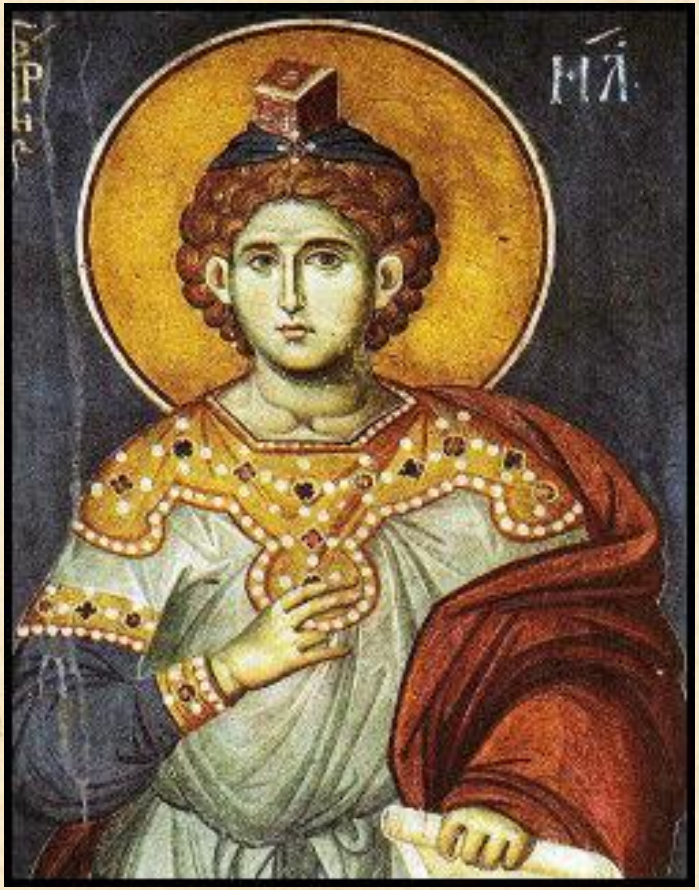
“The Time of Jacob’s Trouble”



The prophet Daniel wanted to know how long it would be before God would fulfill his covenants with his people.

God sent the angel Gabriel to him with this mysterious message:

