# The Prophets Falls International Baptist Institute Class Twelve The Book of Daniel Part 2 "Daniel's Prophecies"

Text: Daniel 2:31-45

Intro. Our last lesson in the Prophets corresponds with the Book of Daniel Part 2. Prophecy came not by the will of man, but Holy Men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost: Daniel was a young man, and he was holy. I want to teach a quick lesson here. We could learn prophecy till we know all there is to know, and we could have a dead lesson full of true knowledge from God's Word. Why does God want us know prophecy? Because every man that hath this hope in himself purifieth himself even as he is pure. There must be practical application if there is to be life in our lessons. Oliver Greene said "I believe in prophecy; I preach and teach prophecy—but there is no need to teach people prophetic truths of the Bible if they do not practice righteousness and practical Christianity in their daily life". Let me give you a practical application then. Daniel was a young man from Jerusalem who was more than likely a descendant of Hezekiah, very possibly a close relation to King Zedekiah. Daniel was living holy in Jerusalem before he was ever taken captive and carried to Babylon. If you cannot live the Jerusalem life in Jerusalem, you will never live it in Babylon! I want you to notice as well that the source of Daniel's victory was his heart: Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself. The Bible says, "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he". What kind of a man are you? A man of integrity? A woman of virtue? What you think about is who you are, and when the heat is on, the temptation is real, the going gets tough; what is in the well will come out the pump! You will reveal your heart. There is no doubt tonight that Daniel was tempted to go along to get along. There is no doubt that Daniel struggled in his mind with the temptation: that is normal, and Daniel was a human like we are humans. But with every temptation, God provides a way of escape, and as Daniel thought about the temptations that Babylon would have to offer, he purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself. I would to God that every one of us will purpose in our hearts not to defile ourselves.

Do you want to understand prophecy? Then be pure, be prayerful, be passionate in your studies and God will illuminate your eyes to these truths. "he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:"

Oliver Greene said "With the exception of Joseph, I find no other character in the Bible who compares so closely with Daniel in purity. Both of these young men lived pure, dedicated lives, yielding their all to God in service, love, and in obedience...There is also a very striking similarity between these two men in their experiences with God and with the enemy, the devil...Joseph and his experiences in Egypt, Daniel and his experiences in Babylon. Both of them were Hebrews; both were prisoners in a strange land among heathen people. Both were dreamers; both understood and made the interpretation of dreams. Both underwent severe moral testing—and both won the victory! Joseph was taken into the house of Potiphar (Genesis 39). Daniel was taken in King

Nebuchadnezzar's palace and exposed to everything that existed in the palace of a heathen king. Both of these men were young, which made their temptations especially severe...those of us who have studied their lives know that they refused to compromise to even the smallest degree. They refused to forsake their faith and their God. Both of these young men proved to be a great blessing to the homes in which they lived; and because of their devotion to God, because of their character and their unusual abilities, both were promoted to positions of power, honor, and glory. The secret of the success and blessings in the lives of Joseph and Daniel was their loyalty to their God...".

