

The Prophecy of the 2520 Years or "7 Times"

When Israel rebelled against God, the "Curse of Moses" (Daniel 9:11; Leviticus 28:26) came into effect. (The "curse" is "7 times." 7 x 360 days per year—2520 days/years of curse.)

Nebuchadnezzar was out in the grass for "7 times" under God's "indignation" (another key word in this study).

As far as Israel is concerned, the "7 times" is also called "the times of the Gentiles" and the "treading down" of God's people.

Israel was divided into 2 parts the ten northern tribes and the 2 southern tribes. The time of cursing began at separate times (46 years apart) for the northern kingdom of Israel (Samaria), and the southern kingdom of Judah.

Because of rebellion, Samaria was carried off to Assyria (the "rod of Mine anger" Isaiah 10:5) in 723 BC; and Manasseh, king of Judah went captive to Babylon in 677 BC.

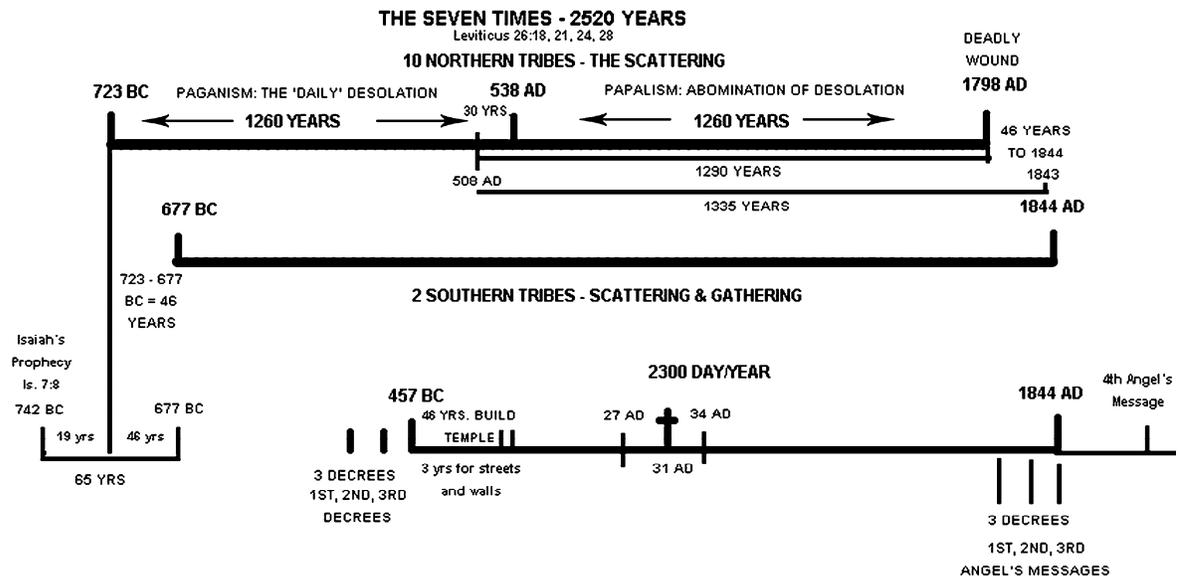
2520 years of God's "indignation" later these two dates finish in 1798 and 1844, respectively, 46 years apart (which also include the two "desolations" of Daniel 9:26).

In 1798 this "treading down" of God's people, also known as "the times of the Gentiles" and the "scattering time" ended at the pope's capture by Napoleon's atheistic France.

In 1844 God "set his hand the second time" to gather His people. He raised up a group in the "glorious land," the United States to carry the 3 angel's messages to the world.

The 46 year gap corresponds to when the Jews told Jesus that it took 46 years to build the temple in Jerusalem.

So, God was "building the Temple" of His Remnant Church from 1798 to 1844. Literal Israel (old covenant) was replaced by the true Spiritual Israel (the world-wide new covenant Sabbath-keeping Church), and a new prophet was provided.



The Two Longest Time Prophecies:

The Scattering and the Gathering

We know that the Bible, although made up of many books written at different times is really one Book and the Author is really the Holy Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles to write things down that God's people would especially need in the last days.

We have been looking at the prophecies especially in Daniel and Revelation, however there are many prophecies in other parts of the Bible and some of them tie in very strongly to give more information on those in Daniel and Revelation.

We are now going to look at a very amazing time prophecy that was given by God to Moses and Moses showed it clearly to the Children of Israel. It was a prophecy well known to the prophets of old, but in modern times it has been lost sight of until just recently when people began studying out the prophecies and looking at the writings of the Millerite period and shortly afterward rediscovered it. We can't show everything about this prophecy in this short chapter but we will give you the basics.

