

The Time Is Fulfilled

Messiah the Prince Would Be Anointed for His Work: "The Time Is Fulfilled!"

God anointed Jesus by the Holy Spirit at His Baptism. (Acts 10:38, Luke 3:21-22)

The very first sermon Jesus preached was "The Time Is Fulfilled!" (Mark 1:14-15) He referred directly to Daniel 9:25. Obviously Jesus understood that He was fulfilling Daniel's time prophecy! He told the Samaritan woman, "I that speak unto thee am He [the Messiah]."

Luke records the exact year of Jesus' baptism. (Luke 3:1-3)

"In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar"

Others knew that Jesus was the Messiah. "We have found the Messiah!" John 1:41

"Christo," which we translate Christ, is the Greek word for "Messiah."

The angels called Him "Christ." (Luke 2:11)

"This is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world!" (John 4:42)

Review: 457 BC: The countdown to the Messiah begins with Artaxerxes' decree. 408 BC: At the end of the first 7 "weeks," the capital and nation of Israel was restored. 27 AD: At the end of the next 62 "weeks," the Messiah was to be anointed for His mission, at His baptism.

Overview of the Seventieth Week: That Last Prophetic "Week"

27 AD: Jesus announces that He is the Messiah: "The time is fulfilled!"

31 AD: Jesus was "cut off" (He died) in the middle of that last prophetic "week."

34 AD: The Jews as a nation were "cut off" as the gospel goes to the Gentiles.

"And after sixty-two weeks, shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself." (Dan. 9:26)

"In the midst of the week He shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease." (Dan. 9:27)

The New American Standard Bible renders this phrase closer to the Hebrew with "but not for himself" being rendered as "and have nothing." After the end of the 62 weeks, after 27 AD, in the middle of that last "week" of seven years, Christ was indeed "cut off" for His people. "For the transgression of my people was He stricken." (Isa. 53:8) Karath is the Hebrew word which means "cut off" or "kill." He literally had nothing; even his disciples forsook him at that time.

Matthew 26:56

"But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled."

"The people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary." (Dan. 9:26)

The word "Prince" refers to the "Messiah Prince." Because of their rejection of God's Prince, the Jewish nation destroyed themselves. Having rejected God's Messiah, the city was destroyed by the Roman legions under Titus in 70 AD.

Key Point:

The destruction of Jerusalem is not directly part of the 490 years, but this event was included in the span of the 2300-years prophecy. The fall of Jerusalem came "like a flood" and "unto the end of the war desolations are determined." The total desolation of Jerusalem occurred as predicted, and Jesus warned His disciples of its destruction.

Key Point:

Jesus understood the prophecies of Daniel, and we should too.

"And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week." (Dan. 9:27)

Jesus confirmed the covenant with many of the Jewish people during His 3 ½ years of ministry. Through the early church for the next 3 ½ years, Jesus' followers confirmed the covenant after Christ's crucifixion and resurrection.

Romans 15:8

"Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:"

Hebrews 2:3

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him."

"And in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and oblation to cease." (Dan. 9:27)

Christ paid the ultimate sacrifice, so there was no longer a need for earthly priests, animal sacrifices, and sin offerings. At His death, the temple veil was rent from top to bottom (Matt. 27:51), symbolizing that man now could have direct access to God through the atoning blood of Jesus' sacrifice. No more was God shielded from man by the temple veil. As Christ had paid the ultimate sacrifice for our sins, He fulfilled the shadow of the Mosaic sacrificial law.

Hebrews 10:8-10

"Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law: Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first that he may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."

By His death, Christ "did away with" or "fulfilled" the sacrificial law; thus He established His eternal covenant of grace. He had paid the penalty for all of our sins, satisfying God's justice which required His Son's blood sacrifice for sin. "And for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate." (Dan. 9:27) God allowed the desolation of Jerusalem in 70 AD because of the unfaithfulness of Israel (Dan. 9:11, 18). This also

prophetically applies as a type or foretaste of the coming desolation of the church at the hands of papal Rome.

When did the probationary period for Israel end? At the end of 490 years, the end of the 70th week.

What occurred? The stoning of Stephen, the first Christian martyr, in 34 AD. The Jews, out of their hatred for Christ, used the Roman government to kill Him. But, in the death of Stephen, the Sanhedrin directly carried out the stoning! History tells us that the stoning of Stephen occurred in 34 A.D., approximately 3 1/2 years after Christ's crucifixion. Saul attended Stephen's stoning and heard him pray for his persecutors.

