**The Book of Daniel
Chapters 7-12**

**Lesson 8**
*"The Lord changes the time and the epochs...and gives wisdom to the wise."*

1. The vision of four great beasts and their judgment and its interpretation

2. The vision of the ram, the goat, and the little horn and its interpretation

3. Daniel's prayer of repentance for Israel

4. Angels interpret Daniel's visions and explain the final conflict that will occur in heaven and on earth

**Daniel Chapter 9**

v. 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 place.

Dan. 9:25-26

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. *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…

The seventy weeks are assumed to be "70 weeks of years" = 70 X 7 year/week = 490 years

The 70 weeks *start* with the *third decree* of the Persian king Artaxerxes I in 457 BC

 457 BC > 490 = 33 AD (the full 70 weeks)

 457 > 483 = 26 AD (the 69 weeks)

Two views:

a. The 70 weeks *(490 years) end* with Jesus and the Roman General Titus *(Preterist view)*

 b. the 70 weeks *(490 years)* consist of 69 weeks

 *(483 years)* which takes us to Jesus...and then there is *a gap* "the church age"

 *(Futurist view)*

*– the final 7 years are yet to come*

We have only recently reached a place in history where Daniel's, Jesus', and revelation's

prophecies can be fulfilled there are many, many promises and prophecies from the Old Testament prophets, and from Jesus and the New Testament writers which have

not yet been fulfilled

The seventieth week of Daniel 9:24-26 is yet to occur

Dan. 9:26a

And after the sixty-two weeks, the anointed one shall be *cut off* and shall *have nothing*.

The anointed one, the Messiah, would not deliver Israel from its enemies and usher in peace at His first coming.

 Isaiah 53 is another hint of this

The Messiah would "be cut off and have nothing."

He would have none of his royal rights, inheritance, authority yet as promised to King

David

The crucifixion, *the rejection of Jesus* by the nation Israel, and *the rejection of the Holy Spirit*

in the book of acts *delayed* the fulfillment of the promises to Israel until Christ's second coming.

the "once-only coming" that Israel anticipates and their expectation of a triumphing, not a suffering Messiah…

Awaits a *national repentance* of Israel

 The time of *"Jacob's trouble" –the Great Tribulation*

 A yet future *"second coming*" of their Messiah

Matt. 23:37; 39

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...*your house is left desolate*...For I tell you, you will not *see me*

*again*, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

Dan. 9:26b

And the people of the prince who is to come shall *destroy the city and the sanctuary*. Its end shall come with a flood and to the end there shall be war; desolations are decreed.

v. 27 And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week

  And for half of the week (3 ½ years) he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering

On the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate

Certainly "he" is the end times antichrist, the little horn, who must make an agreement with

Israel (likely a peace treaty)

The antichrist breaks the covenant mid-week (3 ½ years into the 7 years)andstops the sacrifice

which may have been re-instituted by orthodox Jews

  He sets up a final (3rd) abomination of desolation that Jesus predicted in Matthew 24

The abomination that makes desolate is understood to be the setting up in the holy place something profane

Replacing what was intended to be in the Holy of Holies:

 The ark of the covenant

The Ten Commandments, Aaron's rod that budded, and a jar of manna

 The mercy seat and the two cherubim

Replacing it with a false god, an image, a statue; perhaps a TV monitor? A hologram?

He, the end times antichrist (and his "types")will then launch severe persecution against

the Jews

Matt 24:15-16

So, when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination of desolation, described by the prophet Daniel (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.'

Zech. 14:2-3

For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile, but the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle.

There has been a break between the 69th and 70th week that has ended up lasted the

church age

Why? Because Israel was temporarily set aside due to its rejection of the messiah at his first

coming, and its rejection of the offered Holy Spirit

Rom.11:25-26

I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you will not be conceited: A

hardening in part has come to Israel, until the *full number of the Gentiles has come in*.  And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written:

 “The Deliverer will come from Zion;

 He will *remove godlessness* from Jacob.

 And this is My covenant with them."

There must be a fulness of the Gentiles *(the amount of us pagans that were predestined to be saved coming into a covenant relationship with God)*

 This occurs during the 69th to 70th the week gap in Daniel's prophecy

Now, (full disclosure) most of the Church Fathers interpreted the 70 years to have been fulfilled by Titus (a Preterist view).

Exceptions (Church Fathers adopting a Futurist view )

 Irenaeus (130-202 AD) in "Against Heresies (Book V, Ch. 25)

 Hippolytus (170-235 ad) in "On Daniel, Second Fragment"

**Daniel Chapter 10**

Verse 1: 536 BC the third year of Cyrus king of Persia – the year of the vision in Chapter 10

 552 BC the year of the vision of the four beasts

550 BC the year of the vision of the ram and goat

 539 BC the 70 weeks of years explained by Gabriel

 538 BC the first group of 50,000 Jews left Babylon for Jerusalem

 537 BC the rebuilding of the city and the second temple begins *(as does its opposition)*

 530 BC work on the city and temple ceases

 520 BC the 2nd decree (from Darius I); work on the city and temple was restarted

 516 BC the temple is completed (Ezra)

 444 BC the Jerusalem wall is completed (Nehemiah)

v. 2: Daniel had mourned and fasted delicacies and oil for three weeks

Why? To show his seriousness.

Also, perhaps because word was coming back from Israel that the Jews who had resettled

Jerusalem were being opposed and were beginning to lose heart.

v. 5 Daniel saw "a man clothed in linen…gold…with the appearance of lightning…eyes like flaming torches...his words like the sound of a multitude."

Maybe this "man" was a theophany…a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ.

 Until through verse 9, where the "man" is identified as an angel.

Or, more likely, the "man" is an angel reflecting the glory of God

 v. 14 "I have come to make you understand what is to happen to your people in the latter

days.. For the vision is for days yet to come."

v. 14-17 Daniel was weak, breathless, speechless before the angel

v. 18 The angel again touched Daniel and encouraged and strengthened him