

Messages From the Gates of Jerusalem

Lesson #28 - Events Between Horse Gate & East Gate - 7 Year Tribulation Period

- Goals: 1. Establish God's purpose for the 7 year Tribulation Period.
2. Why is it for 7 years?
3. Who are the designated people during the Tribulation Period?

Two events, the Rapture and the Tribulation Period, will occur between the Horse Gate and the East Gate which represents the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ to earth when He comes to wage war against the enemies of God and establish His Kingdom upon the earth.

Throughout Scripture, the tribulation is referred to by other names:

1. The Day of the Lord > Isaiah 2:12; 13:6-9; Joel 1:15; 2:1-31; 3:14; 1 Thessalonians 5:2
2. Trouble or Tribulation > Deuteronomy 4:30; Zephaniah 1:1
3. The Great Tribulation > the more intense second half of the 7 year period > Matthew 24:21
4. Time or Day of Trouble > Daniel 12:1; Zephaniah 1:15
5. Time of Jacob's Trouble > Jeremiah 30:7

The tribulation, a future 7 year period, serves 2 distinct purposes according to Scripture.

1. God will finish His discipline of Israel. At the end of the 7 years, Israel will call upon Him and recognize Him as their Messiah. Israel will become the spiritual leader of the nations.

Hosea 5:15 I will return again to My place till they acknowledge their offense.
Then they will seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me."

Matt. 23:37-39 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under *her* wings, but you were not willing! ³⁸ See! Your house is left to you desolate; ³⁹ for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed *is* He who comes in the name of the LORD!' "

A. It is a time of Purging the Nation - Prepare Israel to be refined & receive Jesus Christ
Deut. 4:30-31 ³⁰ When you are in distress, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, when you turn to the LORD your God and obey His voice ³¹ (for the LORD your God *is* a merciful God), He will not forsake you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which He swore to them.

Jer. 30:4-24 Now these *are* the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah.

⁵ "For thus says the LORD: 'We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace.

⁶ Ask now, and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man *with* his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale?

⁷ Alas! For that day *is* great, So that none *is* like it; And it *is* the time of Jacob's trouble, (Jacob always refers to FLESH & BLOOD ISRAEL) But he shall be saved out of it.

'For it shall come to pass in that day,' says the LORD of hosts,

'That I will break his yoke from your neck, And will burst your bonds; Foreigners shall no more enslave them. ⁹ But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, Whom I will raise up for them. ¹⁰ 'Therefore do not fear, O My servant Jacob,' says the LORD, 'Nor be dismayed, O Israel; For behold, I will save you from afar, And your seed from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return, have rest and be quiet, And no one shall make *him* afraid. ¹¹ For I *am* with you,' says the LORD, 'to save you; Though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, Yet I will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, and will not let you go altogether unpunished.' ²² You shall be My people, and I will be your God.'" ²³ Behold, the whirlwind of the LORD Goes forth with fury, A continuing whirlwind; It will fall violently on the head of the wicked.

²⁴ The fierce anger of the LORD will not return until He has done it, And until He has performed the intents of His heart. In the latter days you will consider it.

Daniel 12:1-2 At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands *watch* over the sons of your (Daniel's > Jews) people; And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, *Even* to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, Every one who is found written in the book.

2. God finalize His judgment of the unbelieving world > Gentiles. He will punish the Gentiles and pour out His wrath due to their arrogance, godlessness and rejecting Him.

Isa. 24:1,6; 21-22 Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, Therefore the curse has devoured the earth, and those who dwell in it are desolate. Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men *are* left. It shall come to pass in that day *That* the LORD will punish on high the host of exalted ones, And on the earth the kings of the earth. ²² They will be gathered together, *As* prisoners are gathered in the pit, And will be shut up in the prison; After many days they will be punished.

Jer. 25:30-33; 38 Therefore prophesy against them all these words, and say to them: 'The LORD will roar from on high, And utter His voice from His holy habitation; He will roar mightily against His fold. He will give a shout, as those who tread *the grapes*, Against all the inhabitants of the earth. A noise will come to the ends of the earth— For the LORD has a controversy with the nations; He will plead His case with all flesh. He will give those *who are* wicked to the sword,' says the LORD." Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Behold, disaster shall go forth from nation to nation, And a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the farthest parts of the earth.