When God brought out the Children of Israel from Egypt and took them into the wilderness there to make a special 'covenant' with them He told them that if they would agree to keep His Commandments and statutes then they would be His people and He would be their God. The people said: "All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient." Exodus 24:7, Exodus 19:8.

God gave Moses a wonderful set of Covenant Blessings which He would do for His people if they remained faithful to Him and kept His Commandments. You can read them in Leviticus 26:1-13 and again in Deuteronomy 28:1-14.

He also gave Moses an amazing set of Curses that would come upon the people if they turned away from His Commandments and statutes and followed the ways of the heathen. This is called the 'Curse of Moses'. They are found in the same chapters right after the Blessings. But in Leviticus 26 we Also see a phrase mentioned a total of four times: "And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins." Leviticus 26:18. It is also found in verses 21; 24; and 28.

It is not always considered that these 'Seven Times' are actually a time prophecy. A 'Time' in prophecy is a prophetic year and Seven Times would be Seven Prophetic Years. A Biblical year is 360 days, so seven times 360 equals 2520 days. With a day for a year of literal time this Seven Times comes to 2520 years.

God made it very clear that to be 'His People' and be blessed by Him, and enter into the 'covenant' with Him, they had to keep His laws and statutes. Why was this? The Ten Commandment Law is actually a transcript put into human words of God's very character. To be His people back then or at anytime since, and to receive His special care and blessings—His Laws must be cherished and kept. Jesus said: "If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15. It is a family affair; to be children of the heavenly King we need to reflect His character and that character is found in His Law.

Those who willfully violate God's Commandments put themselves into a position where He cannot continue to bless them and the curses come as blessings are withheld. But in these special prophecies God warns that if all His efforts to chastise them and get them to return to obedience fail, then He will scatter them among the heathen for 2520 years. At the end of that time He will again gather out a people, teach them to obey His Commandments and enter into a special covenant with them.

Revelation shows us this end-time people: "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12.

So when did this happen to Israel? Anyone who has read the history of Israel sees how time and again they fell into heathen worship. God sent prophets and judges and bore long with their wicked ways. Finally right after the death of King Solomon the nation was divided into two parts with two tribes remaining with Rehoboam, Solomon's son, and ten tribes being given to Jeroboam. The ten tribes became the Northern Kingdom and the two were Judah or the Southern kingdom.

The 'Curse of Moses first fell on the Northern tribes as they went deeper and deeper into apostasy and idolatry. In the year 723 BC, King Hoshea was taken prisoner by the Assyrians (2 Kings 17:4) and the ten tribes were scattered among the heathen.

The timeline of the Northern Kingdom reaches to 1798 and can be divided into two 1260 year periods. The first Desolating Power is Paganism (perpetual or Daily Desolation) for 1260 years and then the Abomination of Desolation, Papalism takes over in 538 AD for 1260 more years ending in 1798 when the deadly wound took place. (The Times of the Gentiles)

The Southern Tribes came under their 'Curse' 46 years later in 677 BC when King Manasseh was taken captive into Babylon. (THE SECOND INDIGNATION, Isaiah 7:8,9) Their experience was that of being in and out of captivity for 2520 years which ended in 1844. At this time the Lord set His hand to gather a people to enter into His Covenant and keep His Commandments and receive His blessings.

There are 46 years between the ending of the Northern Kingdom's timeline in 1798 and the southern one in 1844. When the decree went forth to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem in 457 BC it took 46 years to build it, so it took 46 years between 1798 to gather out and prepare a people, a new spiritual temple, in 1844 to enter again into a special covenant to keep all of God's commandments.

The 'Scattering Time' of both 2520 year periods is over and we now live in the Gathering Time when we are told: "And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive." Jeremiah 29:14.

But it is important to realize that after the cross, prophecy no longer refers to literal Israel, but to spiritual Israel as God's people. "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:29. What promise? The covenant promise that included the keeping of God's Ten Commandment Law.

When Nebuchadnezzar came to the end of his 'seven times' he was restored to his throne and the Bible tells us: "I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me." Daniel 4:36

We need to understand that we are in the time period when the excellent majesty is to be placed on God's true people. One way or another, we will have a part to play, either we will receive the Seal of God or the Mark of the Beast; either we are going to be stamped with Christ's image and character, or we are going to receive the image of the Beast and a character like the devil—either way there is a part to play. If we receive the excellent majesty we will go forth conquering and to conquer, proclaiming the glories of God to the ends of the world, OR we will stay spiritually scattered, never gathered spiritually.

We need to make a decision now, today is the day of salvation. Today if you hear His voice, harden not your hearts. Probation is about to close, we need to make the choice now.