

Series: The Book of Daniel

Sermon: But Wait, There's More!

**Passage: Daniel 9:20-27 (ESV)**

Illustration:

Need: Followers of Jesus have a limited amount of time to make disciples in obedience to His command.

### I. Observation - What does it say?

- God answered Daniel's intercessory prayer by revealing to him more of His divine plan for His people.
- (vs 24) More time before Israel experience her full deliverance - "seventy weeks (Lit. - 70 sevens)"
- 6 things will happen during this time: (1) transgression will be finished (2) sin will end (3) iniquity would be atoned for (4) righteousness will dominate (5) visions and prophecies will be sealed/settled (6) a most holy place or holy one will be anointed.
- (vs 25) A decree to rebuild Jerusalem will set these 70 weeks (sevens) into motion.
- During 7 & 62 weeks (sevens) Jerusalem will be built & an "anointed one" will come in troubled times.
- (vs 26) After the 62 +7 weeks (sevens) the "anointed one" will be cut off and Jerusalem and the temple will be destroyed again by a group of people belonging to "a prince to come." Wars will continue.
- (vs 27) "He" (the prince to come) will make a covenant with "many" for 1 week (seven) but during the middle of the week (seven) he will break the covenant, stop temple worship. "On the wing of abominations" he will make desolate the house of God and the people of God.
- Ultimately, "the decreed end" has already been decided and will be poured out on this

### II. Interpretation - What does it mean?

- God's message to the Jews was that the end of their exile, according to Jeremiah, would begin another period of set time before they would experience the restoration He promised them when they repent.
- "weeks" (Lit. sevens) refers to years as in **Leviticus 25:8** describing the timing of the Year of Jubilee. Seventy weeks (sevens) would = 490 years.
- 3 of the 6 happenings during this time have been fulfilled in the death & resurrection of Christ.
- The decree to rebuild Jerusalem came from King Artaxerxes to Nehemiah in 444 BC (Neh. 2:1-8).
- 7 weeks = 49 years Jerusalem rebuilt by Nehemiah; then 62 weeks = 434 years Jesus presented as Messiah on His triumphal entry (**Luke 19:37-44**) after which he was rejected (John 19:15; Luke 19:14)
- (vs 26) After the 7+62 weeks (483 years) Jesus Messiah was crucified in AD 30-33. Then in AD 70 Titus, son of Emperor Vespasian, destroyed again Jerusalem and the rebuilt temple but he is not ultimately "the prince who is to come." This, we believe, is another reference to Anti-christ yet to come.
- It seems there is a "parenthetical period" after the 483 years which are now past and the last 7 years (Daniel's 70th week) still to come in the future - The Church Age, The Age of Grace, our time now.
- (vs 27) The last week will begin with a covenant but end halfway through (3.5 years). See 42 months of tribulation in Rev. 11:2 & 13:5. See 1260 days of tribulation in Rev. 11:3 & 12:6. See "time, times and half a time" in Dan. 7:25, 12:7 & Rev. 12:14.
- The 70 weeks (490 years) will be completed when Christ returns to defeat "the one who makes desolate" (**Rev. 19:11; 1:7; Zech 12:10; 13:1**) and establish God's promised Kingdom with the saints and the repentant remnant of His people.

### III. Application - What are we to do?

- Recognize that the course of human history has been charted and determined by God.
- Recognize that our time is limited and nothing is prohibiting the next phase of God's plan.
- Surrender to the Gospel of Jesus Christ crucified and risen to save us from sin & give us new life!
- Wake up and get busy fulfilling our purpose of making disciples! ("Go, send or disobey." BH)