Three Angels, One Message God's Everlasting Gospel



By Pastor and Author John T. Anderson

Welcome & Announcements







For God So Loved the World, that He Gave His Only Begotten Son, that Whosoever Believeth in Him Should Not Perish, but Have Everlasting Life.

For God Sent Not His Son Into the World to Condemn the World; But that the World Through Him Might Be Saved. John 3:16-17



"The Hour of His Judgment Has Come" Evangelistic Series Sermon Four





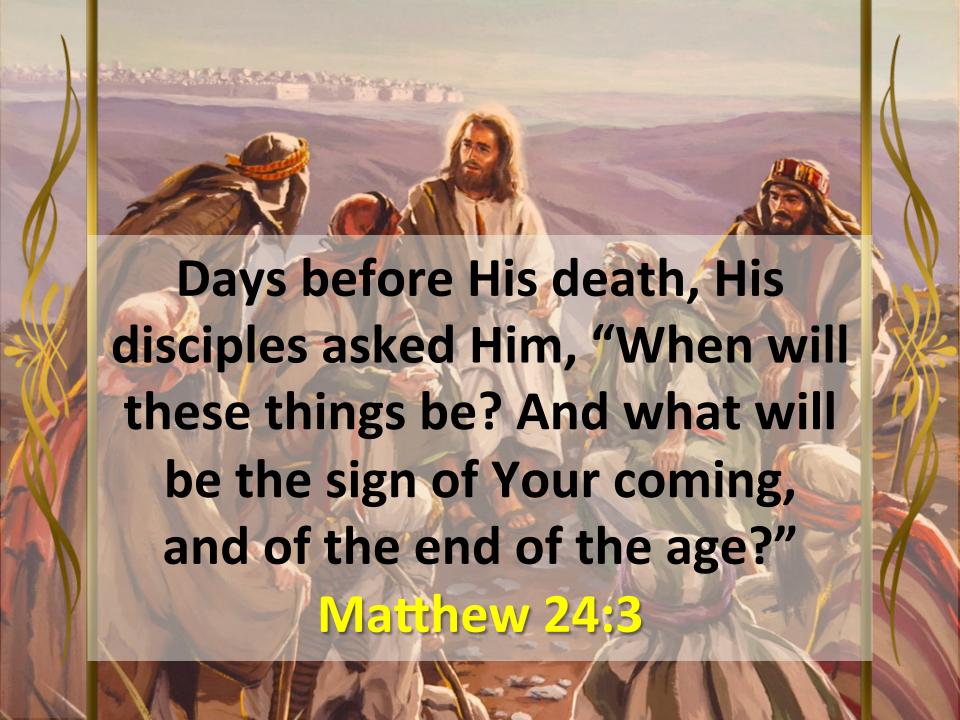
How Can We Know When The

- 1) Pre-Advent Judgment Began?
- 2) The Remarkable "70-Week"
- 3) Prophecy Of Daniel 9
- 4) The Conclusion Of The 2300 Year Prophecy

It is not within God's plan to give us the "day and hour" of His coming to earth in glory, but He has consistently provided "way marks" by which we can know when it is near.

MORAL

DECAY



Jesus proceeded, in that chapter, to outline several significant events which would serve as precursors to His coming. He said, "When you see all these things, know that it is near, at the very doors." Matthew 24:33

In addition to the signs that Christ made known to His followers that have become visible on earth as they have been fulfilled, the Scriptures have also provided us with a crucial date in God's timetable;

the beginning of His investigative judgment in heaven. Though the event was not seen by earthly eyes (excepting the prophet Daniel in vision), we know by faith that it will most certainly came to pass.

Our objective is to find the beginning point of God's preadvent judgment, pictured in Daniel 7. (Nothing is said in Daniel 7 as to when the judgment begins.) We believe that we can do that, on the basis of three

"witnesses" found in Daniel 8:14, which addresses something called the "cleansing of the sanctuary," for which a prophetic date can be established. First we need to see that the "judgment" of Daniel 7 is the same as the "cleansing of the sanctuary" in Daniel 8.

These witness are: 1) The structural comparison between chapter 7 and 8 of Daniel, showing that the "cleansing of the sanctuary" occupies the same place in its vision as the "judgment scene" does in chapter 7.

- 2) The legal connotation of the word "cleansed," as used in Daniel 8:14.
- 3) A study of the service of *Yom Kippur*, the Day of Atonement, brought to view by the phrase "cleansing of the sanctuary."

A structural comparison between the contents of chapter 7 and chapter 8 of Daniel, if you were to line up the component parts, reveals that the place taken by the heavenly court scene in chapter 7 is occupied by something called the "cleansing of the sanctuary" in chapter 8.

In chapter 7, we find that the judgment scene is the hinge point of the prophecy. Up until that time, it appears that satanic agencies, led by worldly kingdoms represented by wild beasts and followed by a destructive horn power, are in control.

Then something happens that changes everything. "But the court shall be seated and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it forever."

Daniel 7:26



The seating of the heavenly court is most crucial to the outcome of the events portrayed.

If we reduce the content of the prophecy of chapter 7 to a simple outline, it could read:

- 1) reign of earthly kingdoms, including the horn power.
- 2) inception of God's judgment.
- 3) destruction of earthly kingdoms and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom.

In this analysis, the beginning of God's pre-advent investigative judgment, when "the court was seated and the books were opened," is the turning point in the prophecy, the point at which the tide changes.

In reading chapter 7 of Daniel, you will see that 3 times a significant transition occurs. The horn power is seen going about its lethal activity, but then "the judgment."

Daniel 7:9; 7:22; 7:26

In the parallel prophecy of chapter 8, Daniel again sees animals that represent earthly kingdoms and a destructive horn power.

Next, in the vision a question is asked, a very important question; one that anticipates the "turning point" in the prophecy.



The question is asked, "How long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifices and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled under foot?"

Daniel 8:13

This question is the same as asking, "How long will it be that evil triumphs? How long will it be that the powers of wickedness prevail? How long will it be that God's truth and His saints are cast down and trodden under foot?"

In the next verse, an answer is given, "For two thousand three hundred days, then the sanctuary shall be cleansed." This must be something of critical importance to be the answer to the momentous question, "How long?"

