

## How does Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week correspond to Revelation? A Series on Daniel's Prophecy of Seventy Sevens: Part 5

To examine how Daniel's chronology fits within of Revelation, review the following:

**The Fifth Trumpet** (Rev 9:1-12). An angel from heaven has the key to the pit of abyss and opens it. From its smoke came locusts with the power to hurt only the men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. For five months, they were to torment and sting, but not kill anyone, so that men would seek death but never find it. The First Woe is past.

A portion of the 144,000 Bond Servants, who have the seal of God on their foreheads, are alive at this time. They were introduced in the First Interlude just before the First Trumpet sounds (Rev 7:1-8).

In this First Interlude, after the 144,000 Bond Servants are introduced, martyred saints of the Great Tribulation are seen. They are likely associated with the Fifth Seal, which released the souls underneath the altar of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the witness which they had maintained (Rev 6:9-11). This indicates that the Great Tribulation is occurring.

**The Sixth Trumpet** (Rev 9:13-21). The angel who sounded the trumpet is instructed to release the four angels who have been bound at the great river Euphrates. The four angels lead 200 million horsemen to a third of mankind with three plagues emitted by their horses.

**The Second Interlude.** After eating the Little Scroll, John's ability to prophesy is expanded (Rev 10:1-11). The Two Witnesses are introduced with John giving a historical view of their past activities that apparently took place before the Sixth Trumpet, because sometime after the Sixth Trumpet, they are killed and the Second Woe is past (Rev 11:1-14).

### 1. When was the Ministry of the Two Witnesses?

John appears to indicate that the ministry of the Two Witnesses begins when the Gentiles trample Jerusalem under foot:

And leave out the court which is outside the sanctuary and do not measure it, **for it has been given to the Gentiles, and they will trample the holy city under foot for forty-two months.** And I will give authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for **1,260 days**, clothed in sackcloth." (Rev 11:2-3)

The following observations can be made: a) Gentiles are in the outer court of the Temple and in Jerusalem for the same amount of time as the Two Witnesses, b) in Herod's Temple, the second temple, the outer court is for the Gentiles, and "tread under foot" is to treat with insult and contempt, and c) in this environment, the Two Witnesses are authorized to speak forth God's word.

Do the Two Witnesses serve God in Jerusalem? This appears to be the implication as they are murdered in Jerusalem where Jesus was crucified (Rev 11:7-8).

The Two Witnesses are killed by an evil angel (perhaps Abaddon / Apollyon released from the abyss by the Fifth Trumpet) sometime after the Sixth Trumpet.

Given the length of the ministry of the Two Witnesses (1260 days = 42 months = 3-1/2 years), their death marks the midpoint of Daniel's prophetic 70<sup>th</sup> week.

### 2. When does Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week Begin?

Compare Daniel's prophecy of "the little horn" (Dan 7:8) to the views of Jesus and the apostle Paul.

Daniel (Dan 7:3, 7-8, 19-20, 23-26; 9:26-27): Leading the fourth kingdom that arose from the sea with ten horns, the **One Who Makes Desolate** is the "little horn" that became "larger in appearance than its associates"... (continues)

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after usurping three. Extremely boastful, he speaks "words against the Most High" and will "wear down the saints of the Highest One."

Jesus (Matt 24:15-23; Mark 13:14-20): The **Abomination of Desolation** is associated with the great tribulation "such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world."

Apostle Paul (2 Thes 2:3-9): The **Man of Lawlessness** and **Son of Destruction** "exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship," "takes his seat in the sanctuary of God," and exhibits "himself as being God."

Daniel's little horn of the fourth beast from the sea will have power and authority for 3-1/2 years during which he will be speaking great boasts against God and instigate the murder of Believers.

and the meaning of the ten horns that were on its head and the other horn which came up and before which three of them fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth speaking great boasts and which was larger in appearance than its associates. I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and overcoming them (Dan 7:20-21)

He will speak words against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make changes in seasons and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time. But the court will sit for judgment, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever. (Dan 7:25-26)

In John's third interlude, when Satan empowers the Antichrist (the Beast from the Sea, Rev 13:1-8), the beast is given the authority to act for 3-1/2 years "to make war with the saints and to overcome them." All of this is within the context of Daniel's fourth kingdom which God indicates, "Seventy weeks have been determined for your people and for your holy city" to: 1) finish the transgression, 2) to make an end of sin, 3) to make atonement for iniquity, and 4) to bring an everlasting righteousness" (Dan 9:24).

