

The Longest Time Prophecy

(SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE 9 OF 28 FROM 1889)

That the mistake of Adventists in 1844 pertained to the nature of the event then to transpire, not to the time; that no prophetic period is given to reach to the second advent, but that the longest one, the two thousand and three hundred days of Dan. 8:14, terminated in 1844, and brought us to an event called the cleansing of the sanctuary.

Daniel 8:3-14 - This section is a dream given by God to Daniel.

Daniel 8:19-26 - These scriptures are the interpretation of verses 3-14. Its meaning is mainly for the “time of the end.” Yet during the time of Babylon, Medo-Persia, as a ram, will come to take the N,E,S,&W, for his territory. A goat, or Greece, will come to overtake Medo-Persia. The notable horn on the goat was a prominent king. Out of one of the territories or ‘winds’ came ‘a little horn, which waxed exceeding great’ with the earth and heavens as its focus (political and religious interests). The greatest evil of this exceeding great horn was its attack on the ministry of Christ in the heavens.

Daniel 8:27 - “I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king’s business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.” Daniel did not understand the vision. Although most of it was explained, there was still a part of the vision that Daniel did not hear from the angel—he could not because he fainted. What was not explained was the 14th verse saying, “Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.” Being burdened about understanding of this prophecy, Daniel was constantly studying the words of the prophets to find answers. We ought to learn from him and go to the same place that he did!

Daniel 9:2 - “I understood by books the number of the years, whereof the Word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy 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.” (See **Jeremiah 29:10.**)

The next several verses, **Daniel 9:4-19**, are a beautiful prayer that Daniel prayed for himself and for the sins of the people. In verses **20-23** he was approached by Gabriel, an angel of God whom he “had seen in the vision at the beginning” (Vs. **21**). The question is, What vision? The vision of the 8th chapter of Daniel. Gabriel said to Daniel, “Understand the matter, and consider the vision.” (Again, the previous vision of Daniel 8, especially the 14th verse—the one Daniel did not have explained before his loosing consciousness.)

Daniel 9:24 - “Seventy weeks [There are 7 days in a week, $70 \times 7 = 490$ days; a day = a year in Bible prophecy (**Num. 14:34 & Eze. 4:1-6**); therefore the specified time is 490 years] are determined [could be translated “cut off”], upon thy people and upon thy holy city.” Determined or cut off from where? The vision of the 2300 days of Daniel 8:14—the only other time prophecy mentioned so far!

Daniel 9:24 - “To finish the transgression, [only done by Christ] to make an end of sins, [only by Christ] to make reconciliation for iniquity, [only by Christ] to bring in everlasting righteousness, [only by Christ] to seal up the vision and prophecy, [only by Christ] to anoint the most Holy [which was done by Christ].” That is the sum of the vision, here is the explanation:

Daniel 9:25 - (Verses 25-27 break down the 70 weeks of verse 24) “From the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks.” Each week has 7 days; $7 \times 7 = 49$ days; a day in Bible prophecy = 1 year; therefore the specified time is 49 years. 49 years for what? “To restore and to build Jerusalem...The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times” (The troublous times are explained throughout the book of Nehemiah).

Daniel 9:26 - Seven weeks + threescore and two weeks = 69 weeks. 1 week = 7 days; $69 \times 7 = 483$ days; 1 day in Bible prophecy = 1 year; therefore the specified time is 483 years. 483 years for what? “*After* threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off.”

The Bible predicted that, at the command of Artaxerxes, which was in the year 457 B.C. (the seventh year of his reign, **Ezra 6:14, 7:7**), there would be a 483 year period of time until the coming of the Messiah. Adding 483 years to the date 457 B.C. (Remembering that there is no 0 year, 3BC, 2BC, 1BC, 1AD, 2AD, 3AD, etc.), we come to the date 27 A.D. What could possibly have happened around the date 27 A.D. that had to do with the Messiah? We can find out in **Luke 3:21-22**. We also see in **Acts 10:38** that Christ was “anointed.” The word “anointed” is the literal translation of the word “Messiah,” the Anointed One. When Christ was anointed at His baptism it was then time to preach the message, “The *time* is fulfilled, and the kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Repent, and believe the gospel” (**Mark 1:14-15**).

