

Atlantic Lyman conf.1972-02 Studies in Daniel 09

by Joseph Balsan

Joseph Balsan's sermon explores Daniel 9, emphasizing the significance of prophecy and prayer for understanding God's plans for Israel and the world.

Duration: 1:05:32

Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-2, Daniel 9:25-27

Topics: "Daniel's Prophecy", "End Times"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker discusses the theory of the 77s of days and explains that it does not hold water. However, he suggests that the theory actually refers to 77s of years. He states that during these 77s of years, six things will occur. The speaker also mentions the stage being set for the last week of Daniel's prophecy, with the possibility of a man who can politically unify the Common Market states. He concludes by noting that two-thirds of the prophecy have already been fulfilled, with one week remaining and various events unfolding in Israel, Europe, Syria, and Egypt.

Transcript

It's good to see you all here tonight. We have some very sad news that our brother Guy Briggs has had a stroke. And it doesn't look too good as far as any recovery is concerned.

But we know he's in the hand of the Lord. And so, remember him in prayer and the Lord's will might be done. Let us turn to Daniel chapter 9. Shall we? Daniel chapter 9. Daniel chapter 9 and verse 1. In the first year of Darius, the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans, in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by books the number of the years whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

And I set my face unto the Lord God to seek by prayer and supplications with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. And I prayed unto the Lord my God and made my confession and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him and to them that keep his commandments, we have sinned and have committed iniquity and have done wickedly and have rebelled even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments. Now, we're going to skip the major part of this prayer.

I am sure that if you read it in your leisure time, you'll find it a great blessing. The 18th verse. O my God, incline thine ear and hear, open thine eyes and behold our desolations and the city which is called by thy name.

For we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousnesses, but for thy great mercies. O Lord, hear. O Lord, forgive.

O Lord, hearken and do. Defer not for thine own sake, O my God, for thy city and thy people are called by thy name. And whilst I was speaking and praying and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and presenting my supplications before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God, yea, while I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.

And he informed me and talked with me and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to show thee. For thou art greatly beloved, therefore understand the matter and consider the vision.

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 an everlasting righteousness and to seal up the vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy. 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.

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. 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.

May the Lord bless to us the reading of his word. Shall we just look to the Lord in prayer? Our Father, we desire to thank thee for thy word that has been read in our hearing tonight. We thank thee the entrance of thy words giveth light and giveth understanding to the simple.

And so we do pray that we may be like Daniel of old helped to understand and to know what thou dost purpose. We thank thee for the revelation of thy purposes and we thank thee for each one here tonight who knows the Lord Jesus as savior and shall share in the fulfillment and enjoyment of these purposes. And so we pray that thou wilt give help in speaking thy word that it may be a blessing and a help to each one that is here and to thee we'll give thanks in the savior's precious name.

Amen. Now I am sure that as we read our newspapers day by day and as we listen to the news reports while we are very much aware of the fact that the people of Israel have come very prominently into the news we know that the statesmen of the world are very much concerned today about what to do with the nation of Israel. It is a very ticklish problem.

In fact in the book of Zechariah we read that the city of Jerusalem is going to become a burdensome stone and all those who handle it are going to be cut thereby. And so all through the history, you might say, of

Israel from the time that they were taken captive until the present time why these people have been a problem to the statesmen of the world and they wonder what is going to happen or what to do with this people. Now in the portion that we have read tonight we have brought before us perhaps the most important prophecy that we have in the whole Bible concerning the people of Israel.

This portion that we have read from the 24th through the 27th verses of this ninth chapter of Daniel have been called the backbone of prophecy. In other words, if we don't understand these four verses from verse 24 through verse 27 why my friends, the Bible will be a mass of confusion to us. And what we see taking place in the world today will also be a mass of confusion to us because the lack of understanding as to what God is doing in the world today has caused many people because they don't do what they think God ought to do they doubt whether there is a God or they doubt whether God is at all interested in what is taking place in the world.

