

A COMPREHENSIVE BIBLE STUDY

The 2,300 Days of Daniel 8:14

An Adventist Perspective on the Sanctuary, Judgment, and Prophetic Time

"Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed."

Daniel 8:14 (KJV)

"Such subjects as the sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 days, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, are perfectly calculated to explain the past Advent movement." — Early Writings, p. 63

The Prophetic Timeline

2,300 years from 457 B.C. to A.D. 1844 — A Sanctuary Prophecy from First to Last



The Sanctuary — God's Blueprint

"Let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them." — Exodus 25:8

The Structure

Courtyard	Altar of burnt offering, Laver
Holy Place	Lampstand, Table of showbread, Incense altar
Most Holy Place	Ark of Covenant (Ten Commandments), Mercy seat

Built "according to the pattern" on the mount (Ex. 25:9; Heb. 8:5)

Two Services

DAILY (Tamid): Morning & evening lamb. Individual sin offerings — sin transferred to sanctuary (Lev. 4). Incense morning/evening.

YEARLY (Day of Atonement): High priest enters Most Holy Place. Sanctuary cleansed from accumulated sins (Lev. 16). A day of judgment.

Daniel 8:13 asks a **sanctuary question**. Daniel 8:14 gives a **sanctuary answer**. This is a sanctuary prophecy from beginning to end.

Part 1: The Vision of Daniel 8

The Ram — Medo-Persia

Two horns; the higher coming up last. "The ram... are the kings of Media and Persia." (Dan. 8:20)

The He-Goat — Greece

Notable horn; strikes the ram. Great horn breaks; four arise. "The rough goat is the king of Grecia." (Dan. 8:21)

The Little Horn — Rome (Pagan & Papal)

Grows "exceeding great." Removes the daily (tamid) — assault on Christ's heavenly priesthood. **Pagan Rome:** Crucified Christ, destroyed the temple (A.D. 70). **Papal Rome:** Substituted earthly priests for the one heavenly Priest. (EGW: *Christ in His Sanctuary*, p. 61)

Part 2: The Question & the Answer

"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."

Daniel 8:13-14

The Question (v. 13)

Every word is sanctuary language: "daily" (tamid), "sanctuary," "trodden under foot."

The Answer (v. 14)

2,300 days — Hebrew *tsadaq*: "vindicated," "restored."
LXX: *katharisthesetai* (same root as Heb. 9:23).

Year-Day Principle (Num. 14:34; Eze. 4:6)
2,300 prophetic days =
2,300 literal years

Part 3: The Connection to Daniel 9

Gabriel Returns

Daniel 8 ends with the 2,300 days unexplained. In Daniel 9, Gabriel returns: "I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding... consider the vision." (Dan. 9:22-23)

70 Weeks "Cut Off"

Hebrew *chatak* = "cut off" from the 2,300 years. 490 years form the first portion. "Anoint the most Holy" = inaugurate the heavenly sanctuary (Heb. 9:11-12, 24).

The Starting Point: 457 B.C.

The decree of **Artaxerxes I** (Ezra 7:12-26) to restore and build Jerusalem. Confirmed by Ptolemy's Canon, the Elephantine Papyri, and Greek Olympiad records.

Part 4: The 70-Week Prophecy

Segment	Duration	Dates	Fulfillment	Sanctuary Significance
7 Weeks	49 yrs	457→408 B.C.	Jerusalem rebuilt	City of sanctuary restored
62 Weeks	434 yrs	408 B.C.→A.D. 27	Jesus baptized — "Messiah the Prince"	Priest anointed (Heb. 5:5-6)
½ Week	3½ yrs	A.D. 27→31	Crucifixion — "Cut off, not for Himself"	Lamb of God; veil torn
½ Week	3½ yrs	A.D. 31→34	Stephen stoned; Gospel to Gentiles	Stephen sees Christ in heaven

457 B.C. + 483 years =
A.D. 27 — Baptism of Jesus

"In the Midst of the Week"

"He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease."