Messiah would be cut off, but not for Himself. This beautifully shows that Jesus would give His life on Calvary just as Bible prophecy had predicted, just at the right time, in the perfect way, and for you and I, not for Himself. He lived without choosing to sin, He did not have to die for Himself, He chose to die for us so that we would be able to be with Him and the Father throughout eternity. He took the penalty that we deserve and paid a ransom for us that we were far from being able to afford. Praise God for His wondrous love!

Daniel 9:26 - “The people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.” This “prince” was either a direct reference to Titus or to Jesus Christ, a Roman ruler, or the Savior Himself, that came and destroyed the city of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. with the army, or the “people of the prince.” Christ refers to this destruction in **Matthew 24:15-20**, **Luke 21:20-24**. For Christ’s thoughts on the armies destroying the city, go to **Matthew 22:1-7**.

Daniel 9:27 - “He [Christ, *not* Antichrist] shall confirm the covenant with many for one week [7 days; 1 day in Bible prophecy = 1 year; therefore the specified time is seven years], and in the midst of the week [3 1/2 years] He shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease.” This is again a reference to the death of our Savior. **Matthew 27:50-51** explains that when Jesus died, the sacrificial system was divinely abolished. The curtain which separated the holy from the Most Holy was ripped from top to bottom, signifying the fulfillment of the promises. The sacrificial system of the Jews, which were a shadow of things to come, was done away in Christ. (See **Eph. 3:13-15** & **Col. 2:11-17**.) (For additional support for the wording of this text, look to:

- 1.) **Romans 15:8**, “confirm”;
- 2.) **Matthew 26:28**, Jesus confirms the covenant, or testament, with “many”;
- 3.) **Matthew 23:37-38**, The temple was “desolate” of His Spirit for the Jews rejecting Him.

To make this simple, Artaxerxes gave commandment to restore Jerusalem, that was in the year 457 B.C. 69 weeks or 483 years later the Messiah was anointed, this occurred at His baptism in 27 A.D (**Matthew 3:16-17**; **Acts 10:38**). 3 1/2 years later, or in the midst of the week, Christ was crucified. This would leave 3 1/2 years left to fulfill the 70 weeks of **Daniel 9:24**. What happened 3 1/2 years after the crucifixion? The gospel went to the Gentiles because the Jews showed full, final rejection of Christ by stoning Stephen (a Christian disciple) in **Acts 7:51-60**.

Jesus, right after He was baptized, went about saying, “The *time* is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel” (**Mark 1:15**). What He meant by this was that the 69 weeks, or the 483 years, specified by Daniel 9 was fulfilled. The Jews had 1 more week, or 7 more years, to repent and believe on Jesus Christ.

The ending of the 70 weeks, or the 490 years was complete in 34 A.D. with the stoning of Stephen. There is still one more thing to consider, this prophecy was “determined,” or cut off from the 2300 days, or years, of **Daniel 8:14**. Cutting off 490 years from 2300 years would give us 1810 years left over. From the end of the 490 years which ended in 34 A.D., add the remainder of the years, and that brings you to the year 1844 A.D. (See chart on page 4.)