Well my friends, it is not that God is not interested and it is not that God is not working but the fact of the matter is that altogether too many people and even Christian so-called and even so-called ecclesiastical leaders are very ignorant of what God is doing and what God is going to do. Now in this ninth chapter of Daniel we have brought before us a little outline you might say of the course of the Jewish people the children of Israel from the time that they were taken captive in the land of Babylon until the time that they are in their own land and that the Lord Jesus Christ comes for their deliverance their deliverance from the Gentile oppressors as we have been noting in the nights that have been past and the establishment of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ and the establishment of this people of Israel concerning the people of Israel. You know some years ago why an emperor in Europe the emperor of Prussia was talking to his chaplain about the Bible and he said can you give me in a very brief account a proof that the Bible is true and he said your majesty I can give it to you in two words and so he asked well what are the two words? He said those two words are the Jew, the Jew.

If you and I look at the Jew and see how what God has foretold concerning him has been fulfilled and is being fulfilled you and I can be sure that the Bible is true and that what God says concerning this people's future is to be fulfilled. Now my friends you and I live in momentous times. In 1948 after 1900 years of being scattered abroad over all the world hated as no people have been hated decimated, persecuted and yet never annihilated and never amalgamating with other nations to the extent that they lose their identity.

You can take a hundred thousand Swedes and dump them in the United States and within 25 or 50 years they'll be so intermarried that you can't tell who is a Swede and who is a German. And you can do that with any nationality that there is. And my friends you can take a hundred thousand Jews and you can dump them into a nation and after 1900 years they're still a distinct people.

They're still a people that are separate. Why? Why is it in 1948 after hundreds and over a thousand years 1900 years to be exact or about why that people scattered hated, persecuted, decimated was put into the land of Palestine and the nation of Israel was born. In 1967 in the Six Days War they did something that no one has been able to do.

The Christians had seven crusades which practically impoverished the papacy and practically impoverished the western world and their object was to regain the city of Jerusalem from the Turks from the Saracens. And my friends they failed. Seven crusades even Richard the Lionhearted and all of these famous knights they all failed.

Yet in 1967 in six days the army of Israel not only put the Egyptian armies to rout but my friends they did something that has not been done for 1900 years or more rather more than 1900 years. The city of Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD as we're going to say but in the time of Nebuchadnezzar it was destroyed and since the time of Nebuchadnezzar over 2300 years the city of Jerusalem has not been in the hands of the Jews but today Israel has the city of Jerusalem and they're not going to let it go. What does it tell us? It tells us my friends we are on the threshold of what we are going to speak about tonight and all that is needed is for the Lord Jesus to take his church out of this world as we're going to see and this last week of Daniel's prophecy of 70 weeks is going to begin to be fulfilled and it's going to be consummated and climaxed in the return of our Lord Jesus Christ to set up his kingdom.

Now why don't you notice the first few verses of this chapter because they're very interesting. We remember that Daniel was taken captive as a youth in the time of Nebuchadnezzar and we see him now in this ninth chapter and it says in the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus of the seed of the Medes which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans in the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years where of the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet that he would accomplish 70 years in the desolations of Jerusalem. Now Daniel was a man at this time a very aged man in the reign of Darius.

He had lived through the reign of Nebuchadnezzar. He had lived through the reign of Nabonid the grandson of Nebuchadnezzar and also Belshazzar and he had lived to see the Medo-Persian Empire according to the prophecies of Daniel 2 and Daniel chapter 7 take over the empires of the world and so in the reign of this Darius the son of Ahasuerus of the seed of the Medes why it says in the first year of the reign I Daniel understood by books.

