

33 – END TIMES: THE TRIBULATION - PART 1

I. Introduction

- At some point in the future, the events of the future judgment must take place.

Scripture Matthew 24:14 (ESV)

And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

- This period of judgment is often mocked and misunderstood.
- This is due to the reality that most have a misunderstanding of God and the reality of his judgment.
- The period of judgment is commonly known as the Tribulation, as well as Daniel's 70th week.

II. The Seventy Weeks (Daniel 9:24-27)

Scripture Daniel 9:24-27 (ESV)

²⁴ "Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place. ²⁵ Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. And for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. ²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. ²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator."

A. A Time Determined (Daniel 9:24)

- The angel Gabriel suggests that the end of the exile would begin a period of seventy "weeks."
- The word "week" can also be translated "sevens" or "week of years."
- The phrase "seventy weeks" of "seventy sevens" is commonly known to mean 490 years.
- Six actions will take place during the Seventy weeks.
- "To finish the transgression" means Israel's disobedience will be brought to an end.
- "To make an end of sins" means Israel's sin will be removed.
- "To make reconciliation for iniquity" means atonement will be made for Israel's sin.
- "To bring everlasting righteousness" means God will establish an age of righteousness.

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- "To seal up vision and prophecy" means all prophecies will find their fulfillment.
- "To anoint the Most Holy" means the enthronement of the Jesus Christ.

B. The First 69 Weeks Explained (Daniel 9:25)

- These 69 weeks refer to the time from end of the exile to the coming of the Messiah.
- Jerusalem will be restored at this time during a period of troublesome times.

C. The Messiah Cut-Off (Daniel 9:26)

- After the 69 weeks, the Messiah will be cut off for the sake of others.
- After this, the people of "ruler" will come and destroy Jerusalem and the Temple.
- The destruction will be complete and fast like a flood.

D. The Tribulation (Daniel 9:27)

- The "ruler" will confirm a covenant for a period of one week or seven years.
- The Seventieth week begins with the establishment of the covenant with the "ruler" and Israel.
- In the middle of the seven years, the ruler will stop the Temple operations.
- He shall make the Temple desolate with his abomination.

Scripture Matthew 24:15-22 (ESV)

¹⁵ "So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶ then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, ¹⁸ and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. ¹⁹ And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! ²⁰ Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. ²¹ For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. ²² And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

- The desolation will take place until the "ruler" is destroyed at a determined time.

