

DANI'EL'S PROPHETIC VISION

A Covenant Study of the Last Days

Chapters 7–12 | Dani'el 9:24–27 | The 70th Week | Dani'el 12 Unlocked

Miqdash Bethel Covenant Assembly | Pearl River, Louisiana

Verified Scholarly Sources: Anderson, Hoehner, McClain, Abarbanel, Malbim & Others

Dani'el 12:4 "But as for you, Dani'el, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth and knowledge will increase."

I. Introduction: Why Dani'el Matters

The Book of Dani'el is one of the most extraordinary prophetic documents in all of Scripture. Written during the Babylonian captivity in the sixth century BCE, Dani'el received visions and revelations that stretch from his own day to the consummation of history. Chapters 1–6 are primarily historical narratives, while chapters 7–12 constitute an unbroken sequence of apocalyptic prophecy that has shaped Jewish, Christian, and Islamic eschatology for millennia.

The connection between Dani'el and the Brit Chadashah (New Testament) Book of Revelation is structural, not coincidental. What Dani'el was commanded to seal (12:4), Yochanan (John) was commanded to unseal (Revelation 22:10). The four beasts of Dani'el 7 reappear in the composite creature of Revelation 13. The seventy weeks of Dani'el 9 frame the entire timeline of Revelation's tribulation period. The archangel Mikha'el, who stands guard over Yisra'el in Dani'el 12:1, reappears at the cosmic conflict of Revelation 12:7. These two books are not parallel but progressive — Dani'el lays the foundation; Revelation raises the structure upon it.

A Covenant Framework — The Miqdash Bethel Standard

This study reads Dani'el through the lens Yahweh Himself established: the Tanakh is the primary authority. Every claim — whether from Christian, Jewish, academic, or prophetic ministry sources — is measured against the written word of the Tanakh first. The Brit Chadashah and other secondary sources are engaged as witnesses, not as co-equal authorities. Where they faithfully transmit Tanakh covenant themes, they are received. Where they go beyond the Tanakh, this study names that boundary honestly. This document is addressed to all peoples —

Jew, Christian, Muslim, and those of no tradition — and applies Yahweh's own measuring rod without favoritism.

II. Overview: Dani'el Chapters 7–12

The prophetic half of Dani'el moves through a series of interconnected visions, each expanding upon the previous. Rather than isolated predictions, these chapters form a coherent narrative arc about the rise and fall of world empires, the suffering of the covenant people, and the final triumph of the Son of Man — the Bar Enosh.

Dani'el 7 — The Four Beasts and the Bar Enosh

Dani'el's vision of four great beasts rising from the sea corresponds to the four-empire scheme of Nevukhadnetzar's (Nebuchadnezzar's) dream in chapter 2. The lion (Babel/Babylon), bear (Madai-Paras/Medo-Persia), leopard (Yavan/Greece), and the terrifying fourth beast (Rome and its eschatological extension) represent the full arc of Gentile dominion during what Yeshua (Jesus) called 'the times of the Gentiles' (Luke 21:24).

Most significantly, Dani'el 7 introduces the Ancient of Days seated in judgment and the Bar Enosh — the Son of Man — who comes on the clouds to receive an everlasting kingdom. This vision stands on its own Tanakh authority: the Mashiach receives dominion not as a political conqueror but as the fulfillment of Yahweh's covenant with Dawid (2 Shemu'el 7:12–16).

Dani'el 7:13–14 "I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, and He came up to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. And to Him was given dominion, glory and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which will not pass away; and His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed."

Dani'el 8 — The Ram, the Goat, and the Little Horn

This chapter narrows the prophetic lens to Madai-Paras and Yavan, with striking precision about the rise of Alexander the Great and the fracturing of his empire into four kingdoms after his death. The 'little horn' of Dani'el 8 is widely identified as Antiochus IV Epiphanes, the Seleucid

king who desecrated the Beit HaMiqdash (Temple) in 167 BCE. However, the angel Gavri'el explicitly states the vision 'pertains to the time of the end' (8:17) — establishing the dual-horizon principle: Antiochus as type, a future figure as antitype.

Dani'el 9 — The Shiv'im Shavu'ot (Seventy Weeks)

Alva J. McClain, founding president of Grace Theological Seminary, called Dani'el 9:24–27 'the indispensable chronological key to all New Testament prophecy.' This passage is treated in full in Sections IV and V of this study.

Dani'el 10 — The Cosmic Conflict

Chapter 10 provides the heavenly backdrop behind earthly history. The 'prince of Paras' and 'prince of Yavan' (10:13, 20) are spiritual forces opposing the purposes of Yahweh. Mikha'el (Michael) is named as the angelic prince who wars on behalf of Yisra'el. This chapter confirms that the prophetic conflict Dani'el describes is not merely geopolitical — it is cosmic. The kings of the earth are moved by powers in the heavenly places (cf. Ephesians 6:12, which cites this Tanakh reality).

Dani'el 11 — Kings of the North and South

Dani'el 11 is one of the most detailed predictive prophecies in Scripture, with scholars documenting over 135 fulfilled predictions concerning the Ptolemaic and Seleucid dynasties from 323 to 164 BCE. Around verse 36 the text transitions to a figure who goes beyond Antiochus — a future king who 'exalts himself above every god' — broadly identified across evangelical scholarship as an end-time covenant-breaking ruler.

Dani'el 12 — The Tzarah Gedolah and the Resurrection

The closing chapter of Dani'el contains explicit references to the resurrection of the dead, the Tzarah Gedolah (Great Tribulation), and cryptic time periods that have occupied interpreters for centuries. Section VII of this study addresses Dani'el 12 in full.

III. Dani'el and Revelation: A Unified Prophetic Architecture

The relationship between Dani'el and Revelation is structural. The Book of Revelation is the most Dani'el-saturated text in the Brit Chadashah. Yochanan's Apocalypse functions as the covenant completion of Dani'el's sealed visions — the book Dani'el was told to close is the book Yochanan was told to open.