From a structural point of view, as we line up the component parts of the vision, we can see that the "cleansing of the sanctuary" in chapter 8 occupies the same place as the "judgment" in the vision of chapter 7.

The "cleansing of the sanctuary" represents the hinge point in the prophecy, as did the judgment scene in the previous chapter. Before this evil is victorious; after this God's justice takes over and the horn power will be "broken without human hand."

Ultimately we know that the answer to that question, "How long?" pertains to the coming of Jesus in the clouds of heaven. That is when Satan and his followers will be overthrown.

But since we know that it is not God's policy to reveal the "day and hour" of His coming, what would be an appropriate answer to the question of "How long?"

When He was about to ascend to heaven, the disciples asked, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?' And He said to them, 'It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.""

Acts 1:6-8

Notice that the question that the eleven posed is not unrelated to the question raised in Daniel 8:13.

The question posed by the disciples related to the end of all things.

The answer that Jesus gave His followers was not a direct answer, but it was an answer that provided helpful information.

He didn't give them the date when the kingdom would be restored, but gave them helpful information regarding something that must necessarily take place before the total restoration of the kingdom could take place.

This is similar to the question and answer given in Daniel 8. The question, "How long" anticipates the end of the age. In God's wisdom, He is not inclined to reveal that date specifically.

If, however, the Lord chose to reveal the beginning of His preadvent judgment, an event which must be concluded before His return, that would be very helpful.

In Daniel 8:14 most newer Bibles don't say "the sanctuary will be cleansed," but "reconsecrated," "put right," "restored to its proper place" and "justified," to mention a few. It brings up the question "Is the word 'cleansed' a bad translation?"

Let's take a brief look at how the word tsadaq, the word translated "cleansed," is used in Scripture.
We'll look specifically at two things concerning this word;

- 1) the close connection between it and other words meaning "clean;"
- 2) and the strong legal implications of the word.

The Hebrew word translated "cleansed" in Daniel 8:14, tsadaq, is found 41 times in the Old Testament. In lexicons it is given the meaning "be just," "be justified," "be righteous," or "be vindicated."

Five times we see the word tsadaq used in close association with words like "clean" and "pure." One example is Job 4:17, "Can a mortal be more righteous (tsadaq) than God? Can a man be more pure than His Maker?"

"The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous (tsadaq) altogether."

Psalm 19:9



The flavor of the word has to do with more than "clean" in a physical sense. In many occurrences, there is a distinct legal flavor associated with the word.

Job 13:18 reads, "See now, I have prepared my case. I know I shall be vindicated (tsadaq)."



Deuteronomy 25:1 says, "If there is a dispute between men, and they come to court, that the judges may judge them, and they justify (tsadaq) the righteous and condemn the wicked."

When the sons of Israel discovered Joseph's drinking cup in the sack of Benjamin, Judah lamented, "What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how shall we clear ourselves (tsadaq)?"

Genesis 44:16

Moreover Absalom would say, "Oh, that I were made judge in the land, and everyone who has any suit or cause would come to me; then I would give him justice (tsadaq)."

II Samuel 15:2-4

From these examples, it is obvious that the word in question is often seen in a judicial context. Notice the things it presumes. It anticipates a court setting, in which evidence is adduced and examined and a decision rendered.

It looks forward to the "clearing" of charges imposed, the "vindication" of a person's record.

Isn't that exactly what the preadvent judgment is about? Isn't that exactly what Daniel 7:9, 10 picture?

The translation "cleansed" is therefore most excellent, especially if it is seen as a matter of legal vindication, purging ones record.

We saw that from a structural point of view, the "cleansing of the sanctuary" occupies the same position in the vision of chapter 8 as did the seating of the heavenly court in chapter 7.

Secondly, we noted also that the very word tsadaq breathes a legal connotation. Those are two "witnesses." But is there more evidence that this "cleansing of the sanctuary" refers to a judgment process?

We find that on one day of the year there was a special ceremony by which the sanctuary was "cleansed." We will see that this "cleansing of the sanctuary" refers to an event in the Hebrew calendar which typified the process of the investigative judgment, called Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.



The Sanctuary service was God's "show and tell" of salvation.





















"So he (the high priest) shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel,



and because of their transgressions, for all their sins; and so he shall do for the tabernacle of meeting which remains among them in the midst of their uncleanness."

Leviticus 16:16



"The name 'Yom Kippur' means 'Day of Atonement,' and that pretty much explains what the holiday is.

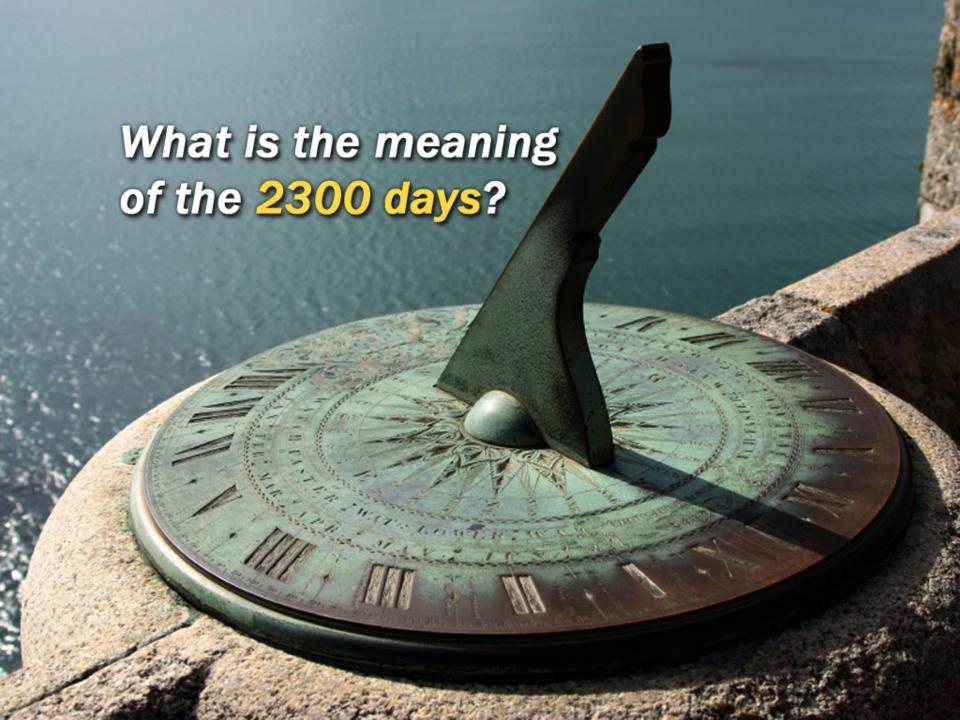
It is a day set aside to "afflict the soul," to atone for the sins of the past year. In Days of Awe, I mentioned the "books" in which God inscribes all of our names.

