

MESSIAH IN THE OT

Week 9 – The Book of Daniel
November 5, 2019

God promised an everlasting kingdom to come from King David's lineage (II Sam. 7:12-16).

Matt. 1:5-11 - Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, 6 and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah (Bathsheba). 7 Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. 8 Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. 9 Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. 10 Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. 11 Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. We know that these men were kings. Under Jeconiah (also called Coniah) there was a “roadblock.” A curse was placed on Jeconiah... Jer. 22:30 - *Thus says the LORD: ‘Write this man down as childless, a man who shall not prosper in his days; for none of his descendants shall prosper, sitting on the throne of David, and ruling anymore in Judah.’* And so...

Matt. 1:12-16 - And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. 13 Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. 14 Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. 15 Eliud begot Eleazar; Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. 16 And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.

These are men in Jesus' genealogy...from the tribe of Judah from where the kings come. The text tells us of the continuation of Jesus' genealogy through men from Judah WHO WERE NOT KINGS! Zerubbabel was an influential political and religious leader in Israel during the time when Jewish exiles returned from captivity in Babylon. Was Joseph (v. 16) a king? Do we read of kings in Judah following Joseph?

Here, in Matthew 1, there seems to be an interruption in the Kings of Judah – the human kings! Solution: Jesus had one human parent: Mary. Mary was of David's line but not through Jeconiah (Luke 3:31). Joseph's lineage is noted through Solomon. Mary's lineage is noted through Nathan. Jeconiah is not in Jesus' genealogy through Mary (Luke 3:23-28)! Joseph was Jesus' legal father, but not His physical father. Jesus was of royal blood through Mary, a virgin. The curse was not passed on to Jesus! And so we read immediately following Jesus' genealogy through Joseph...

Matt. 1:18 – Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.

THE VIRGIN BIRTH is the solution re: the curse on Jeconiah!

But, is Jesus kingship jeopardized? God promised the Seed of the woman (Gen. 3:15) Who would come as KING! God's will can NEVER be thwarted! Consider:

- The shepherds (Luke 2) went in search of the Lamb of God.
- The wise men/Magi from the East (Persia), king makers (Matt. 2) were looking for the King of the Jews!

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- At Jesus' incarnation in Bethlehem...His coming to earth as Emmanuel/God with us/God in the flesh...we see His two roles (suffering Servant [the sacrificial Lamb] and King!). AND, in His two roles we see His two comings!

WHY was there an interruption in the promises God made to David? God promised He would chastise the sons of David if they "forsake My law". Remember these words of God in Psa. 89...

Psa. 89:30-37 - If his sons forsake My law and do not walk in My judgments, 31 If they break My statutes and do not keep My commandments, 32 Then I will punish their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes 33 Nevertheless, My lovingkindness I will not utterly take from him (David), nor allow My faithfulness to fail. 34 My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips. 35 Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David: 36 His seed shall endure forever, and his throne as the sun before Me; 37 It shall be established forever

God is faithful to His word! Jesus will sit on the throne of David at His physical Second Coming when He returns to rule and reign in Jerusalem.

Luke 1:31-33 – God sent the angel Gabriel to the virgin Mary...31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.

I & II Samuel and I & II Kings record the entire history of Judah's kingdom and Israel's kingdom from Saul to Zedekiah. I & II Chronicles record only the history of Judah's kings. There were prophets at this time. There was much more prophetic activity after the United Kingdom under King David and King Solomon were divided. The prophets beginning in the 8th century BC warned of impending destruction. In the midst of that destruction there were more proclamations about God's RESTORATION of Israel in the future when the Messiah would return (realizing that the Messiah had not yet come the first time to suffer and die). The northern kingdom was carried away by the Assyrians in

722 BC. The southern kingdom of Judah was carried away captive to Babylon. Although the kings of Judah were generally better than the kings of Israel, there were still some who worshiped idols and even sacrificed their children.

In speaking of the fall of Jerusalem in the Kingdom of Judah...