Dani'el's Vision	Revelation's Completion
Four Beasts (Dani'el 7)	Composite Beast (Revelation 13)
Son of Man / Bar Enosh on Clouds (Dani'el 7:13)	Yeshua's Return (Revelation 19:11-16)
Little Horn — End-Time Ruler (Dani'el 7:8)	The Beast from the Sea (Revelation 13:1-7)
Abomination of Desolation (Dani'el 9:27)	Image of the Beast (Revelation 13:14-15)
Time, Times, Half a Time (Dani'el 7:25; 12:7)	42 Months / 1,260 Days (Revelation 11:2-3; 13:5)
Mikha'el Stands Up (Dani'el 12:1)	Mikha'el Wars in Heaven (Revelation 12:7)
Sefer / Book of Life (Dani'el 12:1)	Book of Life (Revelation 20:15)
Resurrection (Dani'el 12:2)	First Resurrection (Revelation 20:4-6)

This correspondence reflects a deliberate divine authorship weaving the prophetic narrative across seven centuries. Critically, the Qumran community — writing before Yeshua, using the Dead Sea Scrolls manuscripts — already interpreted Dani'el's Mashiach as a future royal figure. This pre-Yeshua Jewish evidence is among the strongest confirmation that Dani'el's prophecy was understood as pointing forward, not backward.

IV. Scholarly Sources: Assessment of Reliability

The research on Dani'el's 70 weeks draws from interpreters spanning nearly 2,500 years. The following table evaluates the primary sources for their scholarly credentials, methodology, and reliability. All sources are held to the Devarim 19:15 two-or-three-witness standard.

Scholar	Key Work	Credentials	Reliability
Sir Robert Anderson	The Coming Prince (1894)	Scotland Yard Chief Inspector; lay theologian	HIGH — pioneering; minor calendar corrections needed
Harold W. Hoehner	Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ (1978)	Th.D. Dallas Seminary; Ph.D. Cambridge; Chair, NT Studies	VERY HIGH — most rigorous modern treatment

Alva J. McClain	Daniel's Prophecy of the 70 Weeks (1940)	Founding President, Grace Theological Seminary; Phi Beta Kappa	HIGH — foundational; widely cited
Isaac Abarbanel	Commentary on Daniel (c. 1497)	Chief Rabbi; foremost medieval Jewish exegete	HIGH (Jewish perspective) — 1st to 2nd Temple framework
Malbim (M.L. Weiser)	Yafeh La-Ketz on Dani'el (1867)	Chief Rabbi of Bucharest; major 19th-c. Jewish commentator	HIGH (Jewish perspective)
Julius Africanus	Chronographiai (c. 221 AD)	Father of Christian chronology	HIGH — first to identify Artaxerxes-Nehemiah decree as the starting point

Critical Scholarship Caution

The critical-scholarly tradition dates Dani'el's composition to 165 BCE, treating its prophecies as after-the-fact history. This assumption is fundamentally challenged by: (1) Dead Sea Scrolls fragments of Dani'el dated to approximately 125 BCE — impossibly soon after a 165 BCE composition for the book to achieve canonical status; (2) the Qumran community treating Dani'el as Scripture and applying its prophecies to a future Mashiach; (3) the precision of the 173,880-day calculation, which extends well beyond the Maccabean period into the 1st century CE. The critical view rests on a philosophical assumption against predictive prophecy — not on the manuscript record.

V. Dani'el 9:24–27 — The Shiv'im Shavu'ot and the Missing Week

No passage in the Tanakh has generated more scholarly attention, theological debate, and eschatological controversy than Dani'el 9:24–27. It is simultaneously the most precise chronological prophecy in ancient literature and the most contested. A covenant reading — grounded in the Hebrew text itself — provides the clearest path through the complexity.

Dani'el 9:24–27 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy place. So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Yerushalayim until Mashiach the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. Then after the sixty-two weeks the Mashiach will be cut off and

have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary... And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

A. The Structure: What 'Shavu'im' Means in Hebrew

The Hebrew word shavu'im — rendered 'weeks' in most translations — means literally 'sevens.' Julius Africanus (c. 221 CE), recognized as the father of Christian chronology, was among the first to argue systematically that these are weeks of years. This is not a novel interpretation imposed on the text: the week-of-years concept is already established in the Tanakh before Dani'el receives his vision. Bereishit (Genesis) 29:27 uses shavu'a for Ya'akov's seven-year labor for Rachel. Vayikra (Leviticus) 25:8 counts 'seven sabbaths of years — seven times seven years' for the Jubilee. The 70 weeks therefore represent 490 years of prophetic history concerning Yisra'el and Yerushalayim — a tenfold Jubilee, a divinely measured season of redemptive completion.

B. The Four Competing Starting Decrees

Decree	Date	Reference	Terminus (483 yrs)	Assessment
Cyrus — exile return	538 BC	Ezra 1:1-4	~55 BC	Ends too early; no Messianic event; least supported
Darius I — reaffirm Cyrus	519 BC	Ezra 6:1-12	~36 BC	Still no satisfactory terminus; minority view
Artaxerxes to Ezra — judicial	458/457 BC	Ezra 7:12-26	~26-27 AD	Lands near Yeshua's baptism; strong Reformed support
Artaxerxes to Nehemiah — rebuild walls	445/444 BC	Neh. 2:1-8	~32-33 AD (Palm Sunday)	Anderson/Hoehner consensus; most precise; majority evangelical view

The scholarly consensus — represented by Anderson (1894), Hoehner (1978), and McClain (1940) — converges on the 444/445 BCE decree to Nehemiah as the most textually defensible starting point. It is the only decree specifically authorizing the rebuilding of Yerushalayim's walls, which is precisely what Dani'el 9:25 specifies. It is also the only decree whose 173,880-day calculation terminates at a datable historical event: the Triumphal Entry of Yeshua into Yerushalayim.