³³ And at that day the slain of the LORD shall be from *one* end of the earth even to the *other* end of the earth. They shall not be lamented, or gathered, or buried;

they shall become refuse on the ground. ³⁸ He has left His lair like the lion; For their land is desolate because of the fierceness of the Oppressor, and because of His fierce anger."

Question: Why is the Tribulation Period 7 years long? Remember: Israel was due punishment for $7 \times 70 = 490$ years because of their sins and refusal to repent.


Important Terms:

- 1 Week = 7 Years
- 7 Weeks = 49 Years
- 62 Weeks = 434 Years
- 70 Weeks = 490 Years

<u>Scope</u>	<u>Event</u>
9:24 70 weeks or 490 years required	Fulfill prophecy, deal with Israel's sins
9:25 the first 69 weeks ; 483 years	2 consecutive parts: 7 weeks + 62 Weeks
9:26 Interval before the last week	Kill Messiah; Destroy City & Temple
9:27 Last week <u>70th</u> - final 7 years	7 year covenant; Rebuild Temple; War

Daniel 9:24 "Seventy weeks (490 years) are determined for your people and for your holy city, (Focus is on JEWS - ISRAEL - NOT Church or Gentile world)

To finish the transgression,
To make an end of sins,
To make reconciliation for iniquity,
To bring in everlasting righteousness,
To seal up vision and prophecy,
And to anoint the Most Holy.



Purpose of 490 Years
These items have yet
to be completed

The 70 years of captivity in Babylon for stealing 70 years of crops were just part of the punishment.

Leviticus 25:2-6 provides stipulations in the Mosaic Law Code commanding Israel to let her land lay fallow every seventh year.

Leviticus 26:34-35; 43 provide the sanctions that God would impose upon His nation for the years that Israel did not obey the specifications of a sabbatical year.

God provided a Divine commentary to the nation on how they were keeping or not keeping His Law in the historical book of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles.

God explains why Israel was sent away to Babylon for 70 years in the following passage:

II Chron. 36:20-21 And those who had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon; and they were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia,

to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its sabbaths. all the days of its desolation it kept sabbath until seventy years were complete.

Jer. 25:11 And this whole land shall be a desolation and a horror, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

Jer. 29:10 For thus says the Lord, "When seventy years have been completed for Babylon, I will visit you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place."

God had a specific reason behind the deportation of the Southern Kingdom (Judah) to Babylon for 70 years. Israel violated the sabbatical year 70 times.

The Jews entered the Promised Land around 1400 BC and were deported to Babylon around 600 BC. They were in the land about 800 years before the Babylonian deportation.

Consider: IF they had disobeyed the sabbatical year commandment every 7th year for 800 years, it would mean they should have been in captivity for about 114 years.

Instead, they were held captive for 70 years. We can conclude they were disobedient for only 490 of the 800 years in the land. ($70 \text{ years} \times 7 = 490$)

490 years of Daniel 9:24-27 are derived from the 490 years of Israel's violation of the sabbatical years prescribed by God in His covenant with the nation.

God declares that "seventy sevens" >490 years> will fulfill all 6 things in Dan. 9:24.

Two things are required for the above list to come true:

1. Jesus had to die on the cross. > Literally fulfilled
2. Jesus will have to come back to establish His kingdom on earth. > EVERY reason to believe it will be literally fulfilled.

Consider: The Bible plainly states that Israel must go through ALL 490 years BEFORE the Kingdom of everlasting righteousness can begin. 483 years are NOW part of Israel's history. The final 7 years are the Tribulation Period.

Question: When does God's clock start? What is the trigger event?

Dan. 9:25 *Know therefore and understand,*

That from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem

Until Messiah the Prince,

There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; ($7 + 62 = 69 \times 7 = 483 \text{ years}$)

The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.

God would start keeping time on the 490 years when a CERTAIN DECREE would be issued > to restore and build Jerusalem. Three decrees were issued over the next few years, BUT they did not meet the criteria of verse 25. Finally in 445 BC, Artaxerxes issued the decree that FULFILLED the words of the prophecy and the rebuilding of Jerusalem began.

