

# Seeking My King & His Kingdom

#38 The Great Pause & Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week

Questions: 1. Why does Israel need to exist in the last days? What is the purpose?

2. Why will Israel rebuild their Temple and reinstitute animal sacrifices?

3. Why will God re-awaken Israel's Old Covenant relationship with Him?

4. Why would God bring Israel back when many believe the Church has replaced Israel?

Vital: You must understand the Age of Grace [Church Age] did NOT end the Age of Law.

a. The Church Age interrupted it 7 years short of its allotted time.



b. Near the end of the Babylonian captivity the Angel Gabriel told Daniel that Israel was being given 490 years to complete 6 tasks. Daniel 9:24

"Seventy 'sevens' (490 years) are decreed for Your People And Your Holy City

- To finish transgression
- To put an end to sin
- To atone for wickedness; iniquity
- To bring in everlasting righteousness
- To seal up vision and prophecy
- To anoint the most holy (place).

c. When the Lord was crucified, 483 of those years had passed.

d. Ten days after His Ascension, on Pentecost, the indeterminate Age of the Church began, with the Age of Law still 7 years short of its Prophesied End.

It was only a Great Pause while the Lord pursued His Church.

The Church Age seems to be a special "limited time offer" that expires with the Rapture.

Paul in Romans 11:11 I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy.

Question: Did it work? Absolutely! The religious Jews did their best to draw converts back into Judaism. During the Church Age, the old way would no longer be accepted because they had failed to see that it pointed to the Messiah. [Heb. 10:1-4] Salvation is by Grace Alone!

e. After 20 years had passed the Lord's half-brother James, who was the head of the Church in Jerusalem at the time, explained that Israel had been set aside while the Lord took from among the Gentiles a people for Himself, the Church.

- After that He would turn again to Israel and pick up where He had left off

Acts 15:13-18 After they stopped speaking, James responded: "Brothers and sisters, listen to me. <sup>14</sup> Simeon has reported how God first intervened to take from the Gentiles a people for his

name.<sup>15</sup> And the words of the prophets agree with this, as it is written: <sup>16</sup> After these things I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent. I will rebuild its ruins and set it up again,  
<sup>17</sup> so the rest of humanity may seek the Lord— even all the Gentiles who are called by my name— declares the Lord who makes these things <sup>18</sup> known from long ago.

- About 18 years after later the Temple was destroyed and has never been rebuilt.
- In 135 AD the nation ceased to exist in any form.
- The Roman Emperor Hadrian destroyed what was left of Jerusalem, built a new city called Aelia Capitolina on its ruins, and forbade any Jew from entering it.
- But the Lord's promise still stands. As soon as He has taken the Church, He'll turn again to Israel to complete the last 7 years of the Age of Law.

Isa. 49:6 I will also make You a light of the nations

So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth." [To Be Fulfilled in the Millennium]

f. Israel had to be re-born [May, 1948] and Will Have To Become A Covenant People Again in order to complete their final 7 years.

This is what makes their re-birth such a powerful sign that the Great Pause is about to end.

- The Great Pause explains why post rapture salvation will be like it was in Old Testament times. The only difference is post rapture believers will be looking back to the cross whereas Old Testament believers looked forward to it.
- It also explains the return to animal sacrifice during this time.

There will only be 1 Temple and it will be in Jerusalem.

It will be in use during the first 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  years of the 7 year period.

Dan. 9:27 says the Abomination of Desolation will cause the practice of animal sacrifice to CEASE at its mid-point.

Remember: Sacrifices never saved anyone - even in the OT. They were saved by grace through faith that the Lord's death paid for their sins. Sacrifices were required to fulfill the Law, not to grant salvation. During the Church Age, the Law was suspended, but not abolished.

Question: Will believers in the Tribulation be filled with the Holy Spirit the moment they are saved?

The Holy Spirit was not sealed in believers before the Church and will not be afterward.

