

# **CHEMBUR BIBLICAL BAPTIST CHURCH**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

**TOPIC**

**DANIEL'S PROPHECY OF 70 WEEKS**  
**DANIEL 9 : 24-27**



# **The Importance of Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks**

- 1. It establishes the literal method of interpretation of prophecy.**
- 2. It demonstrates the truth of Scripture.**
- 3. The prophecy supports the view that the church is a mystery that was not revealed in the Old Testament.**



# The Important Factors of Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks

1. The entire prophecy has to do with the nation of Israel which is exactly specified as 70 weeks (24-27).
2. The beginning of the Seventy Weeks is fixed at "*the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem*" (25).
3. The end of 69 weeks will be signified by the arrival of the Messiah, the "Prince" of Israel. He will be "cut off," after which Jerusalem will be destroyed (25-26).
4. The 70<sup>th</sup> Week will begin with an establishment of a *covenant* between the coming Prince and the Israelites. After the completion of the Seventy Weeks, a time of great and unparalleled blessings will be ushered in for the nation of Israel (27-24).

# The Meaning of Weeks

To determine the chronology of this prophecy, it is necessary to understand Daniel's use of the term **weeks** as it is here employed. The reasons are:

1. In the context we see, the prophet Daniel had been thinking not only in terms of years rather than days, but also in a definite multiple of "sevens" ( $10 \times 7$ ) of years (Dan. 9:1-2; Jer. 25:11-12).
2. Daniel knew the Babylonian captivity lasted because the Jews violated the Sabbath year. According to 2 Chronicles 36:21, they were taken from their land for 70 years, showing they failed to keep the Sabbath year for 490 years, or seventy "sevens" of years.
3. If we make "Seventy Sevens" as "sevens" of days, the entire period would extend for merely 490 days or a little over one year. Considering now that within this brief space of time the city is to be rebuilt and once more destroyed (to say nothing of the tremendous events of verse 24).

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# The Beginning of the Sixty Nine Weeks

Daniel was told that this 490 year period would begin “from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem” (Dan. 9:24). When we turn to the decree of Artaxerxes, made in his twentieth year, recorded in Nehemiah 2:1-8, for the first time is permission granted to rebuild the city of Jerusalem. This then becomes the beginning of the prophetic time appointed by God in this prophecy. It may in fact have been dated from the 1st of Nisan...The seventy weeks are therefore to be computed from the 1st of Nisan B.C. 444.

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# The Fulfillment of the Sixty Nine Weeks

## DANIEL 9: 25 – 26 (NASB)

*25 So you are to know and understand *that* from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem, until Messiah the Prince, *there will be* seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, *with* streets and moat, even in times of distress. 26 Then after the sixty-two weeks, the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end *will come* with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.*

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# **Is there a Gap between the Sixty Ninth Week and Seventieth Week?**

1. The post-tribulation rapturist joins with the amillennialist in asserting, that the seventieth week of Daniel's prophecy was fulfilled historically in the years immediately following the death of Christ.
2. Some hold that Christ was cut off at the end of the sixty-ninth week and that the seventieth week followed immediately after His death.
3. Others hold that Christ was cut off in the middle of the seventieth week so that the last half of the week followed His death.
4. Some go so far as to assert that the entire present age is the Seventieth week.
5. In Contrary to the above views, the Scripture clearly shows that there is an indefinite period of time (gap) between 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> Week.

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# The Beginning of the Seventieth Week

It is evident from Daniel 9:27 that the seventieth week begins with a covenant that is made with “many” for one week, or for seven years. This “one week,” following the method of interpretation established for the sixty-nine weeks, demonstrates the fact that the period in question will be of seven years duration.

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# The Program of the Seventieth Week

1. This Seventieth Week is a period of seven years which lies prophetically between the translation of the church and the return of Christ in glory.
2. This Seventieth Week also provides the exact chronological framework for the great events recorded in chapters six to nineteen of the Book of Revelation.
3. The Seventieth Week will begin with the making of a “firm covenant” between the coming Roman prince and the Jewish people.



# The Program of the Seventieth Week

4. In the middle of the Seventieth Week, the Roman prince will suddenly reverse his friendly attitude toward the Jews and “cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease.”
5. The breaking of the “firm covenant” between the Jews and the Roman prince will make the beginning of a period of unparalleled “desolations” for the Jewish people.
6. The end of this final seven-year period will bring to its close the entire series of the Seventy Weeks, and therefore usher in the great blessings promised to Israel in Dan. 9:24.

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## **Sources**

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3. Pentecost, J. Dwight. *Things to Come: A Study in Biblical Eschatology*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1964.

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