And there was given to him a mouth speaking great boasts and blasphemies, and **authority to act for forty-two months** was given to him. And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven. And **it was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them**, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him. And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain. (Rev 13:5-8)

When Jesus talks about the destruction of the Temple, it is in the context of the trampling of the holy city Jerusalem by Gentiles:

And when you hear of wars and disturbances, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end does not follow immediately."

Then He continued saying to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.

"But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you to the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for My name's sake. It will result in an opportunity for your testimony. So set in your hearts not to prepare beforehand to defend yourselves; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which none of your opponents will be able to resist or refute. But you will be betrayed even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death, and you will be hated by all because of My name. Yet not a hair of your head will perish. By your perseverance you will gain your lives.

**"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is at hand.** Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the countryside must not enter the city; because these are days of vengeance, so that all ... (continues)

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things which are written will be fulfilled. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days; for there will be great distress upon the land and wrath against this people, and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations, and **Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.** (Luke 21:9-24)

Preceding the assault of Jerusalem, Jesus' prophesy of wars, death, great earthquakes, famines, plagues, and great signs from heaven, appears to correspond to the events of the first four seals (Rev 6:1-8).

Seal 1: People and nations go out to conquer each other.

Seal 2: Killing, murder and death.

Seal 3: Famine and food inflation.

Seal 4: 25% of the world's population dies by murder, starvation, disease and wild animals.

In consideration of all of the above data, Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week begins after Jesus' breaking of the Fourth Seal (Rev 6:1-8) during wars, death, great earthquakes, famines, plagues, and great signs from heaven. It begins with the emergence of the Abomination of Desolation and his assault on Jerusalem and blaspheming God for 3-1/2 years.

The ministry of the Two Witnesses begins with the start of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week.

Then a measuring rod like a staff was given to me, saying, "Get up and measure the sanctuary of God and the altar, and those who worship in it. And leave out the court which is outside the sanctuary and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles, and **they will trample the holy city under foot for forty-two months. And I will give authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days**, clothed in sackcloth." (Rev 11:1-3)

The Great Tribulation begins with the start of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week.

"Therefore **when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place** (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. And whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his garment. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. **For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.** And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. (Matt 24:15-22)

By the Fifth Seal, there is a record of Believers dying for their faith.

And when He opened the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar **the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the witness which they had maintained**; and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Master, holy and true? Will You not judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" And a white robe was given to each of them; and it was told to them that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow slaves and their brothers who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also. (Rev 6:9-11)

After the Sixth Seal is broken, the First Interlude introduces the 144,000 Bond Servants (Rev 7:1-8) in which the Great Tribulation is mentioned as ongoing.

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Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are clothed in the white robes, who are they, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the **ones who come out of the great tribulation**, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. (Rev 7:13-14)

At the end of the Sixth Trumpet, those who survive the three plagues, instigated by the release of the four evil angels who were bound to the Euphrates river, were all were non-Believers. This marks the end of the Great Tribulation

**The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands**, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk; and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts. (Rev 9:20-21).

This coincides with the end of the Second Interlude in which the Two Witnesses were killed by the evil angel who the Fifth Trumpet released from the Abyss. All surviving human beings were non-Believers.

And when they have finished their witness, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them and overcome them and kill them. And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. And those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. **And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.** (Rev 11:7-10)

**No more Believers exist; thus, no one is being persecuted for their faith.**

### **3. When does Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week End?**

Well after His resurrection, the meaning behind Jesus' words, "all judgment has been given to the Son" (John 5:22) becomes clearer at His Second Coming (Rev 19:11-16), after the last bowl of God's wrath has been poured and prior to the Millennial Kingdom (Rev 20:1-3). Jesus Christ's role in judgment is significant; the beast and false prophet are thrown alive into the lake of fire, and this is the first time that He is recorded as carrying out a judgment of death upon human beings who are physically alive.

And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh. (Rev 19:20-21)

Because there is no description of the battle of Armageddon, John implies that the battle is quick and complete. So decisive was the military victory that the Antichrist and False Prophet were seized without having any time to escape and were justly destroyed.

In view of God's wrath being final (Rev 15:1) and the angel standing in the sun calling upon the birds to feed upon "the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great" (Rev 19:21), it appears that all of humanity left on earth is destroyed.

This would conclude Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week that was decreed for God's people and Jerusalem, "Seventy weeks have been determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, **to make an end of sin...**" (Dan 9:24).