



PROPHECY SEMINAR



DANIEL'S LONGEST TIME PROPHECY



The next three lessons will unravel one of the most amazing and fascinating prophecies in the entire book of Daniel. It will reveal an event now transpiring in heaven that clearly indicates the approaching end of earth's history. It will reveal an event that is occurring in heaven right now which brings exceedingly good news to God's people, but exceedingly bad news for the little horn. The message of Daniel 8 and 9 is the climax of the message revealed in the book of Daniel. Here Daniel gives us the longest time prophecy in the entire Bible. What an exciting prophecy we're about to study! Let's get started!

THE PANORAMA OF EMPIRES

In order to understand Daniel's prophecies, it is necessary to employ correct principles of interpretation. One of these is the principle of repetition and expansion. This prophetic guideline suggests that each of the great outline prophecies in the book of Daniel continually goes over the same history, repeating the empires of the past, but each succeeding prophecy adds further details on the end time. Daniel 8 and 9 go through the same sequence as Daniel 2 and 7, portraying the empires of Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome and the little horn. The focal point in Daniel 7 was the development of the little horn, whereas the focal point in Daniel 8 and 9 is how God will bring an end to the little horn power.

1. When did Daniel have the vision of Daniel 8? Daniel 8:1,2 (866) [865].

"In the _____ year of the reign of King Belshazzar."

NOTE: This vision was given near the end of the Babylonian realm. Interestingly, we will see that it did not begin with Babylon, but with Medo-Persia.

2. What kind of animal did Daniel see in vision that conquered in every direction? Daniel 8:3,4 (866) [865].

"A _____ which had two horns."

3. Who did this ram represent? Daniel 8:20 (866) [866].

"The kings of _____ and _____."

4. What was the next animal that Daniel saw in this vision? Daniel 8:5 (866) [865].

"A male _____ came from the west."

"The goat had a notable _____ between his eyes."

5. Who did the rough goat represent, and what did the great horn symbolize? Daniel 8:21 (866) [866].

a. The goat: _____.

b. The horn: The _____ king.

NOTE: Notice how the prophecy followed the same sequence as Daniel 2 and 7. After Medo-Persia comes Greece. The notable horn represented the first king of Greece, Alexander the Great.

6. **What did the male goat do to the ram? Daniel 8:6,7 (866) [865].**

He conquered the _____.

7. **What happened to the great horn when it was strong? What came up in its place? Daniel 8:8 (866) [865].**

a. "The large horn was _____."

b. "In place of it _____ notable ones came up."

8. **What was the meaning of the four horns that came up? Daniel 8:22 (866) [866].**

The four horns are four _____.

NOTE: Alexander the Great conquered the world in a very short period of time. At the age of 32, he died suddenly, the result of his own intemperance. The Grecian Empire, instead of being taken over by one person, was divided into four separate kingdoms—the kingdoms of Egypt, Thrace, Macedonia, and Syria. These four kingdoms were ruled by the four generals of Alexander: Ptolemy, Lysimachus, Cassander and Seleucus.

9. **What did Daniel see coming out of one of the four winds of heaven? Daniel 8:9 (866) [866].**

"A little _____."

10. **Who did this little horn stand up against? Daniel 8:23-25 (866,867) [866].**

"He shall even rise against the _____."

NOTE: The "Prince of princes" is obviously a reference to Jesus Christ. The power here described as the little horn stood up in opposition to Jesus Christ Himself. The power that crucified Christ was the pagan Roman Empire, the next empire in the sequence of empires foretold in the book of Daniel. At this point, the little horn in Daniel 8:9 was none other than the pagan Roman Empire.

11. **Did the little horn stay a little horn? Daniel 8:10 (866) [866].**

No! "It _____."

12. **As the little horn grew up, what five things did it do? Daniel 8:11,12 (866)[866].**

a. "He even _____ himself as high as the Prince of the host."

b. "By him the _____ sacrifices were taken away."

c. "The place of His sanctuary was cast _____."

d. "He cast _____ down to the ground."

e. "He did all this and _____."

