

Fundamentals of Our Faith from the Beginning

Frameworks and the Future

Daniel 9:24-27

1. Basic positions:

- a. The first 69 weeks is the period between the decree to rebuild Jerusalem and the first advent of Christ and is followed by an indeterminant gap of time before the 70th week, which is the Great Tribulation.
- b. The seven weeks is the 49 years it took to rebuild the temple; the 62 is from Darius to Christ's baptism; and the 70th is Christ's ministry, resurrection, and destruction of Jerusalem.
- c. The 70 weeks represent the completion of ten Jubilees and point to the antitypical Jubilee; the first 69 weeks is the period from Cyrus' decree in 538 B.C. to Christ's first advent, and the 70th week follows immediately and includes the present age.

2. Background:

- a. Daniel 9:1-2 – Connection to Jeremiah's prophecy of 70 years.
- b. Daniel 9:3-4, 16, 19 and 20-23 – Daniel's prayer and Gabriel's answer concerns this prophecy.

3. The text (vs. 24-27):

- a. Vs. 24 lists six results of the prophecy:
 - i. To finish the transgression.
 - ii. To make an end of sin.
 - iii. To make atonement for iniquity (all agree this refers to Christ's death).
 - iv. To bring in everlasting righteousness.
 - v. To seal up vision and prophesy (cf. 2 Cor. 1:20; Heb. 1:1-2).
 - vi. To anoint the most holy (cf. Acts 10:38, anointing of Jesus; Luke 4:34, "holy One of God").
- b. Vs. 25 gives the content and timing of the decree:
 - i. The decree is to restore and rebuild Jerusalem with plaza and moat, even in distress.
 - ii. There would be 69 weeks (7 + 62) until "Messiah, the Prince" would come.
 - iii. Messiah comes at the conclusion of the 69 weeks, in other words, He *begins* the 70th week.
- c. Vs. 26 describes what will happen after the 69 weeks:
 - i. *After* the 69th week, Messiah will "be cut off and have nothing" (the beginning of 70th).
 - ii. The city and sanctuary will be destroyed by "the people of the prince to come."
 1. This refers to the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in 70 A.D.
 2. The "people of the prince" refers to Titus and his armies.
 3. Some argue that the "prince who is to come" is the Antichrist yet to come, but...
 - a. The construction "people of the prince" makes them contemporaries.
 - b. The phrase "who is to come" is future to Daniel not to "the people".
- d. Vs. 27 recapitulates verse 26:
 - i. The verses are more likely parallel, not chronological: not ABC / DEF but ABC / ABC
Messiah -- destroying prince -- desolations
Covenant maker -- one who makes desolate -- desolations
 - ii. This would mean that the Messiah (26) and the one who makes a covenant (27) are parallel as would be the destroying prince (26) and the one who makes desolate (27).
 - iii. The covenant in 27 is likely the New Covenant made with the many (cf. Rom. 5:15).
[No other Scripture gives indication of a covenant made between Antichrist and Israel, and nothing in the language of this passage suggests this interpretation, and Jesus did establish the NC.]
 - iv. The *one week* is the 70th week inaugurated by Christ and either ends with the destruction of Jerusalem or is the whole church age.
 - v. The stoppage of sacrifice and grain offering in the middle is either Jesus' resurrection or the destruction of the temple.
 - vi. The "wing of abominations" likely refers to Titus or the Jews rejection of Christ.
 - vii. Matthew 24:15 is from Daniel ("let the reader *of Daniel* understand) and speaks of the destruction of Jerusalem.