Daniel 9:27

A.D. 31 — The Cross

A.D. 27 + 3½ years = A.D. 31

- Crucified at 3:00 PM — the very hour of the Passover lamb
- The temple veil torn from top to bottom (Matt. 27:51)
- Not a bone was broken (John 19:33, 36; Exodus 12:46)

A.D. 34 — End of 70 Weeks

A.D. 31 + 3½ years = A.D. 34

- Stephen stoned — sees Christ in heaven (Acts 7:56)
- Gospel goes to the Gentiles (Acts 8-10)
- 490 of 2,300 years fulfilled

Christ Fulfills the Feast Calendar

God set the day and season — Christ fulfilled them to the exact hour

Feast	Date	Type (OT)	Antitype (Fulfillment)	Proof
Passover	14 Nisan	Lamb slain at 3 PM; no bone broken	Christ crucified at 3 PM; no bone broken	1 Cor 5:7; John 19:33-36
Unleavened Bread	15 Nisan	Leaven removed	Christ in the tomb — sinless sacrifice	2 Cor 5:21; Acts 2:27
Firstfruits	16 Nisan	Wavesheaf — harvest guarantee	Christ risen — "firstfruits of them that slept"	1 Cor 15:20-23
Pentecost	50 days	Harvest celebration	Holy Spirit poured out — heavenly ministry confirmed	Acts 2:1-4, 33
Trumpets	1 Tishri	Warning of judgment	Millerite movement (1830s-1844)	Rev 14:6-7
Day of Atonement	10 Tishri	Sanctuary cleansed	Oct. 22, 1844 — investigative judgment	Dan 8:14
Tabernacles	15 Tishri	God dwells with people	Second Coming / New Earth	Rev 21:3

Spring feasts fulfilled to the **exact day**. "The types which relate to the second advent must be fulfilled at the time pointed out."
— GC, p. 399

From Earth to Heaven — Christ's Two-Phase Ministry

Phase 1: Holy Place (A.D. 31–1844)

Parallels the Daily Service (Tamid)

- **Intercession** — Heb. 7:25
- **Advocacy** — 1 John 2:1
- **Mediation** — 1 Tim. 2:5

Evidence: Rev. 1:12-13 (lampstands); Rev. 8:3-4 (incense)

Phase 2: Most Holy Place (1844–)

Parallels the Day of Atonement

- **Investigation** — Dan. 7:10
- **Vindication** — judgment
- **Blotting out** — Acts 3:19

Evidence: Rev. 11:19 (Ark visible); Dan. 7:9-10

"For eighteen centuries this work of ministration continued in the first apartment of the sanctuary."

The Great Controversy, p. 421

Part 5: The Terminus — A.D. 1844

457 B.C. + 2,300 years =

A.D. 1844

"Then shall the sanctuary be cleansed"

What Sanctuary?

Earthly temple destroyed A.D. 70. The sanctuary cleansed in 1844 must be **the heavenly sanctuary**.

Christ moved from Holy Place (forgiveness) to Most Holy Place (judgment/blotting out).

Oct. 22, 1844 = 10 Tishri

Day of Atonement fell on October 22 (Karaites reckoning).
Rev. 11:19 — Ark seen in heaven. Rev. 3:7-8 — "an open door."

If the spring feasts and 490 years were fulfilled with pinpoint accuracy, we can trust the **fall feast fulfillment in 1844**.

The Day of Atonement — Type & Antitype

Earthly Service	→	Heavenly Antitype
Daily (tamid) — sins transferred to sanctuary	→	Holy Place ministry — sins recorded in heavenly books
Once a year — 10th day of 7th month	→	Once in history — beginning Oct. 22, 1844
High priest enters Most Holy Place	→	Christ enters Most Holy Place of heavenly sanctuary
Blood on mercy seat (over Ten Commandments)	→	Christ's blood applied; lives measured by God's law
Sanctuary cleansed from accumulated sins	→	Sins blotted out for those in Christ (Acts 3:19)
Scapegoat bears sins to the wilderness	→	Satan bears ultimate responsibility (Rev. 20:1-3)
A day of judgment — "afflict your souls"	→	Investigative judgment — books opened (Dan. 7:10)

Part 6: The Judgment Scene — Daniel 7

"I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit... the judgment was set, and the books were opened."

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Key Points

- A pre-Advent judgment — before Christ's return
- Son of Man comes **to the Ancient of Days** — not to earth
- Books are opened — investigation of records
- Result: "dominion, and glory, and a kingdom"

This IS the Most Holy Place

- "Ancient of days did sit" → mercy seat
- "Thousand thousands" → cherubim
- "Books were opened" → Ten Commandments — the standard
- "Son of man came" → Christ entering Most Holy Place

Daniel 7 and Daniel 8:14 describe the **same event** from different perspectives.

Part 7: The Three Angels' Messages

"Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment IS COME."

Revelation 14:7

First Angel — Everlasting Gospel

Hour of judgment has come. Worship the Creator — echoing the fourth commandment.

