

God's Plan for the Ages Series

Lesson #025

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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GOD'S PLAN
FOR THE **AGES**
DISPENSATIONS

THE PURPOSES OF THE TRIBULATION
THE RAPTURE VS. THE SECOND COMING

GENTILES

ISRAEL

Perfect Environment

Conscience

Human Government

Patriarchs

Mosaic Law

Messianic Age

Church Age

Tribulation

Creation Covenant

Gen. 1:28-30;
Hosea 6:7

Adamic Covenant

Gen. 3:14-19

Noahic Covenant

Gen. 9:1-17

Abrahamic Covenant

Gen. 12:1-3

Mosaic Covenant

Ex. 20-40

Logos

New Covenant Applied

Responsibility

Fulfill the Covenant:
Gen. 1:26-28;
2:16-17

Animal Sacrifice
Gen. 3:21

Fill the earth
Gen. 9:7

Stay distinct people
Gen. 7:14

Obey the Law
Ex. 19:3-8

Accept Messiah

**Faith alone
In Christ alone**

Failure

Ate fruit
Gen. 3:1-6

Evil and Wickedness
Gen. 6:5-6

Built Babel
Gen. 11:1-4

Assimilated
Gen. 34

Disobeyed
2 Chron. 36:14

Reject Messiah

Most reject Christ

Divine Judgment

Sp. Death
Gen. 3:7-19

Flood
Gen. 6—9

Confusion of Languages
Gen. 11:5-9

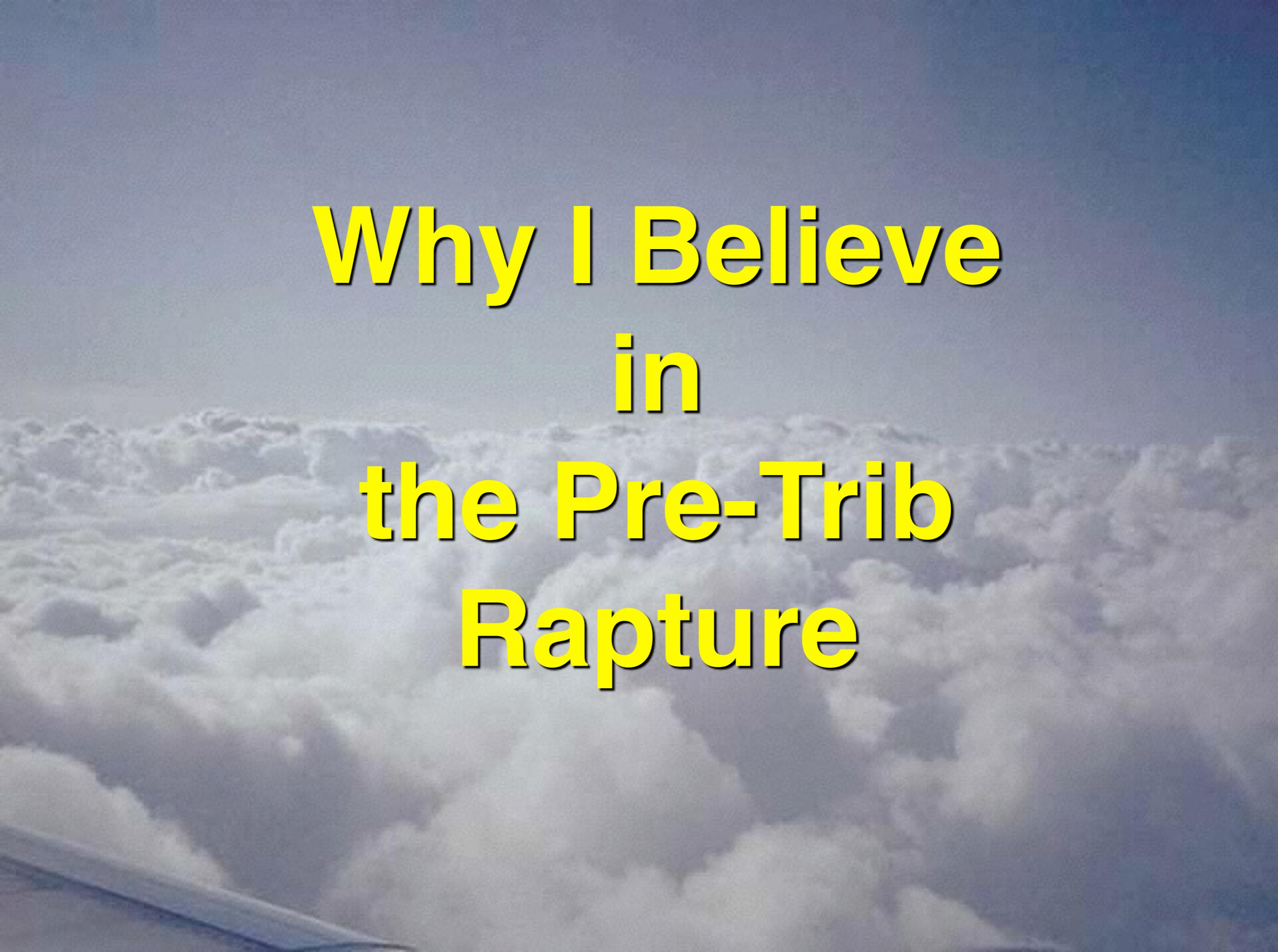
Egyptian Bondage
Ex. 1:8-14

Diaspora
Deut. 28:63-66

Cross 5th Cycle

Tribulation

BIBLICAL DISPENSATIONS



**Why I Believe
in
the Pre-Trib
Rapture**

2. The Purposes for the Tribulation do not relate to the Church.

- To execute judgment on the wicked nations who have rejected Christ.**
- To demonstrate the inability of Satan to rule the planet.**
- To provide time for millions to be saved.**
- To prepare the nation Israel for the Messiah and His kingdom.**

PURPOSES OF THE TRIBULATION

- 1. Time of preparation for Israel's restoration and conversion (Deut. 4:29, 30; Jer. 30:3–11; Zech. 12:10).**
- 2. Called "time of Jacob's tribulation" (Jer. 30:7).**
- 3. The Church currently experiences tribulations (Jn. 16:33), she will not experience "the" Tribulation.**
- 4. The Church is mentioned 19 times in Rev. 1–3, but in 4–19, that covers the Tribulation period, the Church is never mentioned.**

Jer. 30:7, “Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob’s trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.”