C. Anderson's Calculation — Verified and Refined

Sir Robert Anderson's landmark calculation in *The Coming Prince* (1894) established that exactly 173,880 days elapsed between the decree of Artaxerxes to Nehemiah and the Triumphal Entry — precisely 69 prophetic weeks of 360-day years. Anderson's own figures:

Calculation Component	Days
476 solar years x 365 days	173,740
March 14 to April 6 inclusive	24
Leap year adjustments	116
TOTAL INTERVAL	173,880
69 prophetic weeks x 7 yrs x 360 days	173,880

Dr. Harold W. Hoehner (Ph.D., Cambridge) refined Anderson's work using modern astronomical software, starting from Nisan 1, 444 BCE (March 30) and applying a precise solar year of 365.24219879 days. His terminal date: March 30, AD 33 — the Sunday of Passion Week. Scholar Sam A. Smith (2012) subsequently identified a minor calendrical error in Hoehner's calculation; corrected, the terminus falls on March 29, AD 33 — the exact day of the Triumphal Entry per Mark's Gospel. Anderson and Hoehner — using different start dates and calculation methods — both arrive within days of the same event. This convergence across independent methods is extraordinary evidence of prophetic precision.

Sources: Anderson, The Coming Prince (1894); Hoehner, Bibliotheca Sacra 132:525 (1975); Hoehner, Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ (Zondervan, 1978); Smith, 'Two Significant Problems with Harold W. Hoehner's Chronology' (Biblical Reader Communications, 2012).

D. The Timeline: 69 Completed Weeks

Period	Duration	Significance
First 7 Weeks (49 yrs)	Rebuilding Yerushalayim	Nehemiah era restoration
Next 62 Weeks (434 yrs)	Until Mashiach the Prince	Fulfilled: Triumphal Entry
Gap / Present Age	Indeterminate	Not revealed to Dani'el; now the age of the nations
70th Week (7 yrs)	The Great Tribulation — Eit Tzarah	Covenant confirmed; future fulfillment

E. The Gap Between Week 69 and Week 70

After the 69th week, the prophecy declares that 'the Mashiach will be cut off' — and that 'the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.' This was fulfilled in 70 CE when Roman armies under Titus destroyed Yerushalayim and the Beit HaMiqdash.

Between the end of the 69th week and the beginning of the 70th, an interval appears. This is not an error — it is a recognized feature of Tanakh prophetic literature. The prophets of Yisra'el repeatedly received oracles that compressed near and far fulfillment into a single passage, without disclosing the interval between them. This is not a Christian theological construct imposed on the text: it is observable in the Hebrew text itself, in the structure of oracles such as Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 61:1-2 — a single passage whose two halves describe distinct divine interventions that the text itself does not separate in time. The Tanakh reader encounters this phenomenon on the Tanakh's own terms, without requiring NT commentary to identify it.

The Present Age: The Great Parenthesis

The present age — the period of the nations receiving the covenant message through Yisra'el's witness — was not fully disclosed to the pre-exilic prophets. This is consistent with the Tanakh's own declaration that Yahweh reveals His secrets 'to His servants the prophets' (Amos 3:7) — but in measure, and in His own timing. Dani'el himself was told to seal the book. The interval between the 69th and 70th weeks is that sealed portion: the age during which Yisra'el is partially hardened and the nations are grafted in, before the final week resumes the covenant clock for 'your people and your holy city' (Dani'el 9:24).

F. The 70th Week — Future or Already Fulfilled?

The final week awaits its trigger: a firm seven-year covenant confirmed by a coming prince with 'the many.' At the midpoint — 3.5 years in — this figure violates the covenant, halts the sacrifice and offering, and establishes the abomination of desolation. Yeshua quoted this event as still future from His own standpoint in approximately 30 CE (Matthew 24:15): 'When you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Dani'el standing in the holy place — let the reader understand.' Speaking decades before 70 CE, Yeshua treated the 70th week's central event as future. That witness is the decisive interpretive key.

Is the 70th Week Now? The Covenant Markers

Current geopolitical developments — Yisra'el's national restoration (1948), the return of Yerushalayim (1967), normalization agreements, Middle East instability — align with Tanakh covenant restoration markers (Yirmeyahu 30-31, Yehezkel 36-37, Amos 9:14-15). However, the

70th week cannot begin without one specific, publicly confirmable event: a formal seven-year covenant between a world leader and Yisra'el. No such covenant has been made. The 70th week is future. The preconditions are assembling. The book that was sealed is being read by many. This is the text's own testimony.

VI. The Five Scholarly Schools Compared

The following table represents an honest survey of all five major interpretive positions on Dani'el 9:24-27, including their strongest advocates, their key arguments, and an assessment of their exegetical reliability against the Hebrew text and verified historical data.

School	Starting Pt.	70th Week	Anointed One	Key Scholars	Reliability
Critical / Maccabean	605 or 167 BC	Fulfilled under Antiochus IV (167 BC)	Onias III (High Priest, murdered 171 BC)	Montgomery, Collins, Goldingay	Dead Sea Scrolls evidence undermines; philosophical assumption, not manuscript fact
Historical Messianic	458/457 BC (Ezra)	Yeshua's ministry & crucifixion (27-33 AD)	Yeshua the Mashiach (cut off = crucifixion)	Luther, Calvin, E.J. Young, Keil	HIGH — strong Reformed exegesis; 458 BC start lands near Yeshua's baptism
Symbolic / Reformed Covenant	458 BC or broad	The entire Church Age (symbolic 7 years)	Yeshua the Mashiach; New Covenant = v.27 covenant	Meredith Kline, Vern Poythress	MODERATE — theological coherence but strains literal reading of v.27
Futurist / Dispensational	444 BC (Nehemiah)	Future 7-year Tribulation (yet to come)	Yeshua (69 wks); future ruler confirms 70th wk covenant	Anderson, Hoehner, McClain, Walvoord	HIGH — most precise chronological alignment; strongest Dani'el/Revelation integration
Jewish Traditional	586 BC (1st Temple)	Destruction of 2nd Temple (70 AD)	Cyrus, Zerubbabel, or High Priest	Abarbanel, Malbim, Ibn Ezra, Rashi	MODERATE — internally consistent

					within Jewish chronology; non-Messianic by design
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Sources: Wikipedia, 'Prophecy of Seventy Weeks' (April 2026); City Reformed Presbyterian Church, 'Four Interpretations of the 70 Weeks'; Aish.com, 'The Seventy Weeks of Dani'el 9'; Jews for Judaism, 'Daniel 9: A True Biblical Interpretation'; ResearchGate, 'Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks' (2019).