## I. NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S IMAGE (Daniel 2:31-45)

- A. The Book of Daniel: the book of Daniel has been the most attacked book of the Bible by the liberals and modernists. Without getting into their false assumptions and outright denials, let us just say that Daniel was a contemporary of Ezekiel, and Ezekiel spoke of him three times in his book (Ezekiel 14:14,20; 28:3).
  - 1. The Recognition of Daniel the Prophet: Christ Himself acknowledged that Daniel was real and was a prophet, and quoted from the Book of Daniel in Mark 13:14 where it says "But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains:"
  - 2. The Death of a Nation: Right after Solomon died, his son, Rehoboam, came into power, and the nation of Israel was divided under him. Ten tribes rebelled and formed Israel while he remained king over two tribes which were called Judah. In B.C. 726, the ten-tribe kingdom, Israel, was carried away into captivity. Every single one of their kings had been "evil" in the sight of the LORD, and God judged them. In B.C. 606, the kingdom of Judah was carried away by Nebuchadnezzar into Babylonian captivity. Israel as a nation died in 606 B.C. Even though a fair representation of all twelve tribes returned to Israel after 70 years of Babylonian captivity, Israel never regained her sovereignty as a nation until 1948.
  - 3. The Beginning of the Times of the Gentiles: In Luke 21:24, Jesus said that Jerusalem would be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. The phrase "times of the Gentiles" is important to our study of Nebuchadnezzar's image. Though Israel regained her national status in 1948, she still is under a form of Gentile dominion as ½ of the city of Jerusalem, and the Temple Mount are Gentile occupied. "The Times of the Gentiles" refers to that period of time from when Israel went into Babylonian Captivity until the beginning of the Millennial Reign of Christ.
- B. The Dream of Nebuchadnezzar: In Daniel 2, Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. In his dream he saw an image. Now remember, he, a Gentile king, has just destroyed the nation of Israel and dispersed the Jewish people. He represents the beginning of the Times of the Gentiles as he rules over the world including Jerusalem. In the wisdom of God, God saw fit to reveal

His Complete Plan for Gentile World Dominion to this Nebuchadnezzar, the first Gentile world leader. In his dream, he saw an image with a:

- 1. Head of Fine Gold: Daniel 2:32 "This image's head was of fine gold"
- 2. Breast and Arms of Silver: Daniel 2:32 "his breast and his arms of silver"
- 3. Belly and Thighs of Brass: Daniel 2:32 "his belly and his thighs of brass"
- 4. Legs of Iron and Feet part of Iron and part of Clay: Daniel 2:33 "His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay."
- 5. A Stone cut out w/o hands smites the image's feet and completely destroys the image: Daniel 2:34-35 "Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."
- C. The Interpretation of the Dream: Four Gentile World Empires.
  - 1. The Head of Fine Gold represented Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon: Daniel 2:37-38 "Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold."
  - 2. The Breast and Arms of Silver represented Media Persia. They would conquer Babylon: Daniel 2:39 "And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee". To confirm for sure that he is speaking of Media- Persia, Daniel 5:30-31 tells us that Darius the Median took the kingdom. Cyrus was the king of Persia (Iran).
  - 3. The Belly and Thighs of Brass represented Greece, as Alexander the Great would conquer Media-Persia: Daniel 2:39 "and another third kingdom of brass". Again, just for confirmation sake, Daniel 8:20-21 confirms that Greece would overthrow Media-Persia.
  - 4. The Legs (of Iron) and feet (part of Iron and part of Clay) represented Rome, as Rome would overthrow Greece and rule the world: Daniel 2:40-43 "And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not

- mixed with clay". We know the last is Rome because in Daniel 9:26 we are told "the people of the prince shall destroy the sanctuary" and that is a clear reference to the Romans, under Titus, who destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple in A.D. 70. The reference to iron signified the iron rule that Rome would hold over its occupants.
- 5. The Stone that is cut out of the mountain without hands and hits the image's feet and destroys it is the Lord Jesus Christ. Notice that this stone strikes and immediately the image is destroyed: IT IS NOT A PROGRESSIVE DESTRUCTION; IT SIGNIFIES A SUDDEN AND IMMEDIATE DESTRUCTION. THIS IS CLEARLY A PICTURE OF THE Second Coming of Jesus Christ in the Revelation at the Valley of Megiddo. This is when the saints of God will take the kingdom! This is of vital importance: this is a major proof text that the Gentile world will not be converted and bring in the kingdom of Christ; rather Christ will come suddenly and destroy Gentile World Rule and Gentile Dominion of Israel.
- D. Nebuchadnezzar's Image symbolized the world kingdoms in their unity and historical succession. The degeneration of the kingdoms is seen in the diminishing values. The weight also declines making the image top heavy. The character of each world empire would deteriorate. Note the fine gold of Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom: his was an absolute monarchy. Daniel 5:19 "And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down". But Cyrus's Media-Persia was a hereditary aristocracy. The king could not do as he will, hence Darius could not save Daniel from the Law of Medes and Persians. Nor could Ahasuerus cancel the decree to kill the Jews at Shushan. The third kingdom (Greece) was brass and the government of Alexander the Great was a monarchy supported by military aristocracy, that was as strong or as weak as the ambitions of its leaders. The iron power of Rome shows still further depreciation. The Caesars were nominally elected by the people and they had a Senate which was supposed to counsel and control them. But notice, as we get closer and closer to the feet, we see it is no longer that iron, or hardened iron, which is steel; but rather, it is mixed with clay. It gets weaker and weaker and it degenerates into an autocratic Democracy, a form of government in which the people largely have the say. Notice again that the kingdoms are described from the head to the feet. Notice as well that the first kingdom was one unit, the second was a dual unit, the third becomes a quartet eventually (Egypt, Thrace, Syria, and Macedonia) (Daniel 7:6; 8:8) and the last given kingdom will become a ten-kingdom confederation.

