

Adventures in Truth:

A5. Bible Numbers: The Cursed Chapters

Daniel 8 and 9 explains 70 weeks and 2300 years.

Daniel has many amazing prophecies concerning time and numbers. In fact it is in Daniel 8:13 Jesus is called, 'Palmoni' in the Hebrew meaning 'Wonderful Numberer'.

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation and kindred, and tongue, and people. Saying with a loud voice. Fear God and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come, and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." Revelation 14:6-7.

Here is a prediction where God says "the hour of God's judgment is come." This is very different to the statements that you read in other parts of the Bible where it says that judgment is going to come. Paul preached before Felix of the judgment that was to come; **"And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." Acts 24:25.** But when this 1st Angel's Message is given, the announcement is made, "Behold the hour of God's judgment is come," It has come; It has arrived!

This is a part of the first message that is to go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. So people are living on this earth and hearing the message, 'the hour of God's judgment is come'. This announcement is made while people are living on the earth and it's part of the Everlasting Gospel. It's to go to every person, not just to the Jews. It's to go to every nation, every kindred, every tongue and every people. It's the everlasting gospel announcing that the hour of God's judgment is come.

In Matthew 24 Jesus speaks of the signs that will take place on the earth just prior to His return. He said there'll be famines, wars and so on. In the middle of this discussion in verse 15, He instructs, **"When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, whoso reads, let him understand." Matthew 24:15.**

Jesus was talking about the events that would lead first to the destruction of Jerusalem and then also the last days, and said that Christians, then and now, ought to study the book of Daniel, and particularly that section which concerns the 'Abomination of Desolation. Most Christians know practically nothing about the book of Daniel, especially the time prophecies in it. Here we will deal with two chapters in the book of Daniel dealing with one of the longest time prophecies in the Bible. The average Christian has hardly even heard about it, let alone understands it. Most Christians, all they may know about Daniel perhaps, is Daniel in the lions den; and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace, but certainly doesn't know anything about the time prophecies. So it strange that the words of Jesus saying that Christians should not only study, but should understand the book of Daniel, have been basically ignored.

So, let's go to the book of Daniel and explore. **"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Daniel 12:4.**

Certain parts of the book of Daniel were to be sealed up until the 'time of the end'. This is not the 'End of Time' which is the Second Coming of Jesus, instead certain prophecies were going to be sealed up until the 'time of the end', this 'time of the end' refers to the end of certain time prophecies. Was it all sealed up? No, because if so, why would Jesus tell the disciples back then that Daniel had a warning that would clue them in as to the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70! Also we know the first words Jesus preached when He began His ministry were 'The Time is Fulfilled. Repent and believe the Gospel!' What 'time' was fulfilled? It was the 69-70 week time prophecy in Daniel 9, pointing to 'Messiah the Prince'. The people back then were expected to understand that!

But some prophecies in the book of Daniel weren't going to be understood until the 'time of the end' of the 1260 years in 1798 and the longest prophecies leading to 1843-1844, which would be the last actual time prophecies. After that, as the Angel, who announced the 'opening, or unsealing of the 'Little Book', said in **Revelation 10:6 "And swear by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer:"** What kind of time? Time prophecy time, the last ones, called 'The Mystery of God' [verse 7] came to an end in 1844.

Christians who lived way back before the Great Advent Awakening of this 'time of the end', never understood the last time prophecies of the book of Daniel. The churches formed before the awaking of the 'time of the end' began, don't teach these things because it wasn't yet due for the book of Daniel to be unsealed, and they had locked themselves in with creeds and such to resist anything 'new'. This has resulted in general ignorance of the book of Daniel and its time prophecies in Christendom today. But Jesus said that we ought to study it, and we must understand it.

Here is Daniel speaking of the visit of the Angel to him. **"So he come near where I stood and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me Understand, O son of man for at the time of the end shall be the vision."** Daniel 8:17.