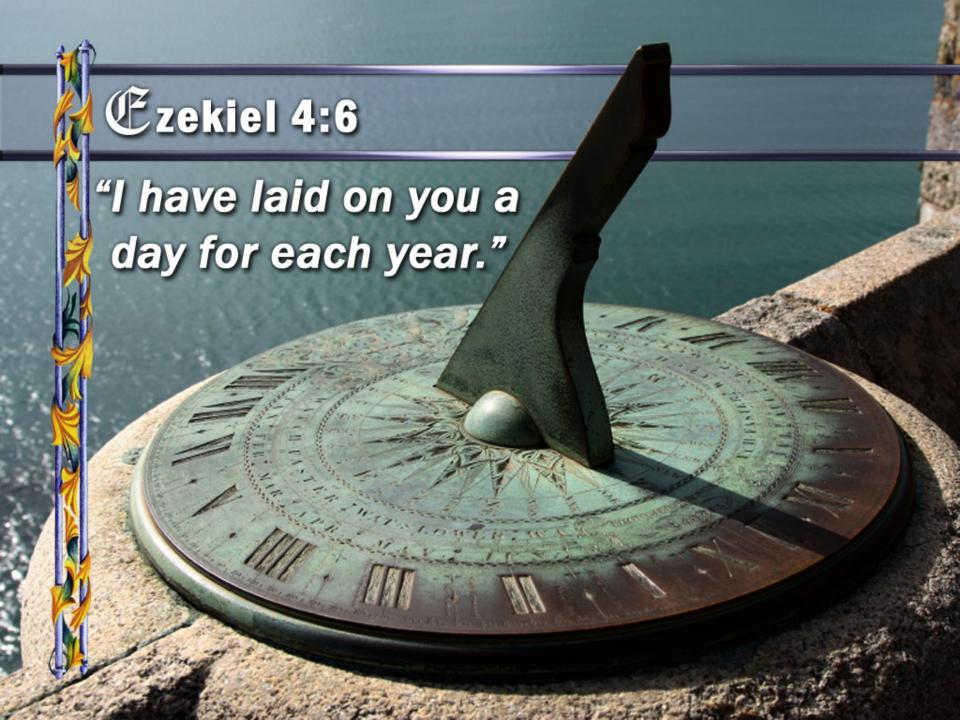
On Yom Kippur, the judgment entered in these books is sealed. This day is, essentially, your last appeal, your last chance to change the judgment, to demonstrate your repentance and make amends."

The prophecy said, "Unto 2300 days, then the sanctuary will be cleansed."

Daniel 8:14







Gabriel told Daniel, "Understand, O son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end."

Daniel 8:17

The only way we can get from Daniel's day to "the time of the end" is by understanding the "2300 days" as "2300 years."

No beginning point is given in chapter 8, but one is given in chapter 9. Does the beginning point in chapter 9 apply to the vision of chapter 8? Yes!

In chapter 8, Gabriel was told to "make this man understand the vision" (8:16), but when he left Daniel, he said, "No one (including himself) understood it." (8:27). We would expect Gabriel to return and complete his assignment.

In chapter 9, it is the same angel Gabriel who returns, saying, "I have now come forth to give you skill to understand."

Daniel 9:22



Gabriel invites Daniel to "consider the matter and understand the vision." Daniel 9:23. The word "vision" is the same in Daniel 9:23 as in Daniel 8:16. A different word for "vision" is used in Daniel 1-7, with the one exception being Daniel 1:17.

We conclude then that the explanation Gabriel is going to give in chapter 9 pertains to the vision of chapter 8, and that the beginning of highlighted section of 70 "weeks" is the same as the beginning of the 2300 "days," of which it is a part.

"Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city." Daniel 9:24.

So confident were some Bible translators that these 70 weeks should be understood by the "day for a year in symbolic prophecy" rule that they even translated the phrase "seventy weeks of years."

There is no question but that these 490 "days" are to be understood as 490 literal years, in that the scope of material presented, including the restoration of Jerusalem

and reaching to "Messiah the Prince" could not possibly be fulfilled within 70 literal weeks.

Seventy weeks, or 490 literal years, are "cut off" (a meaning of the Hebrew word translated "determined" and applied especially to "your people" to see if they will indeed live up to the covenant stipulations.

70 Weeks

70 (prophetic weeks)

X 7 (days per week)



