

Four Hundred and Ninety Prophetic Years

041203-1

Hello! This is Dorothy -

We are looking at the **Book of Daniel**. In **chapter 9, verse 2**, we read -
. . . **Daniel understood by books the number of the years** . . . In other words, he understood the seventy weeks. Now, *seventy weeks* does not make sense to you and me, but the Hebrew word, they say, means *sevens*, not weeks. So the seventy sevens are used of God to bring to a final halt all of Israel's rebellion, which is sin against His authority. Now, multiply seventy by seven and you have four hundred and ninety years. "Oh," you say, "what has this to do with today?" It has a lot to do with you and me today, because this is God who always fulfills the thing He said He is going to bring to pass.

The last seven of these four hundred and ninety years is referred to in Scripture as *a time, times, and half a time*. Half of the last seven years, in other words - and most of us can divide seven into half - is like three and a half years. Sometimes that is referred to as *forty-two months*, but it is the same three and a half years. Sometimes it is referred to as *one thousand two hundred and sixty days*, but it is the same three and a half years. Our calendar has three hundred and sixty-five days in the year; however, in Scripture, what was called a *year* means *a prophetic year*, which is not made up of three hundred

and sixty-five days, but three hundred and sixty days. So, these four hundred and ninety prophetic years can be interpreted and understood that there was a gap. In other words, four hundred and eighty three years came along and then there was a long gap. Then there will be the final seven years, which God speaks of. That makes four hundred and ninety years.

“Now,” you say, “why is this necessary?” In Scripture, this is not altogether unusual, because God points out His different timings. For example, when Jesus was speaking, in **Luke 4**, He was reading a passage out of **Isaiah 61:1 and 2**. He deliberately came to a place and stopped reading. Everybody wondered why. He stopped reading because, as He quoted from the Old Testament, He had not come to the place which says, . . . **and the day of vengeance of our God . . .** You see, Jesus did that because the day is yet to come.

So, therefore, the last seven years will be the time of tribulation on the earth, such as it has never known. We cannot even imagine what that would mean, because we think of what it would be like, if man just went wild and threw bombs at one another and dropped nuclear bombs and all kinds of horrible things would happen and there was not enough water. But, wait a minute! What about when God pours out His wrath? Not only is Satan pouring forth wrath against any who would name the Name of Jesus, but God pours out His wrath.

We read in **Daniel 9:27** of *the time of the end* - that is how God calls it - that is, **the consummation**. This speaks of the end of seven years, when Jesus is going to come again. He is going to be King Jesus. He is going to come in victory. **Verse 26** tells us - **And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off . . .** You say, “What does that mean?” **Cut off** means *to sever*. The angel Gabriel says that the seventy sevens are divided. Therefore, because the verb is singular, it is talking about the complete thing, that time when Jesus, the Messiah, will be cut off. It means that Jesus would pay the death penalty by a violent, violent death; He was going to do that. That is what the cutting off is. It was prophesied that Jesus would come.

The amazing thing is that this follows the very time when everybody anticipated this timing. In **Zachariah 9:9**, it was foretold that Israel could identify its future King in that He would ride on the foal of an ass into Jerusalem. And what happened in **Luke 19:37 to 38**? You know that story about the palm branches all being laid and Jesus riding on an ass. This was a preparation that the Jewish people, who were anticipating the Messiah, might recognize that this was the One Who was coming, exactly on schedule.

But, you know, Jesus warned Jerusalem that it would suffer great disaster. He wept over Jerusalem, because He said they **knew not the time of His visitation. (Luke 19:44)**. Yes, the Lord Jesus was

crucified and that was, again, in His timing, at the last Passover of His ministry. As biblical historians prove, He must have died in the Spring of AD32. That is God's timetable. God's timetable is, as we are looking out today upon what is going to be a terrible period of satanic deception, when the Antichrist will come in on a platform of peace, and there will be no peace. It will be terrible. People will be in the hands of this evil, evil world ruler, who wants to put himself upon the throne in place of God, and desecrates the temple of God.

Oh, turn to Jesus! Turn today. Make sure you know Jesus. Ask Him into your heart.

For His glory, we pray. Amen.