Daniel 9:24-27

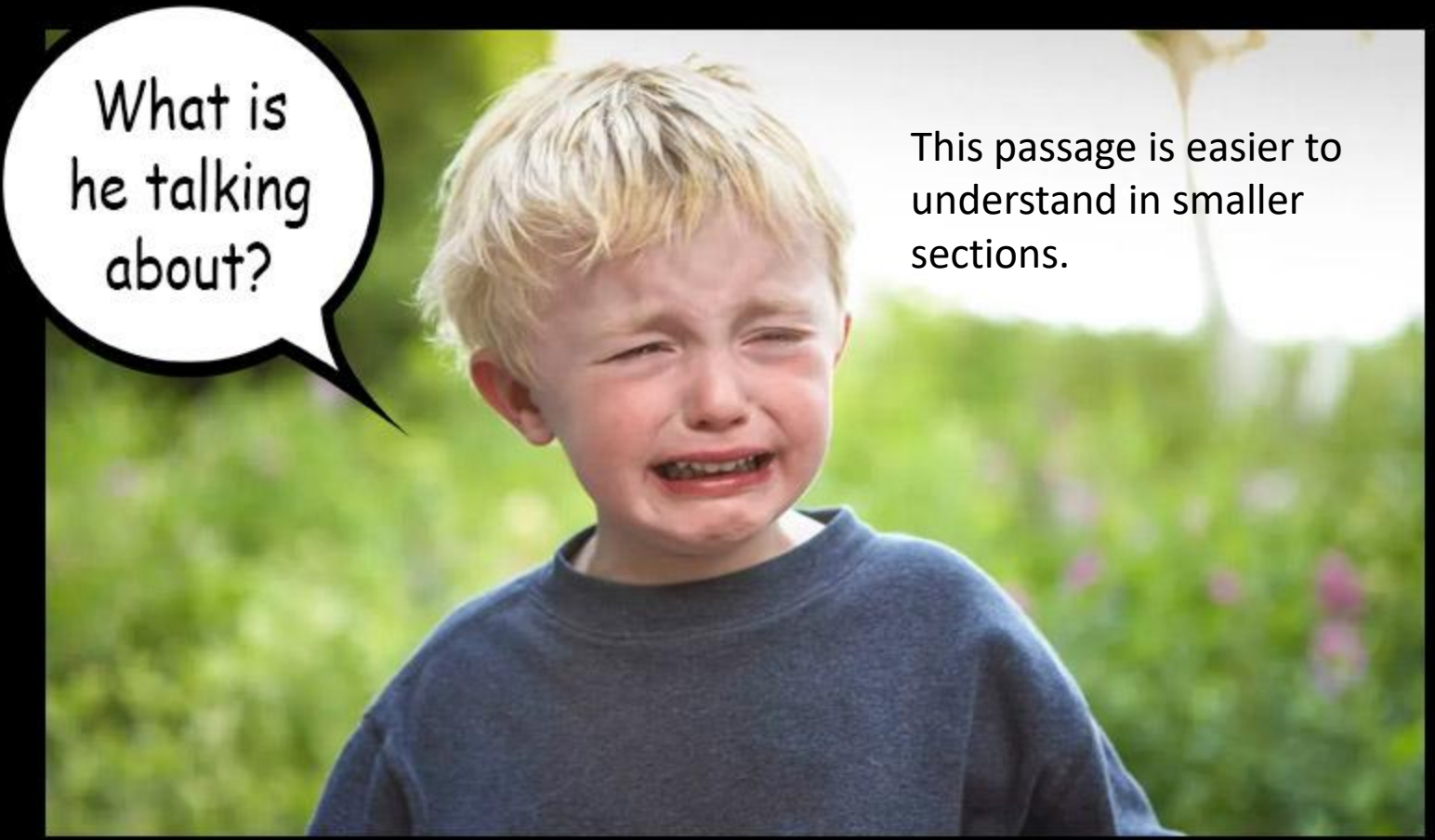
24 Seventy weeks are determined
upon thy people and upon thy holy city,
to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity,
and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy,
and to anoint the most Holy.

24 Know therefore and understand,
that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem
unto the Messiah the Prince
shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks:
the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself:
and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary;

and the end thereof *shall be* with a flood,
and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week:
and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease,
and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate,
even until the consummation,
and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.



This passage is easier to understand in smaller sections.

How long?

Daniel 9:24

24 Seventy weeks are determined
upon thy people and upon thy holy city,
to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity,
and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy,
and to anoint the most Holy.

In the King James Bible, a “week” is any seven consecutive and equal periods of time, whether they be days, weeks, months, or years. In this case, Gabriel was speaking of Seventy weeks of years or 490 years. (This is what the RSV says.)

How long?

For whom?

Daniel 9:24

24 [490 years] are determined
upon thy people and upon thy holy city,
to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity,
and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy,
and to anoint the most Holy.

It would take 490 years to fulfill God's promised concerning the people of the covenant – the people of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – and their city, Jerusalem.

How long?

Who and where?

Why?

Daniel 9:24

24 Seventy weeks are determined
upon thy people and upon thy holy city,
to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity,
and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy,
and to anoint the most Holy.

God's determination for Israel could not be fulfilled until six things were accomplished:

Three concerned the payment for her sins.

to finish the transgression,
and to make an end of sins,
and to make reconciliation for iniquity,

Three speak to the fulfillment of her destiny.

to bring in everlasting righteousness,
to seal up the vision and prophecy,
to anoint the most Holy.

