know that rescue is coming soon!
    - THEN, we need to be praying EARNESTLY – willing to die rather than miss a time of prayer

How attention was drawn to the command to restore and rebuild through the opponents to the Jews: Their opposition led to searches of documents / flurries of correspondence / international situations of enemies waiting for authorization to PUT A STOP to this reconstruction

1. Under Cyrus (559-530) - Ezra 4:4-5
2. Under Darius I (552-486) - Ezra 5:7
3. Under Xerxes I (Ahasuerus? 486-465) - Ezra 4:6
4. Under Artaxerxes (465-425) – Ezra 4:7