### II. DANIEL'S VISION OF FOUR BEASTS. Daniel 7

A. Daniel's Faithful Testimony: Forty-eight years after both telling and interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's dream, Daniel received another vision

- about the Times of the Gentiles. It is worth pointing out that Daniel was still in touch with God: he was still a holy man of God.
- B. Four Great Beasts that are diverse from one another rise out of the agitated Mediterranean Sea. I cannot help but think of Isaiah 57:20-21 right here. This vision again speaks of four world empires that would dominate the world from Daniel's Day until The Revelation of Jesus Christ. Daniel 7:17-18 "These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever."
  - 1. Like a Lion with Eagles' Wings: Daniel 7:4 "The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it."
    - Notice the correlation to Nebuchadnezzar's Image: Daniel 2 "This image's head was of fine gold" "Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold." There is no doubt scripturally and historically that this speaks of Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon. The head of the image, the most precious of metals, the king of beasts, the king of birds: this first world empire would be the greatest world empire. His was an absolute monarchy; he had complete control over the children of men, the beasts of the field, and the fowls of the heaven. Notice again Daniel 5:19 "And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down".
    - b. Jeremiah 4:17 "The lion is come up from his thicket, and the destroyer of the Gentiles is on his way; he is gone forth from his place to make thy land desolate; and thy cities shall be laid waste, without an inhabitant."
    - c. Jeremiah 50:17 "Israel is a scattered sheep; the lions have driven him away: first the king of Assyria hath devoured him; and last this Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath broken his bones."
    - d. The wings of an eagle represent the speed at which the Babylonian Empire flew over kingdoms and countries adding them to his empire. Jeremiah 4:13 "Behold, he shall come up as clouds, and his chariots shall be as a whirlwind: his horses are swifter than eagles. Woe unto us! for we are spoiled." Jeremiah 49:22 "Behold, he shall

come up and fly as the eagle, and spread his wings over Bozrah: and at that day shall the heart of the mighty men of Edom be as the heart of a woman in her pangs." But God would pluck his wings, which means that their progress would be slowed and stopped; it would fly no further, make no new conquests, and the fearless Lion-like Empire would be given the heart of a man and become weak and timid and fearful which is exactly what happened to Belshazzar when God gave him the handwriting on the wall.