So the vision of Daniel 8 leads to the time of the end. This prophecy gives us the very date when the time of the end. The prophecies in the book of Daniel are absolutely specific. One important fact that helps us to realize this, is there are 2 Hebrew words translated 'vision' in Daniel and they have different meanings. One is 'Chazown', meaning the entire vision, and the other is 'Mareh' meaning part of the vision, like a snapshot view. In verse, 17, 'vision' is chazown, the entire vision.

"I saw the ram pushing westward and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will and became great." Daniel 8:4.

So Daniel in vision sees a ram; in the next verse he sees another strange animal. **"And as I was considering, behold a he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes."** Verse 5.

So after the ram you have the he goat. What does all that mean? In the prophecies, the Bible always explains itself. The next verse it tells you who the ram and who the he goat are. **"The**

ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.” Verse 20. The ram is Medo-Persia.

“And the rough goat (he goat) is the king of Greece: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.” Verse 21. So we don't have to speculate what these animals represent. In Bible prophecy, God often illustrates history by using animals to represent powers and nations. So here we have the ram representing Medo-Persia, and then the he goat representing Greece.

In Istanbul, in the museum there in Turkey, they have the stone sarcophagus [coffin] of Alexander the Great and all over it is stamped the goat head because the goat was the symbol of ancient Greece, and here we have it in this interesting prophecy.

In the verses earlier in the chapter the Bible begins to describe another power to follow after Greece. **“Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the ‘Daily’ was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given against the ‘Daily’ by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.” Daniel 8:11, 12.**

This power in verse 11, was Pagan Rome. It was Pagan Rome that magnified itself against Jesus, the Prince of the host, when Herod tried to kill Him as a baby and finally Roman rulers crucified Him!

“Yea, he magnified [*himself*] even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily [*sacrifice*] was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given [*him*] against the daily [*sacrifice*] by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.” Daniel 8:11, 12.

Now these verses are some of the most misunderstood in the entire book, and for that reason, very few actually understand the real message here, and so many false idea have crept in, even among the ‘very elect’! The Hebrew Words in these chapters of Daniel are almost like a code, that indeed, did not become understood until after 1798, when knowledge [of the Book of Daniel] was increased by the Holy Spirit.

The common view of these verses, held by the leaders of the reformation in the middle ages, was that it applied to the Lord’s ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary, when it actually says the opposite! The Lord gave the correct view to the leaders in the Great Advent Awakening. Sadly the false idea crept back early in the 1900s and most have grabbed it as if it were new. We shall explore the secret of these verses.

Notice the verses and the words in [*italics*]? None of those words are in the original text—they were added by translators, who believed the false view and thought they were making it clearer when they were really messing it up!

The word ‘Daily’ there was used by Daniel to mean something very different than in the rest of the Bible, where it is often used to describe ‘sacrifices’ in the sanctuary; it means ‘continual’, like a ‘continual burnt offering’. Here it is used as a noun—that is, a ‘person, place or thing’. We will look at the texts without the added words:

“Yea, he magnified even to the prince of the host, and by him the ‘Daily’ was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. And an host was given against the ‘Daily’ by reason

**of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.”
Daniel 8:11, 12.**

This is actually describing when and how Pagan Rome became Papal Rome! In Hebrew there is ‘gender’ that is some words are ‘masculine, and some are feminine’. In the verses Pagan Rome is ‘masculine’ as we see in verse 11: **“Yea, he magnified even to the prince of the host, and by him the ‘Daily’ was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.”** So the meaning in Hebrew is, Oh Yes! he [Pagan Rome] ‘magnified’ ‘rose up proudly’ even against the Son of God! And by ‘him’ [Pagan Rome] the ‘Daily’ was taken away, and the ‘PLACE’ of his [Pagan Rome’s] sanctuary was cast down.’

There are 2 other Hebrew words translated ‘sanctuary’ but having different meanings that affect what this is saying; they are ‘miqdash’ which can be a pagan sanctuary; and ‘qodesh’ which is always God’s sanctuary. In verse 11 it is ‘miqdash’, a pagan sanctuary. It was the ‘Pantheon’ a huge temple where the Romans displayed idols of their pagan gods. And notice, it does not say that the ‘sanctuary’ of Pagan Rome was cast down, it says the ‘place’ of it was cast down, the ‘place’ of it was the city of Rome. How did Rome get ‘cast down’? It was when Emperor Constantine in 330 AD moved his capital from Rome to Constantinople. This actually began the process marking the end of pagan Rome's domination of the ancient world.

