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Jesus is coming – Pt 3 Messiah –prophesied to come & be cut-off – PtA His coming again & the tribulation

This is our third teaching on the topic – Jesus is coming. In our previous study we established – (1) Christians wait for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, (2) the Lord will descend from heaven and the dead in Christ will rise, and (3) then we which are alive shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. In this study we search the scriptures for an understanding of Daniel's 70 week prophesy because the "abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet" is recorded in Matt.24 as a precursor to the great tribulation, and therefore an understanding of this prophesy is evidence of who will go through the period of "great tribulation". To that end we establish – (1) The seventy week prophesy in Daniel was given to Israel, (2) after sixty nine weeks Messiah shall be cut off, and (3) In the seventieth week the sacrifice and oblation shall cease (Jewish) and the overspreading of abominations shall make it desolate.

1. The seventy week prophesy of Daniel was to the Jews.

"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy" (Dan.9: 24).

In this context what is the time period of a "biblical" week? One week is seven years "Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years. And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also" (Gen.29:27 & 28).

How many days in a biblical month?

According to scripture – "In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened" (Gen.7: 11). "And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat" (Gen.8: 4). Between these two events there are five months, hence we see that there are 150 days in five months – I.e. 30 days per month. Therefore, one week = seven years = 84 months of 30 days/month = 2,520 days

Therefore the seventy week prophesy of Daniel was 70 weeks x 7 years x 12 months per year x 30 days = Total number of days 176,400.

Has this seventy week prophesy been fulfilled?

NO – because there is still transgression, sins, and iniquity – and the prophesy is clear –"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy" – And these will only be determined – upon Israel and specifically Jerusalem and when Messiah comes to reign.

2. After sixty nine weeks Messiah (Jewish) shall be cut off

"Know...understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off..." (Dan 9:25, 26).

Sixty nine weeks = 69 x 7 years = 483 months of 30 days/month =173, 880 days.

Has this part of the prophesy (69 weeks) been fulfilled?

YES – according to Anderson the timing between – “the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince” being cut off (dying– Ex.9: 15) – was exactly 173, 880 days or 69 weeks of years (see Daniel in the Critics Den).

That is evidence of a supernatural prophesy from God that no other “so called” holy book can ever possess nor even come close to because they are written by man!

3. In the seventieth week the sacrifice and oblation (Jewish) shall cease and the overspreading of abominations shall make it desolate.

“And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate” (Dan.9: 27).

Has this part of the prophesy been fulfilled?

NO – the only way the sacrifice and oblation can cease is if the temple is built and the Jewish people are offering sacrifices in accordance with the Old Testament laws. And it is “When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet...”– (Matt.24: 15) which takes place in the midst of the 70th week – “then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be” (Matt.24: 21).

Therefore we can say definitively, categorically, and without hesitation that – we, the church have NOT been through the tribulation.

Illustration to help apply the teaching to our life

“Despite Arab denial that any Jewish Temples ever existed on the Mount, and despite their unauthorized excavations on the Mount that destroy evidence of such a Jewish presence, many Jews and Christians are planning to build a Third Temple on this holiest site in the world. In fact, the furnishings, instruments, and vessels for Temple worship have already been created and are on display at the Treasures of the Temple exhibition in Jerusalem” – <https://free.messianicbible.com/feature/the-temple-vessels-are-ready-for-the-rebuilding-of-jeruselems-third-temple/>

Questions to think about.

- i) Are we going to go through the “great tribulation”?
- ii) When does the seventieth week begin?
- lii) What period of time are we in now?

Answers to our questions from the scriptures.

- i) The church is NOT going through the great tribulation – because It will be a time when God is dealing predominately with the Jews as Daniel’s prophesy is “determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, and in this time, “blindness in part has happened to Israel” (Rom.11: 25).
- ii) The seventieth week begins at the conclusion of this age– more on this next week.
- iii) The period of time that we currently live in – is the mystery period that was revealed to Paul (Eph.5: 32) where God is dealing with Jew and Gentile, and we who are saved are one in Christ. More on this next week in our final study where we will look at when this age will end, which will provide additional evidence that we are NOT going through the period of great tribulation.

Until next week let us rejoice in the knowledge that we will NOT be going through the great tribulation. Amen!!