Verse 25 mentions 2 events and 2 time periods:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Rebuilding of Jerusalem | 7 weeks or 49 years | It did take 49 years. | } 483 years |
| 2. Messiah the Prince | 62 weeks or 434 years | | |

Gabriel said after the decree to rebuild Jerusalem, 7 weeks (49 years) would pass.

THEN, 62 weeks (434 years) would pass UNTIL the Messiah would be presented.

This prophecy concerning Messiah the Prince, given by Gabriel to Daniel, revealed the day the Messiah would make His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem 483 years after the decree to rebuild Jerusalem was given. God expected them to KNOW and understand this prophecy.

Luke 19:41-42 Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, ⁴² saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things *that make for your peace!* But now they are hidden from your eyes."

You had your chance. Christ was on schedule as Gabriel had predicted. Judicial blindness is upon them.

Rom. 11:25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. > This will END the Church Age.

Luke 19:43-44 For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, ⁴⁴ and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

38 years from the time Christ said this until...The fall of Jerusalem in 70 AD.

Why did Jerusalem fall in 70 AD? Because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.

Notice the words FROM and UNTIL in verse 25 > They reveal exactly the day their Messiah would be presented. (This is 173,880 days on Jewish Calendar)

God's clock is like a stop watch that He can start and stop at will. He started the 490 years of punishment when the decree was issued. The 49 years to build and restore Jerusalem ticked off. Then the 434 years ticked off. The clock has been stopped for an interval of time. 483 years of the 490 years decreed for JEWS>ISRAEL has passed. Seven years remain, but we are now in an interval of an indeterminate amount of time >Church Age.

Interval > Dan. 9:26 And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people (Romans) of the prince who is to come (Antichrist - 1 of 33 titles) shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it *shall be* with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.

In verse 26, Daniel is told that the Messiah will be cut off after "seven sevens (49 years) and sixty-two sevens" (69 total) = 483 years total.

Verse 25 = 62 Weeks + 7 Weeks = 69 Weeks = 483 Years

Verse 26 = Interval > Messiah is killed

Verse 27 = 70th Week = 1 Week = 7 Years

Wow! Note: There is an interval or gap required by verse 26. The events described are after the 69th week and prior to the 70th week > Messiah is Killed, sanctuary destroyed. 1944 years have passed in this interval (gap) from 70 AD and destruction of the Temple.

This interval is the period of the Church, an era kept secret in the OT.

Dan. 9:27 Then he (Prince to come > Antichrist) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week (7 years);

But in the middle of the week (3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years) 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."

How Gabriel divided the 490 years:

Period	Length	Begins	Ends
1st	7 weeks (49 yrs)	Decree to rebuild city	49 years later
2nd	62 weeks-434 yrs.	After 1 st Period	When Messiah appears >Entry
3 rd	1 week - 7years	When Antichrist confirms 7 yr. covenant	7 years later

Daniel 9:24-27 span more than 2500 years. Includes:

1. Predict the Rebuilding of Jerusalem
2. Reveal the date of the 1st Coming of Jesus
3. Reveal His Death
4. Reveal the destruction of Israel & Jerusalem
5. Reveal facts about AntiChrist
6. Reveal facts about the Tribulation Period

Question: Who are the people mentioned and designated in the Tribulation Period?

1. Israel - time of Jacob's Trouble
2. Unsaved Gentiles - nations
3. Note: There is NOT ONE Scripture regarding this 7 year Tribulation that mentions the church.