NOTE: Obviously, we are not dealing with just the pagan Roman Empire. In the later days of the Roman Empire, the little horn changed form. It became a religious political power that cast down the truth of God to the ground, practiced and prospered and destroyed the truth of God's sanctuary. In following the sequence of Daniel 7, the next power after pagan Rome is papal Rome. Daniel 8 uses the same symbol to represent both powers, indicating the connection between pagan Rome and papal Rome; likewise, Daniel 7 indicated that the little horn grew out of the dragon. Thus the little horn in Daniel 8 represents Rome in its two stages of pagan and papal Rome.

13. As Daniel contemplated all that he had seen in this vision, what question was asked? Daniel 8:13 (866) [866].

"How long will the _____ be?"

NOTE: As Daniel had seen the sequence of empires — Medo-Persia, Greece, pagan Rome, the papal apostasy and all the terrible deeds committed by these powers — the question was asked, how long shall be this vision concerning the daily sacrifice, the transgression of desolation, etc.? In other words, Daniel heard two holy beings talking in heaven and one asked the question: how long will this vision be that begins with Medo-Persia and ends with Papal Rome?

14. How long would it take for the sanctuary to be cleansed? Daniel 8:14 (866) [866].

_____ days.

NOTE: 2300 literal days is a little less than seven years. It is not a very long time for all the events described in Daniel 8 to take place. According to Daniel 8, the 2300 days would encompass the Medo-Persian, Grecian, Roman and papal powers. Obviously, we are not dealing with 2300 literal days, but 2300 years.

15. Does the Bible support the use of a day for a year in prophecy? Ezekiel 4:6 (804) [802].

"I have laid on you a day for each _____."

NOTE: In Bible time prophecy, one day is symbolic of one year. This principle fits in very clearly with the context of Daniel 8.

16. What was Daniel told about the vision of the evening and the morning? Daniel 8:26 (867) [866].

"_____ up the vision."

NOTE: All other aspects of this vision were clearly interpreted for Daniel in the latter part of the chapter. When we come to the verse where the interpretation should be given for the evenings and the mornings of the 2300 days, we are told that it is shut up, for it shall be for many days (Daniel 8:17) (866) [866].

17. Why didn't God give Daniel an interpretation of the 2300 days at this time? Daniel 8:27 (867) [866].

"I, Daniel _____, and was _____ for days."

NOTE: As Daniel saw everything that was done by the little horn power, he fainted and was sick. Therefore, God could not give him the interpretation of the 2300 days. Daniel 8 concludes by stating that nobody understood the vision. Everyone clearly understood the first part of the vision — it was clearly interpreted in the latter part of Chapter 8, the only part of the vision not explained.

- 18. What is Daniel doing when Chapter 9 opens? Daniel 9:1-3 (867) [866-867].**

"To make request by _____ and supplications."

NOTE: Daniel 9 opens with Daniel studying Jeremiah's prophecy of seventy years of captivity, hoping perhaps to find a clue to the interpretation of the 2300 days. Daniel 9 finds Daniel praying to his God for understanding of that which he did not comprehend. Daniel 9:4-19 (867) [867] records Daniel's earnest prayer for understanding. He confesses his sins and the sins of his people, hoping that somehow God would see fit to give him the correct interpretation.

- 19. Who appeared to Daniel in answer to his prayer? Daniel 9:20,21 (868) [867].**

"_____, whom I had seen in the"

NOTE: The same angel who gave Daniel the original vision of Chapter 8 now comes and appears to him again. Please remember, there has been no new vision since the vision of the 2300 days.

- 20. What was the purpose of Gabriel's visit this time? Daniel 9:22,23 (868) [867].**

"I have now come forth to give you skill to _____."

"Consider the matter, and _____ the _____."

NOTE: Gabriel called Daniel's attention to the vision that he saw at the beginning of the 2300 day vision. Gabriel said that he is now come to give him an understanding of that vision and told him to consider that vision and understand it. We can then expect an interpretation of the 2300 days in the next few verses.

THE SEVENTY WEEKS

- 21. How much time of the 2300 days was determined (or cut off) for the Jewish people? Daniel 9:24 (868) [867].**

"_____ weeks."

