

A Brief Look at Daniel's 70 Weeks

A bedrock of eschatology, these verses in Daniel are crucial to understand if the Bible student is to get a handle on the person of Jesus Christ—what Christ means in God's bigger plan of redemption and that God has not forgotten national Israel. The significant truths learned from these verses:

1. Jesus Christ is the subject in all four verses
2. Israel still figures into God's larger plan of prophecy. Those who say God has forgotten Israel are spiritually ignorant
3. The eternal counsel of the Godhead has been scripted and no one can disannul it
4. Jesus' public ministry is determined while the date of his incarnation can be calculated over four-hundred years before his birth
5. For the first time v. 26 is given relevance and meaning to God's larger plan: this would be the last time the Jews would celebrate the jubile under the Law and what freedom and grace in Jesus Christ means (the letter vs. the spirit of the law)
6. A seven year period of tribulation and great tribulation are non-existent and that in Matt. 24:19, 22, 29 the tribulation and great tribulation mean the same thing (we are currently in the tribulation/great tribulation period).
7. We also learn of Rome's influence on Bible prophecy as one of their own, Francisco Ribera, convinced the unlearned that the pronoun "he" is Satan instead of the obvious, Jesus Christ!

As omnipotent God, the purposes of Providence cannot be disannulled

National Israel as well as spiritual Israel (see Rom. 2:28, 29; Rom. 9:6)

490 years from Cyrus' decree for Jews to return and rebuild

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.

His name is Jesus Christ!

What part of these verses don't we understand! Did not God give us his Bible because he wanted to communicate to men. There are six basic requirements for Bible hermeneutics--redemption by God, obedience through the Holy Spirit's indwelling, comparing scripture with scripture, leaving verses and words in their context, opinions cannot be entertained when scripture is at stake, and believing the Bible to be inerrant. The questions of transmission and preservation are answered in inerrancy.

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.

This is the second time the subject, Jesus Christ, is mentioned. Specifically, this is from the time the Lord declared his public ministry

483 years from Cyrus' decree