From the command to the restoration

From the restoration to the Messiah

Daniel 9:25

25 Know therefore and understand,
that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem
unto the Messiah the Prince
shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks:
the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

Gabriel divided the 490 years into three parts.
He spoke first about the initial **483** years, separating them into:

Seven weeks [of years] or 49 years, and

Sixty-two weeks [of years] or 434 years.

49 years

Daniel 9:25

25 Know therefore and understand,
that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem
unto the Messiah the Prince
shall be [49 years] and [434 years]:
the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

First, **49 years** would pass from the time of the Persian king's edict to restore and rebuild Jerusalem to the year the work was completed. This work would be done in "troublous times."

49 years

434 years

Daniel 9:25

25 Know therefore and understand,
that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem
unto the Messiah the Prince
shall be [49 years] and [434 years]:
the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

After that, there would be 62 × 7 or **434 years**
from the completed restoration of Jerusalem to the coming of Israel's Messiah.
(This refers to the day known as Palm Sunday).

All together, this verse forecast **483 years** (49 + 434)
from the king's edict to Christ's triumphant entry in Jerusalem.

49 years

434 years

Daniel 9:25

25 Know therefore and understand,
that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem
unto the Messiah the Prince
shall be [49 years] and [434 years]:
the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

All together, Gabriel said **483 years** would pass (49 + 434)
from the king's edict to rebuild Jerusalem to Christ's triumphant entry in Jerusalem.

49 years

434 years

Daniel 9:26a

26 And after [434 years] shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself:

Just days after the multitudes cried out “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they called for his crucifixion. “Christ died for our sins” (1 Corinthians 15:3) and not his own.

From The King James Study Bible:

“The time span from Artaxerxes’ decree to rebuild the city in March 444 BC until Christ’s crucifixion in April AD 33 covered 483 prophetical years (173,880 days). This calculation agrees perfectly with our own solar calendar.”

One prophetical year is 360 days.
483 × 360 = 173,880 days

49 years

434 years

Daniel 9:26c

26 …and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary;

In AD 70, following the failed Jewish Rebellion, “the people of the prince that shall come” reduced the city and temple to rubble.

The **people** were the Romans.
The prince that shall come is the antichrist.

This is what we have so far…
69 of the 70 weeks of years, or 483 years

Seven Weeks
(49 years)