2300 Day Prophecy

2300 Years

490 Years

2300 Day Prophecy

2300 Years

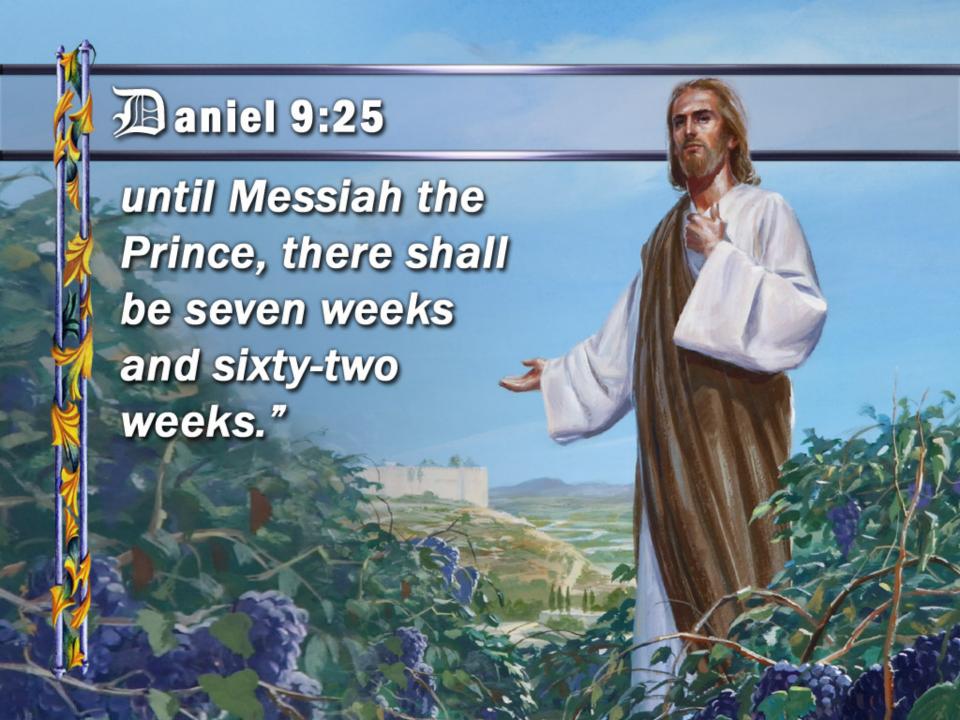
490 Years

When does this prophecy start?

Paniel 9:25

"Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem . . . "

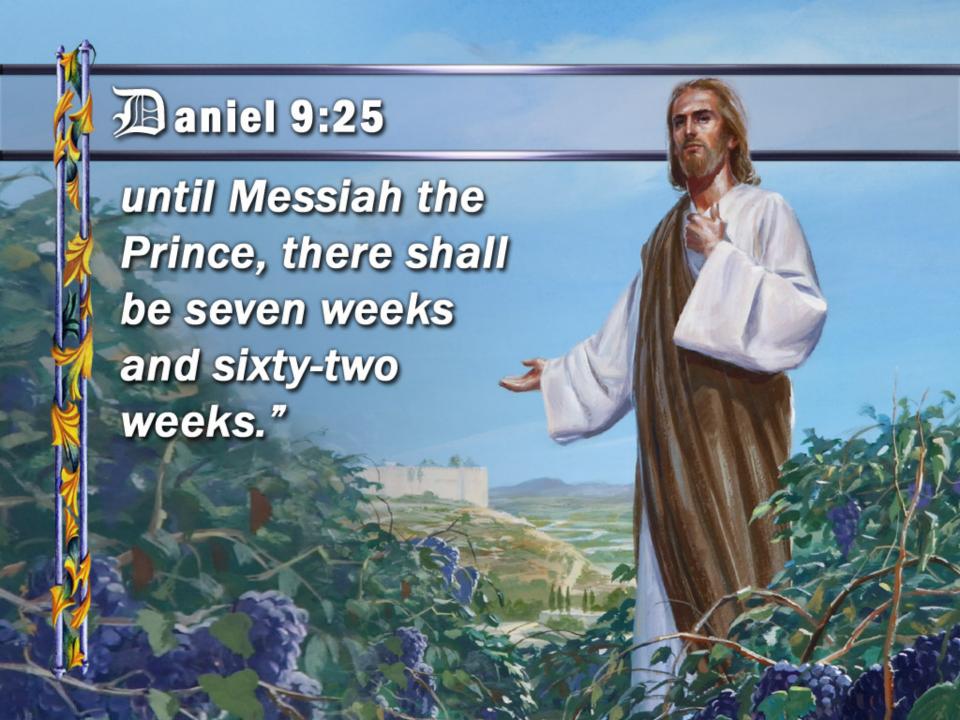


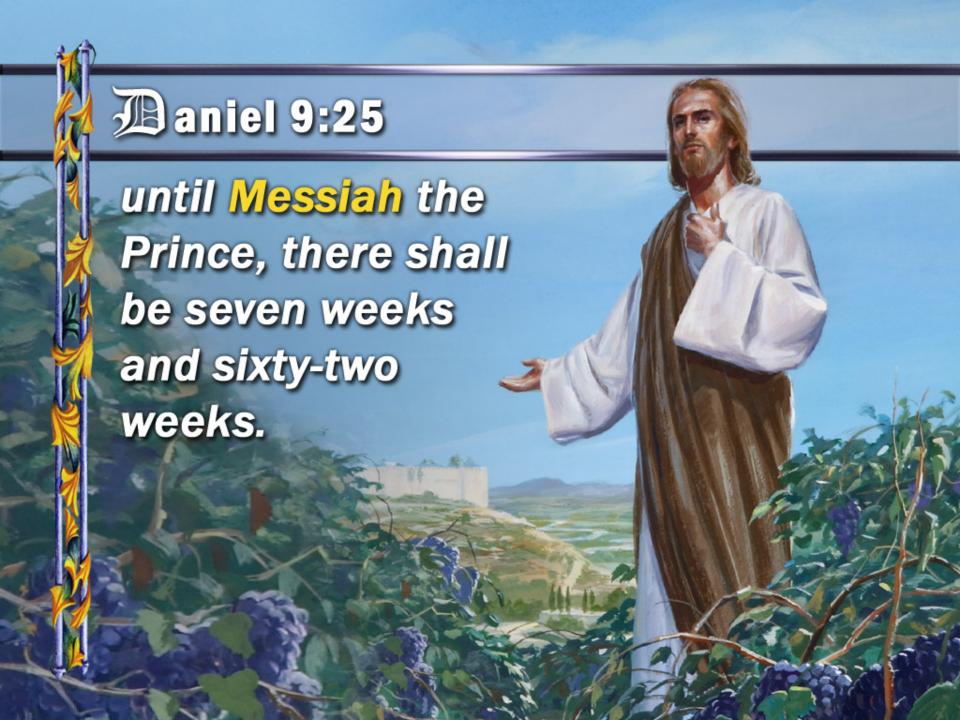


2300 Day Prophecy

457 BC









2300 Day Prophecy

457 BC



70 Weeks

69 (prophetic weeks)

X 7 (days per week)