So now we turn to verse 12 We are dealing with another new power here. So we have the capitol of the Roman Empire moved away from Rome and things beginning to fall apart in its world dominion. Bible prophecy covers large periods of time in very few words, but they are clear when you get the words correctly! **“And an host was given against the ‘Daily’ by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.”
Daniel 8:12.**

This power is now ‘feminine’ in gender, so the word ‘him’ that was added does not belong and confuses the issue. This new power is Papal Rome and is coming into the spot left vacant when the emperor moved out of Rome. A ‘host’ is an army. Somehow it would be given an army, and that would be by ‘transgression’. That transgression would be by the ‘church power’ using the secular power to do its bidding. So this army it was given, through transgression, would assist Papal Rome to remove the ‘Daily’.

Now we really need to know what the ‘Daily’ is here as used by Daniel. This was knowledge that was ‘unsealed’ by the Holy Spirit through the studies of William Miller, who began a several year study of the Bible to see if indeed, it could be understood. He did not use any commentaries, but allowed the Bible to interpret itself.

When he came to this ‘Daily’ in Daniel, he saw that was different than any where else in the Bible, and it had nothing to do with ‘sacrifices’, but what could it be? He searched for something that was ‘taken away’ and he almost despaired of solving this mystery, when he came across a verse in the New Testament. **“And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, [this word ‘let’ means to hold] until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of**

unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” 2 Thessalonians 2:6-12.

Then he knew what this ‘Daily’ was that would be ‘taken away’, it was Paganism! Paganism was the ‘continual’ power that had been oppressing God’s people for centuries, now something was going to remove it. Pagan Rome was in the way of the rise of Papalism in Paul’s day, it could only rise to power once Paganism was removed! This happened in 508 AD and the Papal power had full control in 538 AD! The 1260 years of her reign began then and lasted until 1798.

“Then I heard one saint [angel] speaking and another saint [angel] said unto that ‘certain’ [the word is ‘palmowniy’ this is the only place that word is found and it refers to Christ, the Wonderful Numberer!] [~~saint~~] which spake. How long [~~shall be~~] the vision [chazown, the entire vision] concerning the daily [~~sacrifice~~] and the transgression of desolation to give both the sanctuary [‘qodesh’ God’s sanctuary] and the host to be trodden under foot?” [How long would Paganism and Papalism tread down God’s people] Daniel 8:13.

“And he said unto me Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary [‘qodesh’ God’s sanctuary] be cleansed.” Daniel 8:14.

In other words these desolating powers would continue treading down God's people and His truth, for 2300 days, then something would take place to ‘cleanse’ the sanctuary, or set it right. So we have a time period here, but we need a starting date to understand it.

Daniel was very interested in the meaning of this vision and was seeking to know it.

“And it came to pass, when I, [~~even~~] I Daniel had seen the vision [chazown, the entire vision] and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance [‘Mareh’ a view, or snapshot] of a man.” Daniel 8:15.

“And I heard a man's voice between *the banks of Ulai*, [this man was standing on the water of the river! Who do we know that walked on water?] which called, and said, **Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision. [here it is ‘Mareh’ he was to explain only a part of the entire vision not all of it.]” Daniel 8:16.**

“So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end *shall be* the vision. [‘chazown’ the entire vision] Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright. And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end *shall be.*” Daniel 8:17-19.

Now Gabriel starts in as we saw above, and says, **“The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.” Daniel 8:20-22.** [Alexander the Great died and his kingdom got divided into four parts ruled by his generals. ‘Not in his power’ as the generals killed all of Alexander’s children.