Now Daniel realized that the Lord as he was reading the scriptures now he didn't have the scriptures the way we have them in all their completeness but undoubtedly was reading the prophecy of Jeremiah and as he was reading the prophecy of Jeremiah he saw from the 25th chapter of Jeremiah and also from the 29th chapter of Jeremiah that God said the people of Israel would be in bondage to Babylon for about 70 years and as he sat down and counted he realized that that prophecy was being fulfilled they were at the end of or about the end of those 70 years and so the result was that he began to pray and he prayed because he realized that the people of Israel in the condition that they were in were not in a condition to go back to the land of Palestine in fact many of them were so settled down

in the Babylonian and the Medo-Persian empires that they had no desire to go back and here we find Daniel as he reads in the books that the time is at hand when the people are going to go back it motivates and moves him to prayer now you know friends I wonder what effect does prophecy have on us what effect does the learning of prophecy have on us we saw in the 8th chapter yesterday that the prophecies that the Lord revealed to Daniel concerning the enemy of Israel who is going to come in the last days it left Daniel sick and it left him as it were in a very weak physical condition because of the situation that he realized his people were going to be in when this evil little horn of Daniel 8 comes into power and so he was fearful for his people the knowledge of what the future was going

to bring moved Daniel to prayer and you know it should move us to prayer because if the Lord Jesus Christ is coming soon what about our loved ones who are still unsaved if the Lord Jesus Christ should come and we were to be caught up to be with him those who are unsaved would be left behind and they'd be left behind for judgment what about those that you and I come in contact with day by day if the Lord Jesus Christ should come and we were to be taken they would be left behind for that awful judgment and if

the Lord Jesus Christ were to come well how ready am I as a Christian for his coming would I want to be called into his presence today has my life and my behavior been such that if the Lord Jesus Christ was to call me into his presence at his coming today that I would be so loose from

the things of the world that I would be caught up and I would be so ready and joyful to meet him or would it be perhaps that there are things that I need to straighten out in my life or things perhaps that I wouldn't want to be found doing if the Lord Jesus Christ should come or perhaps intentions that I had and that I purposed that I was going to devote more of my time to the Lord and I was going to devote more of my material things to the Lord and instead of devoting more of my time and more of my energy and more of my material things for the Lord I haven't been doing it and if he should come well I'd find out that I'd come into his presence and then I would find out whether I would gain or whether I would suffer loss at his judgment seat you know this moved Daniel to prayer and it

would be beautiful to just study his prayer to notice how Daniel a godly man confesses his sins with the sins of the people of Israel and how he justifies God for all that God had done with the people of Israel and that they were getting just what they deserved but still he brings before the Lord that he is merciful and that the Lord has made great promises to the people of Israel and he also brings before the Lord in his prayer that the name of the Lord is identified or associated with the city of Israel Jerusalem and also with his people and then notice what it tells us here in this ninth chapter it says in the twentieth verse and while I was speaking and praying and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy

mountain of my God yea, while I was speaking in prayer even the man Gabriel whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning being caused to fly swiftly touched me about the time of the evening oblation and he informed me and talked with me and said oh Daniel I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding and you know even while Daniel was praying I suppose if you and I were to read this prayer word for word and read it reverently and read it audibly why I don't suppose it would take more than five minutes to read that prayer and even before Daniel had finished that prayer why here was a messenger from heaven Gabriel now Gabriel was an angel as far as we know there are only four mentions of Gabriel in the entire word of God once in the eighth chapter of Daniel once in the ninth

chapter of Daniel once in the first chapter of Luke and once in the second chapter of Luke and every time that you have Gabriel mentioned why he's bringing a very important message we know that in the gospel of Luke for instance he brought the message to Zacharias that his wife was going to have a baby who was going to be the forerunner of the Messiah and in the second chapter of Luke why he brought the wonderful message to Mary that she was going to be the mother of a child and who was of course none other than the Lord Jesus every time that we see Luke why he's bringing a very important message but the wonder of it is this that before Daniel had even finished praying why an angel had come right from the presence of God and he was standing right before Daniel you talk about the speed of