Ezek. 20:37, “I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant;”

Dan. 12:1, “At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book.”

Daniel's Seventy Weeks

(Daniel 9:24-27)

The Decree to Restore

Messiah the Prince

The Coming Prince

Messiah Returns

69 Weeks

Messiah "cut off" Apr. 3, A.D. 33

Church Age



1/2 Week

1/2 Week

March 5, 444 B.C.

March 30, A.D. 33

City & Temple destroyed Aug. 6, A.D. 70

Artaxerxes' Decree Neh. 2:1-8

Triumphal Entry Luke 19:28-40

The Tribulation is for Israel

3. The Church is NEVER the object of the wrath of God.

Wrath is a technical term for the execution of the judgment of God.

- “wrath” is used first in Rev. 6, the “wrath of the Lamb”; in the seal judgments.
- “wrath” is worldwide in scope.
- “wrath” involves supernatural judgments and signs and wonders on the earth.
- “wrath” results in the deaths of BILLIONS.

1 Thess. 5:9, “For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,”

1 Thess. 1:10, “and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

Rev. 3:9–10, “ ‘Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews, and are not, but lie — behold, I will make them to come and bow down at your feet, and to know that I have loved you *Because you have kept the word of My perseverance.

I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell upon the earth.”

Matt. 24:21, “for then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall.” (cf., Dan. 12:1)

**4. Imminency: The “at any moment”
return of Jesus Christ.**

**OED: “hanging overhead, constantly
ready to befall or overtake one; close
at hand in its incidence.”**

Certain

Uncertain

**Not
contingent**

“Of a truth, soon and suddenly shall His will be accomplished, as the Scripture also bears witness, saying, ‘Speedily will He come, and will not tarry;’ and, ‘The Lord shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Holy One, for whom ye look.’ ”

~1 Clement

“The last times are come upon us. Let us therefore be of a reverent spirit, and fear the long-suffering of God, that it tend not to our condemnation. For let us either stand in awe of the wrath to come, or show regard for the grace which is at present displayed—one of two things.”

~Ignatius, *Ephesians*

“And therefore, when in the end the Church shall be suddenly caught up from this, it is said, ‘There shall be tribulation such as has not been since the beginning, neither shall be.’ ”

~Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*

James 5:7, “Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains.

James 5:8, “You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

James 5:9, “Do not complain, brethren, against one another, that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door.”

1 Thess. 1:10, “and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come.”

1 Cor. 1:7, “so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ,”

Phil. 3:20, “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

Phil. 3:21, “who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.”

1 Thess. 4:15, “For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep.”

Titus 2:13, “looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus;”

1 Cor. 16:22, “If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be accursed. Maranatha.”

Rom. 13:11, “And this do, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.

Rom. 13:12, “The night is almost gone, and the day is at hand. Let us therefore lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Rom. 13:13, “Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.

Rom. 13:14, “But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.”

Phil. 4:5, “Let your forbearing spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near.”

1 John 2:28, “And now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming.

1 John 2:29, “If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him.”

1 John 3:1, “See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

1 John 3:2, “Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is.

1 John 3:3, “And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

5. The Distinction between the Rapture and the Second Coming.

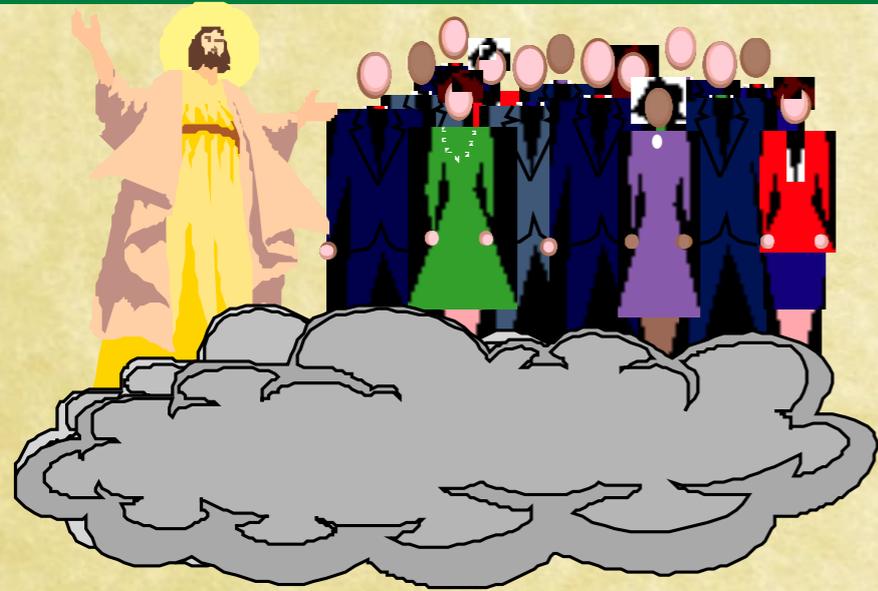
RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture

**Second Coming
Established Kingdom**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



1. Translation of all believers

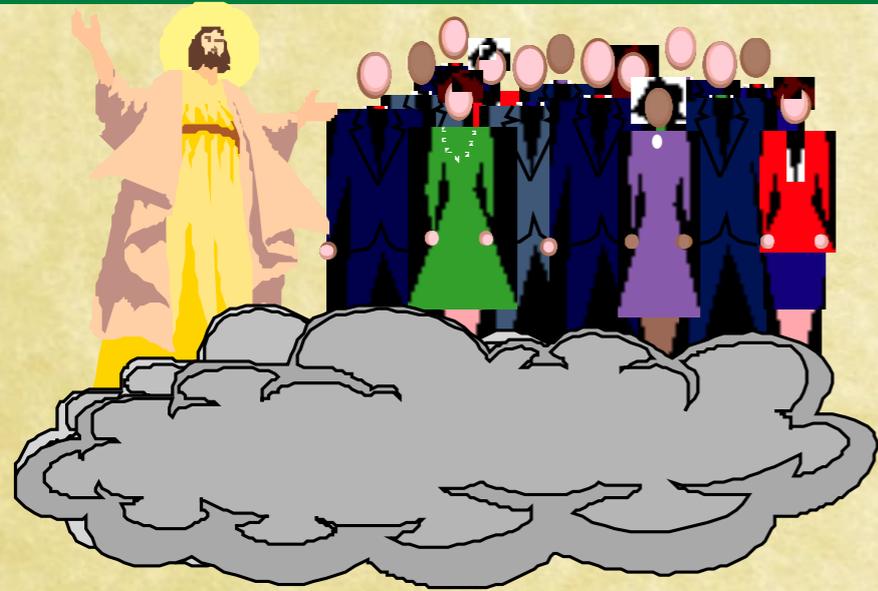
Second Coming Established Kingdom



1. No translation at all

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**2. Translated
saints go to
heaven**

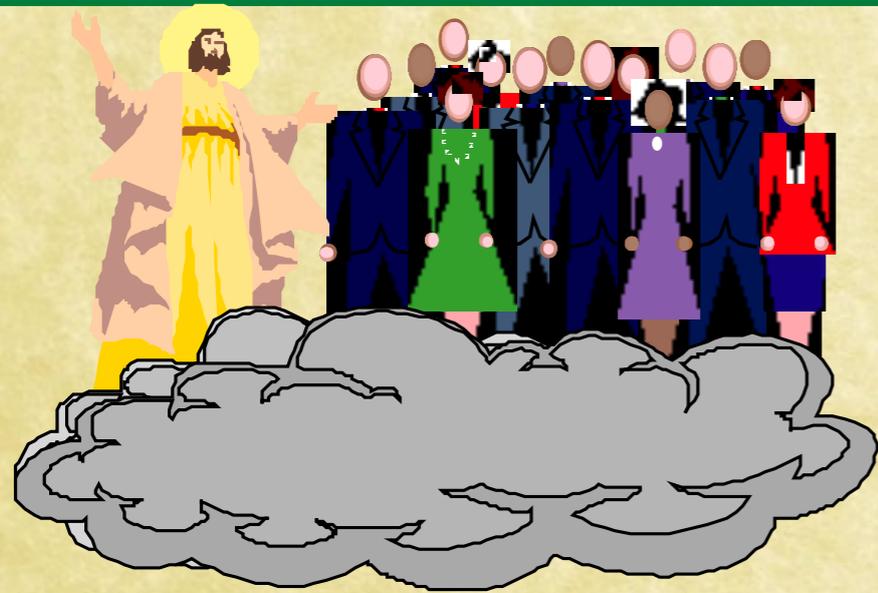
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**2. Translated
saints return
to earth**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



3. Earth is not judged

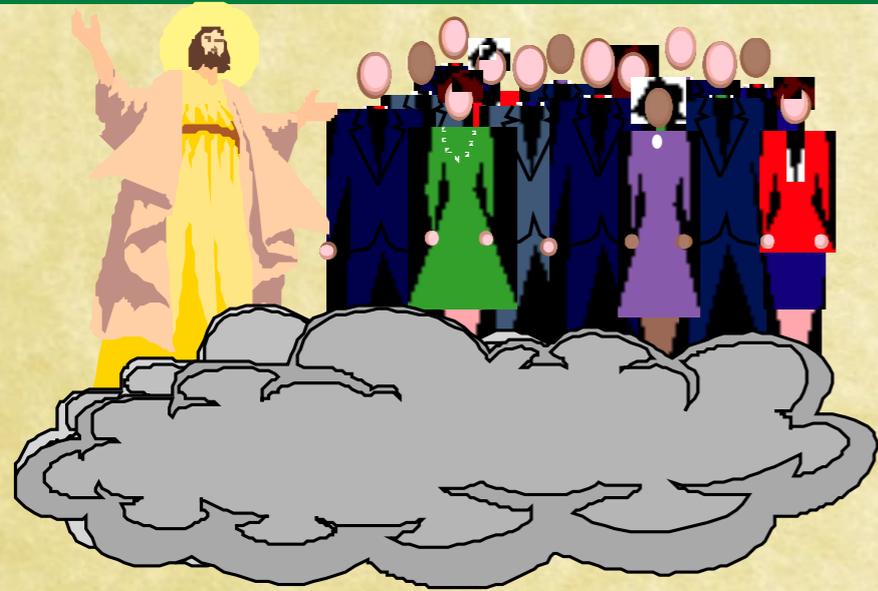
Second Coming Established Kingdom



3. Earth is judged and righteousness is established

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**4. Imminent,
any-moment,
signless**