“And in the latter time of their kingdom, [when Greece was divided into 4 parts] when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: [the papal power always used civil power to enforce its wishes]and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. [this is describing the papal power and the terrible persecution of the 1260 years of its rule. 538-1798]

“And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify [himself] in his heart, [this refers to pagan Rome again, as in verse 11 where he rises up in pride] and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.” Daniel 8:23-25. [Pagan Rome had a way of taking over nations by getting them to sign ‘peace treaties’ which resulted actually in Rome taking over and ruling the countries. Again we see the ‘Prince of princes, which is Christ.] [‘Broken without hand’ refers to how Pagan Rome came to its end not by losing in warfare, but by the work of its own leaders]

“And the vision [‘mareh’ small part of the vision] of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; [‘chazown’ the entire vision] for it shall be for many days.”

“And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.” Daniel 8:26-27. Gabriel’s explanations were interrupted as Daniel fainted.

Here is a key that we need when we come to study Bible prophecy; in Bible time prophecy, a ‘day’ represents a year. **“And when thou hast accomplished them lie again on thy right side and thou shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed the each day for a year.” Ezekiel 4:6. “After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.” Numbers 14:34.**

In the prophecies where there are animals representing nations, where symbols are used, a day is symbolic of a year. Not everywhere is the Bible does a day represent a year, only in the time prophecy areas. Now this couldn’t be 2300 literal days because that would be just over six years. So that wouldn’t bring you down to the time of the end, would it? And remember this prophecy, as Daniel said, has to do with the time of the end. And so, here a day represents a year; it's actually 2300 years.

But at this stage we are still not much further ahead, because until we can get the starting point we still can't get the ending point. But don’t be discouraged because the Bible gives that to us also, as the Bible explains itself.

Gabriel was about to explain it when Daniel gets sick. What happened to poor Daniel? When he heard about the 2,300 days he thought it was going to be an extension to their captivity, because when he wrote the book of Daniel he and his people were in Babylonian captivity. He was thinking the seventy-year period that had been predicted, that they were going to be in captivity was actually going to be extended for another 2,300 days and it so upset Daniel that he fainted and Gabriel had to cease his explanation.

Now we move into Chapter 9. **“In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments;” Daniel 9:1-4.**

Daniel speaks about his concern regarding the 70 year captivity. He now is concerned to find out the meaning of the vision, and Gabriel is sent after Daniel prayed. There is much to learn from his prayer, you can read it in Daniel 9:5-19.

“And whiles I was speaking, and 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; Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision [‘chazown’ entire vision] at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.” Daniel 9:20, 21.

“And he informed me and talked with me and said O Daniel I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. 23. “At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth and I am come to show thee; for thou art greatly beloved therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.[‘mar'eh’ the part of the vision]” Daniel 9:22, 23, 23.

So here it is the partial vision he will have explained, the part that is ‘cut off’ for the Jews. This is the part that the Jews have cursed!

“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 [‘chazown’ entire vision] and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.” Verse 24.

Seventy weeks is 70 x 7 which is 490. A day in Bible prophecy represents a year, so this was 490 years probation given; a last opportunity to the Jews as a nation. This would lead to the Messiah, showing the very year of His baptism. It would bring in everlasting righteousness because of Jesus’ sacrifice, and would seal or confirm the entire vision providing proof it is accurate.

“Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince (Christ) shall be seven weeks and three score and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.” Verse 25

This is 69 weeks or 483 years. This brings us down to the coming of Messiah the Prince. From this prophecy we can prove for sure that Jesus is the Messiah. That is why the Jews have cursed anyone who studies into this! It is rather amazing as here they have solid ground for faith, and they refuse to look at it!

The Bible predicted way back in Daniel's day when it was 463 years in the future, the exact year when Messiah the Prince would start His ministry being anointed by the Holy Spirit at His baptism in AD 27. History can confirm these dates.

When Daniel wrote this book, Jerusalem was in ruins. The Babylonians, under Nebuchadnezzar had destroyed the city. Here it says when the commandment goes forth to restore and to build Jerusalem, you add 483 years on to that, and it will bring you down to the exact year when Messiah the Prince would come. We can find this date in the book of Ezra, which gives us the year when the commandment went forth to rebuild Jerusalem after the Babylonian captivity.

