

EXPLANATION OF SEVENTY-WEEKS PROPHECY  
(Daniel 9:25-27)

- I. Fulfillment of the First SIXTY-NINE Sevens (Dan. 9:25)
  - A. Daniel was expected to UNDERSTAND the outline of God's PROGRAM
  - B. There would come a period of 69 SETS of seven YEARS each
    1. An initial period of 49 YEARS
    2. Followed by a period of 434 YEARS
    3. Comprising a SINGLE period of 483 YEARS
  - C. The period would START with DECREE to rebuild JERUSALEM
    1. Decree of Cyrus to rebuild TEMPLE in 538 BC (2 Chron. 36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-4; 6:1-5)
    2. Decree of Darius CONFIRMING decree of Cyrus (Ezra 6:6-12)
    3. Decree of Artaxerxes to FINANCE Temple's rebuilding (Ezra 7:11-26)
    4. Decree of Artaxerxes to authorize Nehemiah's rebuilding of the CITY in 445 BC (Neh. 2:1-8)
      - a. Allows a generation to RESTORE Jerusalem (first 49 years)
      - b. Corresponds to descriptions of STREETS and WALLS (Neh. 2:12-17)
      - c. Accomplished in "times of DISTRESS"
  - D. The period would END after advent of "MESSIAH the PRINCE"
    1. Christ's MINISTRY began about AD 27-30
    2. Christ's CRUCIFIXION occurred around AD 30-33
    3. EXACT chronology IMPOSSIBLE, but generally ACCURATE

II. Prophesied Events FOLLOWING the Sixty-Ninth Seven (Dan. 9:26)

- A. Messiah shall be “CUT OFF”
  - 1. Indicates DESTRUCTION or DEATH
  - 2. Occurs sometime AFTER the CONCLUSION of 69 sevens
- B. He will “HAVE NOTHING”
  - 1. Christ was not RECOGNIZED as Messiah
  - 2. Christ did not EXERCISE His royal AUTHORITY
- C. PEOPLE of another future prince will DESTROY Jerusalem/Temple
  - 1. Occurred after 40 YEAR GAP in AD 70
  - 2. Implies prince will be ROMAN in character
  - 3. Indicates that trouble, war, and desolation will be the NORM for ISRAEL until the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> WEEK
  - 4. Implies EXTENDED period between end of 69<sup>th</sup> and beginning of 70<sup>th</sup>

III. The SEVENTIETH Seven (Dan. 9:27)

- A. If “he” is “MESSIAH THE PRINCE” (v. 25)
  - 1. Requires either FIGURATIVE fulfillment of last half of 70<sup>th</sup> seven or TIME GAP in the middle of the seven
  - 2. Requires the CHURCH being NT ISRAEL
  - 3. Creates SERIOUS chronological PROBLEMS in the passage
- B. If “he” is the “PRINCE WHO IS TO COME” (v. 26)
  - 1. Allows for LITERAL future fulfillment of 70<sup>th</sup> seven with TIME GAP between the 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup>
  - 2. Requires ISRAEL to possess JERUSALEM, have a TEMPLE and practice OT SACRIFICES
  - 3. Does not involve the CHURCH, since all 70 sevens determined on ISRAEL and JERUSALEM