light 186,000 miles a second they tell us that for man to get out into space that he was to travel 186,000 miles a second it would take him millions of light years to get out of our solar system millions of light years that means millions of years traveling at the speed of 186,000 miles a second and yet my friends here is an angel who has come from beyond the widest reaches of the universe come right from the presence of God and before Daniel had finished his prayer why there was the angel he had the answer he was there with a message from God and you know it tells us here that this messenger informed them all Daniel I am now come forth to give thee still an understanding at the beginning of thy supplications the commandment

came forth and I am come to show thee for thou art greatly

beloved therefore consider the matter understand the matter and consider the vision now Daniel was very much concerned about his people which were the people of Israel he was very much concerned about the city which was the city of Jerusalem and he was very much concerned about the sanctuary that is the temple which was the most important part of that city the temple was destroyed the city was in the hands of the enemy and not only so in ruins and the people were scared abroad now what about your promise now just as I told you just last evening in speaking of Daniel chapter 8 the interpretation of the vision far exceeds the vision itself and so also in this in this ninth chapter of Daniel Daniel was interested in what happened to his people in the immediate future but the Lord is going to

tell him not only what their immediate future is but also what their ultimate future is he is going to unfold to Daniel the entire program of God with his people until that temple is set up the kingdom is set up they are delivered from their enemies and they are free to enjoy all the beneficent reign and bounty of their Messiah and their Redeemer in other words he carries them all the way from that captivity and he carries them all the way until the time that the Lord Jesus Christ comes sets up his kingdom and he establishes the temple as we are going to see now this prophecy is really very simple to understand I think with the chart that we have before us here and concerning Daniel chapter 9 now I want you to notice we are going to take it a bit by bit in the 24th verse he says 70 weeks

are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city now I want you to notice first of all who this prophecy is about he says to Daniel 70 weeks are determined upon thy people and thy holy city this is not talking about the people of Lime this is not talking about the people of the United States this is not talking about the people of Europe this is talking about Daniel's people who were Daniel's people? they were the people of Israel and thy city and what city is that? there was only one city which was the city prominent of the Israelites and that was the city that was in ruins the city of Jerusalem so let's get this straight primarily this prophecy is about Daniel's people the people of Israel not the church as we're going to see in a little while it's not about the church you and I

are never called Israel and I don't care what anybody says nobody can find in the Bible where a Gentile is ever called Israel even in Galatians chapter 6 where it says peace be on them that walk according to this rule of the new birth and upon the Israel of God it is not the church the Israel of God is exactly who it says it is the Israel of God and a believer in Christ who is a member of the church is never never never never Israel Israel is Israel Judah is Judah the church is the church Jerusalem is Jerusalem and let's not try to make it mean something else it means exactly what it says it's like the little boy says well daddy if God didn't mean what he said why didn't he say what he means well my friends God does mean what he says and God says what he means and we get into trouble when

we try to change things let's take things as God puts them thy people Israel thy city Daniel's city which is Jerusalem now he says 70 weeks are determined upon thy people 70 weeks now Daniel had been thinking about 70 years now he asked the question well what are these 70 weeks you would say well 70 weeks well that's 70 weeks of 7 days of peace so that is 490 days well unfortunately this word weeks here is a Hebrew word which simply means 7 or something having 7 parts you notice here we have the word septad in other words Daniel is told 77 in our English language there is a word quite similar I could say I have 7 dozen you say 7 dozen what 7 dozen oranges 7 dozen eggs 7 dozen apples 7 dozen chickens but that word dozen simply means 12 this word weeks here which has been translated weeks

simply means a 7 77 well is it 77 of days or what is it well if you read the chapter you will notice that Daniel is praying about 70 years God is telling him about 70 years or he is praying about 70 years he knows that so many years have passed in captivity he is thinking in the terms of years now let's just use it as a simple expression of days let's say it's 77 of days well we know that doesn't stand because that would mean that in 490 days from the time that this prophecy began which we are going to look at the city of Jerusalem would be rebuilt Messiah would come and Messiah would be crucified so we know that the theory of 77 of days doesn't hold water because it doesn't stand the test of this but what he is really speaking about is 77 of years and what he is saying to him is 77 of