II Chron. 36:15-21- *And the LORD God of their fathers sent warnings to them by His messengers, rising up early and sending them, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place.* ¹⁶ *But they mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against His people, till there was no remedy.* ¹⁷ *Therefore He brought against them the king of the Chaldeans (King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon)...* ¹⁹ *Then they (the Babylonians) burned the house of God, broke down the wall of Jerusalem, burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all its precious possessions.* ²⁰ *And those who escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon, where they became servants to him and his sons* until the rule of the kingdom of Persia, ²¹ to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her Sabbaths. As long as she lay desolate she kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy

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years. God promised the land to Israel – the physical descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The fulfillment will be realized in the Millennial Kingdom. God promised that the kingdom He promised to David will be an everlasting kingdom. The fulfillment will be realized in the Millennial Kingdom and in the New Jerusalem.

Since we are studying the Messiah in the OT as we read of the unfolding of God's plan of redemption, we're going to look at a key passage of prophecy which has been labeled as the "backbone" of prophecy in the book of Daniel. No portion of the OT reveals God's prophetic plan for Israel and the nations as clearly and as much as the book of Daniel. Daniel outlines the history of the times of the Gentiles...the Gentile Empires that oppressed Israel, occupying Israel and ruling over Israel UNTIL the Messiah returns.

The prophecies in the book encompassing God's program for the Gentiles, Jerusalem, and for the people of Israel, lay the foundation for God's end times program!

Prominent above every other theme in Daniel is God's sovereign control over the affairs of all rulers and nations, and their final replacement with the true King and His kingdom! God was providentially working His purposes toward the display of the exalted Messiah, Jesus. He sovereignly allowed Gentiles to dominate Israel: Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, through to the physical Second Coming of Jesus. These stages in Gentile power are set forth in Dan. 2 and Dan. 7. We see Jesus coming to rule the world in glory over all men. He is like a stone in Dan. 2 and like the Son of man in Dan. 7. In addition, He is the Anointed One (the Messiah) in Dan. 9:26. Dan. 9 provides the chronological

framework from Daniel's time to Jesus' kingdom! The book of Daniel proclaims the time of the Messiah!

Daniel, a faithful Jewish man, and three of his young friends (Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah), among other young men, were taken into Babylon in 605 BC.

Daniel 2 - During their exile, King Nebuchadnezzar had a recurring dream that troubled him.

Dan. 2:16-23 - *So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him time, that he might tell the king the interpretation.* Daniel recognized his own inability and turned to God in confidence, expecting the Lord to meet his need. God revealed Nebuchadnezzar's dream to Daniel.

Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar that, in his dream, the king had seen a large statue made of metals. The head was of pure gold. The chest and arms were of silver. The belly and thighs were bronze. Its legs were made of iron with its feet partly iron and clay. The statue was struck on its feet by a rock that was not cut by human hands. That rock reduced the entire statue to chaff that was blown away. The rock grew into a huge mountain that filled the earth. Daniel's interpretation addressed the course of history regarding the Gentile Empires/Gentile Kingdoms which would rule over the land of Israel. Daniel 2:4 through Daniel 7:28 is written in Aramaic as the subject matter is centered on Gentile nations. Aramaic was the popular language of Babylon, Assyria, and Persia. Aramaic was useful in governmental and trade relations.

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Nebuchadnezzar, the king of the Babylonian Empire, was represented by the head of gold. The silver chest and arms of the statue represented the rise of the Medes and Persians which conquered the Babylonians. The bronze belly and thighs represented the Grecian Empire. Alexander the Great of Greece conquered the Medo-Persians. The legs of iron represent the Roman Empire which conquered the Greek Empire. The Roman Empire consisted of the Western Roman Empire and the Eastern Roman Empire – represented by the two legs. The feet of iron and clay represents the Roman Empire in its revived form (Dan. 7:23-24) prior to Jesus' physical second coming (antichrist's kingdom).