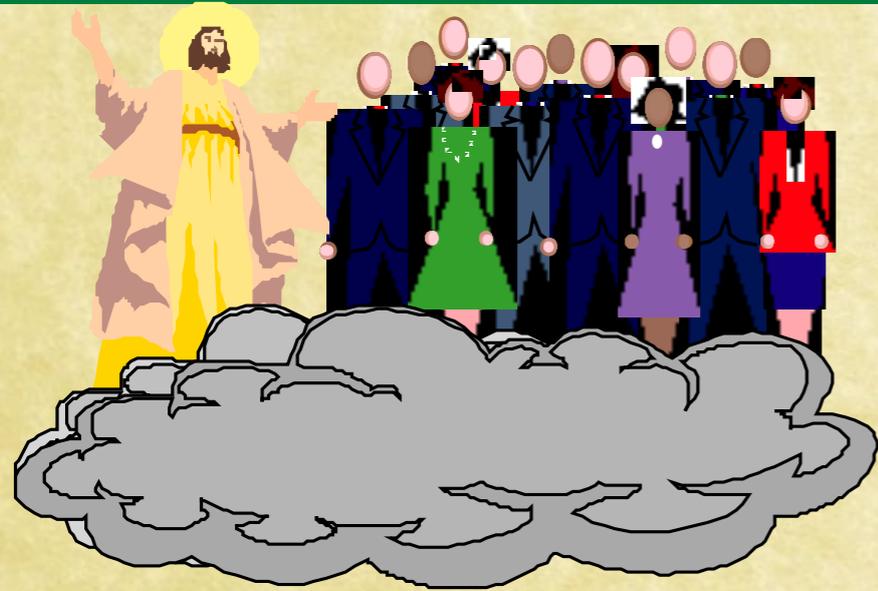
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**4. Follows
definite
predicted
signs,
including the
Tribulation**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**5. Not
predicted in
the Old
Testament**

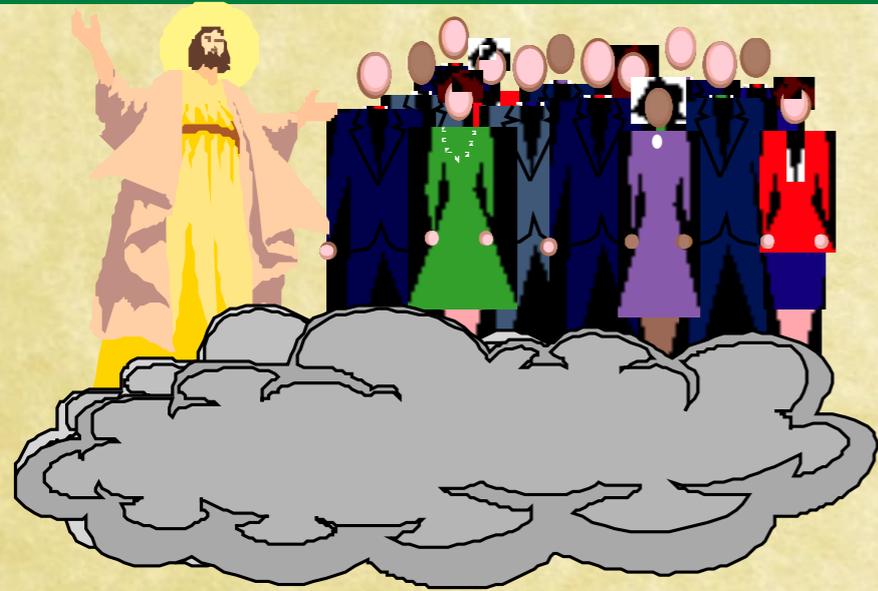
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**5. Predicted
often in the
Old
Testament**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**6. Believers
only**

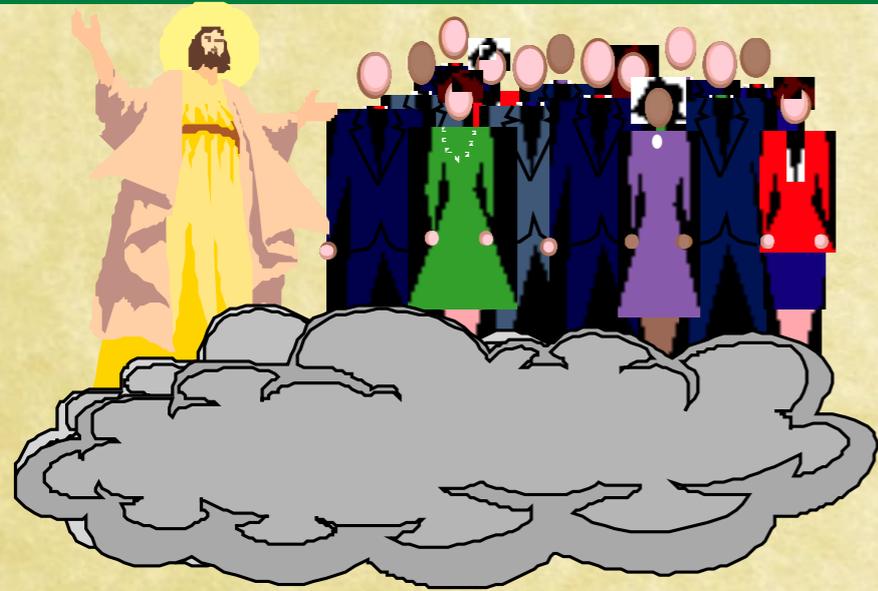
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**6. Affects all
mankind**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**7. Before the
day of wrath**

