

THE SEVEN YEAR TRIBULATION IS A KEY COMPONENT OF FUTURE EVENTS

- Names:
 - The Tribulation – Matthew 24:29
 - The Great Tribulation – Matthew 24:21
 - “Latter days” – Deuteronomy 4:30, etc.
 - “The time of the Lord’s vengeance” – Jeremiah 51:6
 - “The time of trouble” – Psalm 27:5, 37:39, Isaiah 33:2
 - “The time of Jacob’s trouble” – Jeremiah 30:7
 - “Daniel’s 70th week” – Daniel 9:24-27.
 - “The wrath to come” – 1 Thessalonians 1:10
- Description:
 - The coming days of tribulation are the final days of the age of the Law, and age (dispensation) that has been *put on hold* because of this parenthetical age of Grace.
 - The coming days of tribulation are days of God’s wrath upon the nations and upon Israel.
 - The coming days of tribulation are described in general throughout the Psalms and the Hebrew prophets and described in detail in the Revelation 4-18.
- There are some who deny the seven-year event as a future event, and others who deny that it will be seven-years in length.
 - Amillennials and some Postmillennials deny the future nature of the tribulation.
 - The above, along with most post-tribulational premillennials deny the seven-year length of the tribulation.

HOW DO WE KNOW THAT THE TRIBULATION IS SEVEN YEARS?

- Daniel 9:24-27 is the key to understanding both the seven year period and almost all prophetic timing.
 - **Seventy weeks** - Literally, *seventy sevens*. A *sheba* is a set of seven. A *shabu* (the word used here) is a *consecutive set of seven time periods* (See Dt. 16:9 for another example). The period of time is only determined contextually, and Dan. 9:2 tells us the context is *seventy years*, but Gabriel comes to reveal information about *seventy weeks of years*, or 490 years.
 - A very strong term, meaning both **determined** and *imposed* is used. The word carries the idea of *division* or *cutting off*, giving the understanding that the **seventy weeks** are uniquely divided from all other time.
 - The term **everlasting righteousness** is clearly a reference to Jesus the Righteous King. Isai. 53:11. Jer. 23:5, 6.

- At the end of the seventieth week, the **the most Holy** will be anointed. Literally, the Holy of Holies. The term is never in reference to a person. Rather, this refers to the anointing of the Millennial Temple.
- Verse 25 tells us that from the command **to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince** there will be a total of 69 weeks (69x7=483 years), divided into two periods, one of seven weeks (7x7=49 years) for the rebuilding of Jerusalem, and one of 68 weeks (68x7=486 years) until the Messiah.
- Verses 26-27 are the key to the seven years. Sometime After the 69th week (483 years) **shall Messiah be cut off**. Thus, by this time Messiah must have come and must be **cut off, but not for himself**.
- After Messiah is cut off, the city of Jerusalem will be destroyed **by the people of the prince that shall come**. Not the prince (leader) himself, but the people of this prince. Since the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70AD, we can know that a *Roman leader* is yet to come.
- Verse 27 speaks of *one remaining week*. This week is “Daniel’s 70th week.”
 - This week is divided into two halves.
 - It tells that this coming prince that **for the overspreading of abominations he shall make desolate**. In Matthew 24:15 Jesus makes reference to this.
 - This will happen **in the midst of the week**, thus 3.5 years after he confirmation of the covenant.
- These verses give the clearest timetable for the seven years of tribulation.
- Other confirming verses:
 - Revelation 11:2 says that the **holy city shall be tread under foot forty-and two months**.
 - Revelation 11:3 confirms the 42 months, using the term 1,260 days (the Jewish calendar had a 30-day month).
 - Revelation 13:5 speaks of the *beast* having power for 42 months.

WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THIS 70TH WEEK?

- In Daniel we are told of a seven-year period, but in other prophets and the book of Revelation we are told of the events of this seven years.
- Through the book of Revelation we will see the most detailed explanation of this seven-year period.

Next week: Will Christians be present for Daniel’s 70th week?