“And there went up some of the children of Israel and of the priests, and the Levites and the singers, and the porters and the Nethinim, unto Jerusalem, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king.” Ezra 7:7.

There were three decrees. The first one was by Cyrus which went forth is 536 BC; he passed a decree that the temple was to be rebuilt. But that's not sufficient because the prophecy said, Jerusalem. The second decree by Darius simply re-affirmed what Cyrus earlier said that the temple was to be rebuilt. But in the seventh year of Artaxerxes, as outlined in Ezra 7, he not only passed a decree that the temple be finished, but the whole city was to be rebuilt and the Jews were to have complete autonomy as a nation.

“And whosoever will not do the law of thy God and the law of the king let judgment be executed speedily upon him, whether it be unto death or to banishments or to confiscation of goods or to imprisonment.” Ezra 7:26.

No subservient nation could issue a death decree. In the days of Jesus, when the Jews wanted to get rid of Jesus, why couldn't they crucify or kill Christ? Because they were under Roman law. They had to appeal to the Romans, whom they were subservient to. Now here Artaxerxes is saying they were now a self-sufficient nation. The date of this decree was 457 BC, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes. This date, can be proved in many ways, 457 BC, is about the surest date in all the Bible.

Now, the Bible says, from that decree add 69 weeks, and it will bring you down to the very year when Messiah the Prince, Jesus, was to come. It was given in 457 BC and if we add 483 years onto this we will have the very year in which the Messiah was to appear. Being a BC date, we work back, and this gives the year 26 AD. However as we cross the BC/AD line we must always add or subtract a year, depending which way we are going, as there is no year 0. This will give the year 27 AD. This decree was given in 457, in the autumn of that year, if you add 453 from the autumn of that year, it will take you into the autumn of the next year. So 483 complete years takes you into 26 AD plus the autumn of the next year which is really 27 AD. The decree was not issued on January 1 of 457 BC. It was issued in the autumn of that year. Therefore, to take 483, would take you into the autumn of the next year which is 27 AD and that brings us down to the coming of Messiah the Prince. Our faith is solidly based on the sure word of prophecy.

We now go into the New Testament to find out the year that Jesus became the Messiah.

“Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also being baptized and praying, the heaven was opened. And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove

upon Him and a voice came from heaven which said. Thou art My beloved Son; in Thee I am well pleased.” Luke 3:21-22,

Jesus became the ‘anointed one’ or the Messiah, at His baptism. He wasn’t in actual fact the Messiah until He was anointed by the Holy Spirit. That’s why Jesus never preached a sermon, healed anyone. or performed anything miraculous. He never spoke a word as far as the kingdom of God was concerned, until His baptism, because it was at His baptism that He become the Anointed One or the Messiah. The word “Messiah” is Hebrew for the ‘anointed One’. The Greek word ‘Christ’ also means, the Anointed One. Jesus the Christ, Jesus the anointed One. He became anointed at His baptism, and His ministry began from that time onwards.

What year did He become the Messiah? Let us find out whether the prophecy and our dates are correct. **“Now is the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar. Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis and Lyanias the tetrarch of Abilene.” Luke 3:1.**

Why does the Bible give all those irrelevant details? They're not irrelevant at all. God is giving the very year when the events of Jesus’ baptism took place. These details allow us to check up in history, because the Bible is based on the sure word of prophecy, and Jesus come to fulfill Bible prophecy. The surest evidence of the Messiah-ship of Jesus and the fact that He has come is this great time prophecy which gave us the very year that it was to take place.

What year did Tiberius Caesar come to the throne? History shows that Tiberius Caesar came to the throne in the year 12 AD. So if this was his fifteenth year, it was 27 AD, the very year that prophecy had said hundreds and hundreds of years before. Isn’t that wonderful? That is why we can have confidence, that we're not following cunningly devised Ideas. This prophecy is absolutely infallible and it's water-tight and it can’t be denied because history bears it out. The fact that it all works out so wonderfully, establishes the year-day principle, too, and that principle is being used correctly. But, we have only discussed 69 of the 70 weeks.