- 2. Like to a Bear: Daniel 7:5 "And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh."
  - a. Notice the correlation to Nebuchadnezzar's Image again in Daniel 2: "his breast and his arms of silver" "And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee". Again, scripturally, and historically, this speaks of Media-Persia.
  - b. Notice that the bear is not as swift and agile as a lion or an eagle, but it is big and massive. It depends on brute force to conquer its enemies, and that description fits Media-Persia well. It is reported by historians that they had an army of 2,500,000. Certainly, with an army that size, they could devour much flesh. The raising itself on one side speaks of the superior might of Persia within the Media-Persian alliance, and the three ribs being crushed in its mouth refers to Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt which had formed a triple alliance to withstand Media-Persia.
  - Note as well other scripture references to this: Isaiah 13 c. prophecies the destruction of Babylon by the Medes specifically in verse 17: "Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, which shall not regard silver; and as for gold, they shall not delight in it." Jeremiah 51:11 "Make bright the arrows; gather the shields: the LORD hath raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes: for his device is against Babylon, to destroy it; because it is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance of his temple." And again Jeremiah 51:27-30 "Set ye up a standard in the land, blow the trumpet among the nations, prepare the nations against her, call together against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni, and Ashchenaz; appoint a captain against her; cause the horses to come up as the rough caterpillers. Prepare against her the nations with the kings of the Medes, the captains thereof, and all the rulers thereof, and all the land of his dominion. And the land shall tremble and sorrow: for every purpose of the LORD shall be performed against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation

- without an inhabitant. The mighty men of Babylon have forborn to fight, they have remained in their holds: their might hath failed; they became as women: they have burned her dwellingplaces; her bars are broken." Now notice Daniel 5:28 "PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."
- d. Notice again the diminishing value and weight of the metals, the downward progression of the image, the devolution of the beasts.
- 3. Like a Leopard: Daniel 7:6 "After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it."
  - a. The correlation to Nebuchadnezzar's Image: Daniel 2:32 "his belly and his thighs of brass". Daniel 2:39 "and another third kingdom of brass". Again, scripturally, and historically this speaks of Greece.
  - b. The leopard has speed and agility, it is the most agile and graceful of beasts. "These characteristics of the leopard are a very fitting symbol of the speed with which the Greeks, under the leadership of Alexander the Great, overthrew the forces of Persia and conquered Media-Persia." Oliver Greene. Please notice the four wings of a fowl which again speak of the swiftness in which Alexander the Great would conquer the world. Alexander with 30,000 men beat an army of 600,000 men because of their lightning speed.
  - Notice Daniel 7:6 again "the beast had also four heads; c. and dominion was given to it." This was a new revelation to Daniel and it really made him think: what could the four heads represent? Two years later God would give Daniel another vision in Daniel 8 and would explain in detail what the four horns represented: Four kingdoms. That is exactly what happened upon the early death of Alexander the Great: the Grecian Empire was divided by Alexander's four generals into four kingdoms: Macedonia, Egypt, Asia, and Syria. Daniel 8:20-22 "The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power."
- 4. A Fourth Beast Dreadful and Terrible: Daniel 7:7-8 "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it;

and it had ten horns. I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things." This corresponds directly with the legs, feet, and toes of Nebuchadnezzar's Image in Daniel 2, where it says "And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay."

- a. This speaks of the Roman Empire which historically was dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly, and in fact, it devoured and brake in pieces as it subdued all things and brake the strength of the former empires before it in pieces. While Daniel does not specifically state that this is Rome, we are told indirectly in Daniel 9:26 that "the people of the prince that shall come" shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The "prince that shall come" is a reference to anti-christ and the people of the prince are the Romans for they are indeed the ones that destroyed the city and the sanctuary in 70 A.D.
- b. The Roman Empire was the ruling Gentile power in the days of Jesus Christ and it was the Romans that presided over Calvary.
- As you can see with the image, the legs are as long as the c. entire rest of the body signifying the duration of the Empire. We also see the two legs which would signify the split within the Roman Empire in an Eastern and a Western Division. The Eastern Division was ruled from Constantinople and the western division was ruled from Rome. The Eastern division formed the Greek Orthodox Church while the Western Division carried the Roman Catholic Church. While there is again no doubt that this empire fizzled out politically and militarily, there can be no doubt that it's influences within the world did not!!! "Because of the Empire's vast extent and long endurance, the institutions and culture of Rome had a profound and lasting influence on the development of language, religion, architecture, philosophy, law, and forms of government in