VII. Preterist Objections and Covenant Tanakh Responses

Preterist scholarship argues that Dani'el's 70th week was completed in the first century. Several of these objections rest on legitimate exegetical observations and deserve serious engagement rather than dismissal. The following table presents each objection and the response drawn from the Hebrew text of the Tanakh itself.

Objection	Preterist Argument	Covenant Tanakh Response
1. No gap in the text	490 yrs must run consecutively; a 2,000-year pause destroys the time unit	The Tanakh's own prophets compressed near and far fulfillment into single oracles — not as error but as literary form. Yeshua quoted Dani'el 9:27 as still future in Matthew 24:15, roughly 40 years before 70 AD. His witness is decisive.
2. 'He' = Yeshua, not Antichrist	Yeshua confirmed the New Covenant 'with many' in His ministry; crucifixion ended sacrifice spiritually	Grammatically in Hebrew, the 'he' of v.27 refers to the nearest antecedent — 'the prince who is to come' (v.26), a distinct figure from 'Mashiach the Prince' (v.25). Yeshua's ministry was approximately 3 years, not exactly 3.5. Rome, not Yeshua, destroyed the city.
3. Six purposes already met	Yeshua accomplished all six goals of v.24 at the Cross	Everlasting righteousness has not universally arrived. The Most Holy has not been anointed. Vision and prophecy have not been sealed in the manner Dani'el 12:4 describes. All six goals await final fulfillment.
4. 70 AD as fulfillment	Rome's destruction of Yerushalayim fulfilled the 'people of the prince' clause	Futurists agree 70 AD fulfilled the destruction clause — but outside the 70-week framework itself, in the gap after week 69. This confirms the gap exists; it does not close the 70th week.
5. Two anointed ones in Hebrew	v.25 = one figure after 7 weeks; v.26 = Onias III cut off after 62 weeks	This reading requires a 165 BC composition — undermined by Dead Sea Scrolls fragments from 125 BC. The pre-Yeshua Qumran community applied

		Daniel's Mashiach to a future royal deliverer, not Onias III.
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The fundamental challenge for full preterism is that it cannot account for the precision of the 173,880-day calculation terminating at the Triumphal Entry without a gap. If 69 weeks were fulfilled exactly, the 70th must also be fulfilled exactly — and the events of 66-73 CE do not constitute an exact seven-year covenant, a midpoint desecration, and a decreed end poured out on the desolator within that precise framework.

SECTION VIII

The Opinions of Men vs. the Standard of Yahweh

Examining Groups That Claimed to Interpret Dani'el's Prophecy — And Applying Yahweh's Own Test

The Standard Is Not Ours to Set

Throughout history — from the Second Temple period to the present day — sincere men and women, scholars and ministers, movements and denominations have devoted enormous energy to interpreting the visions of Dani'el. Many have claimed precision. Many have claimed divine authority. Some have moved millions. And yet the central question has never changed: by what standard do we evaluate these claims?

Miqdash Bethel's answer is not a theological preference. It is the answer Yahweh Himself gave — written into the covenant at Sinai, centuries before Dani'el received a single vision:

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 18:20-22 "But the prophet who shall speak a word presumptuously in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak — that prophet shall die. You may say in your heart, how will we know the word which Yahweh has not spoken? When the prophet speaks in the name of Yahweh and the thing does not come about or come true — that is the thing which Yahweh has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You shall not be afraid of him."

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 28:9 "The prophet who prophesies of peace — when the word of the prophet comes to pass, then that prophet will be known as one whom Yahweh has truly sent."

Devarim (Deuteronomy) 4:2 "You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it — that you may keep the commandments of Yahweh your Elohim which I command you."

The Purpose of This Section — Named Plainly

This section is not written to condemn any person, denomination, or movement. It is written because the covenant reader of every background — Jewish, Christian, Muslim, or none —

deserves the honesty that Yahweh's own standard demands. We apply Devarim 18 to every group listed here, including ourselves. If anything declared in the name of Yahweh does not come to pass, the covenant test is plain. The standard is not harsh — it is merciful. It protects the people from following what Yahweh did not send.

Category A — Groups Claiming Historical Fulfillment

A1. Traditional Protestant and Catholic Views — Calvin, Matthew Henry

The traditional Protestant and Catholic reading holds that the 490 years were completed in the first century: the 69 weeks from 457 BC landing near the ministry of Yeshua (Jesus), the crucifixion occurring within the 70th week, and the destruction of Yerushalayim in 70 CE closing the prophetic period. These scholars engaged the Tanakh timeline seriously and recognized the Mashiach as the central figure — what they got right is acknowledged.

Where it strains under the Tanakh's own light: Dani'el 9:24 gives six specific covenant goals the full 70 weeks must accomplish. If the 70 weeks ended in the first century, all six must be demonstrably complete. Everlasting righteousness has not arrived universally. The Most Holy has not been anointed in any form the Tanakh describes. And Dani'el himself was told the book is sealed 'until the time of the end' — that sealing was not lifted by 70 CE.

TANAKH VERDICT: Historically serious. The 69-week chronology has merit. The claim that all six covenant goals of verse 24 are complete does not survive the Tanakh's own plain text. Partially supported.

A2. Seventh-day Adventists — 457 BC, 34 AD, and the 1844 Extension

The Seventh-day Adventist framework begins from 457 BC with Artaxerxes' decree to Ezra, places the 69-week terminus at Yeshua's baptism in 27 AD, and ends the 70th week in 34 AD with the stoning of Stephen. The 457 BC starting point is historically defensible, supported by Ptolemy's canon, the Elephantine papyri, and the Jewish fall-to-fall calendar — this is acknowledged honestly.