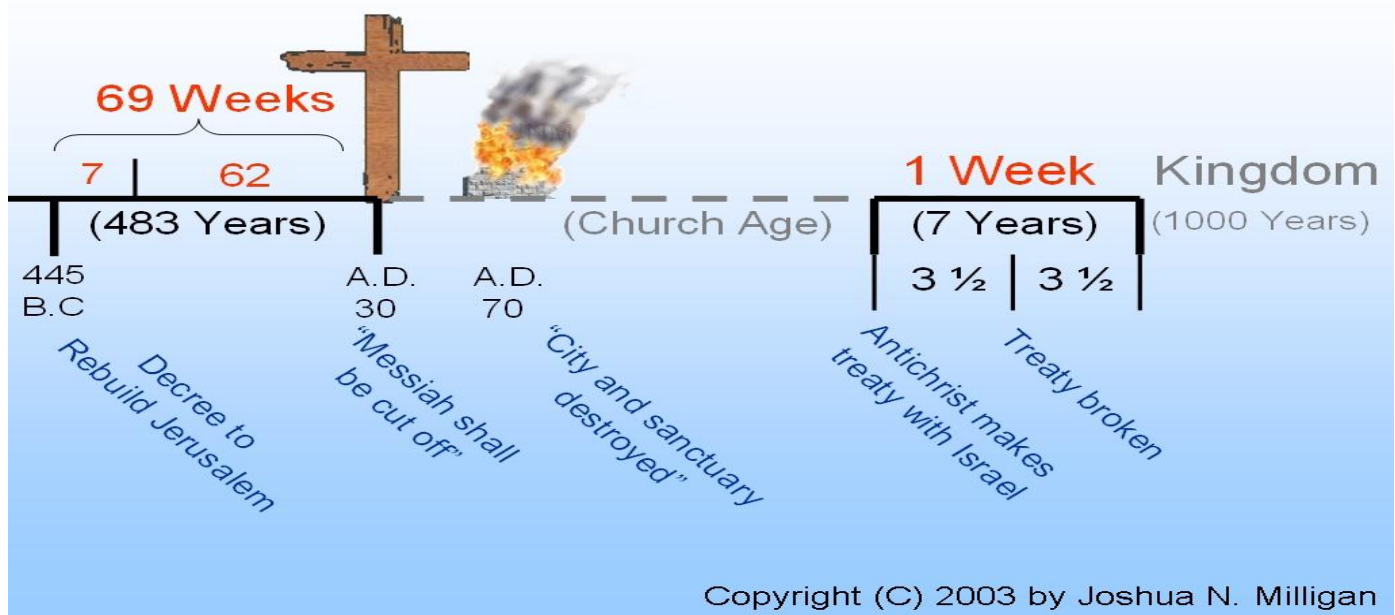
- Speaking of the time when taking the mark of the beast will be required of everyone on Earth, the Lord said, "This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God's commandments and remain faithful to Jesus." (Rev. 14:12)  
Although people have always been saved by grace through faith, during the Age of Law their faith has to be evidenced by obedience to the Law.
- It also explains why the 144,000 servants of God have to be sealed before undertaking their mission. (Rev. 7:3) The 144,000 is the only group in the post rapture world that is described as being sealed. [Rev. 14:1]

g. Understanding the Great Pause also helps us see why the Rapture of the Church has to precede the final 7 years which is also referred to as: Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week.

- The purpose of the *Great Pause* is so the Lord can Take from among the Gentiles a people for Himself. The Greek word translated "take" in Acts 15:14 is *lambano*. The intent of the word is to describe one who takes something for the purpose of carrying it away.
- Once the church is complete the Lord will carry us away before turning again to Israel. This is consistent with Paul's statement in Romans 11:25 that Israel has experienced a partial blindness until the full number of Gentiles has come in. The phrase "Come In" means to arrive at one's destination, as when a ship has "come in".
- According to John 14:2-3 our destination is Heaven. Once the church has been carried away to its destination in Heaven the blinders will fall from Israel's eyes, the *Great Pause* will come to an end, and Israel will complete its final seven years.

h. Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week is all about Israel's final opportunity to be reconciled to God through the Messiah and prepare for the Kingdom He promised them so long ago. [Dan. 9:24-27]

## Daniel's Seventy Weeks



- 2500 years before the fact, Zechariah prophesied that this would take place near the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week.

