Daniel Chapter 9 Part 2

The Seventy-Weeks Prophecy

Dan 9:20-21

'Now while I was speaking, 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, yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man **Gabriel**, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. '

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.9.20-21

Reference Verse: Daniel 8:16

'And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "**Gabriel**, make this man understand the vision."

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.8.16

Daniel 9:22-23

'And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you **skill to understand**. **At the beginning of your supplications the command went out**, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision:'

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.9.22-23

Reference Verse: Daniel 10:11
'And he said to me, “O Daniel, man greatly beloved, **understand the words that I speak to you**, and **stand upright**, for **I have now been sent to you**.” While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.'

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.10.11

Reference Verse: Daniel 10:19
'And he said, “O man greatly beloved, **fear not!** Peace be to you; be strong, yes, **be strong!**” So when he spoke to me I was strengthened, and said, “**Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me**.”'

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.10.19

Reference Verse: Matthew 24:15
'**“Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place”** (whoever reads, let him understand), '

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/MAT.24.15

Daniel 9:24
'“**Seventy weeks** are determined For your people and for your holy city, **To finish the transgression**, **To make an end of sins**, **To make reconciliation for iniquity**, **To bring in everlasting righteousness**, **To seal up vision and prophecy**, **And to anoint the Most Holy**.’
{Speaking Of GOD}

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.9.24

Reference Verse: Psalms 45:7
'You love righteousness and hate wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.'

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/PSA.45.7

Reference Verse: Psalms 21:6
'For You have made him most blessed forever; You have made him exceedingly glad with Your presence.'

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/PSA.21.6

What are the seventy weeks of Daniel?

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ANSWER

The “seventy weeks” prophecy is one of the most significant and detailed Messianic prophecies of the Old Testament. It is found in Daniel 9. The chapter begins with Daniel praying for Israel, acknowledging the nation’s sins against God and asking for God’s mercy. As Daniel prayed, the angel Gabriel appeared to him and gave him a vision of Israel’s future.

The Divisions of the 70 Weeks
In verse 24, Gabriel says, “Seventy ‘sevens’ are decreed for your people and your holy city.” Almost all commentators agree that the seventy “sevens” should be understood as seventy “weeks”

of years, in other words, a period of 490 years. These verses provide a sort of "clock" that gives an idea of when the Messiah would come and some of the events that would accompany His appearance.

The prophecy goes on to divide the 490 years into three smaller units: one of 49 years, one of 434 years, and one 7 years. The final "week" of 7 years is further divided in half. Verse 25 says, "From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.'" Seven "sevens" is 49 years, and sixty-two "sevens" is another 434 years:

49 years + 434 years = 483 years

The Purpose of the 70 Weeks
The prophecy contains a statement concerning God's six-fold purpose in bringing these events to pass. Verse 24 says this purpose is 1) "to finish transgression," 2) "to put an end to sin," 3) "to atone for wickedness," 4) "to bring in everlasting righteousness," 5) "to seal up vision and prophecy," and 6) "to anoint the most holy."

Notice that these results concern the total eradication of sin and the establishing of righteousness. The prophecy of the 70 weeks summarizes what happens before Jesus sets up His millennial kingdom. Of special note is the third in the list of results: "to atone for wickedness." Jesus accomplished the atonement for sin by His death on the cross (Romans 3:25; Hebrews 2:17).

The Fulfillment of the 70 Weeks
Gabriel said the prophetic clock would start at the time that a decree was issued to rebuild Jerusalem. From the date of that decree to the time of the Messiah would be 483 years.

We know from history that the command to “restore and rebuild Jerusalem” was given by King Artaxerxes of Persia c. 444 B.C. (see Nehemiah 2:1-8).

The first unit of 49 years (seven “sevens”) covers the time that it took to rebuild Jerusalem, “with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble”

Daniel 9:25
'“Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.9.25

Reference Verse: Nehemiah 2:1-8
1 This rebuilding is chronicled in the book of Nehemiah
'And it came to pass in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, that I took the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had never been sad in his presence before.
2 Therefore the king said to me, “Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing but sorrow of heart.” So I became dreadfully afraid,
3 and said to the king, “May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers’ tombs, lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire?”
4 Then the king said to me, “What do you request?” So I prayed to the God of heaven.
5 And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers’ tombs, that I may rebuild it.”

6 Then the king said to me (the queen also sitting beside him),
“How long will your journey be? And when will you return?” So it
pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.
7 Furthermore I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, let letters
be given to me for the governors of the region beyond the River,
that they must permit me to pass through till I come to Judah,
8 and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king’s forest, that he
must give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel
which pertains to the temple, for the city wall, and for the house
that I will occupy.” And the king granted them to me according to
the good hand of my God upon me.'

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/NEH.2.1-8

Converting the 360-day year used by the ancient Jews, 483 years becomes 476 years on our solar calendar. Adjusting for the switch from B.C. to A.D., 476 years after 444 B.C. places us at A.D. 33, which would coincide with Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1–9). The prophecy in Daniel 9 specifies that, after the completion of the 483 years, “the Anointed One will be cut off” (verse 26). This was fulfilled when Jesus was crucified.

Daniel 9:26
“And after the sixty-two weeks **Messiah shall be cut off**, **but not for Himself**; **And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary**. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.9.26

continues with a prediction that, after the Messiah is killed, “the people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the

sanctuary." This was fulfilled with the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70. The "ruler who will come" is a reference to the Antichrist, who, it seems, will have some connection with Rome, since it was the Romans who destroyed Jerusalem.

The Final Week of the 70 Weeks
Of the 70 "sevens," 69 have been fulfilled in history. This leaves one more "seven" yet to be fulfilled. Most scholars believe that we are now living in a huge gap between the 69th week and the 70th week. The prophetic clock has been paused, as it were. The final "seven" of Daniel is what we usually call the tribulation period.

Daniel's prophecy reveals some of the actions of the Antichrist, the "ruler who will come." Verse 27 says, "He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.'" However, "in the middle of the 'seven,' . . . he will set up an abomination that causes desolation" in the temple. Jesus warned of this event in Matthew 24:15. After the Antichrist breaks the covenant with Israel, a time of "great tribulation" begins (Matthew 24:21, NKJV).

Daniel also predicts that the Antichrist will face judgment. He only rules "until the end that is decreed is poured out on him"

Daniel 9:27
Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate."'

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DAN.9.27

God will only allow evil to go so far, and the judgment the Antichrist will face has already been planned out.

Conclusion

The prophecy of the 70 weeks is complex and amazingly detailed, and much has been written about it. Of course, there are various interpretations, but what we have presented here is the dispensational, premillennial view. One thing is certain: God has a time table, and He is keeping things on schedule. He knows the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10), and we should always be looking for the triumphant return of our Lord (Revelation 22:7).