



THE FUTURE TODAY!

Prophecy Meetings

The Seventieth Week of Daniel!

Daniel 9:20-27

Sermon given on October 27, 2019



Sunday Evening Service

Pastor Rick Lancaster

The Seventieth Week of Daniel!

Daniel 9:20-27

Opening Comments

- Welcome to the **FUTURE TODAY** prophecy meeting
 - If you have a Bible, turn to **Daniel 9**
 - Daniel was a Jew – he was living in Babylon
 - He and many other Jews were taken captive by the Babylonians
 - God had given them the Promised Land
 - Told them He would take care of them and protect them and bless them
 - All they had to do was be faithful to him – no other Gods
 - And He warned them if they were unfaithful – one of the things that would happen was they would be driven from the land **Leviticus 20:22**

You shall therefore keep all My statutes and all My judgments, and perform them, that the land where I am bringing you to dwell may not vomit you out.

- But they weren't faithful and often worshipped other false gods
- For hundreds of years God sent prophets like Isaiah and Jeremiah to warn them – but they refused to repent and return to God
- So, God kept His word and drove them out
- But even before He did that God promised to bring them back
- Partly because they were His chosen people
- But He also had a plan that required the Jews to be in the Land
- About 200 years before Daniel gets his vision from God **Micah 5:2**

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.

- This was a prediction that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem
- For that prophecy to be fulfilled, the Jews had to be back in the land
- When they did return, they had mostly abandoned idol worship
- Sadly, they never really returned fully to the Lord
- When their Messiah, Jesus came onto the scene, they weren't looking for Him **Luke 19:41-44**

Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, ⁴² saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things *that make* for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For days will come upon you when

your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, ⁴⁴ and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”

- Because they had not recognized the Messiah, they would experience another dispersion
- In Daniel 7 & 8, Daniel is given a series of dreams and visions relating to the End Times – Gabriel tells **Daniel 8:19**

And he said, “Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end *shall be*.”

- This world, as we know it today, has an expiration date
- And it is not going to come by nuclear war or even from global warming – What God made, He is planning to unmake
- And here in Daniel 9, we see something of a timetable
- **Daniel 9:1-2**
- Jeremiah was prophesying right before the exile began
- Daniel reads that the exile was only to last seventy years – close!
- Starts to pray – confessing the sins of his people, the Jews
- **Daniel 9:20-23**
- Gabriel is sent to Daniel again to explain what is going to happen
- Maybe you have heard of the ‘Seventy weeks of Daniel’
- **Daniel 9:24a**
- ‘Seventy weeks’ = idiom = seventy sets of seven years = 490 years
- ‘are determined’ = by God = written in stone
- Then tells us who the seventy weeks pertain to – ‘for your people and for your holy city’
- ‘your people’ = the Jews – ‘your holy city’ = Jerusalem
- The object of the seventy weeks is the Jews and Jerusalem
- Next, we see the objective
- **Daniel 9:24b**
- Don’t have time to expound on each of those
- But the last is pretty all-encompassing ‘to anoint the Most Holy’
- To restore the Jews and Jerusalem back to a right worship and devotion of God
- Ultimately, it will extend to the whole world, but the focus will be on the Jews

- Gabriel then gives Daniel the starting point
- **Daniel 9:25**
- The seventy sevens will be divided into three segments: seven-sevens, sixty-two-sevens, and one seven
- The city of Jerusalem was destroyed by the Babylonians and had been a ruinous heap for decades
- But it wasn't going to stay that way
- The Persian king Cyrus defeated the Babylonians and allowed some of the Jews to return to Israel – led by Ezra and they started to rebuild the temple
- It wasn't until many years later during the days of Nehemiah that they started to rebuild the city
- **Daniel 9:26a**
- 'after the sixty-two' which was after the first seven = 69 weeks = 483 years
- 'Messiah shall be cut off' – idiom = to be ended = will be executed/killed = Jesus on the cross
- 'but not for Himself' **1 John 4:10**

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

- **Daniel 9:26b**
- 'prince who is to come' = Antichrist
- People of the prince = Romans – destroyed Jerusalem in 70AD
- 'desolations are determined' = for the Jews – no peace for 2,000 years – constant anti-Semitism
- **Daniel 9:27a**
- 'Then he...' – 'he' = Antichrist
- 'confirm a covenant' – will facilitate a covenant of peace between Israel and her enemies
- 'for one week' = seven years
- **Daniel 9:27b**
- 'middle of the week' = 3 ½ years or 42 months
- 'end to sacrifice' – tells us that the Jews will rebuild their temple on the temple mount and resume the sacrificial system

- We know this last week is yet future because the Jews have not had a temple in Jerusalem since 70AD
- Antichrist will end those sacrifices and set himself up as the one to be worshipped instead of God
- We refer to that last week as The Tribulation or the Time of Jacob's Trouble
- One of its two primary purposes is to restore Israel into a right relationship with their God
- We are still waiting for the fulfillment of this last week of Daniel's prophecy
- We are seeing signs that we could be close
- But we believe the triggering event will be the sudden and forcible removal of true Christians from the earth
- We aren't looking out for the Antichrist – we are looking up for Christ