The Critical Covenant Problem — Yirmeyahu 31:35-37

The standard Seventh-day Adventist position concludes that at the end of the 70 weeks, the nation of Yisra'el lost its special status as Yahweh's covenant people. This is a theological conclusion driving the timeline, not derived from it. Yahweh declared through Yirmeyahu: 'If this fixed order departs from before Me, declares Yahweh, then the offspring of Yisra'el also shall cease from being a nation before Me forever.' (Yirmeyahu 31:35-37). Yahweh tied His covenant with Yisra'el to the continued existence of the sun, moon, and stars. A theology that declares Yisra'el's covenant ended in 34 CE contradicts Yahweh's own sworn oath.

The 1844 extension built on Dani'el 8:14 predicted the return of the Mashiach. When 1843 passed, the date was revised to October 22, 1844. When that passed, the movement reorganized and reinterpreted the event as something that occurred invisibly in a heavenly sanctuary. The Tanakh's own test does not permit this maneuver. Devarim 18:22 is direct: when the word does not come to pass, that is the word Yahweh did not speak. Post-failure reinterpretation — however sincere — does not satisfy the covenant standard.

TANAKH VERDICT: 457 BC starting point is historically defensible. The 1844 prediction failed — both dates passed without fulfillment. Post-failure reinterpretation does not satisfy Devarim 18. The Israel-rejection theology contradicts Yirmeyahu 31:35-37. Partially supported on chronology; failed on the 1844 prediction and the covenant-rejection theology.

Category B — Groups Claiming Future Accuracy

B1. Dispensationalist Scholars — Anderson, Hoehner, Dallas Theological Seminary

The dispensationalist reading holds that 69 of the 70 weeks were fulfilled precisely at the Triumphal Entry of Yeshua into Yerushalayim — 173,880 days from the decree of Artaxerxes to Nehemiah in 444 BC. The 70th week is understood as a future seven-year Tribulation, separated from the 69th by the present age. The re-establishment of Yisra'el (1948) and the return of Yerushalayim (1967) are cited as covenant markers pointing toward the final week.

Where the Tanakh Confirms This Framework

The insistence that Yahweh's covenant with Yisra'el remains active — that the physical restoration of the land and the people are necessary preconditions for the final week — is grounded in the Tanakh's own covenant language. Yirmeyahu 30-31, Yehezkel 36-37, and Amos

9:14-15 all describe a literal return of the covenant people to the covenant land as part of Yahweh's end-time program. The 1948 and 1967 restorations align with this Tanakh pattern — they are not reading current events into the text; they are reading the text into current events.

Where this framework goes beyond what the Tanakh alone establishes: the specific concept of living believers gathered to the clouds before the Tribulation begins — what later theology calls the Rapture — has no clear Tanakh parallel. The ingathering prophecies of Yeshayahu 27, Yirmeyahu 31, and Yehezkel 36-37 all describe a physical gathering to the land, not a gathering into the clouds. Miqdash Bethel names this distinction honestly — it does not condemn what cannot be confirmed from the Tanakh, but it cannot confirm what the Tanakh does not establish.

TANAKH VERDICT: Most chronologically precise on the 69 weeks. Yisra'el's physical restoration as a covenant marker is firmly Tanakh-grounded. The 70th week framework is supported by Dani'el's own text. The Rapture concept is NT-developed and cannot be confirmed from the Tanakh alone. This view carries the highest scholarly credibility on the 69-week calculation.

B2. Modern Prophecy Ministries — Lamb & Lion, Got Questions, and Others

Popular prophecy ministries build on the reasonable principle that if Yahweh fulfilled 69 of 70 weeks with precision, the 70th will be equally precise. The foundational logic is sound. The caution is methodological: popular prophecy culture frequently maps current geopolitical events onto prophetic texts in ways that generate urgency but lack the textual grounding that Dani'el's own precision demands. When a specific peace agreement or political figure is elevated to the level of the covenant trigger — without meeting the text's explicit criterion of a confirmed seven-year covenant — the method has exceeded the text.

TANAKH VERDICT: The foundational principle is sound. The popular-culture application often exceeds what the text itself establishes. Apply the principle; test every specific claim against the text's own markers.

Category C — Failed Predictions: Devarim 18 Applied

This section applies Yahweh's own prophet test with both honesty and compassion. Sincerity is acknowledged wherever it existed. The covenant standard does not require us to question a

person's heart — only to test their word against Yahweh's measuring rod. When the word does not come to pass, the text of Devarim 18 is plain.

C1. William Miller and the Great Disappointment (1843-1844)

William Miller was a Baptist lay preacher who devoted fourteen years to intensive study of Dani'el 8:14 and the 2,300-day prophecy. Using the day-year principle — which has legitimate application in Tanakh prophetic literature — he identified 457 BC as the starting point and calculated that 2,300 prophetic years would end in 1843-1844, marking the return of the Mashiach. He was sincere. His method was serious. He was not a charlatan. And when both dates passed without fulfillment, he publicly acknowledged it.

The root exegetical error was the identification of the miqdash (sanctuary) in Dani'el 8:14. The Hebrew miqdash is used consistently throughout the Tanakh for the earthly covenant house of Yahweh — not the earth itself. When Miller reidentified it as the planet to be cleansed by fire, the foundation shifted under the entire calculation. A wrong reading of the Hebrew produced a wrong result, however earnestly the math was executed.

When 1843 passed, Miller revised to October 22, 1844. Under Devarim 18, this revision is not a permissible move. The covenant test is applied before the date, not after. Miller himself wrote: 'I confess my error and acknowledge my disappointment.' A man of integrity who applied a flawed methodology to a text that Yahweh Himself said was sealed until the time of the end.