ISRAEL IS THE KEY TO BIBLE PROPHECY

1. Israel must exist to be God's people and exist in the latter years and days.

Ezek. 38:8, 13

2. Israel must exist to be God's people and heritage at the Battle of Armageddon.

Joel 3:1-2

3. Israel must complete all seventy weeks or 490 years of her punishment; all prophecy is fulfilled and the time of everlasting righteousness begins. Dan. 9:24
4. Israel must exist for Jerusalem to be a cup of trembling and a burdensome stone for the whole world at the end of the age. Zech. 12:2-3
5. Israel must exist to sign a seven-year covenant at the end of the age that will begin the Tribulation Period. Dan. 9:27
6. Israel must exist to rebuild the Temple. Matt. 24:15; II Thess. 2:4
7. Israel must exist to resume the animal sacrifices before the Antichrist can stop them. Dan. 9:27
8. Israel must exist to flee into the wilderness when the Antichrist defiles the Temple. Matt. 24:15-17

Rev. 1:3 *Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.*
 The outline of Revelation that is given to John in Rev. 1:19 is the KEY to the content of the book.

Write the things which:

1. you have seen > John has just recorded a vision of Jesus Christ coming in glory & power.
2. the things which are > Church Age - John records 7 messages to 7 churches.
 - A. 7 represents fullness, complete, perfection
 - B. The Church is mentioned 19x in Chapters 2 & 3. After 4:1, the Church is not mentioned until Revelation 19 at the 2nd coming back to earth. We are with Him.
3. the things which will take place after this (Church Age) >

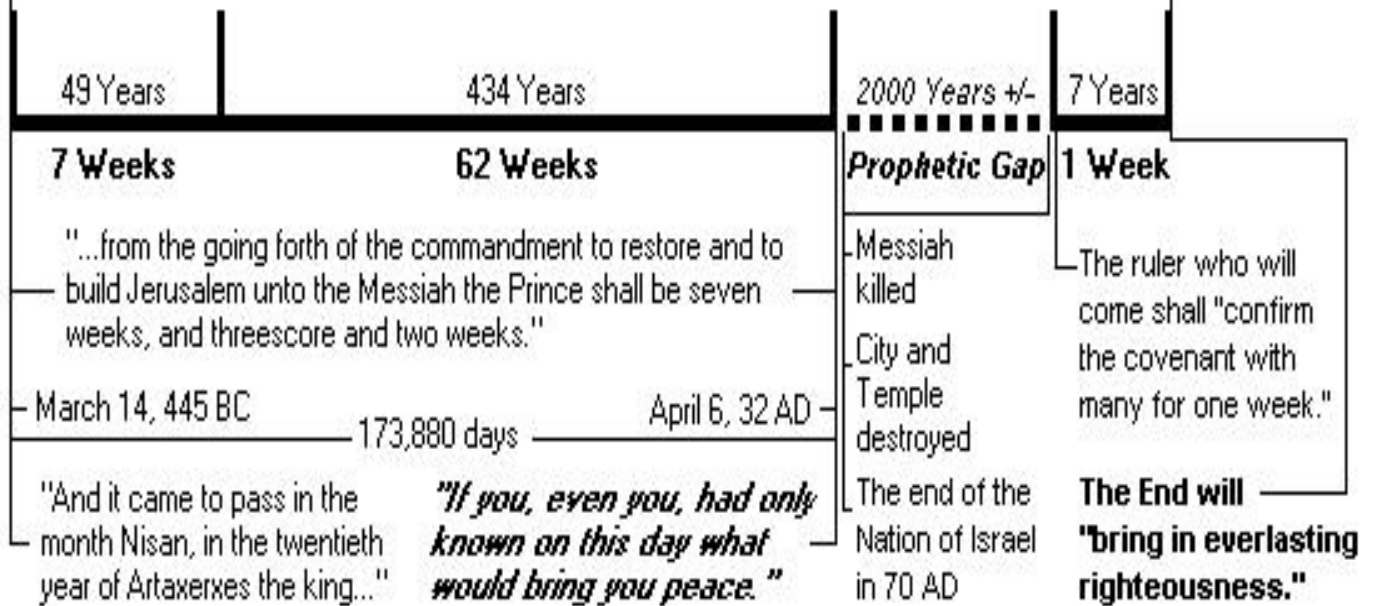
Rev. 4:1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing open* in heaven. And the first voice which I heard *was* like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here ("raptured"), and I will show you things which must take place after this."