years are going to come upon your people and upon your city and in those 77 of years 6 things are going to be done now notice what they are he says to finish the transgression now the people of Israel were in captivity because of their transgression they were people that were characterized by transgression to finish the transgression and to make an end of sins in other words where God is going to make an end for your sins God is going to make a provision for your sins whereby your sins can be taken away and to make reconciliation for iniquity in other words to reconcile the people of Israel unto himself and to bring in everlasting righteousness and bring in everlasting righteousness of course means to bring in the everlasting reign of Christ which is going to be a reign of righteousness

and to seal up the vision and prophecy in other words to complete all that the prophetic word speaks about and lastly to anoint the most holy and to anoint the most holy here refers to the most holy place that is to reestablish the temple and to make it again the universal place of worship for the people of Israel now have these things been done? why of course they haven't been done several of them have been done but all of these things have not been done so these are the six things that have to be done within the compass of the 70 weeks or 77's or 490 years now let's remember the people of Israel were still in captivity they were in bondage and so he goes on and he says 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 three score and two weeks the street shall be built again and the wall even in troubleless times and after three score and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off but not for himself or as the margin says and shall have nothing 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 and he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week now I want you to notice that here in this portion from verse 25 down through verse 27 we have three different divisions of this 70 weeks he says 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 three score and two weeks or 62 weeks now there we have two of the divisions in other words those 70 weeks are going to be divided into three parts the first part is seven weeks or 49 years the second part is 62 weeks or 434 years and the third part is the last week of seven years so there we have that those 70 weeks were going to be divided into three parts seven weeks or 49 years 62 weeks or 434 years and then one week and he tells us here what or when this is going to begin when is going to be the starting point of these 70 weeks now notice what he tells us here he tells us 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 now those of you who know a little bit

about the Old Testament you know that after Darius came as king Cyrus followed him and Cyrus when he became king he announced that the people of Israel any of the people of Israel who were in his domain

they could go back to Jerusalem to reestablish the worship they could build the temple and so there was a number of them who went back to Jerusalem and they started to build the temple that was in the days of Ezra you find that in the first book first chapter of Ezra Ezra chapter 1 and then you'll find that when they began to build the temple why persecution arose and so they sent false accusations back to the Medo-Persian king and another king had come to the throne and so he ordered the work stopped until search was made into the archives or the library of the Medo-Persians and there

they found written that the king had decreed and when the king decrees according to the laws of the Medo-Persians it couldn't be changed that this temple was to be rebuilt and so he sent forth the commandment in the 6th chapter of Ezra that the temple should be continued to be built and then a little later on in the book of Ezra you find a third decree where another king sent forth help and encouraged them in the building of the temple but that wasn't when the 70 weeks was to begin because it was not until the 2nd chapter of Nehemiah if you'll turn for a moment to the 2nd chapter of Nehemiah and this was in the year chronologists tell us about 445 B.C. in fact my friends they've got it down to the actual day on March 14th 445 B.C.