NOTE: Daniel was told to consider the vision of the 2300 days. He was next told that seventy weeks were determined, or cut off from the 2300 days for the Jewish people. Seventy weeks times seven days in a week equals 490 days, or years. Remember, God's people were in

NOTE: The Bible not only predicted the baptism of Christ, but it even predicted that Christ would die. But notice that it says "not for Himself." His would be a substitutionary death, for the entire human race.

26. How long does Messiah confirm the covenant with the Jews? Daniel 9:27 (868) [868].

"_____ week."

NOTE: One week is seven days, or seven years. Seven years added to A.D. 27 brings us to A.D. 34. During this seven year period, the gospel was to be confirmed to the Jewish people.

27. What does the Messiah do in the middle of this last week? Daniel 9:27 (868) [868].

"He shall bring an _____ to _____ and offering."

NOTE: In the middle of this final week, three and a half years after Christ began His ministry, He was to cause the sacrifice to cease. In other words, He was to bring an end to the sacrificial system. Jesus accomplished this by His death upon the cross three and a half years after He began His ministry in the spring of A.D. 31. As Jesus hung upon the cross, the temple curtain was torn in two, indicating the end of the sacrificial system. Jesus, the Lamb of God, had died; no longer was there any need for animal sacrifices. Only one person could ever stop animal sacrifices, and that was the One who became a sacrifice Himself. For three and a half years after the death of Christ, the disciples labored mainly for the Jewish people. However, in A.D. 34 the Jewish nation sealed their rejection of the gospel by the stoning of Stephen (Acts 7). The persecution begun at this time caused the Christians to scatter everywhere and preach the gospel everywhere (Acts 8:4) (1059) [1082].

28. When does the 2300-day prophecy end? Daniel 8:14 (866) [866].

NOTE: Remember, the 70 weeks, or 490 years, had been cut off from the longer period of 2300 years. (See diagram.)

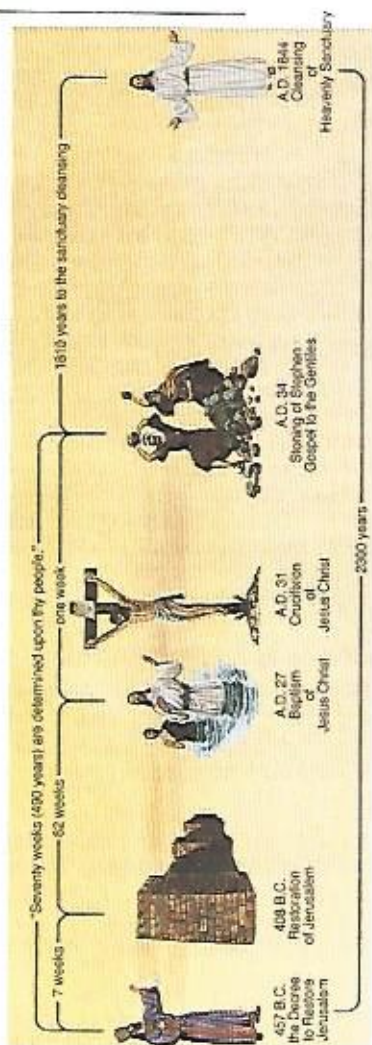
If we subtract 490 years from 2300 years, we have 1810 years left. Adding the 1810 years to A.D. 34, we arrive at the year 1844, which would be the conclusion of the 2300 year prophecy.

29. What was to happen in 1844 at the end of the 2300 days? Daniel 8:14 (866) [866].

"Then the sanctuary shall be _____."

NOTE: We have examined the longest time prophecy in the Bible, stretching all the way from Daniel's day to ours, from 457 B.C. to A.D. 1844. What happened in the middle of the nineteenth century as this great prophecy came to an end? In order to understand what took place in 1844, we will need to study what the Bible says the sanctuary is. Daniel 8:14 (866) [866] tells us, that at this time, the sanctuary will be cleansed. The next two lessons will give the amazing details of what happened in 1844.

30. Are you thankful that the Bible predicted so clearly the baptism and crucifixion of Jesus?



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