- the territory it governed, particularly Europe, and by means of European expansionism throughout the modern world." Wiki-pedia
- d. But here is what I want you to notice: we can see the Gentile world empire known as Rome, and historically, we can see her iron rule, and we can see the division within the Empire and we can definitely see the influence that Rome still has on European culture. Rome still dominates the world religiously through the Roman Catholic church. But we have still not yet come to the ten toes or the ten horns and specifically the little horn that had eyes and spoke very great things This speaks of a Revived Roman Empire. There is no doubt that we are living in the feet stage: Notice Scripturally what is happening in our world today: First of all, notice that it is Christ and the Beginning of the Millennial Reign that ends this Empire. Secondly, you must understand that this little horn is a reference to the Anti-Christ. Daniel 7:20-22 "And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom." This will correspond with Daniel **8:9-12, 23-25, 27** "And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered... And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of

princes; but he shall be broken without hand...And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it." Daniel 11:21-45; and Revelation 13:1-8 and Revelation 17.

e. The Ancient of Days takes the Kingdom: Daniel 7:9-11 "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame."

# III. DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS Daniel 9:20-27

- A. Seventy Weeks are Determined
  - 1. A week is defined by Webster as a space of seven days. But Webster goes on to say that "In Scripture, a prophetic week, is a week of years, or seven years".
  - 2. The Jews had a week of years as well as a week of days. In Leviticus 25:3-4 we read "Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; But in the seventh year shall be a sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard." And it was after seven Sabbath years or seven weeks of years, that they would have the year of Jubilee.
  - For 490 years or seventy weeks of years, Israel had broken this 3. Law and not observed her Sabbath years and so the purpose of the Babylonian Captivity during which time Daniel wrote these prophecies, the land of Israel was enjoying 70 years of rest. Seventy Sabbath Years. II Chronicles 36:19-21 bear this out: "And they burnt the house of God, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt all the palaces thereof with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof. And them that had escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and his sons until 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." "How appropriate, therefore, that now at the end of the judgment for these violations the angel should be sent to reveal the start of a new era of God's dealing with the Jew which would extend for the same number of years covered by his violations of the Sabbatic

- year, namely, a cycle of 490 years, or 'Seventy Sevens' of years (Daniel 9:24)". —Pentecost
- 4. It also needs to be noted that a year in the Scriptures is not understood to be 365 days, but rather 360 days. A Scriptural year consisted of twelve 30-day months. This can be observed in Genesis 7:11 "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened." Then read Genesis 8:4 "And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat." This is exactly 5 months. Genesis 7:24 and 8:3 specify this five-month period to be 150 days. "Thus the earliest known month used in Biblical history was evidently thirty days in length, and twelve such months would give us a 360-day year."—Pentecost Not only do we see this as a historical fact in Genesis, but observe that a prophetic year consists of twelve 30 day months: Daniel 7:24-25 says "And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time." There is no doubt that this is a reference to the anti-christ and the Jews will be given into his hand for a time (1 year) and times (2 years) and the dividing of time (1/2 year). That equals 3 ½ years. Revelation 13:4-7 says "And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations." Notice here that the Scriptures speaking of the exact same man – anti-christ- and the exact same prophecy as Daniel 7 defines Daniel's time, times, and a dividing of time as 42 months. So, we have established that we are speaking of 3 ½ years consisting of 42 months. Revelation 12:6 says "And 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." Tying this together, at the middle of the tribulation, the anti-christ will break his peace covenant with Israel and for 42 months or 1260 days or a time, times, and a dividing of time (3 ½ years), and he will have power over the saints of God.

This is the event that Matthew 24 refers to. The point I am making is that 1260 days is defined as 42 months which is defined as  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years. In Revelation 11:2-3, we also read in one verse 42 months and in the following verse 1260 day. While both time periods are  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years, the first reference is to the last  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years while the second reference is to the first  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years.

