

Sermon Notes

"The Prophetic Timeline"

Daniel 9:24-27

August 16, 2015

6. How do Acts 1:6-7 and 3:14, 19-21 contribute to the idea that there is an unspecified time gap between the death of Christ ("cut off" Daniel 9:26), and the establishment of the kingdom of God (when the one who desolates will be desolated, Daniel 9:27)?

7. What is the significance of the abomination that makes desolate (compare Daniel 8:13, 11:31; 12:11 with Mark 13:14; 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:14)?

8. How does this prophecy (Dan. 9:24-27) contribute to the overarching theme that God is in control?

Let's Pray:

Introduction:

1. Purpose of the 70 sevens (9:24)

a. For how long? _____

b. For who? _____

c. For what? _____

2. Three definite time segments with time markers

a. 7 sevens (49 years) (9:25)

b. 62 sevens (434 years) (9:25)

c. Unspecified interim (9:26)

d. 1 seven (7 years) (9:27)

The Seventy 'Sevens' of Daniel 9:24-27

Artaxerxes' Decree	Anointed One comes	Jerusalem Destroyed	Antichrist's Covenant with Israel	Antichrist's Covenant Broken	Christ's Second Coming
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7 sevens	62 sevens	Church Age	1 seven
(49 years)	(434 years)		(3.5 years)(3.5 years)

444 BC AD 33 AD 70

Conclusion:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 8-16-15

Questions adapted from Daniel: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 2013, pp. 95-106; Douglas Connelly, Daniel, Spiritual Living in a Secular World, IntVarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 2000, pp. 37-40; John Lennox, Against the Flow: The Inspiration of Daniel in an Age of Relativism, Monarch Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 2015, p. 407..

Getting Started:

1. Bible prophecy thrills some and bores others. As you begin this study, how would you rate your interest on a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being highest? Why?

Digging Deeper:

2. What do you find most significant in God's encouraging response to Daniel's prayer (see 9:21-23)?

3. Six purposes are stated for the 70 sevens in Daniel 9:24. Think about these as they relate to God's ultimate purposes for working through Israel and Jerusalem in the world. What does this reveal about the heart and concerns of God for this world?

4. Sir Robert Anderson, in his book The Coming Prince (1894), made these observations from Daniel 9:25.

- 7 sevens (49 yrs) + 62 sevens (434 yrs) = 483 yrs
- 483 lunar yrs x 360 days = 173,880 days
- 173,880 days / 365.24219879 days (1 solar yr) = 476.067663 solar yrs = 476 yrs + 24.7 days

Assuming the decree is Artaxerxes' (Neh 2:4-9), dated in the Jewish month Nisan 444 BC, then adding 476 years plus 25 days, we get to the month Nisan AD 33 (don't forget there is no year 0!), argued by many scholars to be the month of Christ's crucifixion. (John Lennox, Against the Flow: The Inspiration of Daniel in an Age of Relativism, Monarch Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 2015, pp. 298-300).

If this is a correct calculation, what does it imply about:

- The accuracy of predictive prophecy?
- The supernatural origin of Scripture?
- Jesus' claim to be the promised Messiah?

5. What connections do you see between the prophecies given in Daniel 9:26-27 and the words of Jesus in Matthew 24:15-31 and Luke 21:5-6, 20-24?