TANAKH VERDICT — DEVARIM 18 APPLIED: Both predicted dates — 1843 and 1844 — passed without fulfillment. Miller himself acknowledged this. By Yahweh's own standard in Devarim 18:22, the word did not come to pass. This does not condemn the man — it applies the covenant test he claimed to honor. The lesson: Dani'el's precision demands precision in its reading, not enthusiasm outrunning exegesis.

C2. The House of Yahweh — Yisrayl Hawkins (Abilene/Clyde, Texas)

A Witness Note — From Inside the House

Elder Kepha Arcemont, founder of Miqdash Bethel and restorer of the House of Yahweh of Odessa, spent twenty-one years within the House of Yahweh organization in Abilene, Texas. What follows is not written from the outside looking in. It is written by a covenant witness who observed, tested, and ultimately measured what he saw against the only standard that matters: the written word of Yahweh in the Tanakh. The archive of that witness testimony is available at

themanbehindthename.com. This section addresses only the prophetic claims — the Tanakh test applied to what was publicly spoken in Yahweh's name.

The House of Yahweh, founded in 1980 in Abilene, Texas, built its identity on elements of genuine covenant alignment: the sacred Name Yahweh was honored, Torah-based practices were observed, pagan calendar traditions were rejected, and the Hebrew Scriptures were held as primary authority. These were real and significant departures from mainstream Christianity, and Miqdash Bethel acknowledges them openly — the covenant standard requires honesty in both directions.

The prophetic claims, however, must be submitted to the same Tanakh standard as every other claim made in Yahweh's name. The record is as follows:

Prophetic Claim — October 14, 2000 *The Israeli Peace Accord of October 13, 1993 triggered the seven-year tribulation of Dani'el 9:27. The Mashiach Yahshua would return on October 14, 2000.*

The Mashiach did not return on October 14, 2000. The date passed without fulfillment.

Prophetic Claim — September 12, 2006 *Nuclear war would begin on September 12, 2006.*

No nuclear war began on September 12, 2006. The date passed without fulfillment.

Prophetic Claim — June 12, 2008 *Nuclear war would begin on June 12, 2008.*

No nuclear war began on June 12, 2008. The date passed without fulfillment.

The Messianic Self-Claim *Yisrayl Hawkins declared that he would never die — and identified himself as the second coming of the Mashiach.*

Yisrayl Hawkins died on October 8, 2021. His own death is the Tanakh's answer to this claim.

The Two Witnesses Claim Examined Against the Tanakh

The Two Witnesses of Revelation 11 are described as having power to shut the heavens, turn waters to blood, and strike the earth with plagues — publicly, visibly, for 1,260 days. The image of the Two Witnesses draws from Zekhariah (Zechariah) 4, which presents two anointed ones standing before Yahweh — figures identified through their covenant function, not through

self-declaration. Neither Hawkins brother performed any of the signs the text requires. The elder brother died in 1991 — before the claimed tribulation period had even ended. The prophets of the Tanakh were named and sent by Yahweh. They did not name themselves.

The critical covenant lesson this record teaches is one Miqdash Bethel names with care and without contempt: using the Name Yahweh correctly does not fulfill the Tanakh's prophet test. Correct terminology in the mouth of a false prophecy does not sanctify that prophecy. The Names are sacred — and that is precisely why they impose the full weight of Yahweh's standard on those who speak in them.

***Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 14:14** "Then Yahweh said to me, The prophets are prophesying falsehood in My name. I have neither sent them nor commanded them nor spoken to them. They are prophesying to you a false vision, divination, futility, and the deception of their own minds."*

Dani'el himself was told: 'shut up the words and seal the book until the time of the end' (Dani'el 12:4). No human being was given authority to unseal what Yahweh sealed. The claim that any individual or organization had received that unsealing — and that others must join them or face destruction — is itself a form of adding to the word of Yahweh, which Devarim 4:2 expressly forbids.

TANAKH VERDICT — DEVARIM 18 APPLIED: Every testable prophetic date made in Yahweh's name through this organization failed. The messianic self-claim was disproved by the death of the claimant. The Two Witnesses identification produced none of the signs the text requires. By the covenant standard Yahweh gave at Sinai, these are the words Yahweh did not speak. This verdict is not personal condemnation. It is the covenant protecting the people — exactly as Yahweh intended when He wrote Devarim 18.

C3. Modern Date-Setters — 1988, 2012, and the Pattern That Repeats

Since the late 20th century, numerous individuals and organizations have used Dani'el's 70th week mathematics — combined with current geopolitical events — to predict specific dates for the end of the world. Edgar Whisenant's 88 Reasons Why the Rapture Will Be in 1988. Harold Camping's May 21, 2011 prediction. The 2012 phenomenon attaching Mayan calendar speculation to biblical prophecy. Every date has passed without fulfillment.

The pattern itself is the warning Dani'el's own text provides. The book was sealed until the time of the end. Dani'el himself asked what the outcome of these events would be and was told: 'Go your way, Dani'el, for these words are concealed and sealed until the end time' (Dani'el 12:9). If Yahweh refused the full answer even to Dani'el, no human calculation unlocks what Yahweh has not yet opened.

TANAKH VERDICT — DEVARIM 18 APPLIED: Every specific date has failed. The text itself — sealed by Yahweh's own instruction — is the guard against over-precision. The covenant reader is given Dani'el's own instruction: go your way.

Category D — Critical Academic View: Dani'el Written in 165 BCE

Mainstream academic scholarship holds that Dani'el was composed around 165 BCE during the Maccabean Revolt — that its 'prophecies' are post-event history written to encourage a persecuted community. On this reading, the book's accuracy is the accuracy of a historian, not a prophet.

This view rests on a philosophical assumption — that predictive prophecy is impossible — then works backward from that assumption to date the text. The manuscript evidence directly challenges it. Dead Sea Scrolls fragments of Dani'el are dated to approximately 125 BCE — barely forty years after the proposed 165 BCE composition. For a book composed in 165 BCE to achieve canonical status, be copied with reverence, and be applied by the rigorous Qumran community to future Messianic expectation — all within forty years — is archaeologically implausible. Books do not achieve such authority that quickly.

