

The Book of Daniel
Chapter 9

Verse 1

1. The first year of Darius is **538 BC**.
2. Darius is not the king of Medo-Persia, **CYRUS** is. Darius was just “*made king over the realm of the Chaldeans*”, just over the land of Babylon.

Verse 2

3. Daniel was reading the books of **JEREMIAH** the prophet.
4. Daniel and Jeremiah were contemporaries. Jeremiah was much older, but both lived at the same time. Daniel was deported to Babylon in 605 BC, Jeremiah stayed in Israel. Ezekiel was deported to Babylon in 597, Jeremiah stayed. In 586 BC, against Jeremiah’s counsel, the rest of the Jews fled to Egypt. Jeremiah was forced to accompany them. Therefore, Daniel had probably just gotten his hands on the complete writings of Jeremiah.
5. Daniel understood that there would be a **70** year time of ‘desolations’ of Jerusalem.
6. The ‘desolations’ are different than the ‘**CAPTIVITY**’.
7. The ‘captivity’ was also to be a 70 year time, prophesied by Jeremiah.
8. The captivity began when Nebuchadnezzar first attacked Jerusalem. This is when **DANIEL** and his friends were taken to Babylon. This was in **605 BC**. The captivity ended when king Cyrus allowed the Jews to return. This period lasted 70 years. But this was not the period of the desolations of Jerusalem.
9. God had instructed the Jews to abstain from agriculture every **SEVENTH** year. This was to be a Sabbath for the land. Six days to work, and on the seventh, the last day of the week, rest. Six years to work the land, and on the seventh, the last year of the week, rest. (Leviticus 25:1-7)
10. If the Jews would not give the land its Sabbath rest, God said in Leviticus 26:32-35, “*And I will bring the land into desolation: and your enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it. And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste. Then shall the land enjoy her Sabbaths, as long as it lieth desolate, and ye be in your enemies’ land; even then shall the land rest, and enjoy her Sabbaths. As long as it lieth desolate it shall rest; because it did not rest in your Sabbaths, when ye dwelt upon it.*”
11. In II Chronicles 36:20,21 read, “*And them that had escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and his sons until*

The Book of Daniel
Chapter 9

the reign of the kingdom of Persia: to fulfil the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept Sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years.” Evidently, Israel had not observed the Sabbath year for the land since the time that David was anointed king.

12. The period of desolation began when Nebuchadnezzar finally became fed up with Israel, and attacked **JERUSALEM** for the last time. This date was December 17, 589 BC.
13. In 538 BC, King Cyrus, of Medo-Persia, made a decree that “*the Lord God of heaven...hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem...*”. (II Chr 36:23) However, by divine intervention, the temple foundation was not laid until December 17, 520 BC. (Haggai 2:18) This is a period of **69** years by our calendars.
14. A biblical year is different than our year. A biblical month is **30** days. A biblical year is **360** days. (Genesis 7:11,24; 8:3,4; Revelation 11:2,3; 12:6,14; 13:5)
15. 70 years x 360 days/year = **25,200** days
16. The number of days between December 17, 589 BC and December 17, 520 BC is exactly **25,200** days.

Verses 3-23

17. Daniel prays with **FASTING**, and **SACKCLOTH**, and **ASHES**.
18. Daniel confesses his **SIN** and the sin of his nation.

Verse 24

19. *Seventy weeks* could refer to weeks of **DAYS**, or weeks of **YEARS**, as we just saw in Jeremiah’s prophecy.
20. Here, the seventy weeks refer to seventy weeks of **YEARS**.
21. A week of years = **SEVEN** years
22. Seventy weeks of years = **490** years
23. Four hundred ninety years are determined for **DANIEL’S** people and **DANIEL’S** holy city. What people are these? What city is this?
24. **SIX** things are to have happened by the end of this 490 year period. The first three were fulfilled by Christ. The last three have not been fulfilled yet.

The Book of Daniel
Chapter 9

Verse 25

25. The time will begin at the “*going forth of the **COMMANDMENT** to restore and build Jerusalem*”. This occurred in Nehemiah 2:1-8. The date of the commandment was March 5, 444 BC. After this, the street and the wall were built, “*even in troublous times*”, working with one hand, a weapon in the other.
26. At the end of this time period, Israel will be presented with “**MESSIAH** the Prince”.
27. The time period will consist of **SEVEN** weeks and **SIXTY-TWO** weeks, which equal 69 weeks.
28. 69 weeks x 70 years = 483 years; 483 years x 360 days = **173,880** days
29. 173,800 days after March 5, 444 BC, the **MESSIAH** will be presented to Israel.
30. If we count forward 173,800 days from the commandment, we come to March 29, 33 AD. What happened on that date?
31. Christ was crucified on April 3, 33 AD, on a **FRIDAY**. That makes March 29, 5 days before that, a **SUNDAY**. What happened on that Sunday? (Luke 19:36-44)

Verse 26

32. What happens after the Messiah is presented to Israel? He is **CUT OFF**. Isaiah 53:8 tells us, “*...for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.*”
33. He was not cut off for **HIMSELF**, but for the sins of the whole world.
34. After ‘Messiah the Prince’ is cut off, the “*people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary*”. This introduces another prince, a ‘prince that shall **COME**’, otherwise known as the Antichrist.
35. The ‘prince that shall come’ does not destroy the city and sanctuary, but his **PEOPLE** will.
36. What city is this talking about? Daniel’s holy city: **JERUSALEM**. What is the sanctuary? The **TEMPLE**.
37. Did this ever happen? Yes. In **70 AD**. The Roman army, led by Titus, utterly destroyed Jerusalem.

The Book of Daniel
Chapter 9

38. So, the Romans destroyed the city. The Romans are the people of the 'prince that shall come', so the Antichrist will be the ruler of **ROME**, which we call the 'Revived Roman Empire'.
39. The rest of verse 26 describes the Jewish War with the Romans, that took place from 66-73 AD.

Verse 27

40. Who will confirm the covenant? The **ANTICHRIST**, the 'prince that shall come'.
41. How long is this covenant? One week = **SEVEN** years. This time is called the **TRIBULATION**.
42. "*In the midst of the week...*", what is in the midst of seven years? **3 ½** years, which equals a time, and times, and dividing of time. (See also Revelation chapters 11,12, & 13)
43. What will happen in the midst of the week? The **SACRIFICE** will cease, and the Antichrist will set up the **ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION**. It is when this happens that Jesus says in Matthew 24:15-17 "*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:) Then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house...*" It is then when, as we read in Revelation 12:6 that "*the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.*" How long is 1,260 days? (Remember: 360 days/year)