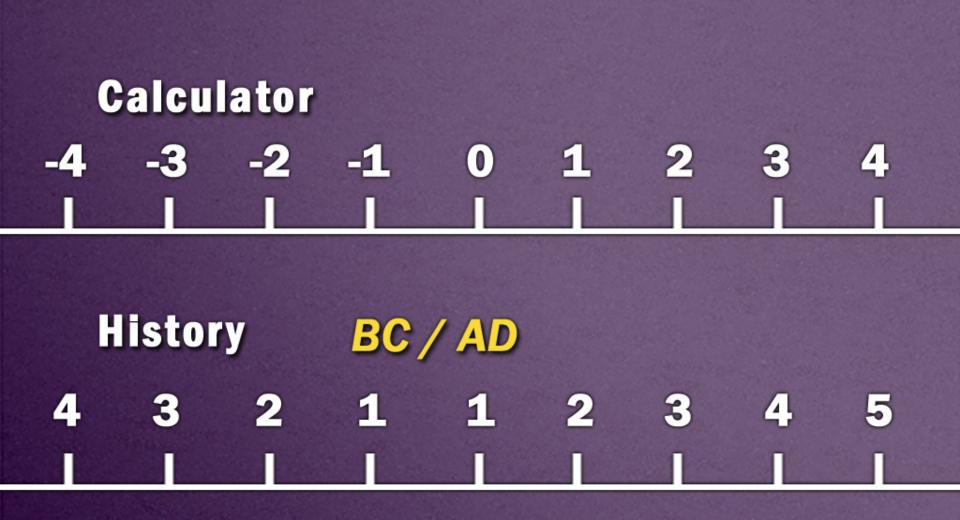
= 483 (prophetic days)

2300 Day Prophecy

457 BC

AD 27

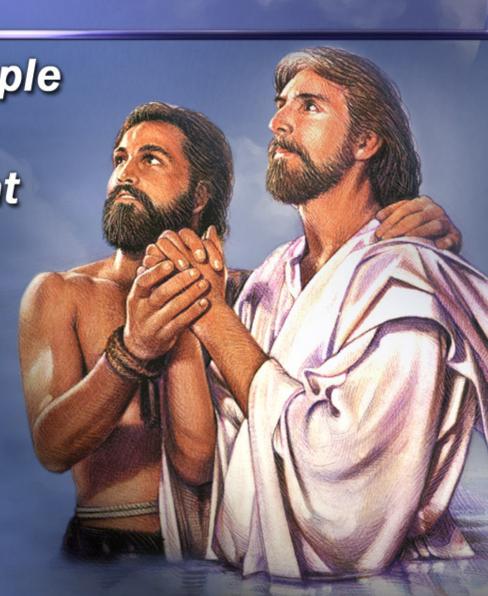


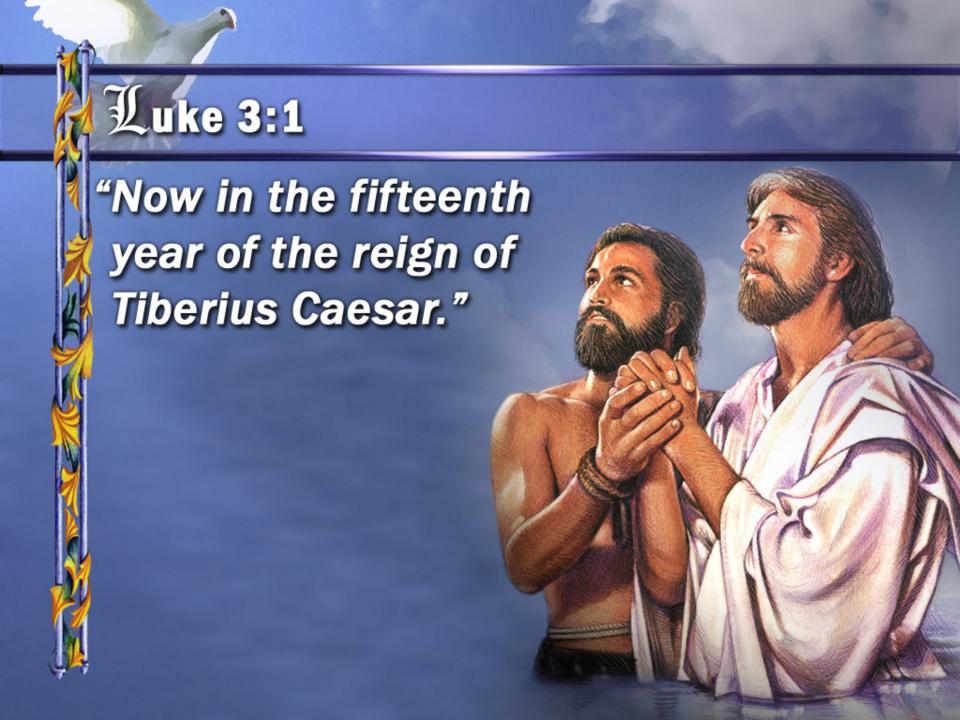


Add 1 when going from BC to AD



"When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized."





457 BC

AD 27







Because the event foretold by the 2300 year prophecy addresses something that takes place in heaven, unseen by human eye,

God graciously provided "waymarkers" that can be seen, to give us assurance that the prophecy will be fulfilled. This prophecy is about Jesus; His ministry, His death and His intercession. Would you be surprised to know that Satan has attacked it; not once but twice!