Zech. 12:10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son."

- Paul confirmed this and said it would happen after the rapture. Rom. 11:25-27

I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will remove ungodliness from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins."

No other system of theology explains God's overarching plan as succinctly as dispensationalism. None gives us such a clear understanding of the connection between events before Pentecost and those after the Rapture. No other one helps us see the "why" behind the "what" described in the Bible. None other so vividly demonstrates the absolutely unique nature of the church, while maintaining the integrity of God's promises to Israel. It does so in a manner consistent with the literal, historical, grammatical interpretation of His Word.

Why Will God Restore Israel?

Ezek. 36:19-23 And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: I judged them according to their way and according to their doings.<sup>20</sup> And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, ...

<sup>21</sup> But I had concern for My holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went. <sup>22</sup> ... thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but For My Holy Name's Sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. <sup>23</sup> And I will sanctify my great name, ... and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

1. God will restore Israel For His name's sake - FOR HIS GLORY.

2. The covenant that gives Israel the land of promise will last forever.

Premillennialists claim: Charles Ryrie, Basic Theology: "The unconditionality of the Abrahamic Covenant furnishes an important support for premillennialism, since the land promise needs a future time [the Millennium] in which it will be fulfilled."

Dwight Pentecost, Things To Come: "This Abrahamic Covenant, which contained...promises of the preservation of a nation, and the possession of a land by that nation, was given to a specific covenant people. Since it was unconditional and eternal, and has never yet been fulfilled, it must await future fulfillment."

Psalm 105 provides a great Biblical response to the argument of Premillennialists that the Land Promise made to Abraham has yet to be fulfilled. [Joshua 21:43-45; 23:14; Neh. 9:7-8]

Ps. 105:7-11 He *is* the LORD our God; His judgments *are* in all the earth.

<sup>8</sup> He remembers His covenant forever, The word *which* He commanded, for a thousand generations, <sup>9</sup> *The covenant* which He made with Abraham, And His oath to Isaac,

<sup>10</sup> And confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, To Israel *as* an everlasting covenant,

<sup>11</sup> Saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance,"

Judges 2:1 I will never break my covenant with you.

Truth: God is not finished with Israel. He will restore them and make them a glorious nation for His name's sake because He loves them. He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

1. The Rapture is an imminent event before The Beginning of the 7 Year Tribulation Period, the Time of Jacob's Trouble.

2. At some point after the Rapture, the Antichrist will be revealed and sign a 7 year covenant with Israel. This agreement is the "trigger" for the 7 year Tribulation to commence.

3. While the 7 year Tribulation period with its seals, trumpets and bowls is occurring on earth, the Church which has been "snatched or caught up," will be at the Judgment Seat Of Christ.

a. Jesus Christ, our judge, will hold a review of our works and determine crowns, rewards, positions of authority, etc. as well as loss of rewards. [II Cor. 5:9-10; I Cor. 3:11-15]

4. Also, while the Tribulation period is occurring on earth, the marriage ceremony of Jesus Christ and His Bride will take place in Heaven.

Rev. 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His Wife Hath Made Herself Ready.

### Jewish Ceremony:

- Betrothal - The Father of the groom made arrangements for the marriage and paid the bridal price as a promise for the future.

The Groom gave his bride-to-be an object of value such as a ring, money or a deed of intention which was symbolic of a promise providing a legal tie between them. After this ceremony, the bride remained in her father's home to PREPARE FOR the day her groom would back for her, take her to his house or a special room he had built where the marriage would take place. Cohabitation was forbidden at this time. The bride must remain a virgin, using this time to prepare herself for her marriage; make herself ready.

- Make her own wedding gown
- Get ready for her new role
- Transfer her allegiance from her father to her new husband; learn to love him and set her mind on how to please him

During this time, she is "consecrated" or set apart for her future husband.

- She always wore a veil as a symbol of a pledge or a commitment.

