# Lesson 11 Daniel 9 Seventy Weeks of Years

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| The Prophecy of the Messiah’s Death (Daniel 9) |
| Daniel’s Prophecy | Historical Events |
| “Going forth of the word to restore and build Jerusalem.” | Decree to rebuild the Temple  by King Artaxerxes of Persia |
| “Seventy weeks of years” | 70 x 7 years = 490 years |
| “Messiah” will be “cut off” | Jesus is crucified |
| “City and sanctuary” will be destroyed | Temple and Jerusalem  destroyed by Romans |

1. (Faith) There are numerous interpretations of the meaning of the prophecy in Daniel 9. Many have nothing to do with Jesus at all. However one interpretation lines up perfectly with Jesus as the Messiah and His prophecy and the actual event of the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in 70 AD. This interpretation was offered by the Jewish historian Josephus in “Jewish Antiquities;” Eusebius, one of the Church Fathers; Blaise Pascal, the 17th Century writer well known for his scientific and mathematical expertise, but less known for his religious writing in which “among religions he finds Christianity, and Catholic Christianity, to account most satisfactorily for the world;” and Dr. Brant Pitre in The Case for Jesus.

A. Use different colors to highlight Daniels confession on behalf of the people, his understanding of undeserved Grace, and his plea to be returned to their homeland under God’s favor.

Daniel 9:3-19

3 I turned to the Lord God, to seek help, in prayer and petition, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.

4 I prayed to the LORD, my God, and confessed, “Ah, Lord, great and awesome God,   
 you who keep your covenant and show mercy toward those who love you   
 and keep your commandments and your precepts!

5 We have sinned, been wicked and done evil;   
 we have rebelled and turned from your commandments and your laws.

6 We have not obeyed your servants the prophets,   
 who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, our ancestors, and all the people of the land.

7 Justice, O Lord, is on your side; we are shamefaced even to this day: the men of Judah,   
 the residents of Jerusalem, and all Israel, near and far,   
 in all the lands to which you have scattered them because of their treachery toward you.

8 O LORD, we are ashamed, like our kings, our princes, and our ancestors,  
 for having sinned against you.

9 But to the Lord, our God, belong compassion and forgiveness, though we rebelled against him

10 and did not hear the voice of the LORD, our God,  
 by walking in his laws given through his servants the prophets.

11 The curse and the oath written in the law of Moses, the servant of God, were poured out over us for  
 our sins, because all Israel transgressed your law and turned aside, refusing to hear your voice.

12 He fulfilled the words he spoke against us and against those who ruled us, by bringing upon us an  
 evil—no evil so great has happened under heaven as happened in Jerusalem.

13 As it is written in the law of Moses, this evil has come upon us. We did not appease the LORD,   
 our God, by turning back from our wickedness and acting according to your truth,

14 so the LORD kept watch over the evil and brought it upon us.   
 The LORD, our God, is just in all that he has done: we did not listen to his voice.

15 “Now, Lord, our God, who led your people out of the land of Egypt with a strong hand,  
 and made a name for yourself even to this day, we have sinned, we are guilty.

16 Lord, in keeping with all your just deeds, let your anger and your wrath be turned away from your  
 city Jerusalem, your holy mountain. On account of our sins and the crimes of our ancestors,   
 Jerusalem and your people have become the reproach of all our neighbors.

17 Now, our God, hear the prayer and petition of your servant; and for your own sake,   
 Lord, let your face shine upon your desolate sanctuary.

18 Give ear, my God, and listen; open your eyes and look upon our desolate city upon which your name  
 is invoked. When we present our petition before you,  
 we rely not on our just deeds, but on your great mercy.

19 Lord, hear! Lord, pardon! Lord, be attentive and act without delay,   
 for your own sake, my God, because your name is invoked upon your city and your people!”

B. Given the explicit prophecy in Daniel 7 of the Messiah called the “Son of Man,” a title used by Jesus to identify Himself as the promised Messiah and, now in Daniel 9, a specific timeline associated with the Messiah and the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD is presented.  
How does this further support your belief in Jesus as the promised Messiah   
and His own prophecies of the destruction of the Temple?

Luke 19:43-44

43 For the days are coming upon you when your enemies will raise a palisade against you;   
 they will encircle you and hem you in on all sides.

44 They will smash you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave one stone  
 upon another within you because you did not recognize the time of your visitation."

1. (Hope) The seventy weeks of years ends with the crucifixion of Jesus in AD 33. How are the prophecies of vs. 24 fulfilled with the Crucifixion of Jesus and subsequent events, for example: Resurrection, Ascension, Pentecost, spread of the Church, Particular Judgment, Parousia?

Daniel 9:24

“Seventy weeks are decreed for your people and for your holy city:  
Then transgression will stop and sin will end, guilt will be expiated,  
Everlasting justice will be introduced, vision and prophecy ratified,  
and a holy of holies will be anointed.

(Love) In the Age of the Church, how are you live to bring about the prophecies of vs. 24 for yourself and the world?

(Love)