THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH
PART 2: DANIEL'S PROPHECY OF SEVENTY "WEEKS"
(Daniel 9:24-27)

I. Earlier Visions Revealed God's Plan for the NATIONS (Dan. 7 & 8)

- A. The BABYLONIAN Empire
- B. The PERSIAN Empire
- C. The GREEK Empire
- D. The ROMAN Empire
- E. Another kingdom of MIXED character
- F. ENDING with God's JUDGMENT when CHRIST comes to establish HIS KINGDOM

II. This Prophecy Revealed God's Plan for ISRAEL: the CHURCH is not in view, being a "MYSTERY" not yet REVEALED

- A. Seventy "sevens," or "weeks," are DECREED/DETERMINED
  1. Related to the seventy years of CAPTIVITY
  2. Summarizes the FUTURE history of Israel from NEHEMIAH (445 BC) to the SECOND COMING of CHRIST
- B. Six PURPOSES are stated
  1. "To FINISH the transgression"
  2. "To make an END of SIN"
  3. "To make ATONEMENT for iniquity"
  4. "To bring in EVERLASTING RIGHTEOUSNESS"
  5. "To seal up VISION and PROPHECY"
  6. "To anoint the MOST HOLY" (cf. Heb. 10:12-21)

C. In the first SEVEN "sevens" (49 years)

1. The city was REBUILT under the leadership of EZRA
2. The streets were REPAIRED under Nehemiah and Zerubbabel

D. During the next SIXTY-TWO "sevens" (434 years), the MESSIAH appeared and was LIVING at its conclusion

E. AFTER the sixty-ninth "seven" (total of 483 years having elapsed)

1. Messiah was "CUT OFF" (ca. AD 30)
2. Jerusalem was DESTROYED (AD 70)

F. For the seventieth and FINAL "seven" to be fulfilled LITERALLY it MUST be STILL FUTURE

1. Its characteristics
   a. WRATH (Zeph. 1:15, 18; Rev. 6:16-17; 11:18; 14:19; 15:1, 7; 16:1, 19; cf. 1Thess. 1:9-10; 5:9)
   b. JUDGMENT (Rev. 14:7; 16:5-7; 19:2)
   c. INDIGNATION (Isa. 26:20-21; 34:1-3)
   d. PUNISHMENT (Isa. 24:20-21; 26:20-21)
   e. Hour of TESTING (Rev. 3:10)
   f. Time of DISTRESS (Jer. 30:7)
   g. DESTRUCTION (Joel 1:15)
   h. DARKNESS (Joel 2:2; Amos 5:18; Zeph. 1:14-18)
2. Begins with a COVENANT between ANTICHRIST and ISRAEL for the duration of the seventieth "seven"
3. It will be interrupted at the MID-POINT by his BREAKING the treaty
4. It will END with Christ's RETURN to establish His KINGDOM