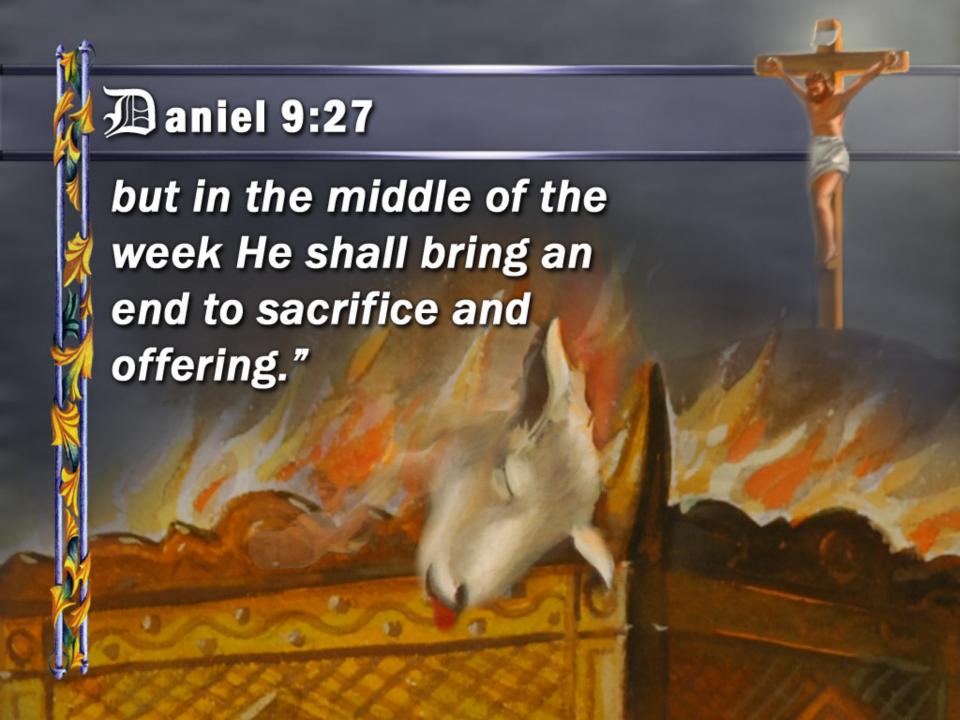
Jewish leaders pronounced a curse on anyone trying to calculate the arrival of the Messiah according to Daniel's prophecy!

457 BC

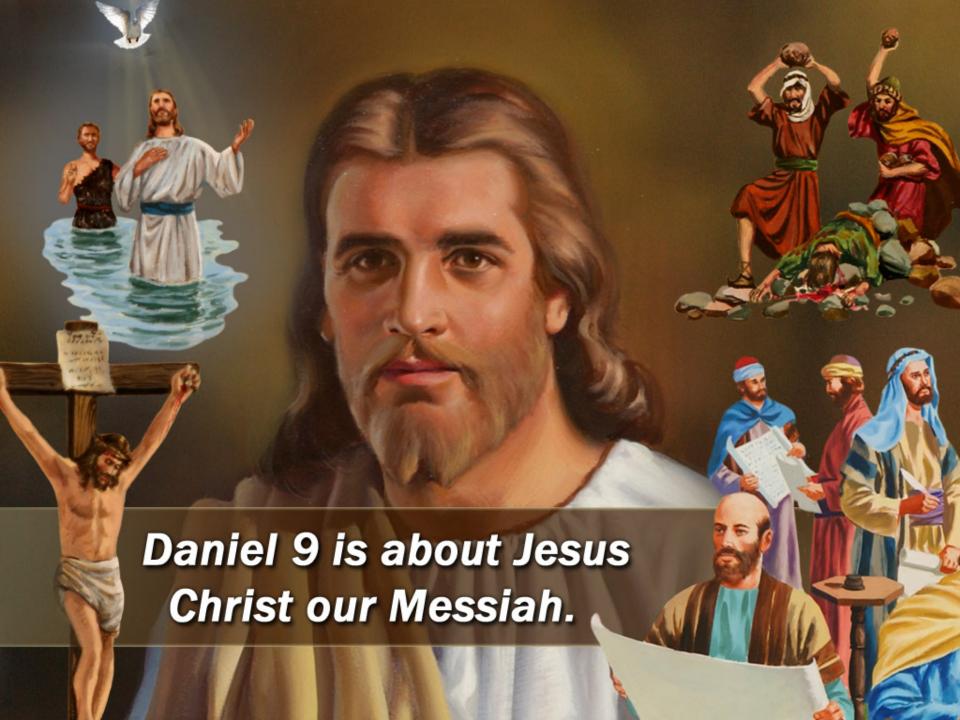
AD 27

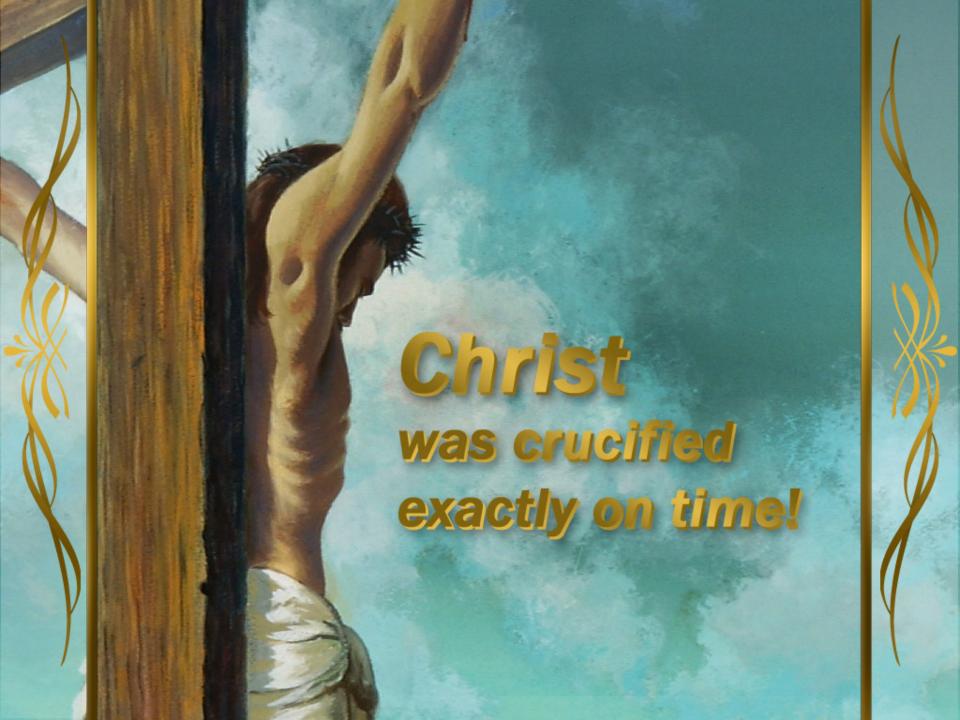
(<mark>69 weeks)</mark> 483 years (1 week) 7 years Decree