- 5. Please understand that this seventy weeks of years or 490 years were determined or decreed by God Almighty. This is God's Prophetic Calendar!!!
- B. Upon thy People and Upon thy Holy City
  - 1. Please take notice that these 490 years are decreed on God's Calendar for His People and His City, Jerusalem. These years have nothing to do with the Church. They are determined upon Israel. They are determined upon Jerusalem.
  - 2. We will see shortly that the first 69 weeks are completed, consummated, fulfilled. The church was not around during the first 69 weeks, and I can assure you that the church will not be here during the 70<sup>th</sup> week. It is not for us: it is for Israel. And so, it follows that the six purposes of the 70 weeks apply directly to the children of Israel. "The first three have special reference to the sacrifice of the Messiah which anticipate the removal of sin from the nation. The second three have special reference to the sovereignty of the Messiah, which anticipates the establishment of His reign". Pentecost Since they apply directly to the children of Israel, let us study these purposes and see if they have been fulfilled.

### C. For what Purposes?

- 1. To Finish the Transgression: Has Israel's transgression been finished? According to Romans 11:1-25 no, but their transgression will be one day according to Zechariah 13:6-9.
- 2. To Make an End of Sins: Has Sin been ended for Israel as a Nation? Not yet, but according to Romans 11:26-27, it will one day.
- 3. To Make Reconciliation for Iniquity: Has there been Reconciliation for Israel's iniquity? Not yet, but it is coming according to Isaiah 66:8 and Zechariah 13:1
- 4. To Bring in Everlasting Righteousness: Has Everlasting Righteousness been brought to the Jew and to Jerusalem? No, but one day Jesus Himself Who is the Essence of Everlasting Righteousness will Rule and Reign in Righteousness from the Holy City, Jerusalem!!! And His Righteous Kingdom will be an everlasting Kingdom. Isaiah 62:1-3 tells us about it.
- 5. To Seal up the Vision and Prophecy: Has the vision and prophecy come to its end, its fulfillment? While certainly many parts of Daniel's visions and prophecies have been fulfilled, they most certainly have not been sealed up, made an end of, and

- consummated. None of the prophecy relating to the little horn of the ten-toed kingdom has come to pass. Certainly, the stone cut out of the mountain without hands has not yet brought an end to the "Times of the Gentiles", but one day it will.
- To Anoint the Most Holy: And this one has certainly not yet been 6. fulfilled either. The anointing of the Most Holy speaks of the Shekinah Glory of God coming down and dwelling upon the Holy of Holies that is in the Temple of God in Jerusalem during the Millennial Reign of Christ. When Moses finished the tabernacle in the wilderness, God anointed it with His Presence according to Exodus 40:34-35 "Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle." When King Solomon built the temple in Jerusalem and dedicated it, God anointed the temple and His glory filled the house according to I Kings 8:10-11 "And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD, So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD." O but there is coming a day according to Ezekiel 43:1-5 when the glory of the LORD is going to come out of the East and fill or anoint the Millennial Temple of God.
- 7. These purposes have not yet been completed or fulfilled to the nation of Israel, but they will one day soon. And that day will be at the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> week. Right now, we are in between week 69 and 70.

### D. Division within the Weeks

- 1. Seven Weeks: "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." On March 14, 445 B.C. Artaxerxes the Persian King issued a decree to rebuild the city Jerusalem. Nehemiah 2:1-8 records that decree. And 49 years later the street and the walls were built again.
- 2. Sixty-Two Weeks: "and threescore and two weeks" ... "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" 62 weeks after the first seven weeks or 434 years after the first 49 equals 69 weeks or 483 years. 483 times twelve 30-day months equals 173,880 days. And exactly 173,880 days after Artaxerxes' decree to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, Jesus Christ made His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem. Daniel 9:26 said specifically "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". Jesus presented Himself as Messiah