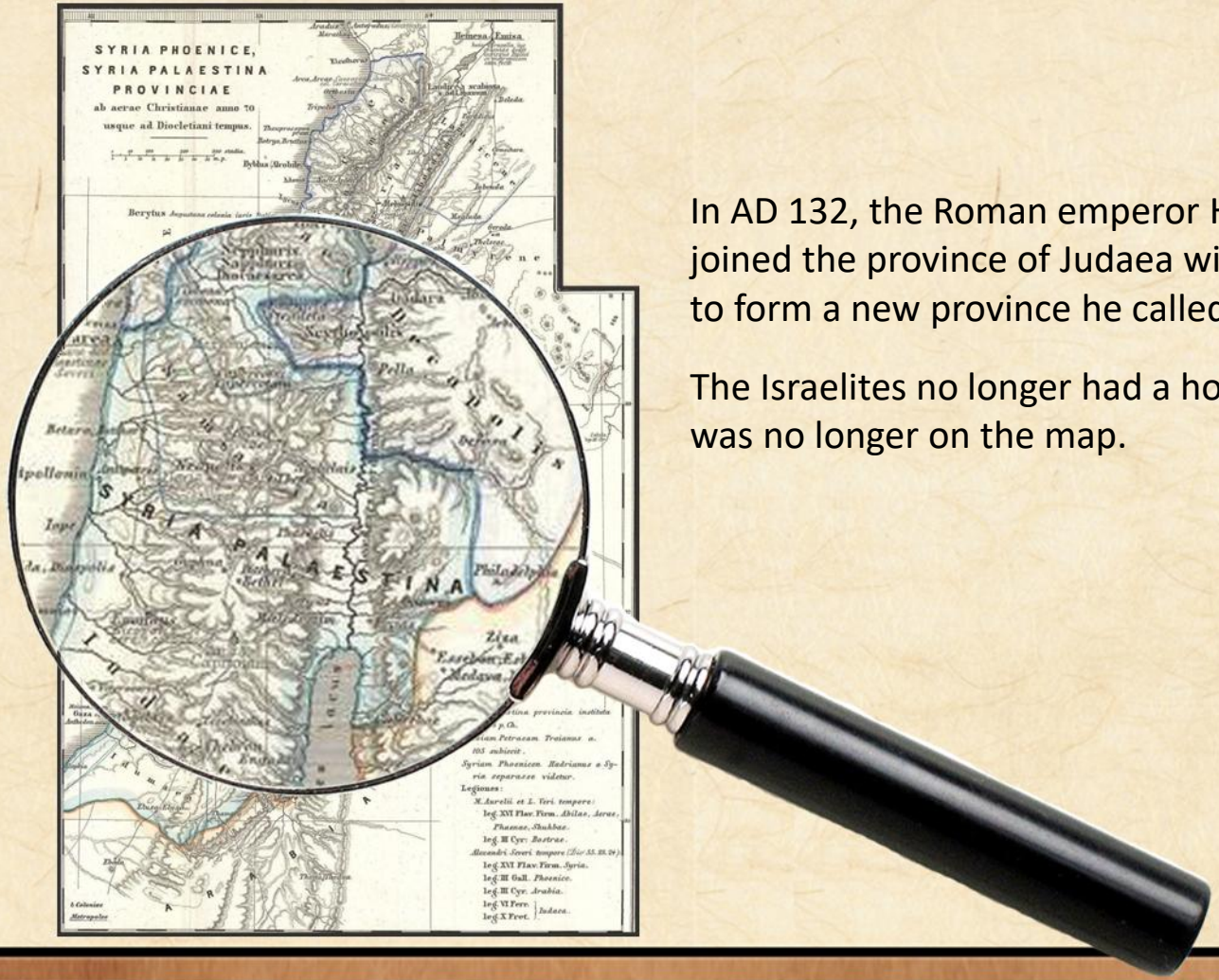
From the giving of the edict to the rebuilding of Jerusalem

Sixty-Two Weeks
(434 years)

From the completion of that work to the crucifixion

The Church Age “was not made known unto the sons of men” (Eph. 3:5).
These years are not included in Gabriel’s calculations.

Seven Weeks (49 years)	Sixty-Two Weeks (434 years)	The Church Age
From the giving of the edict to the rebuilding of Jerusalem	From the completion of that work to the crucifixion	From The Day of Pentecost to The Rapture



In AD 132, the Roman emperor Hadrian joined the province of Judaea with Galilee to form a new province he called “Syria Palaestina.”

The Israelites no longer had a homeland, and Israel was no longer on the map.

The *State* of Israel was established on May 14, 1948.
The *Kingdom* of Israel – and the throne of David –
will not be restored until “the times of the Gentiles”
are fulfilled.

Luke 21:24

24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword,
and shall be led away captive into all nations:
and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles,
until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

Gabriel's prophecy now speaks of the 70th week.

The 70th Week begins

Seven Weeks
(49 years)

From the giving of the edict to the rebuilding of Jerusalem

Sixty-Two Weeks
(434 years)

From the completion of that work to the crucifixion

The Church Age

From The Day of Pentecost to The Rapture

Daniel 9:26c

26 and the end thereof *shall be* with a flood,
and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

Gabriel refers to this dark period as “the end.”
Jesus did the same in Matthew 24:14, saying, “then shall the end come”.

This is the final stage of Israel’s restoration, the last of the “seventy weeks,”
and the end of the conflict between Israel and their God.

Daniel 9:27a

27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week:
and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease,
and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate,
even until the consummation,
and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

The antichrist will rule in Jerusalem for one week of years, or **seven** years.
"He shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries" (Daniel 11:21).