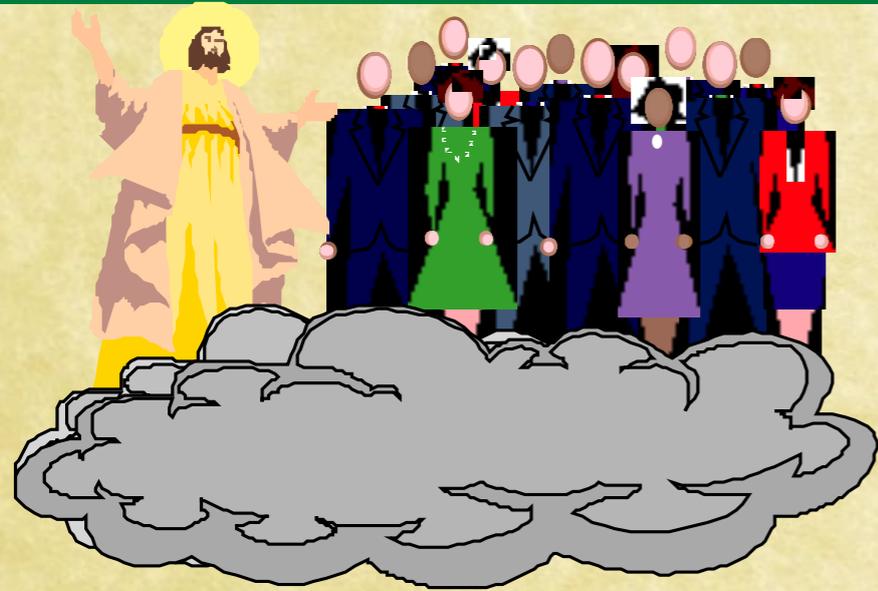
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**7. Concluding
the day of
wrath**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**8. No reference
to Satan**

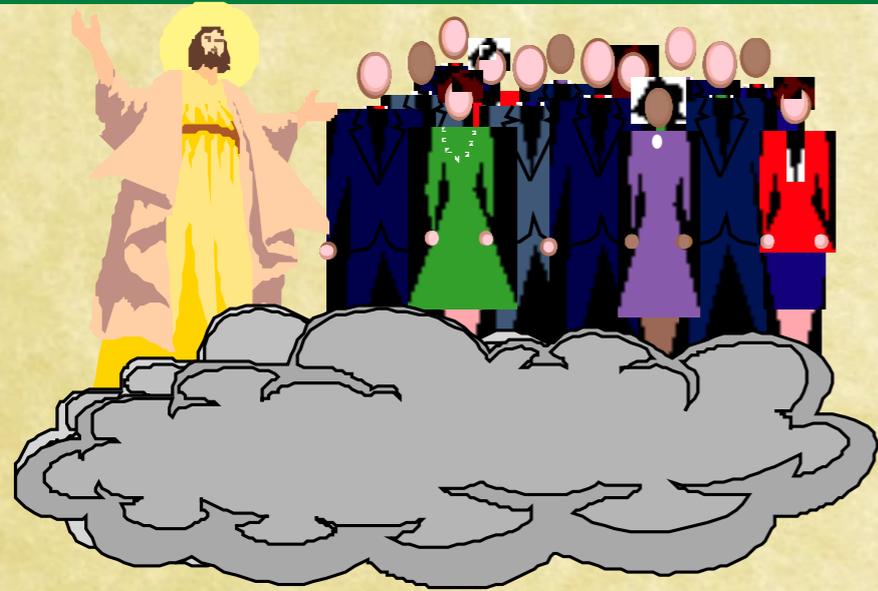
Second Coming Established Kingdom



8. Satan bound

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**9. Christ
comes *for*
His own**

Second Coming Established Kingdom



**9. Christ comes
with His own**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**10. Christ
comes in
the *air***

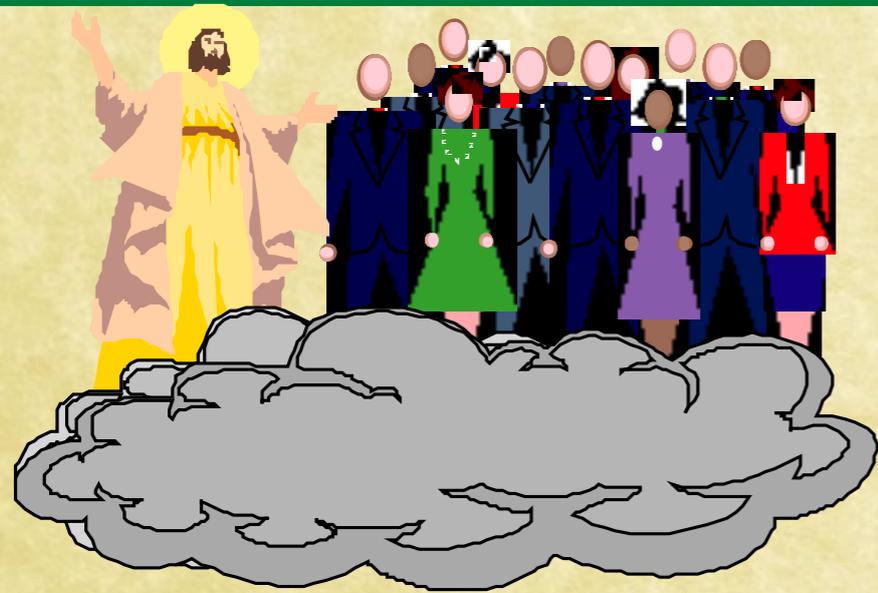
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**10. Christ
comes to
the *earth***

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**11. Christ
claims His
bride**