the Prince at His Triumphal Entry. Zechariah 9:9 prophesied His Presentation and Matthew 21:5 fulfilled it. But I want you to notice what Jesus said on that specific day "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes." This day marked the end of the first 69 weeks. And Daniel rightly prophesied that "after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself". But there is an interval within our text between week 69 and 70. Our text shows at least a forty-year interval between the cutting off the Messiah and the destruction of the city and the temple. Knowing that there is an interval within the text and knowing that the six purposes of the seventy weeks have not yet been fulfilled nationally for Israel and knowing that anti-christ has not yet been revealed much less signed a peace covenant with Israel brings us to the obvious conclusion that we are living in between the 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> week. Now remember, the first 69 weeks had to do completely with Israel and the church was non-existent and so the 70<sup>th</sup> week has to do completely with Israel and the church will not be here!!! That is one of the big reasons that we are pre-tribulation in our Bible prophecy. Jesus is coming for the church before the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel determined upon the Jew and Jerusalem comes to pass.

### 3. One Week: The seventieth week.

The first 7 weeks of Daniel's prophecy started when Artaxerxes gave the permission to Nehemiah and the decree to build the walls of the city Jerusalem. 49 years later, that was accomplished. 62 weeks or 434 years later to the day (173,880 days) Messiah the Prince presented Himself to Israel riding upon a colt the foal of an ass. Thus He fulfilled the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9 "Rejoice" greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass." This is the only time during His earthly ministry that He presented Himself as Messiah the Prince to the Jews. Luke 19:42 tells us that Jesus wept as He rode into Jerusalem and said "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes." This was literally their day as the 69<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel's prophecy ended. Notice once again the precise wording of Daniel's prophecy in Daniel 9:26 "And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself'. Four days after presenting Himself as Messiah the Prince, therefore after the sixty-two weeks, Messiah was cut off, but not for Himself. And the people (Romans) of the prince that shall come according to verses 26-27 (which lets us know that the anti-christ will be from the Roman Empire) destroyed the city and the sanctuary

- approximately 40 years later in 70 A.D. Verse 27 tells us exactly what will happen in the 70<sup>th</sup> week (the last 7 years). Now remember this evening that # 1. We have not yet arrived at the tentoed kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar's Image. # 2. We have not yet arrived at the ten-horned beast of Daniel 7 and Revelation 13 and 17. # 3. We have not seen a stone cut out of the mountain without hands crush the ten toes and bring to a sudden end the Times of the Gentiles. We have not seen Daniel 7's prophecy come to pass where the thrones of the ten kings are cast down and the Ancient of Days doth sit down on His Throne to Rule the world. #4. We have definitely not observed a Prince from the Revived Roman Empire that matches the description or the cross-referenced description of this prince in verses 26-27 sign a 7-year peace covenant with the nation of Israel. In fact, the people of the prince destroyed the city and there was no need for a peace covenant until now! # 5. The six purposes of Daniel's 70 weeks that were given specifically to the nation of Israel have not yet been fulfilled. "(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.)" Therefore, we can conclude that Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week has not yet been fulfilled. It is the one remaining week of Daniel's 70 weeks that is yet prophetic. So, what is Daniel's Seventieth Week of Prophecy?
- 4. It is the last week on God's Prophetic Calendar for the Jew and Jerusalem during which He purges Israel for their rejection of Messiah and prepares them for the reception of the Messiah and the consummation of all of His Four Determinative Covenants with them!!! Abrahamic —land-redemption-seed; Palestinian-expands the promise of land; New Covenant-expands the Promise of Redemption to the Nation of Israel; Davidic Covenant-expands the Promise of Seed as it has to do with dynasty, nation, and throne!
- 5. It is the Consummation of the Times of the Gentiles: In Luke 21:24, we read of the times of the Gentiles. "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Remember the times of the Gentiles started with Nebuchadnezzar's overthrow of Jerusalem: he was the head of gold, and the times of the Gentiles ends with the ten-toed kingdom being destroyed.
- 6. It is the Time of Jacob's Trouble: Jeremiah 30:4-9 says "And these are the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah. For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every

man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it For it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will break his voke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him: But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them." Notice as well Ezekiel 20:33-38 "As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out, will I rule over you: And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out. And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face. Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD. And I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD." Again, I want to note that just as Daniel's first 69 weeks were for the Jew and for Jerusalem, so the 70<sup>th</sup> week is for the Jew and for Jerusalem. It is not for the church hence it is called the time of Jacob's (Israel's) trouble. And as the church was not on earth during the first 69 weeks, she will not be here for week 70 either. Hallelujah!

