



THE BIBLE'S LONGEST PROPHECY

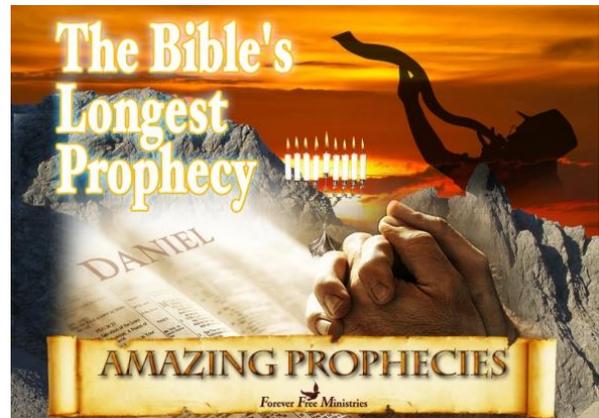
By Mark A. Fox

The 70 week prophecy of Daniel 9:24-27 reveals:

- A. Mathematical compelling positive proof that Jesus is the Messiah.
- B. The exact date of the baptism of Christ.
- C. The exact date of the crucifixion of Christ.
- D. The exact date of the close of Jewish probation.

Sir Isaac Newton considered this to be the jewel of prophecy.

“Seventy weeks are determined For your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteous, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy. Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until the Messiah the Prince. There shall be seven weeks and sixty two weeks; The street shall be build again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times. And after the sixty two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the People of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city in sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined. Then he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate.” Daniel 9:24-27



What portion of time was given to the Jews to repent of sin and cooperate with God to fulfill their God given destiny? Daniel 9:24. 70 Weeks or 490 days.

What was Jesus response to Peter when he asked how often he should forgive his brother? Matthew 18:21,22. 70 x 7 (which is reminiscent of Daniel 9:24 about 490 days or years.)

In Bible prophecy what does one prophetic day equal? Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6. One year

So how many years does this represent? 70 Weeks or 490 Days = 490 Years

What dramatic, miraculous event marks the beginning of this time prophecy of 70 weeks? Daniel 9:25. The decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem.

When was this decree issued? Ezra 7:7-13,25,26. In 457 B.C. The Persian King Artaxerxes issued a comprehensive decree allowing the Jews to return to Palestine to rebuild Jerusalem. So the 490 year prophecy begins in 457 B.C.

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

How many years from the decree to restore and build Jerusalem until the anointing of the Messiah? Daniel 9:25.

69 weeks = 483 days/years. Thus, from 457 B.C. until the anointing of Jesus as the Messiah would be 483 years.

When and how was Jesus anointed? The word "Messiah" in Hebrew and the word "Christ" in Greek mean the "anointed one." Jesus received the anointing of the Holy Spirit at His baptism in 27 A.D.

- "Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea."
- Since Tiberius Caesar began his reign in 12 A.D. and this is in the 15th year of His reign; therefore the year was 27 A.D.
- "When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heavens was opened. And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, 'You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.'" Luke 3:1,21,22
- "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power,..." Acts 10:38

After Jesus was baptized what did He begin to preach?

- "The time is fulfilled." "Repent and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:14,15.) What time? Prophetic time as foretold in Daniel 9.
- "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor..." "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." Luke 4:18-21

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

What does this amazing prophecy declare would happen to the Messiah during the Middle of the 70th week or 3 ½ years after His baptism? "in the middle of the week" "cut off but not for Himself" (Daniel 9:26,27) This is a clear prophecy of the crucifixion of Christ just 3 ½ short years after His anointing or baptism.

What happened in the Jewish Temple when Jesus was crucified? Matthew 27:51 declares that the veil in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom when Jesus died on the cross.

THE CLOSE OF JEWISH PROBATION

When does the 70 week (490 Years) prophecy end? 34 A.D. Which is 490 years from 457 B.C.

How did Jesus confirm the covenant for one week or seven years with the Jews?

- Hebrews 2:3 "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him."
- Jesus confirmed His covenant with the Jews for 3 ½ years during His public ministry and then for 3 ½ years through His apostles ministry.
- Jesus told the disciples to first go preach to the Jews. "But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Matt.10:6
- But tragically, "He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him." John 1:11

What happened at the close of the 490 year prophecy in 34 A.D.?

- Stephen became the first Christian martyr. "And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.'" Acts 7:54-60
- The highest official body of the Jews was the Sanhedrin and they categorically rejected Jesus as the Messiah in this year.
- The door of probation closed for the Jews. Jesus had warned that their house would be "desolate" in Matthew 23.
- The gospel went on to the Gentiles. See the book of Acts.