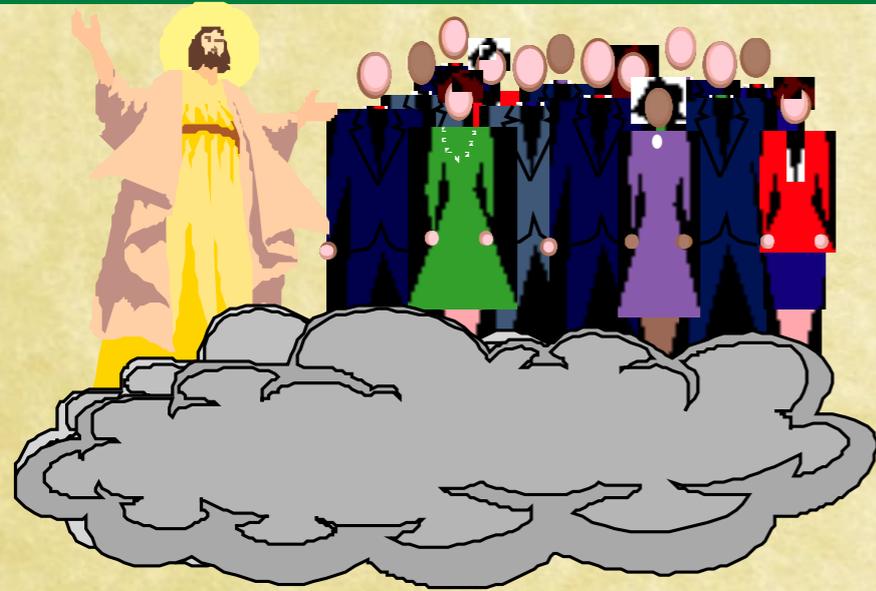
Second Coming Established Kingdom



**11. Christ
comes with
His bride**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**12. Only His
own see
Him**

Second Coming Established Kingdom



**12. Every eye
shall see
Him**

RAPTURE /2ND COMING CONTRASTS

Rapture



**13. Tribulation
begins**

Second Coming Established Kingdom



**13. Messianic
Kingdom
begins**

Daniel's Seventy Weeks

(Daniel 9:24-27)

The Decree to Restore

Messiah the Prince

The Coming Prince

Messiah Returns

69 Weeks



Church Age

1/2 Week

1/2 Week

**March 5,
444 B.C.**

**March 30,
A.D. 33**

City & Temple destroyed
Aug. 6, A.D. 70

Artaxerxes' Decree
Neh. 2:1-8

Triumphal Entry
Luke 19:28-40

Timeframe for the Tribulation

Daniel wanted information about the end of the Babylonian captivity. God gave him an answer that goes all the way to the 2nd coming of Christ.



The subject of the prophecy is Israel, not the Church – “your people,” “your holy city”

Overview of the 70 Weeks

Daniel 9:24	The entire 70 weeks (490 years)
Daniel 9:25	The first 69 weeks (483 years)
Daniel 9:26	The gap between the 69th and 70th weeks (? years)
Daniel 9:27	The 70th week (7 years)

Dan. 9:24, “Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place.

Dan. 9:25, “So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress.”

Dan. 9:26, “Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.

Dan. 9:27, “And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

Dan. 9:24, “Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place.

Dan. 9:25, “So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress.”

The Entire 70 Weeks (9:24)

The Chronology

What are the 70 “weeks”?

Seventy units of seven “weeks” = *shabu'im*

$70 \times 7 = 70$ weeks of years (490 years)

The Cause

Why 490 years?

UNITS OF SEVENTY

70 x 7 Sabbatical
Years Violated
(Lev. 26:34-35,43)

70 Year Captivity
(Jer. 25:11; 29:10)

70 x 7 Sabbatical
Years Remaining
(Dan. 9:24-27)



Jer. 25:11, “ ‘And this whole land shall be a desolation and a horror, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

Jer. 25:12, “ ‘Then it will be when seventy years are completed I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation,’ declares the LORD, ‘for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans; and I will make it an everlasting desolation.’ ”

**Jer. 29:10, “For thus says the LORD,
‘When seventy years have been completed
for Babylon, I will visit you and fulfill My
good word to you, to bring you back to this
place.’ ”**

6 Things That Will be Accomplished

1. “To finish *the* transgression” (rebellion of Israel)
2. “to make an end of sin”
3. “to atone for iniquity” (sin will be totally dealt with)
4. “to bring in everlasting righteousness”
5. “to seal up vision and prophecy” (terminate/fulfill prophecy)
6. “to anoint the most holy place”

The First 69 Weeks (9:25)

The Commencement

If the 70 weeks refer to 490 years, all we have to do is find the starting point.

4 Decrees:

1. Decree of Cyrus (Oct. 29, 539 B.C. – Ezra 1:1–4; 5:13)
2. Decree of Darius (519/18 B.C. – Ezra 6:1–12)
3. Decree of Artaxerxes Longimanus to Ezra (457 B.C.)
4. Decree of Artaxerxes Longimanus to Nehemiah (March 5, 444 B.C. – Nehemiah 2:1–8) Direct reference to restore the city, walls, and gates

The Completion of the 69 Weeks

When did it end?

March 30, A.D. 33

**(4 days before the death of
Jesus)**

Luke 21:38–44



The Gap Between the 69th and 70th Weeks (9:26)

There is a gap of at least 37 years between the end of the 69th week and beginning of the 70th week. In this gap two specific events occurred.

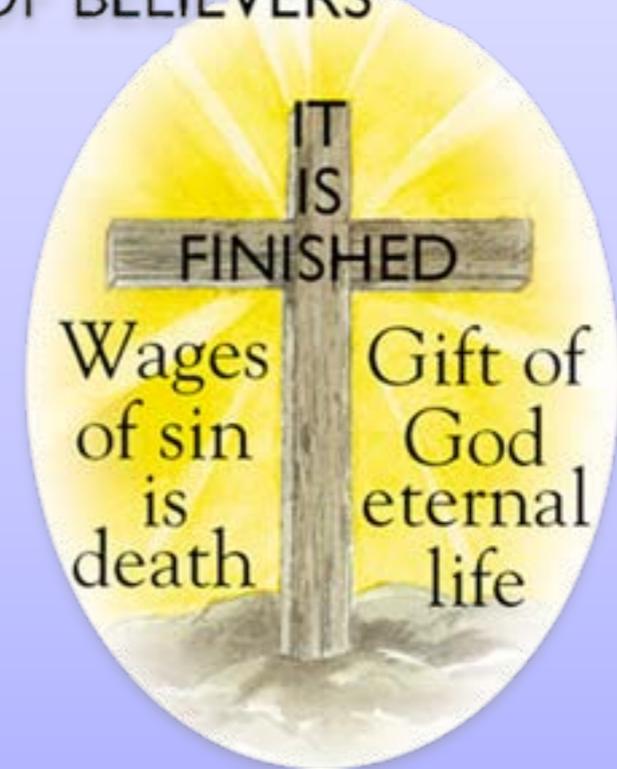
1. The Death of the Messiah (26a)