In Daniel 7:3-8 we read that Daniel, in a vision, sees four great beasts emerging from the sea. The first beast was like a lion that had eagle wings. The lion and eagle were both symbols of Babylon. The second beast was like a bear which represented the Medo-Persian Empire which conquered Babylon. One side of the bear was higher than the other suggesting that Persia rose later than Media. Media is considered ancient Persia. The three ribs in the bear's mouth may represent the kingdoms of Egypt, Assyria, and Babylon which had preceded the Medo-Persian Empire. The third beast was like a leopard, an animal noted for its swiftness (Hab. 1:8), cunning, and agility (Jer. 5:6; Hosea 13:7). This beast had wings like a bird stressing a swiftness beyond its natural capacity.

And, this beast had four heads. The kingdom that conquered Medo-Persia was Greece which did so with great speed, conquering the entire empire between 334 and 330 BC. After Alexander the Great died his kingdom was divided into four parts (Dan. 8:8, 22). The fourth beast was simply called a beast. This beast was more terrifying and powerful than the three preceding beasts. This beast had large iron teeth. A significant feature of this fourth beast had 10 horns which represented 10 kings. Another horn emerged among the 10 horns. This little horn had the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully. This little horn represents the antichrist coming from the revived Roman Empire.

After reading of these Gentile nations including the antichrist's kingdom...we read...

Dan. 7:9-12 – thrones of judgment were set up. One throne was occupied by the Ancient of Days. This is our sovereign God Who exercised control over men and nations

Dan. 7:13-14 we read of Daniel seeing one like the Son of Man approaching the Ancient of Days and was given dominion, glory, and a kingdom – that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him! Who is this? JESUS! The Son of Man will establish an everlasting kingdom which will not pass away or be destroyed! And so we can understand that following the destruction of these Gentile Empires, following the kingdom of the antichrist, Jesus will indeed receive the kingdom (read Luke 19:11-15a) from God the Father and will establish it on earth...

Dan. 7:27 - *Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.*'

Daniel 9:24-27 - the backbone of prophecy.

Daniel is an elderly man. He has been in Babylon for approx. 68 years. Daniel is reading the scroll of Jeremiah and he comes across Jer. 25:1-11 - *The word that came to Jeremiah*

concerning all the people of Judah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah (which was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon),⁴ And the LORD has sent to you all (all you people of Judah) His servants the prophets, rising early and sending them, but you have not listened nor inclined your ear to hear...⁸ Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Because you have not heard My words,⁹ behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' says the LORD, 'and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, against its inhabitants, and against these nations all around, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, a hissing, and perpetual desolations....¹¹ And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

II Chron. 36:21 - 21 to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her Sabbaths. As long as she lay desolate she kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy. God gave the Jewish people 613 commandments under the law which included observing the Sabbatical year. Leviticus 25:3–5 explains what *not* to do on the sabbatical year: *Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather its fruit; 4 but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath to the LORD. You shall neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard. 5 What grows of its own accord of your harvest you shall not reap, nor gather the grapes of your unintended vine, for it is a year of rest for the land.* God was saying to the people, “Trust Me!” Refusing to obey this command...

Lev. 26:33-35 - I will scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you; your land shall be desolate and your cities waste. 34 Then the land shall enjoy its sabbaths as long as it lies desolate and you are in your enemies' land; then the land shall rest and enjoy its sabbaths. 35 As long as it lies desolate it shall rest—for the time it did not rest on your sabbaths when you dwelt in it. The captivity that Daniel was experiencing would last seventy years...because they didn't allow our land to rest one year out of every seven years for 490 years! For a total of 490 years the Jewish people did not let the land rest one year out of seven. Therefore, the land didn't enjoy her Sabbaths for 70 years.