When Jesus was baptized and been anointed by the Holy Spirit, when He began to preach He says, **“And saying. The time is fulfilled.” Mark 1:15.**

He's referring to this time prophecy, and He’s saying, “My ministry now is about to begin,” because here is the prophecy, and those Jews knew what He was referring to, as they had studied these time prophecies.

Some years ago over in Russia, there was a debate between the Jews and the Christians as to whether Jesus was the Messiah. For three nights it went backwards and forwards as they debated. On the third night, the Christians brought out this time prophecy of Daniel 8 and 9. The Jews had passed a law that no Jew is allowed to study the time prophecies of the book of Daniel. No Jew is allowed to do it. I have spoken to hundreds of Jews and have said to them, “Gentlemen what do you do with the time prophecies of the book of Daniel?” They say, “We do nothing.” And that's true, in fact, their sacred writings, the Talmud, forbids any Jew to study them. You can see the reason why, can't you? Because they prove that Jesus is the Messiah and give you the very year, the dates, that He was to come.

That's why, under penalty of excommunication, no Jew would ever read or study these time prophecies. The Jewish Talmud warns. "May the fingers and bones of the hands decay and decompose of him who seeks to know the time from the book of Daniel."

What about the 70th week? There's still one week left, Daniel gives us a clue as to what it is all about.

"And He shall confirm the covenant with many for one week (this is now dealing with this one week that's left) and in the midst of the week He shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease." Daniel 9:27. In the ministry of Jesus as the Messiah, what great event caused the sacrificial system and the oblation to cease? It was the crucifixion; when Jesus died on the cross, the sacrificial system came to an end.

That's why we don't offer any bleeding sacrifices any longer. That's why you read in Matthew 27 that the temple veil was rent in twain from the top to the bottom, indicating that the sacrificial system, the Jewish system, had come to an end. That's why we don't do that now because as the prophecy had predicted, it had come to an end. The sacrifice and the oblation were caused to cease.

As you know, the ministry of Jesus lasted three and a half years which brings us down to the year 31 AD is the middle of the week He died. He died for you and for me. That bleeding sacrificial system that had permeated right throughout the Old Testament had now come to an end, it was finished. But there is still three and a half years left. This will bring us down to the Year 34 AD. What happened in the year 34 AD?

"Ye stiff necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost as your fathers did, so do ye." Acts 7:51.

This was Stephen preaching. As you remember, he was the first Christian martyr. You can appreciate that when a man speaks like it says in the text, he does not win a lot of friends, and Stephen didn't win any friends as a result of that truth-filled sermon. In fact, they picked up stones, dragged him out, and they stoned him to death.

"And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria except the apostles. "And devout men carried Stephen to his burial; and made great lamentation over him. "As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison. "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the Word." Acts 8:1-4.

This talks about Saul there, who later became known as Paul the Apostle. You see, up until the stoning of Stephen, the gospel had only been preached to the Jews. Even though they had cruelly killed Christ, God still gave them another three and a half years to repent. This was the remainder of the 70th week. Sadly, they still didn't repent. Instead, they started then to kill the Christian leaders, beginning with Stephen. But from the moment that the Jews killed Stephen in 34 AD, from that moment onwards, probation ended for the Jews as a nation, and we find the gospel not only being preached to the Jews, but now going out to the Gentiles.

Shortly after this, Paul was converted and became the great champion of the Gentile cause. It was the result of this experience that Saul became a converted man on the way to Damascus.

This experience of seeing Stephen stoned to death, with his face lighted up as an angel, made an indelible impression upon his mind, and was the turning point in the Christian church.