“after”

“the Messiah will be cut off” (this occurred 4 days after the 69 weeks ended – April 3, A.D. 33)

“and have nothing”

JESUS CHRIST
JUDGED INSTEAD
OF BELIEVERS



2. The Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in August A.D. 70 (26b)



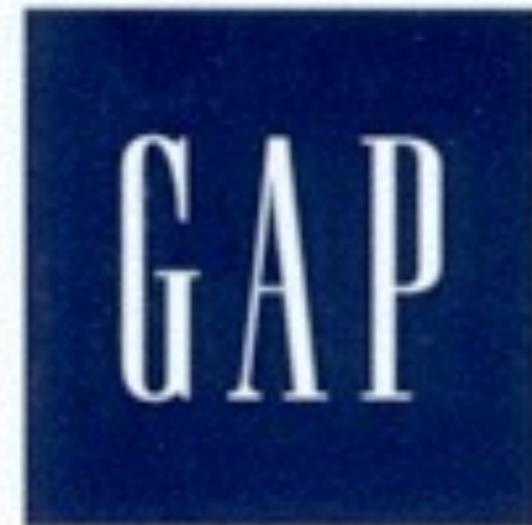
IV. The 70th Week (9:27)

One week of years remains

Is it past or future?

1. The “No Gap” View

2. The Gap View



Daniel's Seventy "Weeks" Seventy Periods of Sevens

DAN. 9:24–27

**The Decree
to Restore**

**Messiah
the Prince**

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 7 & + & 62 = 69 \\ \hline & & \text{weeks} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

**March 5,
444 B.C.
Artaxerxes'
Decree
Neh. 2:1–3**

**March 30
A.D. 33
Triumphal
Entry
Luke 19:28–40**

$$70 \times 7 = 490 \text{ years}$$

$$69 \times 7 = 483 \text{ years} = 173,880 \text{ days}$$

ISRAEL

Rationale for 360-Day Years

Half week—Daniel 9:27

Time, times, half a time—

Daniel 7:25, 12:7; Rev. 12:14

1,260 days—Revelation 12:6, 11:3

42 months—Revelation 11:2, 13:5

**Thus: 42 months = 1,260 days =
time, times, half time + half week**

Therefore: Month = 30 days; Year = 360 days

Explanation of Daniel's 70 Weeks of Years

- $69 \times 7 \times 360 = 173,880$ days
- March 5, 444 B.C. + 173,880 = March 30, A.D. 33

Verification

- 444 B.C. to A.D. 33 -1 (no year 0) = 476 years
- 476 years \times 365.2421989 days = 173,855 days
+ days between March 5 and March 30 = 25 days