Nehemiah 2 and verse 1 it came to pass in the month of Nisan in the 20th year of Artaxerxes the king that wine was before him and I took up the wine and I gave it unto the king and then you remember how the king wondered why he was so sad and he said that the wall was broke down the city was broke down and then notice what it tells us it tells us in the 6th verse and the king said unto me the queen also sitting by him for how long shall thy journey be and when wilt thou return so it pleased the king to set me and I sent him a time moreover I said unto the king if it pleased the king let letters be given to me to the governors beyond the river that they may convey me over till I come unto Judah and a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which appertain to the house and for the wall of the city and for the house that I shall enter into and the king granted me according to the good hand of my God upon me and he comes with those letters and so there we have the 70 weeks begins right there when that king sent Nehemiah in 445 B.C. he sent that man back to Jerusalem to build the city to build the wall now notice here he tells us in Daniel chapter 7 and chapter 9 70 weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city to finish 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 7 weeks and 3 square and 2 weeks the streets shall be built again and the wall even in troubleous times and of course we know how actually that was fulfilled if you read the book of Nehemiah you'll find what troubles they had how they had to as it were day and night work and fight they didn't so much as take off their clothes they fought they had a sword in one hand and a trowel in the other and they didn't they were just busy and it took them not 49 weeks of days not 7 weeks of days 49 days they didn't build a city and build a wall in 49 days but in 49 years they had the city built and the city was completed and again they were settled in the city of Jerusalem now it says the second part the 26th verse and after 3 square and 2 weeks shall Messiah be cut off but not for himself or shall have nothing now in the next 62 weeks or in the next 434 years it says unto the Messiah the Prince Sir Robert Anderson wrote a book entitled The Coming Prince in which he established that from March 14 445 B.C. to the day that the Lord Jesus Christ rode into Jerusalem was exactly 173,800 days and divided into prophetic years as the Jews did of 360 days a year with 144 days for leap years it came to the exact day after the 62 weeks 483 years that the Lord Jesus actually rode into Jerusalem and presented himself as the Messiah, as the King and of course they acclaimed him.

The children said, listen as he that cometh in the name of the Lord but we know how the chief priests and the others rose up against him and before the week was out they had denied him they had condemned him and they had crucified him and it says in the 26th verse it says after 3 square and 2 weeks after 3 square and 2 weeks shall Messiah be cut off and shall have nothing and of course we know how he was cut off, we know he was cut off in order that he might provide salvation to you and to you, that he might provide salvation for that nation of Israel, he was cut off the Lord Jesus Christ was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities the chastisement of our peace was upon him and with his stripes we are healed.

We might hesitate here for a few moments and ask the question well what does the death of the Lord Jesus Christ mean to you? My friends this is the central point of all history and this is the central point of all eternity all time past and all time future it is this cross which divides humanity into two classes each one of us here in this meeting tonight are on one side of the cross or the other what do you mean? Well one side of the cross is the wages of sin is death if we're unbelievers if we don't know the Lord Jesus Christ is our savior we are under the penalty of death the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And my friend I ask you tonight on which side of the cross are you? Are you still lost tonight? Are you still a rejecter of the Lord Jesus tonight? Are you still thinking you can get along without him? That you can find some solution to the problem of your sin or of your soul's need apart from the Lord Jesus? My friend there is no other way if there had been another way that God could have saved men Jesus would never have had to die on the cross in that garden of Gethsemane he prayed and said Father if it be possible let this cup pass from me nevertheless not my will but thine be done if there had been any other way God would have found it and my friend there was no other way there was no other way sin could be put away there was no other way souls could be saved Jesus had to die he had to have nothing he had to be left without anything he was stripped of everything and nailed to that cross and there God himself forsook him as he was made sin for you and for me what does he mean to you?

Is he your savior? Do you have a personal interest in what the Lord Jesus Christ has done? He died for sinners if you're a sinner he died for you he died for the lost he died for the guilty he died in the place of those who were without strength to save themselves and if you're one of those why you can come in on the benefits of what the Lord Jesus did until he spoke but you know friends when they crucified the Lord Jesus God's time clock stopped the clock of prophecy stopped at the end of those 69 weeks which terminated with the crucifixion of Christ something else happened what happened?

God's dealings with Israel as a nation stopped and you notice he tells us here in this 26th verse it says the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary and the end thereof shall be with a flood but I don't want to go too fast the people of the prince that shall come now I want you to notice there is a prince in the 26th verse and there is a prince in the 25th verse in the 25th verse we have Messiah the prince in the 26th verse we have the prince that shall come whose people destroy the city and the sanctuary now the Messiah the prince of course is the Lord Jesus Christ Messiah cut off the prince that shall come that we're going to read about a little while later down in the chapter is this little horn that we were speaking about the head of the western

empire that is going to rise after the church is taken away and this is the prince that shall come now I want you to notice another distinction here we need to read scripture very carefully in the 26th verse it says the people of the prince that shall come now let's distinguish not only between the prince that shall come and