Acts 7:51-60 "Ye stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers: Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it. When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, and said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep."

Acts 13:46-47 "Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth."

At the death of Stephen, the nation of Israel had rejected Jesus Christ and His gospel. Then "a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem" led the followers of Jesus to take the gospel to the Gentiles (Acts 8:1). Paul speaks of the natural branches being "cut off" and the Gentile branches being grafted into the vine of spiritual Israel (see Romans 11). God had intended that the Jewish nation would bear the light of Christ, but they rejected the truth and light given them. Now this privilege was given to the Gentiles; with the help of the apostles, they would bring the gospel light to others and spread the good news to all the earth.

Five Major Points Made by Gabriel in Daniel 9:24

"70 weeks" (490 years) are determined upon Israel and Jerusalem to:

1. **"Finish the transgression"** - Daniel's prophecy gave the Jewish nation 490 years to cease from breaking God's Ten Commandments, and to follow God as He intended.
2. **"To make an end of sins"** – Jesus died on the cross to empower us to have victory over sin.
3. **"To make reconciliation for iniquity"** – Jesus did this at the cross.

4. **“To bring in everlasting righteousness”** – Jesus did this in His life and at the cross.

5. **“To seal up the vision and prophecy”** – Jesus “sealed” or confirmed the accuracy of the 70-week prophecy by proclaiming, “The time is fulfilled!” and by living a holy life and then dying as our Passover Lamb “in the midst of the week.” After Christ ascended, His disciples continued to confirm the covenant with Israel until they rejected it. Thus He “sealed” or authenticated the vision and the prophecy of Daniel chapters 8 and 9 for us.

Since the 70-week portion of the 2300 years was confirmed on earth with such startling accuracy, we should have equal confidence in the fulfillment promised at the end of the 2300 years.

6. **“To anoint the most Holy”** – The Hebrew can read “Most Holy One” or “Most Holy.” Jesus, the Holy One of God, was anointed in 27 AD. Just as the prophecy indicated, Christ’s anointing occurred at the beginning of the seventieth “week.”

Key Points:

1. The six bullet points all point us to Jesus being the Messiah.
2. Daniel was told that this 70 Week prophecy had to do with Jerusalem and the Jews.
3. The word “Determined” in the Hebrew, means to be “Cut off.”
4. Therefore, the conclusion is that, the Jews were given 490 years to accept Jesus as the Messiah, or be “Cut off” as God’s holy people. Verse 24 is all about Jesus and the Jews.

THE END OF THE 2300-YEAR PROPHECY

DANIEL 8:13-14

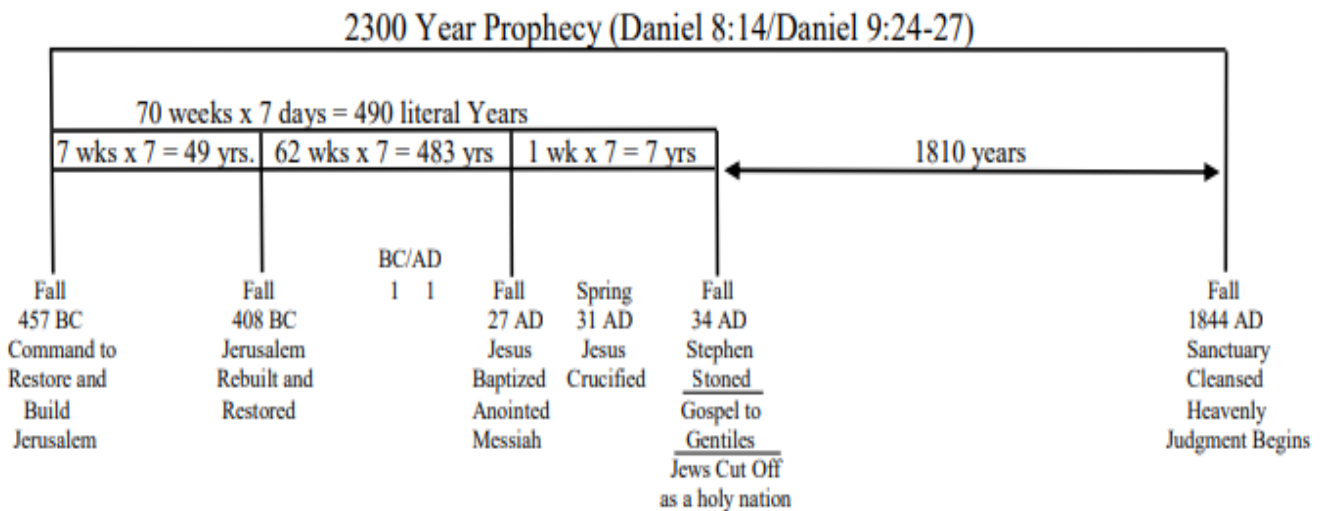
“Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain [saint] which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily [sacrifice], and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.”