Note:

- a. John is lifted out of this earth to the throne of God in Heaven and THEN the things which must be hereafter begin. This event is initiated by the cry of a voice that sounds like the blowing of a trumpet.
- b. Saints mentioned are Tribulation Saints.
- c. This is a time of God dealing with Israel and punishing the Gentiles.
- d. The Tribulation DOES NOT begin until Rev. 6.
- e. The Church is NOT mentioned again UNTIL Rev. 19:7-9 when it is portrayed as the "bride of Christ" in Heaven with Jesus.
- f. Rev. 19:11 > The Door of Heaven opens again > Jesus emerges riding a white horse on His way to earth > followed by His Church > Rev. 19:14

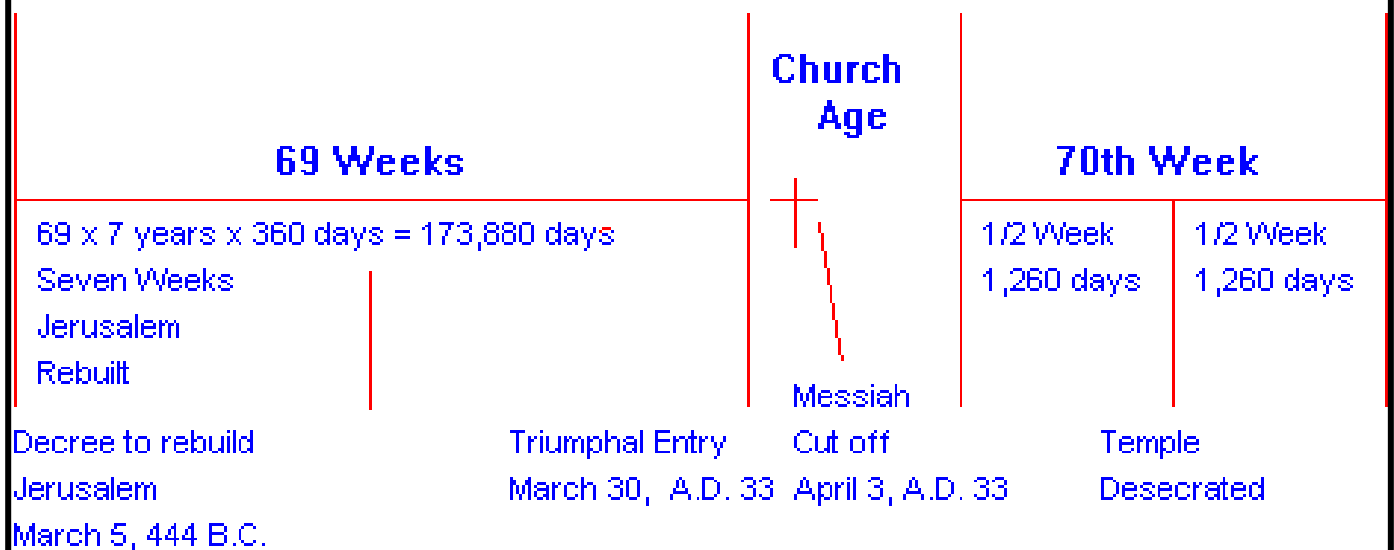
Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks

CHART A



Daniel's Seventy Weeks

CHART C



START DATE

"70 weeks (sevens) are determined upon thy People and thy Holy City"

FINISH DATE

SIX BLESSINGS ON ISRAEL

- 1) Finish the transgression
- 2) Make an end of sins
- 3) Make reconciliation for iniquity
- 4) Bring in everlasting righteousness
- 5) Seal up the vision and prophecy
- 6) Anoint the Most Holy (place)

445 BC

32AD

RAPTURE

70 AD

7 weeks
(49 years)
Jerusalem rebuilt

62 weeks
(434 years)
to
Messiah the Prince

The Mystery Church Age
Eph 3:1-9

1 week
(7 years)
Great Tribulation

69 x 7 = 483 years (prophetic)

(483 x 360 = 173,880 days) Lu 19:42

1260 days 1260 days

A Roman Prince

causes the sacrifice and oblation to cease

Daniel 9 :24 to 27

CHART B

CHART D

TRIBULATION TIMELINE

(Seven Years of God's Wrath)

The things which shall be hereafter! (Rev 1:19)