There are three parts to the earthly sanctuary, signifying the three phases of Christ’s earthly and heavenly ministries for His people here on earth. The Outer Court signified His ministry on earth—His life, death, and resurrection. The Holy Place signified His intercessory ministry in the heavens after His ascension. The Most Holy Place refers to the time in which we now live, the days in which Christ will judge the world against the standard of His holy Ten Commandments. So, in the year of 1844 A.D. our High Priest entered into the last phase of His heavenly ministry for the human race, the ministry of the Most Holy place. This refers to the real Day of Atonement. The earthly Day of Atonement should be diligently looked at in **Leviticus 16**—it was a type of the literal Day of Atonement we are now in. Christ is now judging every one according to his/her works. We have been in judgment for 170+ years! Jesus Christ is about to come and His reward will be with Him. Study this message as diligently as you can, for the times we live in are solemn, and our God does not want us to be in ignorance.

The prophecy of **Daniel 8-9** illustrate the time frame of the plan God has shown us in the illustration of His earthly and heavenly sanctuaries. We can see the beginning and end of the outer court, the beginning and end of the holy place, and the beginning of the most holy place ministries in this prophecy.

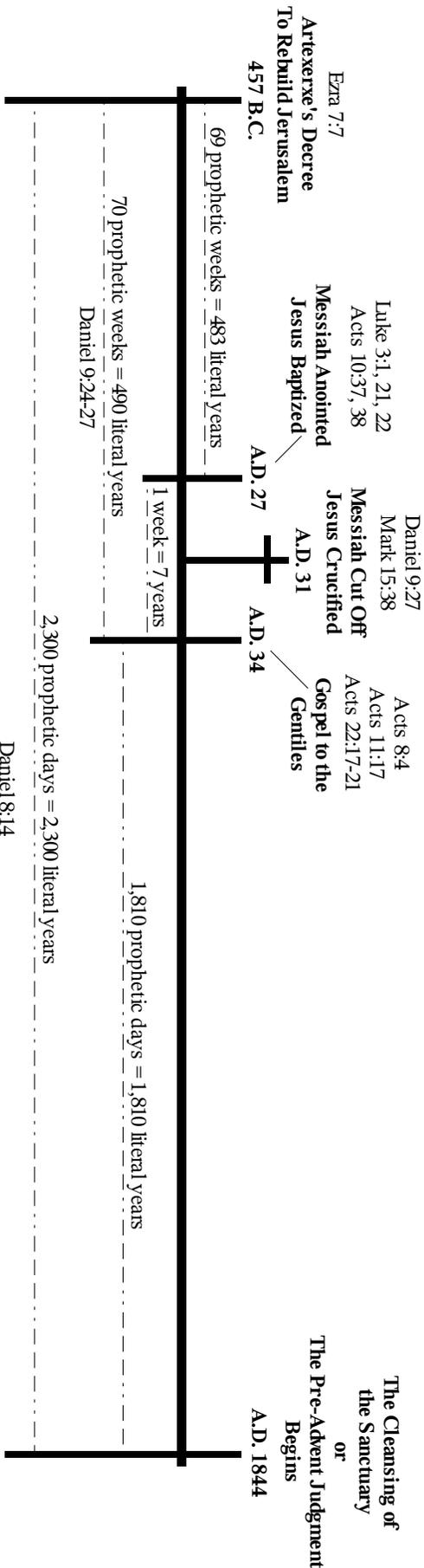
Soon Jesus will give the final decree, “He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be” (**Revelation 22:11-12**).

What will your future be when Christ says that?

The Longest Time Prophecy

The 2,300 Days

Daniel 8:13-14; 9:24-27



“Seventy weeks are determined for your people” Daniel 9:24

The word **“determined”** means “cut off”, “separated”, or “allotted”.

490 years were given to the Jews as a final probation, as a nation, to fulfill God’s plan for them and for the advent of the Messiah. After this, at A.D. 34, the gospel was taken to the “Gentiles” or the rest of the world. The “Covenant”, that is the New Covenant established upon Christ, was carried to the Jews, by Christ until His crucifixion on A.D. 31, and then by the apostles until the stoning of Stephen in A.D. 34. At this time and afterward the gospel was then taken to the Gentiles.

Day for a year: Numbers 14:34

Ezekiel 4:6