TANAKH VERDICT: The Dead Sea Scrolls evidence makes the 165 BCE composition date archaeologically implausible. This is a methodological assumption against predictive prophecy — not a conclusion from the manuscript record. The earliest Jewish readers treated Dani'el as genuine prophecy. Methodologically flawed.

Category E — Jewish Traditional View: From the First Temple to the Second

The classical Jewish reading — represented by Abarbanel, Malbim, Ibn Ezra, and Aish.com — understands the 70 weeks as the span from the destruction of the First Temple (586 BCE) to the destruction of the Second Temple (70 CE), approximately 490 years in Jewish chronological

reckoning. Miqdash Bethel engages this view with the respect it deserves. It is covenantally serious. It keeps Yahweh's covenant with Yisra'el central — exactly where the text places it.

Where Miqdash Bethel Stands With the Jewish Reading

The covenant with Yisra'el is irrevocable — Yirmeyahu 31:35-37 and Romiyim (Romans) 11:26-29 (the latter citing the Tanakh directly) both confirm this. The 70 weeks are explicitly about 'your people and your holy city.' Any reading that removes the prophecy from Yisra'el, or declares Yisra'el's covenant terminated, has departed from the text's own stated scope. On these foundational points, Miqdash Bethel and classical Jewish interpretation stand together.

Where the reading strains: the 490-year span from the First Temple's destruction to the Second Temple's destruction does not align cleanly with the mathematical framework Gavri'el provides — the division into 7, 62, and 1 week, each with distinct events attached, fits the Artaxerxes-to-Triumphal-Entry calculation far more precisely. The anointed one 'cut off' in verse 26 remains difficult to identify within this framework without either identifying him as Yeshua or as Onias III — and the latter creates its own chronological difficulties.

This is where Miqdash Bethel's reading diverges from classical Jewish interpretation — not on the covenant status of Yisra'el, which is absolute, but on the identity of the mashiach nagid and the meaning of the karet in verse 26. This divergence is named honestly, not papered over, because honest disagreement between covenant readers who both honor the Tanakh is itself a form of respect.

TANAKH VERDICT: Covenantally serious and internally consistent within Jewish chronological tradition. Miqdash Bethel honors this reading's insistence on Yisra'el's covenant centrality — that ground is shared. The divergence is on the identity of the anointed one cut off. A genuine exegetical difference between covenant readers who share the same Tanakh.

Summary: What the Tanakh's Standard Reveals

The following table applies Yahweh's own covenant test across every position examined in this section:

Group / Scholar	Claim	Key Finding	Tanakh Verdict
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Calvin / Matthew Henry	Historical (1st C)	69-wk chronology sound; 6 goals of Dani'el 9:24 not demonstrably complete	PARTIALLY SUPPORTED
Seventh-day Adventists	Historical + 1844	457 BC defensible; 1844 failed; Israel-rejection contradicts Yirmeyahu 31:35-37	1844 FAILED — DEVARIM 18
Anderson / Hoehner / DTS	Future 70th Week	Most precise on 69 weeks; Yisra'el restoration Tanakh-grounded; Rapture is NT-only	STRONGEST ON 69 WEEKS
William Miller (1844)	End-of-world date	Both 1843 and 1844 failed; Miller himself acknowledged the error	FAILED — DEVARIM 18 TEST
House of Yahweh / Hawkins	Multiple end-dates	2000, 2006, 2008 predictions all failed; messianic self-claim disproved by death	FAILED — DEVARIM 18 TEST
Critical Scholarship	Maccabean (165 BC)	Dead Sea Scrolls (125 BC fragments) make 165 BC composition implausible	METHODOLOGICALLY FLAWED
Jewish Traditional	1st–2nd Temple	Internally consistent; covenantally serious; diverges on identity of mashiach nagid	COVENANTALLY SERIOUS

The Closing Word — What the Text Itself Says to All of Them

Dani'el 12:4 "But as for you, Dani'el, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth and knowledge will increase."

Every group examined in this section has something in common: they all believed their reading of Dani'el had unlocked what the book contained. Some were scholars. Some were ministers. Some were prophets in their own estimation. And across seventeen centuries of earnest, often brilliant, sometimes costly interpretation, the pattern that emerges is not human progress toward the correct answer. It is the pattern of Yahweh's own statement: the book is sealed until the time of the end. No calculation — however elegant — opens what Yahweh has not yet opened.

The failed dates are not a record of foolishness. They are a record of what happens when the urgency of human longing outruns the patience the covenant requires. Every group that set a date had read the text. Every group that failed had mistaken their reading of the text for the text's own authority.

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 6:16 "Thus says Yahweh: Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths — the derekh olam, the ancient way — where the good way is, and walk in it; and you will find rest for your souls."

The Miqdash Bethel Standard — Applied to Ourselves

Miqdash Bethel applies Devarim 18 to itself. If anything declared in these pages in the name of Yahweh does not align with His written word, that error belongs to us. The covenant has no double standard. Truth does not require the destruction of what is partially true in order to establish itself. Every group in this section carried something real. The task of the covenant reader is to receive what Yahweh gave and release what men added — with honesty, with humility, and without fear.

IX. Dani'el 12 — The Most Misunderstood Chapter

Dani'el 12 is brief — only 13 verses — but it contains some of the most theologically dense content in the entire canon. It has been misread in two opposite directions: by those who spiritualize it entirely, denying a future tribulation and bodily resurrection; and by those who press its cryptic numbers into rigid timelines without understanding its covenant context.

A. The Tzarah Gedolah — The Great Tribulation (Dani'el 12:1)

Dani'el 12:1 "Now at that time Mikha'el, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued."

The Hebrew phrase *eit tzarah asher lo nihy'ta* — 'a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation' — is the Tanakh's own name for the event Yeshua quoted directly in Matthew 24:21. That quotation establishes Dani'el 12:1 as a still-future event from the standpoint of the first century. This is the Tzarah Gedolah — the Great Tribulation — the second half of the 70th week. The parallel in Yirmeyahu 30:7 — 'It is the time of Ya'akov's trouble, but he will be saved from it' — confirms this is specifically Yisra'el's tribulation, covenantally framed.