the Messiah one is the Lord Jesus the Messiah is the Lord Jesus the prince that shall come is the beast the beast of Revelation 13 1 to 10 the little horn of Revelation of Daniel chapter 7 the beast of Revelation 19 who is cast into the lake of fire that is the prince so let's distinguish between the Lord Jesus the Messiah the prince and the prince who is the beast the political head the leader of that ten confederated kingdom or empire that is going to come but let

us also distinguish between the people of the prince and the prince himself it doesn't say the prince shall destroy the city and the sanctuary it says the people of the prince now who are the people of the prince who was it that destroyed the sanctuary and the city of Jerusalem in 70 AD it was the Roman legions under Titus and they destroyed not only the city after besieging it but my friends they literally fulfilled the words of Christ in Matthew 24 when the disciples saw the temple they spoke of the temple to the Lord Jesus the Lord Jesus now one stone is going to be left upon another and you know when Titus had besieged Jerusalem and finally they were able to come in he told the soldiers don't touch the temple but you know my friends when they came to the temple and they saw the gold

in the temple those greedy soldiers just took that temple apart for the gold and they didn't leave one stone upon another they destroyed the city and the sanctuary and Josephus tells us that there were over a million Jews that were crucified on crosses in and around the city of Jerusalem and so the prophecy of Daniel was 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 now the real rendering is unto the end wars and desolations are deterred and my friends until 1918 when Allenby rode into Jerusalem and set it free from the Turks and it was under a British mandate until 1967 when the Israelites took it the city of Jerusalem was in a state of desolation it was in a state of constant war back and

forth and I believe that this also pictures for us that until the time of the end there are going to be wars and desolations now between the 26th and the 27th verses between these 69 weeks and the 70th week you notice we have a period here which we have in blue and the reason we have it in blue is because it brings before us that in this period which comes in between the 69th and the 70th week God's clock stopped.

God's clock of prophecy stopped and God began a new day, a new thing after Christ was crucified. The Jews as a nation were set aside and if you will read Ephesians 3 verses 3 to 11 you will find that God is bringing in a secret. God is working out something that he didn't reveal in the Old Testament at all and that is that he is preparing a heavenly people.

A people for heaven and that's why we've got this in blue because at this present time 1900 years have elapsed between verse 26 and verse 27 of Daniel chapter 9. You say well isn't that rather strange that 1900 years that he left between two verses like that? Well friends I could show you in other portions of the word of God if you'll just take Isaiah 61 and compare it with Luke chapter 4 you'll find that when the Lord Jesus read in the synagogue at Nazareth his mission he stopped at to preach the acceptable year of the Lord and he closed the book. And yet if you were to read that prophecy in Isaiah 61 you would find and to bring in the day of vengeance of our God that's what he's going to do when he comes the second time. So just between the comma 1900 years of lumber course between those two statements that are separated by the near comma.

And so in these 1900 years God is saving men and women. God is forming a church. In that church people lose their national identity.

A Jew ceases to be a Jew. A Gentile ceases to be a Gentile. We become members of the church of God.

And that has been going on for 1900 years and it is only when that is terminated and that is all that we're waiting for friends. We don't have to have a single thing fulfilled in prophecy for the Lord to come. All that is needed is for the Lord to come and he'll take out of this world his church.

And we see the stage being set today for this last week of Daniel's prophecy. We don't know whether the ten so called states in the coming common market that have been fixed for the last 15 years. Last year in November in Time Magazine I read an article and I cut it out on the common market and the bringing in of four nations into that common market and how they are working together socially, economically and they made one statement in that article All that is needed is for a man who can unify these states politically.

That's all that is needed. That's all we need. We haven't been able to find a man who can unify these common market states politically.

That's what we need and if we can find that man why we will be a force that will be the most powerful in the world. That's in one of the November issues of 1971 Time Magazine on the common market. Well my friends that's what this little horn is going to be.