7. It is the Seven-Year Tribulation: Understand that the tribulation is divided into two parts. While the entire seven year period will be marked with the events of Matthew 24:1-35 and Revelation 6:1 – 18:24 which is the pouring out of God's Wrath upon the earth, the second half (which is the time, times, and half a time that we described last week, also defined as 42 months, also defined as 1,260 days) is known as the Great Tribulation! Let me give you a brief overview of the tribulation: As soon as the Rapture of the Church takes place, the world will be in a great turmoil and distress. The little horn of Daniel 7 that speaketh great swelling words, otherwise known as the prince that shall come in Daniel 9:26, otherwise known as the man of sin in II Thessalonians 2, also described as the Beast in Revelation, known to us as the antichrist will arise. Daniel 8:23 describes him as an intellectual genius "And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up." Daniel 11:36 and Revelation 13:2,6 describes him as an oratorical genius. "And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and

magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. ...and his mouth as the mouth of a lion ...And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven." He will be a Political Genius according to Daniel 9:27 and Revelation 17:11-12 "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week...And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast." He will be a commercial genius according to Daniel 11:43 and Revelation 13:16-17 "But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. ... And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." He will be a military genius according to Revelation 6:2 "And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him; and he went forth conquering, and to conquer." He will be a religious genius according to II Thessalonians 2:4 and revelation 13:8 "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God....And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."

Mr. Wilmington said that this coming world ruler will possess the leadership of a Washington and Lincoln; the eloquence of a Franklin Roosevelt; the charm of a Teddy Roosevelt; the charisma of a Kennedy; the popularity of an Ike; the political savvy of a Johnson; and the intellect of a Jefferson.

In a world that is set on the destruction and annihilation of Israel, the anti-christ will hail as their Saviour, and he will talk the world into signing a seven year peace covenant with the nation of Israel which will be in accordance with the Abrahamic Covenant thus guaranteeing (confirm) Israel's land to Israel. If it has not already happened, he will confirm or guarantee the rebuilding of Israel's temple, and allow the reinstitution of the daily sacrifice. And everything will be peachy-keen with Israel for 3 ½ years. While the seal judgments of Revelation and at least five of the trumpet judgments of Revelation are poured out on the earth during the first 3 ½ years, the anti-christ will confirm the covenant. But at the middle point of the tribulation, Satan will be cast out of

Heaven and will indwell Antichrist: Revelation 12:12 says "Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time." At this point, he will fulfill the prophecy of Daniel that Jesus referred to in His Olivet Discourse in Matthew 24:15-16 "When ve 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 Judaea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." And God will prepare a place in the wilderness for His People to protect them from anti-christ according to Revelation 12:6 "And 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." And this is when and where the prophecy that we read in Ezekiel comes to pass...it is here that God will purge out the mixt multitude of unbelievers by causing them to pass under His rod, as He did to Israel of old in the wilderness! **Zechariah 13:7-9** will come to pass during these last 3 ½ years of Great Tribulation: "Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones. And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God."

The 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel will end as the Stone cut out of the Mountain w/o hands comes in the Glorious Appearing with you and I and all the saints of God behind Him. Jerusalem will be surrounded, half the city will be taken, the women raped, the men killed...and then shall the Lord go forth...Hallelujah...and the high praises of God will be in our mouth and a two edged sword will be in our hands and we will execute vengeance upon the enemies of God...the Times of the Gentiles will have come to a sudden end, and the Kingdoms of this world that were once offered to Christ by Satan if He would only bow down and worship Satan, will become the Kingdoms of our God and His Christ...and He

shall reign forever and ever. Hallelujah...The Zeal of the LORD of Hosts will perform this!