Daniel 9:27

27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week:
and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease,
and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate,
even until the consummation,
and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

After 3½ years, his masquerade will be over.

That the antichrist's reign of terror lasts 3½ years is stated numerous times and ways in the Bible. In Daniel, it is described as "a time and times and the dividing of times" (1 year, 2 years and ½ a year).

Daniel 7:25

25 And he shall speak *great* words against the most High,
and shall wear out the saints of the most High,
and think to change times and laws:
and they shall be given into his hand until
a time and times and the dividing of time.

That the antichrist's reign of terror lasts 3½ years is stated numerous times and ways in the Bible. In Daniel, it is described as "a time and times and the dividing of times" (1 year, 2 years and ½ a year).

In Revelation, it is "forty and two months." 42 months is 3½ years

Daniel 7:25

25 And he shall speak *great* words against the most High,
and shall wear out the saints of the most High,
and think to change times and laws:
and they shall be given into his hand until
a time and times and the dividing of time.

Revelation 13:5

5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies;
and power was given unto him to continue
forty *and* two months.

Daniel 9:27

27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week:
and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease,
and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate,
even until the consumption,
and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

The antichrist will show his blasphemous nature, putting an end to the proper worship of God. He will desecrate the temple with an idol, and demand to be worshipped as a god.

Jesus confirmed that the placement of “the abomination of desolation” in the temple will mark a turning point in these seven years.

Matthew 24:15-16, 21

15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place,
(whoso readeth, let him understand:)

16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

21 For then shall be great tribulation,
such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Paul also spoke of this.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

3 Let no man deceive you by any means:
for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped;
so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Daniel 9:27

27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week:
and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease,
and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate,
even until the consummation,
and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

The great tribulation ends when the wrath of God is poured upon the desolate.
Christ returns with his army of angels and saints to judge the earth.

Matthew 24:29-31

29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days
shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall
not give her light, and the stars shall fall from
heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be
shaken:

30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of
man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of
the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of
man coming in the clouds of heaven with power
and great glory.

31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound
of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his
elect from the four winds, from one end of
heaven to the other.

Revelation 19:11-15

11 And I saw heaven opened,
and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon
him *was* called Faithful and True,
and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.
12 His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head
were many crowns; and he had a name written,
that no man knew, but he himself.
13 And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in
blood: and his name is called The Word of God.
14 And the armies *which were* in heaven
followed him upon white horses,
clothed in fine linen, white and clean.
15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that
with it he should smite the nations:
and he shall rule them with a rod of iron:
and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness
and wrath of Almighty God.

49 + 434 + 7

These are the “Seventy Weeks” of Daniel 9:24

The 2nd Coming

Seven Weeks (49 years)

From the giving of the edict to the rebuilding of Jerusalem

Sixty-Two Weeks (434 years)

From the completion of that work to the crucifixion

The Church Age

From The Day of Pentecost to The Rapture

One Week (7 years)

The abomination of desolation

How long?

Who and where?

Why?

From the command to the restoration

From the restoration to the crucifixion

The end

The 7 years

After 3½ years

The sign

The purpose

Daniel 9:24-27

24 Seventy weeks are determined
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even until the consummation,
and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

The Great Tribulation is “the time of Jacob’s trouble.”
(“Jacob” is natural Israel, called but yet unsaved.)

Jeremiah 30:6-7

6 Ask ye now,
and see whether a man doth travail with child?
wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins,
as a woman in travail,
and all faces are turned into paleness?

7 Alas! for that day *is* great,
so that none *is* like it:

it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble;
but he shall be saved out of it.

This is the purpose of the Great Tribulation:

Romans 11:26-27

26 And so all Israel shall be saved:
as it is written,
There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer,
and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:
27 For this *is* my covenant unto them,
when I shall take away their sins.

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