Second Angel — Babylon Is Fallen

"Come out of her, my people" (Rev. 18:4).

Third Angel — Solemn Warning

Mark of the beast. "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."

Two Great Disappointments — One Divine Pattern

The Disciples (A.D. 31)

Expected earthly kingdom. Got spiritual redemption. **Timing: CORRECT.** Event: misunderstood.

"We trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel."

Luke 24:21

The Millerites (Oct. 22, 1844)

Expected Christ's return to earth. Christ entered Most Holy Place. **Timing: CORRECT.** Place: misunderstood.

"The subject of the sanctuary was the key."

GC, p. 423

Pioneer Discovery

Oct. 23, 1844 — Hiram Edson's cornfield insight • **Feb. 7, 1846** — Crosier's *Day-Star Extra* • Ellen White's confirming visions (EW pp. 54-56) • Moses on the mount 40 days receiving the sanctuary pattern — same pattern of waiting and discovery.

Truth Cast to the Ground — History Repeating

The little horn "cast truth to the ground" (Dan. 8:12). These pagan practices entered Christianity.

Deity	Origin	Connection to Modern Practice	Scripture
Baal / Ashtoreth	Canaan	Sun/fertility worship → Easter traditions	Judges 10:6; Jer. 7:18
Tammuz	Babylon	Winter solstice myth → Christmas; 40 days weeping → Lent	Ezekiel 8:14
Asherah	Canaan	Sacred groves → decorated trees	Jer. 10:3-4
Sol Invictus	Rome	Dec. 25 = sun god's birthday (A.D. 274)	Deut. 12:29-32
Mithras	Persia	Born Dec. 25; Sunday worship	2 Cor. 6:14-17
Saturn	Rome	Saturnalia (Dec. 17-25) → Christmas customs	1 Cor. 10:20-21
Molech	Canaan	Fire festivals → Halloween	Lev. 18:21
Janus	Rome	Two-faced god → Jan 1 "New Year" (God's: Nisan)	Exodus 12:2

Daniel 8:14 promises truth will be **restored**. "Come out of her, my people" (Rev. 18:4). "Paganism became the conqueror." — GC, p.

Part 8: What This Means for Us Today

1 Christ Is Our High Priest — Now

Actively ministering in the heavenly sanctuary. Come boldly to the throne of grace (Heb. 4:14-16).

2 We Live in the Antitypical Day of Atonement

Heart-searching, confession, full surrender. "Repent... that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).

3 The Judgment Vindicates God & His People

Not a cause for fear. "No condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:1).

4 We Have a Present-Truth Message

The three angels' messages are God's message for this hour.

Part 9: Common Objections

"The 2,300 days are literal, not years."

Literal days cannot span Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. Year-day principle established (Num. 14:34; Eze. 4:6).

"This is about Antiochus Epiphanes."

Minor king (~3 years), not "exceeding great" (2,300 years). "Prince of the host" = Christ.

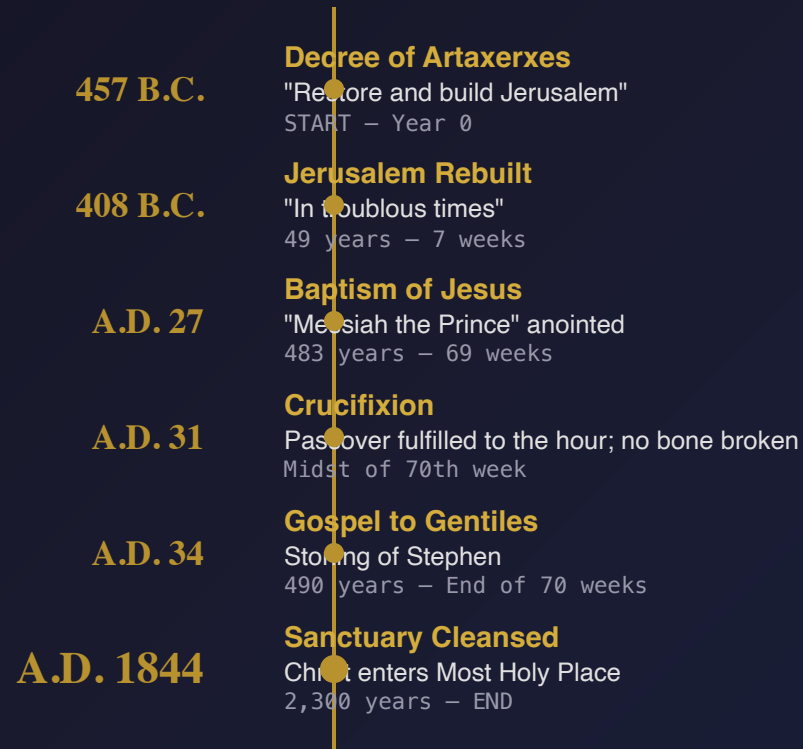
"Daniel 9 is not connected to Daniel 8."

Hebrew *chatak* = "cut off." Gabriel references the prior unexplained vision.

"There is no heavenly sanctuary."

Hebrews 8-9; Revelation depicts altar (8:3-4), lampstands (1:12), Ark (11:19).

Master Timeline



Biblical References

Sanctuary & Services

Ex. 25:8-9, 40 • Ex. 29:38-42 • Lev. 4:1-35 • Lev. 16, 23 • Heb. 8:1-5;
9:11-12, 23-24

Feast Fulfillment

1 Cor 5:7 • Ex. 12:46; John 19:33-36 • 1 Cor 15:20-23 • Acts 2:1-4, 33 •
Dan 8:14; 7:9-10

70 Weeks & Fulfillment

Dan. 9:24-27 • Ezra 7:12-26 • Mark 1:9-15 • Matt 27:50-51 • Acts 7:54-60

Judgment & Three Angels

Dan. 7:9-10, 13-14 • Rev. 14:6-12 • Rev. 11:19 • Heb. 4:14-16; 7:25 •
Rom. 8:1, 33-34

Ellen G. White References

Source	Pages	Topic
<i>The Great Controversy</i>	Ch. 18-24, 28	Miller, Disappointment, Sanctuary, Judgment
<i>The Great Controversy</i>	pp. 49, 53	Paganism conquered church; Sunday law
<i>The Great Controversy</i>	pp. 351-353, 399-400	Two Disappointments; feast types fulfilled on time
<i>The Great Controversy</i>	pp. 420-423	18 centuries in Holy Place; sanctuary as "the key"
<i>Patriarchs and Prophets</i>	pp. 313, 343-358	Moses on mount; sanctuary services
<i>The Desire of Ages</i>	pp. 77, 111, 652, 756-757, 785-786	Passover; baptism; veil torn; firstfruits
<i>Acts of the Apostles</i>	p. 38	Pentecost = heavenly inauguration proof
<i>Early Writings</i>	pp. 32-33, 42, 54-56, 63	Sanctuary visions; open door; 2300 days
<i>Evangelism</i>	p. 221	"Foundation of our faith"

Historical References

Source	Relevance
Ptolemy's Canon	Confirms 457 B.C. as 7th year of Artaxerxes I
Elephantine Papyri (1903)	Aramaic documents confirm Persian chronology
Josephus	Alexander shown Daniel's prophecy; Jerusalem destroyed A.D. 70
Greek Olympiad Records	Artaxerxes accession 464 B.C.; 7th year = 457 B.C.
Luke 3:1; John 2:20	15th of Tiberius & 46 yrs of temple = A.D. 27
Hiram Edson (Oct. 23, 1844)	Cornfield insight: Christ entered Most Holy Place
O.R.L. Crosier (Feb. 7, 1846)	Day-Star Extra: first sanctuary exposition
Horn & Wood	Archaeological confirmation of 457 B.C.

Key Spirit of Prophecy Insights

"Such subjects as the sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 days, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, are perfectly calculated to explain the past Advent movement."

Early Writings, p. 63

"The correct understanding of the ministration in the heavenly sanctuary is the foundation of our faith."

Evangelism, p. 221

"The subject of the sanctuary was the key which unlocked the mystery of the disappointment of 1844."

The Great Controversy, p. 423

"The Pentecostal outpouring was Heaven's communication that the Redeemer's inauguration was accomplished."

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 38

From First to Last — A Sanctuary Prophecy

Every date is a sanctuary date. Every event is a sanctuary event. The same God who timed the **Passover lamb to the hour**, raised Christ on **Firstfruits**, and poured out the Spirit on **Pentecost** has fixed the time of judgment — and will fix the time of His return.

"He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Revelation 22:20

Further Study: Daniel 7-9 • Leviticus 16, 23 • Hebrews 7-10 • Revelation 14:6-12 • Exodus 25-30
EGW: *Great Controversy* Ch. 18-24, 28 • *Christ in His Sanctuary* • *Early Writings* pp. 32-56 • *Desire of Ages* Ch. 77-81