And that's what we have here in the ninth chapter of Daniel. And he now who is this? He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week. Well who is he? Well all we have to do is go back to the 26th verse and we find who he is.

The people of the prince that shall come. Now we see those ten kingdoms. They may be the ten kingdoms.

I don't know if they're going to be the ten. But we see the foreshadowing. We see the shadows.

Israel is today between two enemies. Egypt and we're going to read about, talk about that in Daniel chapter 11 night after tomorrow. The king of the south and the king of the north.

Syria and Egypt. They're enemies. We were speaking last night about the Grecian little horn.

The king of the north. The Assyrian. They're enemies against whom? And I believe this is why we have this 27th verse.

And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week. And I believe that is when this last week begins. When this political head makes an agreement, a covenant with many in Israel for one week.

Seven years. Why? Is it because he agrees to protect them against their enemy who is constantly threatening them? We know that Israel today is seeking security. Israel today is seeking safety.

Israel today is seeking assurance. They're trying to protect themselves by getting enough phantom jets from the United States. Get enough armament from the United States to maintain a balance of power in the Middle East.

But all the time, the balance of power against them is increasing. They're going to need protection. They're going to need assurance that they'll be allowed to be kept safe.

And they're going to get that protection because this head he shall confirm the covenant with many not with all with many because there are going to be some in Israel who like the three young men in the burning fiery furnace and like Daniel in the lion's den a remnant who fear God and who are not going to be

taken in by this political leader and by the antichrist who we'll speak about on Thursday night who will be in the land of Palestine. 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. Now in the midst of those seven weeks that seven weeks is divided into two parts of three and a half years apiece.

In the middle of that seven weeks he breaks or dissolves his covenant by causing the sacrifice and the oblation to cease. Now Israel today wants a temple. They're going to have a temple.

They're going to reinstitute the sacrifices. But in the middle of the seven years and we have to compare this with Revelation chapter 12 and Revelation chapter 13 in the middle of the seven years the devil is going to be cast out of heaven with his angels. He's going to take personal possession of this person and he's going to institute to a way with all worship to a way with all religion, Jewish and so called Christendom's religion.

And he's going to set himself up and all are going to have to receive the mark of his name. The number of his name. You read about in the 12th and 13th chapter of Revelation.

And it says for the over spreading of abominations he shall make it desolate even until the consummation and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. The margin has and upon the battlement shall be the idols of the desolator. In other words, this person is not only going to put up an image of himself in the temple but just as in many of these ungodly countries today when I mean ungodly countries countries that have done away with all semblance of God they've put up images and pictures of who? Of the emperor.

And demanded that people pledge allegiance. Our president was in China recently. What did he see? Wherever he went he saw pictures of Mao.

He saw quotations of Mao. It was the same in Russia in the reign of Stalin. It was the same in Germany in the reign of Hitler.

Everywhere the image of the emperor. All acknowledge the state. Well we've had those tastes of it in our time.

In this time it's going to be in those seven years, the last three and a half years, all are going to have to worship him. And because of that God is going to send against them and we're going to look at that in the eleventh chapter of Daniel. He's going to send against them the desolator.

And the time is going to come to an end. Those seven years are going to come to an end as we shall see when we get to Daniel chapter 11 and 12. They're going to come to an end with the return of Christ.

He's going to seal up all the vision and prophecy and he's going to anoint the temple and reestablish the worship and bring in his kingdom. Well my friends, we've been looking at some of these things tonight. Two-thirds of this has all been fulfilled.

Fifty-nine weeks have been fulfilled. One week still remains. Israel is in a flame.

The common market is rising in Europe. Syria and Egypt are emerging. Powers are emerging against Israel.

In the so-called church we have coldness. Laodicea. Lukewarmness.

It tells us we're on the threshold. The Lord Jesus Christ can come and may come in our generation. Are you ready? If he should come, would you be caught up to be with him? Or would you be left? May the Lord speak to your heart tonight.

Brother John Jensen, will you close with prayer please?

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