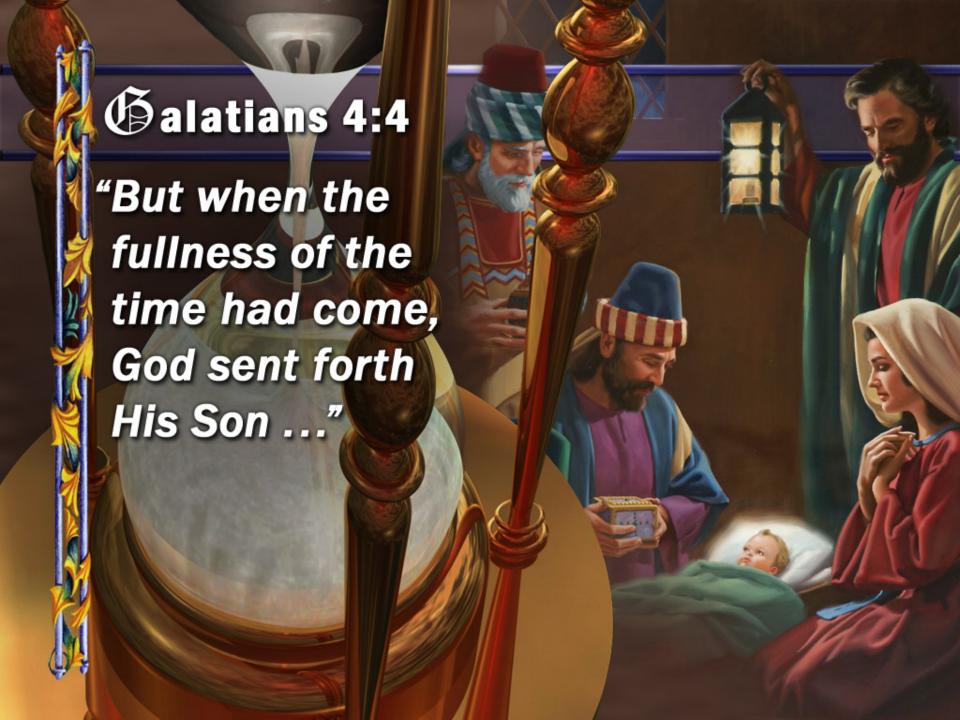




457 BC **AD 27** 483 years 31/2 Decree















AD 27 AD 31 AD 34 457 BC 483 years 31/2 31/2 Decree

457 BC

AD 34

Rospel to

AD 1844

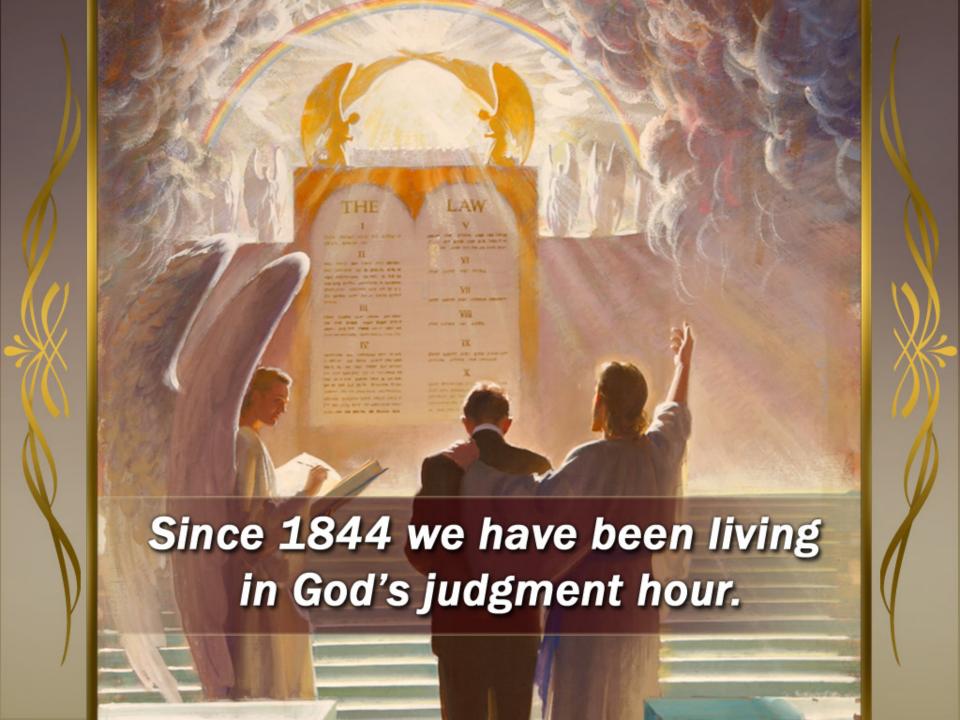
490 Years (70 weeks)

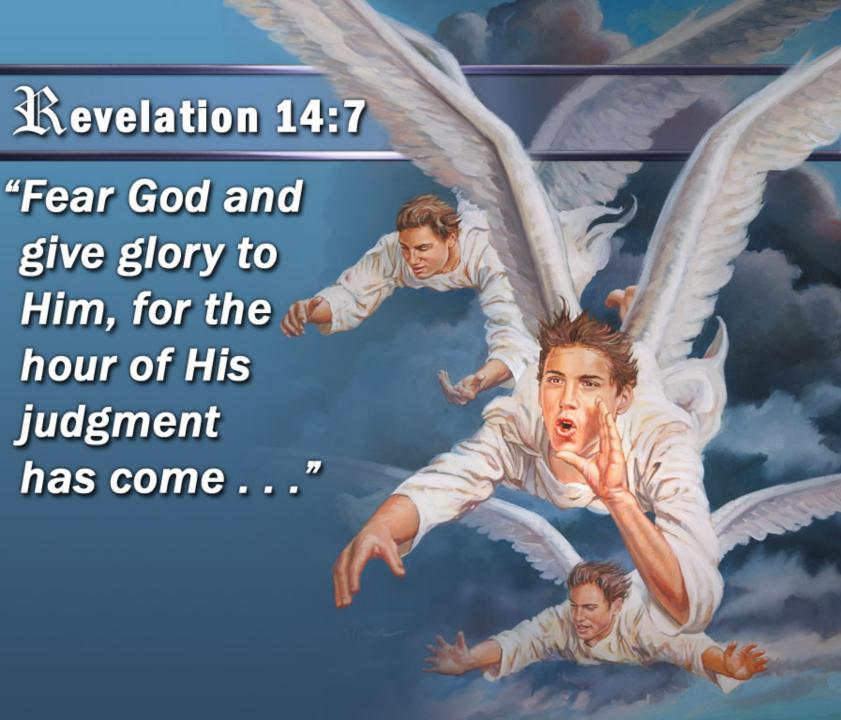
Part 1:

1810 Years

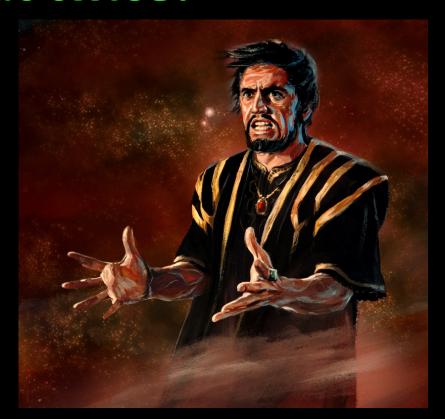
Part 2:

Decree





The devil attacked Daniel 9 not once but twice!



If you introduce a "gap" between the 69th and 70th weeks, you no longer have "70 weeks."

By separating the week from the others, the concept of the 70 weeks of probation given to the Jewish nation is lost.

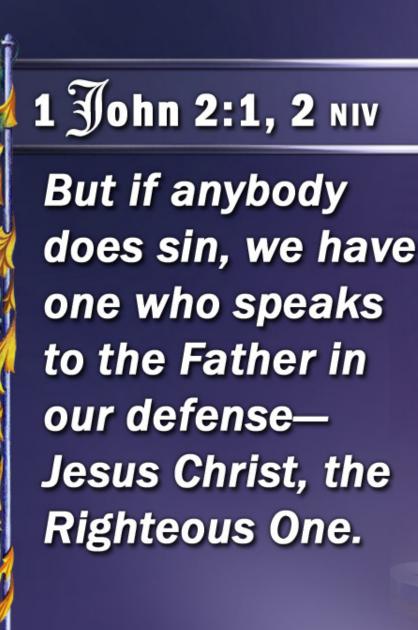
The message of the timely death of the Messiah in the "midst of the week" is obliterated.

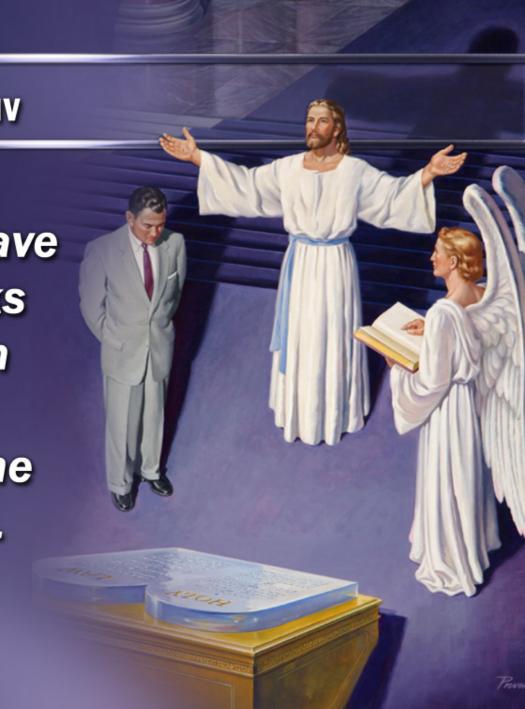
Christ's role as the Savior of mankind is usurped by another!

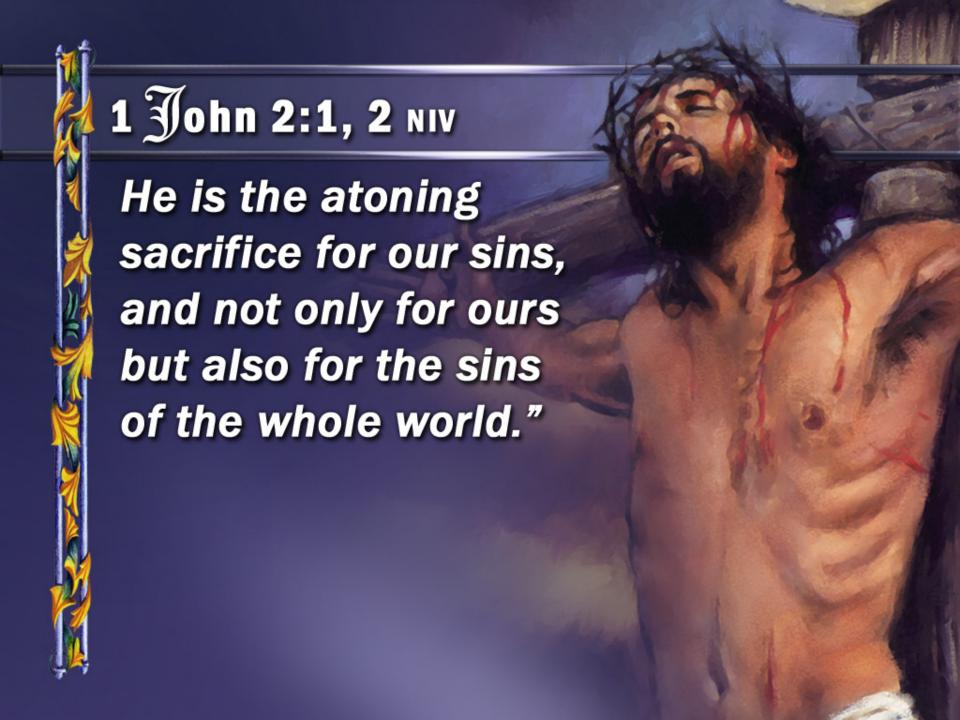


"My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin.











Topic For Sunday, Sept. 23 at 7pm

"Worship Him Who Made" Evangelistic Series Sermon Five