- The Marriage Ceremony

- Groom usually surprised his bride by his unexpected or early return.  
The groom's arrival was preceded by a shout, which announced her imminent departure to be gathered unto him.
- All Jewish brides were said to be "stolen, caught up and snatched up by surprise."
- Bride was led to the groom's house by a wedding procession of women carrying lighted lamps.
- Lamps were part of the bride's presentation in case he came at night.
  - Bride was arrayed in fine linen, clean and white.
  - Wedding ceremony was held at the groom's father's house and included a few guests.

The Wedding ceremony was then followed by 7 days of celebration, great rejoicing and finally, a marriage feast. This was generally held at a different place due to many people being invited.

### Parallel To The Church:

Key Point #1: God the Father made the arrangements for His Son's Bride and paid the bride's price, which was the blood of the Messiah.

Eph. 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; <sup>26</sup> That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup> That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Key Point #2: The Rapture is the "fetching of the Bride." Jesus will come in the air to fetch His bride home. [I Thess. 4:13-18 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. <sup>15</sup> For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: <sup>17</sup> Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Wherefore comfort one another with these words.]

Key Point #3: This will only happen once the place of residence has been prepared.

John 14:1-3 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

<sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you.

I go to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and Receive You Unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Key Point #4: The marriage ceremony will take place in Heaven.

Rev. 19:6-8 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. <sup>7</sup> Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the Marriage Of The Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. <sup>8</sup> And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Note: Rev. 19:1-10 describe events in Heaven PRIOR to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming. Verses 11-21 describe the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming and subsequent events. The Church is already in Heaven BEFORE the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming. The Church has already been in Heaven long enough to undergo the Judgment Seat of Christ and the Marriage Ceremony.

Key Point #5 It seems the Marriage Supper will inaugurate the Millennial Kingdom.

I believe the Marriage Feast or Supper of The Lamb will take place on earth after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming.

- The guests of the Marriage Supper are the OT Saints and the Tribulation Saints who will not be resurrected until after 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming during the 75 day interval. [Dan. 12:1-2; Rev. 20]

Rev. 19:9a And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which Are Called [invited] unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.

It seems "the call" is their resurrection.

## Compare the Jewish Wedding to Our Christian Life

1. Our justification can be compared to our betrothal. Jesus paid the price for His bride.  
a. The salvation of our spirit with the seal of the Holy Spirit is analogous to the "betrothal of the Jewish bride" with the down payment, pledge or seal of "an object of value."

II Cor. 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused [betrothed] you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

2. Our sanctification can be compared to preparing ourselves for the future wedding ceremony. We are waiting for our Lord's return. We are to transfer our allegiance from earthly things to heavenly things. [Learning to love our Savior rather than self] Our relationship with Him should be the most important thing in our lives. Learning to depend upon Jesus Christ for everything

3. Our glorification can be compared to the Rapture when we will be surprised and snatched away by our groom and receive our glorified bodies.

Prophecy In Dan. 2:31-35 You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor *was* excellent, stood before you; and its form *was* awesome.

<sup>32</sup> This image's head *was* of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, <sup>33</sup> its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. <sup>34</sup> You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. <sup>35</sup> Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found.

[The Babylonian's chief god was Marduk, sometimes called the Lord Of The Wind. They thought wind was a divine action. The dream indicated to Nebuchadnezzar that divine activity would rid the world of Gentile world power and domination.]

<sup>36</sup> And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

[Marduk was also called "The Great Mountain." They thought their gods came from a "sacred mountain of the lands" and their temples were imitations of mountains which were associated with the divine. God used their beliefs to show them His future Kingdom.]

At the end of the 7 year Period, Jesus Christ will return to earth with His Bride and heavenly army. He will conquer all Gentile Kingdoms and will set up His Millennial Kingdom. Will fulfill >

Dan. 2:44-45 And In The Days Of These Kings Shall The God Of Heaven Set Up A Kingdom,

which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. <sup>45</sup> Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

Ps. 2:6-8 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou *art* my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give *thee* the heathen *for* thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth *for* thy possession.

Ps. 33:11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations.