




Messiah the Prince

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“Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done” Isaiah 46:10.

The “one God, the Father, of whom are all things” (1Cor 8:6) “so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son (John 3:16). “In this was manifested the love of God toward us because that He sent His only begotten Son into the world that we might live through him” 1John 4:9. And the Father had an exact time that His Son should come. “The times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power” Acts 1:7 are determined and known only by Him,

God has determined the course of history in advance, and The Jesus Prophecy is the most exact demonstration of the Father’s control of time. He definitely knows the end from the beginning.

The book of Daniel in the Bible has many prophecies. Some foretold the rise and fall of empires, the appearance of a great desolating religious power, and the change of times and laws. But the greatest event of world history which yet today divides all dates before (BC) and after (AD) it was the advent of Jesus Christ on this earth. We can

look at any calendar and know just how many years ago that was.

From the Going Forth

Daniel was one of the princes taken from Jerusalem by the king of Babylon nearly 600 years before the birth of Christ. When he purposed in his heart to remain faithful to the God of heaven, Jehovah revealed to him the future span of empires from Persia and Greece to Rome and beyond—way beyond.

In the third year of Belshazzar, the last king of Babilylon, Daniel was given a vision of events 2300 days into the future. Daniel, now nearly 80 years old, immediately thought of the temple in Jerusalem which still lay in ruins ever since its destruction by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BC. If it was to be restored in only 2300 days, Daniel would have rejoiced! After 70 years in Babylon, another 6 ½ years would be wonderful news!

But Daniel understood the time specified was unbelievably long. Not just 2300 days, a mere 6½ years, but as prophetic time was understood, Daniel fainted and was sick for many days. He recognized it to represent a delay of over two thousand years. Dan. 8:14, 27.

Daniel and his people had been held captive in Babylon for 70 years, just the number of years that had been foretold by Jeremiah long

before. Babylon fell to the Medes and the Persians under Cyrus in 536 BC just as Isaiah had foretold over 150 years before his birth! Now the time was up and Darius the Mede now reigned over Babylon. In his first year Daniel the prophet began to study the prophecies. He went back to Jeremiah to verify God's word.

But Daniel was told that "the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days. Then Daniel was astonished at the vision, and none understood it. Dan. 8:27. 2300 years was indeed "many days," a very long time.

So in Daniel 9, he confirms once again the prophecy of Jeremiah that "the desolations of Jerusalem" would be only 70 years (verse 2). With this assurance, he began to pray for the Lord's "sanctuary that was desolate" (17). "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." (19). "Defer not!"

While he was still praying, the angel Gabriel came to help him "understand the matter and consider the vision." (23). Gabriel begins with the number 70. But rather than 70 years, it is 70 weeks!

24 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 in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

25 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.

26 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.

27 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 over-spreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate. Daniel 9:24-27

The first 70 weeks (490 days of the 2300) ends with “Messiah the Prince.” The promised One, the Seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15), the Lamb of God (Genesis 22:8; Isaiah 53:7), would finally come! But 70 weeks is not even two years. Prophetic time is a very different kind of time.



The unfaithful spies who returned after 40 days in Canaan only to discourage the people from entering in, were given the answer to their prayer: “Would that we had died in the wilderness!” So, God pronounced their own sentence: 40 years of wandering until all that generation died, “a day for a year” Numbers 14:34.

The prophet Ezekiel was told to lie on his right side 390 days, “a day for a year” according to the years in which the northern kingdom had failed to keep the 7th year of release and land rest. Eze. 4:4.

Now it was Daniel’s turn. In answer to his prayer that God not let the sanctuary lay in ruins back in Jerusalem for another two plus millennia before its restoration, the

angel Gabriel came in chapter 9 to explain the vision of the 2300 “evening and mornings.”

Gabriel begins by dissecting this incredibly long time period into a few smaller chunks.

70 weeks “are determined upon thy people” i.e. 490 days (“each day for a year” Numbers 14:34; “I

have appointed you a day for a year” Ezekiel 4:6) or 490 years. Daniel 9:25. “From the going forth of the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem unto Messiah the Prince shall be 69 weeks” Daniel 9:26.

Cyrus and Darius issued decrees for the

Jewish captives to return to Jerusalem. But it was the decree of Artaxerxes in 457 BC as recorded in Ezra 7 in the Persian king’s seventh year that had first provided autonomy and self-rule to the Jews under the laws of Moses, and rebuilding the wall and temple from the royal treasury. 69 weeks (483 years) later in 27 AD was one week short of the 70.

70 weeks or 490 years is exactly 10 jubilees. Every seven years the land was to rest, and after seven “land sabbaths” a second land rest on the 50th year marked the jubilee when all land was returned to the original owners. The only known jubilee in the Bible was exactly 5 jubilees prior to 457 in 702 BC when Jerusalem was besieged by

Assyria and king Hezekiah was given a sign: two years when no crops would be planted, two land sabbaths in a row. The account was so important that it is recorded in the Bible twice, word for word in 2Kings 19 and Isaiah 37.

That year was a real jubilee. The threat of being conquered by king Sennacharib was removed and their land was preserved by the sudden collapse of the Assyrian army surrounding the city. Then exactly five jubilees later Jerusalem was again restored to its original owners by the decree of Artaxerxes.

“The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.” Daniel 9:25 The wall was initially built in 49 years (7 weeks) which is how the time was specified: “seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks”. It was during this time that the Samaritans opposed the building and burnt the gates. Nehemiah received word of this and obtained permission to return to Jerusalem in 444 BC and rebuild the wall in 52 days. Nehemiah 6:15.

Unto Messiah the Prince

As the 69th week approached, many began to look for the coming of the prophesied Messiah. Star gazers came from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is He that is born King of the Jews for we have seen his star in the east” Matthew 2:1. Simeon waited for the “consolation of Israel and it was revealed to him that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord’s

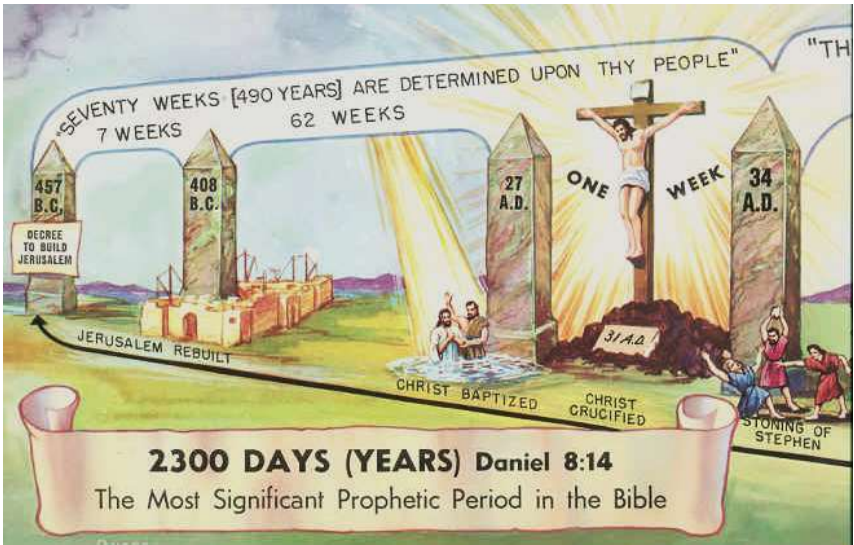
Christ” Luke 2:25,26. The time had come for Messiah the Prince.

Exactly on schedule, Jesus was baptized in the Jordan in 27 AD being “about 30 years of age” in the 15th year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar. Luke 3:1,23. Then Jesus “came into Galilee ...saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand” Mark 1:14,15. It was the beginning of the 70th week, a sabbatical year, when captives were to be set free, and the land was to rest. Then Jesus “as His custom was, went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and read...The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach **the acceptable year of the Lord**” Luke 4:16-19.

The year of the Messiah, the Anointed One, had finally arrived and for three and half years He confirmed the covenant.