In Daniel 9:23, Gabriel was told to help Daniel “understand the matter, and consider the vision.” This refers back to the portion of vision of Daniel 8 which related to the 2300 years, the part that Daniel couldn’t understand. In Daniel 8:13-14 the angels asked God how long it will be before the knowledge of Christ’s continual ministry in heaven and the sanctuary truths would be restored. In Daniel chapter 9, Gabriel came back to give Daniel a complete understanding of the longest time prophecy in the Bible.

In chapter 9, Gabriel started his explanation by giving a starting point for the 2300 years. Since the 490 years were “cut off” from the 2300 as probationary time for Israel, both the 2300 years and the 490 years had the same starting point. The 490-year prophecy would provide “signposts” along the way, to show that the longer period of time would be fulfilled as well. The difference between the time periods tells us how much longer it will take until the fulfillment of the 2300-year prophecy.

As we do the math, by subtracting the 490 years, that we just covered, from the bigger picture of the 2300 years ($2300 - 490 = 1810$), it leaves us with 1810 years left to the end of the 2300 year prophecy.

The date that ended the 490 years was 34 A.D. with the stoning of Stephen. Therefore, we continue on from 34 A.D. and add 1810 years (34 AD + 1810 = 1844 A.D.), this would bring us to the end of the 2300 year prophecy, the “Cleansing of the sanctuary,” in 1844 A.D. At the end of the 2300 years, the prophecy promised the restoration and cleansing of the sanctuary (the heavenly temple) in 1844. In the heavenly judgment that began in 1844, Jesus would receive His dominion, glory, and kingdom (Dan. 7:14) as He reasserts His High Priestly role. As the true Day of Atonement began in 1844, He restored His “tamid” (continual) ministry to its rightful place in the minds and hearts of His people.



He is “a minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.” (Hebrews 8:2)

Two Key Points:

1. At the End of the 70 Weeks Jesus Established the Apostolic Church.
2. At the End of the 2300 Years Jesus Restores His Church. (Daniel 8:14)

The New Testament believers understood and taught Daniel’s prophecies.

Heb. 2:3 “confirmed unto us by them that heard Him”

Mark 1:14-15 “the time is fulfilled”

Gal. 4:4 “fullness of the time was come”

1 Peter 1:10-12, 20 “angels desire to look into” (compared to Dan. 9:13: “How long?”)

2 Thess. 2:1-12 “who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God”

SUMMARY:

Nearly 500 years in advance, prophecy predicted the exact dates of the rebuilding and restoration of Jerusalem and its temple, also, the “anointing” of Jesus, His crucifixion, and the end of the Jewish probationary period. Through prophecy we have unequivocal proof of Jesus’ claim to be the Messiah.

And by Jesus’ fulfilment of the prophecy, we see that He sealed and validated the vision, proving its reliability. Seeing the accuracy of the 70-week prophecy, we can depend upon God to have fulfilled the second part with equal accuracy in the year 1844. Thus, in 1844,

we see Jesus, as described in Daniel 8:13-14, entering the final stage of His ministry in the heavenly Most Holy Place. As our High Priest, He entered the Holy of Holies “in the presence God for us” to begin the judgment and restore the apostolic church.

The middle of the seventieth “week” pointed to Jesus as our Sacrifice for sin and the beginning of His ministry in the Holy Place at His ascension. The end of the 2300 years, points to Jesus again, ministering for you at His Father’s throne, the Ark of the Covenant, praying for His law to be written in your heart. As in the Day of Atonement, it’s time to let Him search our hearts and cleanse us from all sin. Today we must focus on Christ as our High Priest in the Holy of Holies during the final judgment hour of earth’s history. As our High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary, He is calling for us to live our lives in complete surrender to the will of God. Will that be your desire?