

15. The vision of the 2300 days pointed to what period of earth's history? **Daniel 8:17.**

From the autumn of A.D. 34, 1,810 years of the prophecy remained. Add 1,810 to 34 and it brings us to the autumn of the year 1844, which this prophecy refers to as "the time of the end."

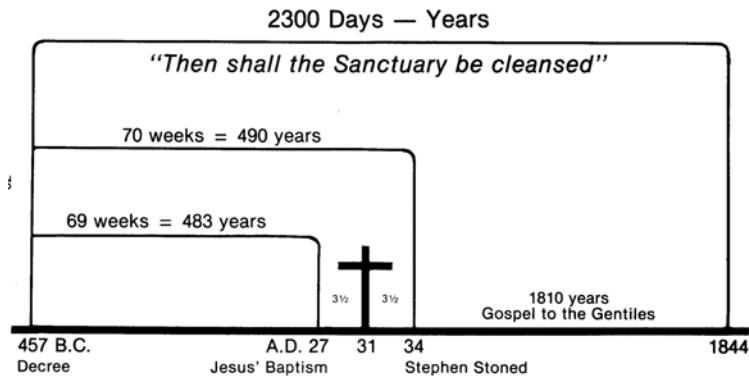
16. What does the Bible say would happen at the end of the "2300-day" period? **Daniel 8:14.**

17. What clues did the angel give which show that the vision was not given for Daniel's generation? **Daniel 8:26.**

18. When would knowledge of the prophecies of Daniel finally be increased? **Daniel 12:4.**

Considering God's Sure Word...

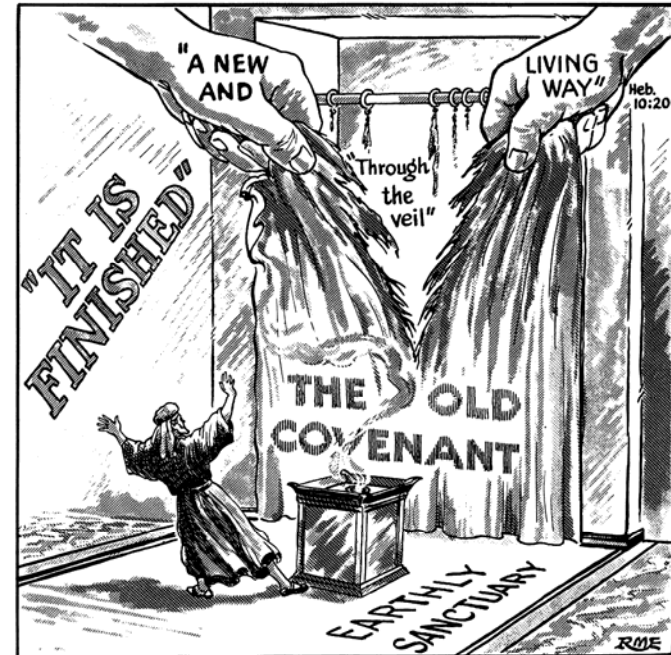
Do you understand that the 70-week portion of the 2300-day prophecy was accurately fulfilled in the earthly ministry and sacrifice of Jesus, and that the 1,810 remaining years of the prophecy point to an important cleansing work which was to take place near the end of time?



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Lesson Fifteen: God's Prophetic Yardstick

Name:

Date:

You are about to study one of the longest and most significant time prophecy in the Bible. Given more than 500 years before the death of Christ, it accurately pinpoints the time of His sacrifice, and as the only place in the Old Testament that speaks of a coming "Messiah" by that term, it ranks at the top of all Messianic prophecies. Yet this prophecy, found in the eighth and ninth chapters of the book of Daniel, moves beyond the earthly ministry of Christ to provide a panorama of His present work for us in the courts of heaven. We will cover the prophecy in three lessons. In the first we will concentrate on establishing the time elements involved. The next two lessons will take us into the throne room of God, opening to our understanding the special work of Jesus for us in these last days.

1. How long were the sanctuary and people of God to be trodden upon? **Daniel 8:13, 14.**

2. Who was sent to make Daniel understand the vision? **Daniel 8:16.**

Gabriel began to explain the vision. He told Daniel that the ram represented Medo-Persia; the goat and its horns represented Greece. He enlarged a little on the activities of the little horn, but said nothing more about the time factor involved.

3. What happened to Daniel as he wondered about the 2300 days time prophecy? **Daniel 8:27.**

"Afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it." **Daniel 8:27.**

4. When Gabriel finally returned to explain the time portion of the vision, how much of the 2300 days did he say was designated for the Jewish people? **Daniel 9:21-24.**

Seventy weeks is 490 days. Subtract that from the total 2,300 days, and 1,810 days of the prophecy are left.

5. In Bible prophecy, God has appointed a short unit of time to represent a longer period of time. This important prophetic principle shows that a day represents what? **Ezekiel 4:6.**

"Each day for a year." **Numbers 14:34.**

Applying this rule, 2,300 prophetic days is actually 2,300 literal years, the first 490 of which pertained to the Jews.

6. The 490 years would begin at what command? **Daniel 9:25.**

7. In order to bring perfection to the prophecy, what three kings of Persia would need to make decrees regarding the rebuilding of Jerusalem? **Ezra 6:14.**

The final decree, that of Artaxerxes, is recorded in **Ezra 7**, and went into effect in the autumn of 457 B.C.

8. Who would appear after 483 prophetic days or years? **Daniel 9:25.**

Sixty-nine weeks is 483 prophetic days. From the autumn of 457 B.C., 483 years takes us to the autumn of A.D. 27. According to the prophecy, that is when the Messiah would appear. "Messiah" is the Hebrew word for "Anointed one." The Bible tells us that, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power." **Acts 10:38.**

That anointing took place at His baptism (**John 1:32**). Jesus was baptized in the autumn of A.D. 27, the precise time foretold in Daniel's prophecy.

9. What did Andrew tell his brother Simon after Jesus was baptized? **John 1:41.**

10. What did Jesus say, when He began His public ministry, that reveals His awareness of His baptism fulfilling prophecy? **Mark 1:15.**

11. Indicating that Jesus came right on schedule, when did Paul say the Saviour appeared? **Galatians 4:4.**

12. In the middle of the 70th week, what did Jesus cause to come to an end? **Daniel 9:27.**

That "week" would be the last seven years of the "70-week" portion of the prophecy. It extended from the autumn of A.D. 27 to the autumn of A.D. 34. In the spring of A.D. 31, exactly half way through that seven-year period, Jesus brought to an end the whole system of sacrifices and oblations by offering Himself as the Lamb of God, to whom the whole sacrificial system had pointed.

13. What happened in the temple in Jerusalem when Jesus died which showed that its ceremonial services would never again be needed by the people of God? **Matthew 27:51.**

14. Seventy weeks were determined upon the Jewish people to do what? **Daniel 9:24.**

The "seventy-week" portion of the 2,300 years ended in A.D. 34. In that year Israel's probationary time ceased, and they sealed their rejection of Christ by stoning Stephen. With the Jews no longer God's chosen people, the gospel began to be proclaimed to the Gentiles, and the Christian church inherited all the privileges promised to the descendants of Abraham (**Galatians 3:29**). The temple and the city of Jerusalem were destroyed by Roman armies in A.D. 70 (**Daniel 9:26, 27; Mark 13:14**).