For One Week

“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” Daniel 9:27. How could he confirm it for a week if in the midst of the last seven years, the Messiah would cause sacrifice and oblation to cease. Then “shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself” verse 26. The death of the Lamb of God



brought to an end the shedding of animal blood. Hebrews 10:8,9.



For 3½ years Jesus taught, and preached, and healed, and then confirmed the covenant with his own blood. And He said, “This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for many” Matthew 26:28. Then for an additional 3½ years the disciples confirmed his death and resurrection to all in Jerusalem. His “great salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, was confirmed unto us by them that heard” Heb. 2:3.

Right in the middle of the 70th week, Jesus was crucified at the

very time of the morning sacrifice (the third hour. Mark 15:25), and precisely at the time of the evening sacrifice he died (the ninth hour. Matthew 27:46,50). Darkness was about the cross, the vail of the temple was torn from top to bottom, and then there was a great earthquake. Those who witnessed it agreed, “Surely, this was the Son of God.” Matthew 27:54.

To Anoint the Most Holy

Daniel’s 70 week prophecy would accomplish six things:

“finish the transgression, make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, bring in everlasting righteousness, seal up the vision and prophecy, and anoint the most Holy”

“In the fullness of time God sent forth His Son made of a woman” Galatians 4:4. Right on schedule, the Son of man was born and at the age of 30, the age when a priest be-

gan to minister in the temple (Num 4:3), the age when Joseph stood before Pharaoh (Gen 41:46), the age when David began to reign (2Sam 5:4). Jesus, God's holy child was anointed with the Holy Spirit of God His Father (Acts 4:27).

The Messiah is the Anointed, the Christened, the Christ. He was anointed from the very beginning. "Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, **against the LORD, and against his anointed**" Psalm 2:1,2. For "unto the Son he [the Father] saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even **thy God, hath anointed thee** with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." Heb 1:8,9; Psalm 45.



"The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make

thine enemies thy footstool." Psalm 110:1. "And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD" Isaiah 11:2. The Son of God was anointed with the seven Spirits of God; they are his. "These things saith the Son of God...He that hath the seven Spirits of God" Revelation 2:18; 3:1.

The Messiah is "the Christ, the Son of the living God" Matt 16:16. He was "Jesus the Christ" verse 20. "one is your Father, which is in heaven...[and] one is your Master, Christ." Matt 23:9,10.

The Father anointed His Son to be our Priest, our King, and the one Mediator between God and men, the man *Christ* Jesus. 1Timothy 2:5 Jesus said He was "the Christ, the Son of the Blessed" Mark 14:61,62, the anointed Son of God. Even the devils recognized him as "Christ the Son of God...for they knew that he was the Christ" Luke 4:41, the Messiah, the anointed One. Peter said he was "The Christ of God" Luke 9:20, for "Christ is God's" 1Cor 3:23, he is "the Lord's Christ, the Lord's anointed" Luke 2:26. But it was Peter's brother, Andrew, who said, "We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ." John 1:41.

The woman at Jacob's well was convinced, "Come, see a man who told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?" John 4:29. She was, like Andrew, a true Messianic

missionary. The town of Sychar came to see for themselves and exclaimed, “this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.” Verse 42.

And, indeed, He was. For every prophecy of the coming Messiah was fulfilled in Jesus. And “the scripture said, That Christ comes of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem” John 7:42. So, He was. As the Son of Joseph and Mary who came to Bethlehem, the city of David to be taxed, there the Messiah was born. Luke 2:4.



When the magi from the East came looking for “Him who is born king of the Jews”, they were told “In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.” Matt 2:5,6. Micah, which

hey quoted continues, “Whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting,” from the days of eternity. Micah 5:2.

Where did the Messiah come from? From Bethlehem, yes, but before that, from eternity.

Martha knew. “I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.” John 11:27. Jesus said, “I am not of this world” John 8:23. To Pilate, he said, “My kingdom is not of this world” John 18:36. He came to this world from God His Father.



Yes, “God sent his only begotten Son into the world” For “the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.” 1John 4:9, 14.

God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power... for God was with Him.

Acts 10:38