Totals = 173,880 days

Daniel's Seventy "Weeks" Seventy Periods of Sevens

DAN. 9:24-27

**The Decree
to Restore**

**Messiah
the Prince**

$$\begin{array}{|l} 7 + 62 = 69 \\ \hline \text{weeks} \end{array}$$

**March 5,
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**Artaxerxes'
Decree**

**Triumphal
Entry**

Neh. 2:1-3

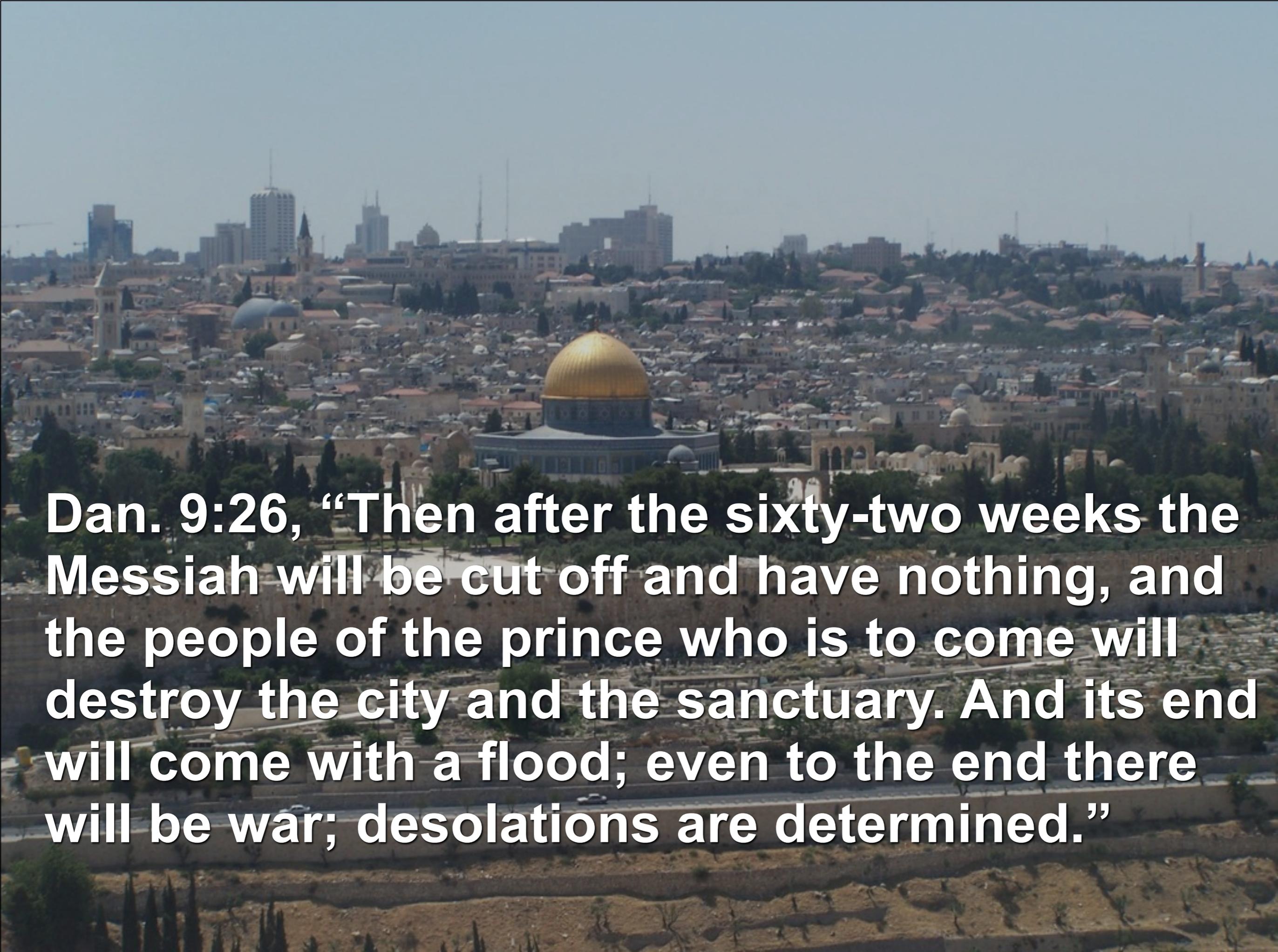
Luke 19:28-40

$$70 \times 7 = 490 \text{ years}$$

$$69 \times 7 = 483 \text{ years} = 173,880 \text{ days}$$

**What happened to the
other seven years???**

ISRAEL

An aerial photograph of Jerusalem, Israel, showing the city's dense urban landscape. The central focus is the Dome of the Rock, a large Islamic shrine with a prominent golden dome. The city is built on a hillside, with numerous buildings and structures visible. In the background, modern skyscrapers and a clear sky are visible. The foreground shows a road and some greenery.

Dan. 9:26, “Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.”

Daniel's Seventy "Weeks" Seventy Periods of Sevens

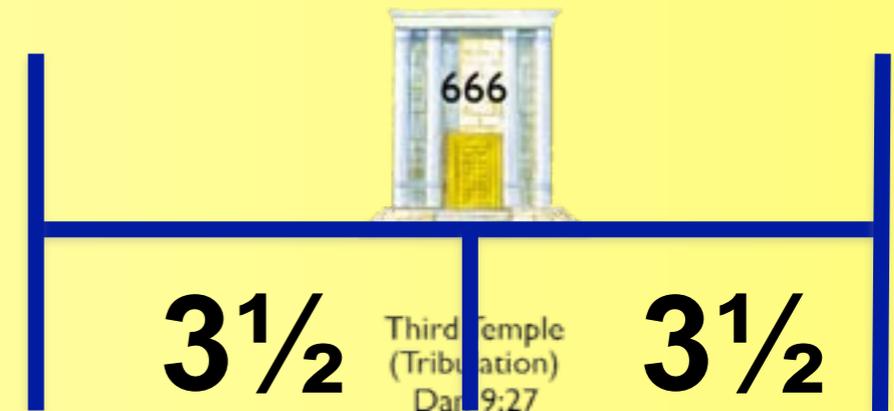
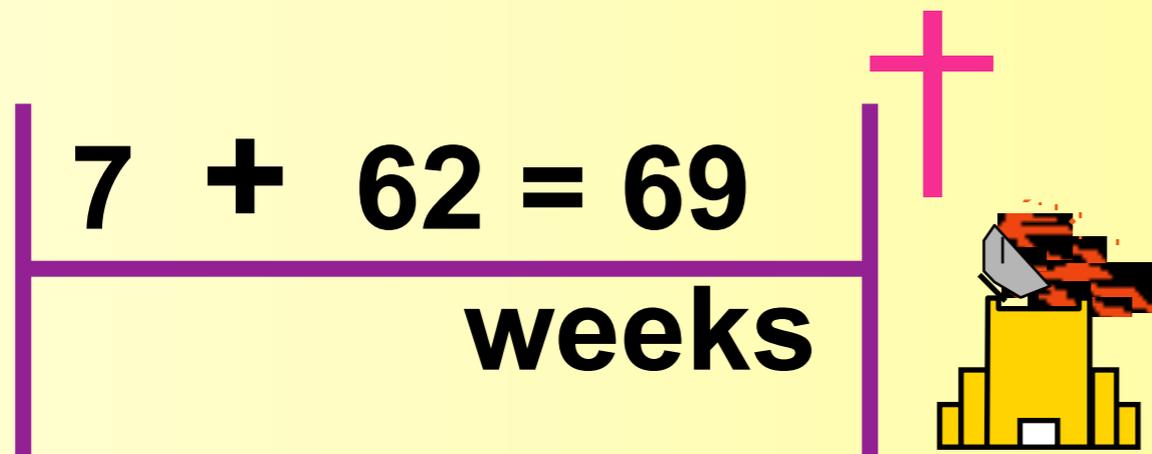
DAN. 9:24-27

**The Decree
to Restore**

**Messiah
the Prince**

**The Coming
Prince**

**Messiah
Returns**



**March 5,
444 B.C.**

**March 30
A.D. 33**

**Artaxerxes'
Decree**

**Triumphal
Entry**

Neh. 2:1-3

Luke 19:28-40

years

years

**70th Week
Unfulfilled**

ISRAEL

ISRAEL

Daniel 9:27 Presupposes 3 Things

- 1. A Roman prince**
- 2. A Jewish nation**
(the signed covenant begins the 70th week)
- 3. A Jewish temple**

The 70th Week of Israel

The 70 weeks concern the nation of Israel – God’s program for Israel. When the Jews rejected Jesus, God interrupted His program with Israel with this present Church Age between the 69th and 70th weeks. After the Rapture, God will resume His dealings with Israel for one week of years.

Since the first 69 weeks of years were literally fulfilled, we should expect for the final or 70th week to be literally fulfilled as well.