Daniel begins to pray. Dan. 9:20-23 - Now while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God (Daniel knew that the nation of Israel needed to repent so that they could return to the land), 21 yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. 22 And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, 'O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand. 23 At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision:

Dan. 9:24 - Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. “70 sevens” (literally) are determined. Daniel was reading Jeremiah’s scroll which spoke of the years Israel had disobeyed God...490 years (70 sevens = 490) are determined. The word for “determined” means “carved out” for Daniel’s people, the Jewish people, and

for their holy city, Jerusalem. Daniel, your people have disobeyed God and He is GIVING YOU BACK THOSE YEARS!!!! THIS IS RESTORATION!

The six goals will bring Israel to the Millennial Kingdom – to RESTORATION – in 490 years!

- The first three goals appear to refer to the sacrifice of the Messiah which makes atonement/reconciliation for iniquity.
- The second three goals refer to the establishment of the Messiah's earthly reign in Jerusalem. The “everlasting righteousness” can only refer to the Millennial Kingdom promised Israel.
- This prophecy anticipates the entire work of the Messiah.

Daniel 9:25 - Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there shall be seven weeks (49 years) and sixty-two weeks (434 years). The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times. Total weeks/years at this point - Sixty-nine weeks = 483 years.

From the command to the Jewish people to return to the land of Israel for the purpose of restoring the city of Jerusalem until “Messiah the Prince” – until Jesus is hailed as King at His triumphal entry into Jerusalem before His crucifixion – a total of 483 years will have elapsed.

Israel has been labeled as God’s prophetic time clock. God has given us a countdown re: His return. This countdown revolves around Israel and their restoration (the end of the six goals noted in v. 24). This prophetic time clock for Israel – regarding their restoration - began ticking when the children of Israel were allowed to return to the land.

After 483 years from the return to Israel, “Messiah the Prince,” Jesus, rode into Jerusalem and the people hailed Him as King on Lamb Selection Day on the Jewish calendar.

“Prince” – captain, ruler, leader, overseer. Zech. 9:9 – Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Dan. 9:26a - And after the sixty-two weeks (after the total of 69 weeks – 483 years) Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; Several days following Jesus’ triumphal entry we read of His crucifixion – being cut off but not for Himself...for US!

Dan. 9:26b - And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined. There is one week left following Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem. One week equating to seven years. But, look what transpires: Jesus’ crucifixion in approx.. 30 AD, and the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD. We seem to have an “interruption” or a “gap” in the 490 years.

And, there's talk of another prince. Two princes are noted in this passage: Messiah the Prince and the prince who is to come (v. 26).

Dan. 9:27 - *Then he (the prince who is to come) shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.* This prince who is to come is the antichrist who will make a covenant/agreement with Israel for seven years (the tribulation). In the middle of the seven years (3.5 years into the covenant...3.5 years into the tribulation) the antichrist will put an end to sacrifice and offering.

The “clock” that began ticking at Israel’s return to the land stopped after Jesus rode into Jerusalem before His crucifixion. The “70th week” consisting of 7 years must be in the future. There is a GAP in the Messianic program for Israel. God will not restore Israel as a nation until the end of the 70th week of Daniel at the end of the Tribulation. The Tribulation is the 70th week during which time God will purge Israel and prepare them for the Messiah – at His physical Second Coming. The Tribulation has been called “the time of Jacob’s trouble” in Jer. 30:7. We are currently in the gap between the 69th week and the 70th week. God will not restore Israel as a nation until the end of the Tribulation.

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.’*

Another piece of the “big picture”...have you ever wondered why, when Peter came to Jesus and said, *Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?* ²²Jesus said to him, *I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.*’

Jesus was telling Peter – “I’ve forgiven you 70 times 7, Peter. Do likewise.”

Questions:

What are your thoughts about the book of Daniel?

What do you now understand that you did not understand in the past?

What are your questions?

How does this book of Daniel impact you?

How will the impact effect your walk with the Lord?

Suggested Homework:

Reread week 9’s handout with cross references.

Map out the 70 weeks from Dan. 9:24-27.

Journal what God has is teaching you from this lesson.

Share what God is teaching you with at least one other person.

Read week 10's handout when you receive it.