B. The Resurrection — Dani'el 12:2

Dani'el 12:2 "Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt."

This is one of the clearest affirmations of bodily resurrection in the entire Tanakh. The word rabbim — 'many' — is a Semitic idiom for a comprehensive group, as in Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 53:11-12 where the Servant justifies 'the many.' Both resurrections in view — to everlasting life and to everlasting contempt — are universal in scope. The covenant significance is foundational: the same Yahweh who made promises to the living keeps faith with the dead. Resurrection is not a secondary doctrine — it is the ultimate expression of covenant faithfulness.

C. The Sealed Wisdom — Dani'el 12:3-4

Dani'el is commanded to 'conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time.' This sealing was not suppression — it was the declaration that the full meaning of these visions would not be comprehensible until the events they describe drew near. 'Many will go back and forth and knowledge will increase' (12:4) describes the acceleration of inquiry into these prophecies as their fulfillment approaches — precisely what has occurred since Yisra'el's national restoration in 1948.

D. The Three Time Periods — The Heart of the Mystery

Reference	Days	Prophetic Interpretation
Dani'el 12:7	Time, times, half	3.5 years = Second half of the 70th Week — Eit Tzarah of Ya'akov
Dani'el 12:11	1,260	From abomination of desolation to end of tribulation
Dani'el 12:11	1,290	Extra 30 days — judgment of nations; cleansing of the land
Dani'el 12:12	1,335	Extra 75 days — blessed arrival of the Kingdom; Millennial inauguration

1. Time, Times, and Half a Time (Dani'el 12:7)

This phrase — equivalent to 3.5 years, 42 months, or 1,260 days — appears across Dani'el (7:25; 12:7) and Revelation (11:2-3; 12:6, 14; 13:5) as the signature period of the Tzarah Gedolah. It corresponds to the second half of the 70th week — the period of the covenant violation, the abomination of desolation, and the great persecution of the covenant people.

2. The 1,290 Days (Dani'el 12:11)

The 1,290 days exceed the 1,260 days by 30 days. This extra month is broadly understood as the interval following the formal end of the Tzarah Gedolah during which the judgment of the

nations occurs (Matthew 25:31-46) and the physical cleansing and reconsecration of the land and the miqdash takes place — a necessary transition before the Kingdom is formally inaugurated.

3. The 1,335 Days (Dani'el 12:12)

The 1,335-day period adds 45 more days beyond the 1,290 — a total of 75 days past the end of the Tzarah Gedolah. The messenger pronounces: 'Blessed is he who keeps waiting and attains to the 1,335 days.' Those who endure through the full 75-day interval will witness the formal commencement of the Messianic kingdom — the blessed arrival that Dani'el's entire book has been pointing toward.

The 75-Day Transition Period

The 75 days between the end of the Tzarah Gedolah (1,260 days) and the blessed arrival (1,335 days) likely encompasses: the judgment of the nations (Matthew 25:31-46), the resurrection and glorification of tribulation martyrs (Revelation 20:4), the binding of the Adversary (Revelation 20:1-3), the reconsecration of the miqdash and the land of Yisra'el, and the formal inauguration of the Messianic reign. Those who 'wait and arrive' are the surviving remnant of Yisra'el and the nations who enter the Millennial age in mortal bodies as the covenant community of the kingdom.

E. Dani'el's Personal Promise (Dani'el 12:13)

Dani'el 12:13 "But as for you, go your way to the end; then you will enter into rest and rise again for your allotted portion at the end of the age."

After receiving visions spanning millennia, Dani'el is not given exhaustive comprehension. He is given a promise. He will rest and stand in his allotted place at the end of the days. Dani'el is not merely a conduit for prophetic information — he is a covenant partner. The same resurrection he prophesied will include him personally. This is the pastoral heart of the entire book: the future that Dani'el could not fully see, he could fully trust. The Sovereign who governs history from beginning to end holds the lives of His people — even in their confusion and darkness — with covenant faithfulness.

X. Conclusion: Reading Dani'el Covenantally

The prophetic architecture of Dani'el 7–12 is not primarily a newspaper in advance. It is a covenant document — Yahweh's sworn testimony to Yisra'el and to all nations that He will fulfill every promise, judge every covenant-breaker, vindicate every covenant-keeper, and establish His kingdom in righteousness.

The scholarly record, examined honestly, reinforces the futurist-messianic reading: the 173,880-day calculation is one of the most precisely verified chronological prophecies in ancient literature. The Dead Sea Scrolls confirm that pre-Yeshua Judaism read Dani'el's Mashiach as future. The Qumran community, the Pharisees, and the earliest Jewish followers of Yeshua all understood Dani'el 9 as pointing to a coming royal Redeemer.

Dani'el 12 emerges from misunderstanding when read in light of its covenant logic: the Tzarah Gedolah is judgment and purging; the resurrection is vindication; the time periods are Yahweh's precise, faithful scheduling of redemptive events; and the final word to Dani'el is the final word to every covenant reader — go your way, rest, and you will stand in your allotted place.

For those who wonder whether we are now in the 70th week: the text's own covenant markers have not yet been triggered. But the trajectory of history — Yisra'el restored, Yerushalayim recaptured, the nations in upheaval, knowledge of prophecy increasing — is unmistakably preparation. The words that were sealed are being read by many. Yahweh's timing remains His own. The call of Miqdash Bethel is not date-setting — it is covenant walking.

Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 6:16 "Thus says Yahweh: Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the ancient paths — the derekh olam — where the good way is, and walk in it; and you will find rest for your souls."

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XI. Select Bibliography and Source Reliability

All primary claims in this study are corroborated by two or three independent witnesses per the Devarim 19:15 standard.

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All Tanakh quotations from the New American Standard Bible (NASB) unless otherwise noted. Hebrew terms are transliterated for accessibility to all readers.