The date of chapter 8 of Acts is 34 AD. The very year that prophecy said. Seventy weeks are determined or given to your people, the Jews. 70 weeks = 490 years. From that moment onwards we find the New Testament saying, There's no Jew, there's no Greek, we are all one in Christ. The gospel now is no longer was confined to the Jews. It goes out to every body, and that's exactly what the prophecy says. Isn't that wonderful? It all fits in, and that's why God, in the Bible, gives all these chronological details.

Even if some people say, "Well, that seems irrelevant. Why does God give all that?" Well now, you can begin to see why. God has a very good reason why he does anything. He's establishing the credentials of the Bible, and its prophetic utterance, especially regarding Jesus, our Messiah!

Now we have dealt with the 70 weeks, 490 years, which leaves how many left? From 490 to 2300 is 1810 years and it brings us down to the time referred to in Daniel 8:14. Add 34 to 1810 and it brings you down to 1844. That is not very long ago, is it? This date must be correct because we've been able to check these back in history.

This prophecy of the 'cleansing of the sanctuary', the literal 'Day of Atonement' dealing with the investigative judgement, decides who will be going home with Jesus when He comes. This is the surest prophecy in the Bible, giving the very year when this time of judgement was to begin. Every person living in the world today is living in this period in which the Bible refers to as the literal 'Day of Atonement' where Jesus is pleading His atoning blood before the Father for all who have ever claimed His salvation and remained faithful. It's been stretching like a rubber band for many years. How much longer it is going to stretch, I don't know.

In the parable of the ten virgins, five were wise and five were foolish. They all professed to be virgins. They all professed to be followers of God. But it's the result of the judgment that determines who remained faithful and is going to be saved and who is not.

Jesus said we need to understand the book of Daniel, because in that book is the key for us living in these last days in the time of the end, to know what Jesus is doing, just before Jesus returns. What a strange and sad thing that Christians hardly know anything about Daniel, let alone the issues of these prophecies! God has a special message for this last period of earth's history. Jesus is getting a people ready for the day when He is about to return. I trust that every one of us will determine in our hearts that we're going to be ready for that wonderful and glorious day. Our Choices either connect us or disconnect us from Heaven's Power Source!

Appendix 1: Proving Miller's Position on the Daily=Paganism

Following William Miller's reasoning on the power that is 'taken away' for the Papacy to appear, the proof text is in 2 Thessalonians, for the 'Daily' being Paganism. **"And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be 'taken out of the way'. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of**

unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” 2 Thessalonians 2:6-12.

We also realize that those who have not a ‘love of the truth’ are going to receive strong delusion. We believe that one truth they really do not have a love for, is the truth about the ‘Daily’. The truth about the ‘Daily’ is what brings the strong delusion, causing confusion in understanding the rest of the prophecies.

the foundation of Adventism is in Daniel 8:13, 14. In verse 13 there is a question asked: “Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain [*saint*] which spake, **How long ?** . . . Daniel 8:13.

‘How long’ is a question of duration, it’s not a question of a point in time. If the question was ‘when’, then it would be a point in time. This is a question of duration of time—‘how long’—it is not ‘when’, a point in time.

“How long shall be the vision”? In Daniel 8 you see the word ‘vision’ in several places, but it is translated from two different Hebrew words. One of those words is ‘chazown’, which means the complete vision, the total vision. The other is ‘mareh’, which means a specific point in the vision, a point in time.

In Daniel 8:15 “. . . behold, there stood before me as the **appearance** ‘mar’eh’ of a man.” Here the word is translated appearance, while everywhere else in Daniel 8 it is translated ‘vision’ and it means a point in time in the vision.

The word in verse 13 is ‘chazown’ referring to the entire vision, the complete vision concerning the ‘Daily’ and the ‘transgression of desolation’.

The modern theologians teach that the ‘Daily’ represents Christ’s work in the heavenly sanctuary; but the Advent Pioneers understood the ‘Daily’ to be Paganism. Both the pioneers and the modern theologians agree that the transgression of desolation is the Papacy, no questions on that, but the question is ‘what is the Daily?’

If we go back to this question, ‘How long shall be the complete vision concerning—either Christ’s sanctuary ministry or Paganism—and the Papacy, and then it tells us what the Daily and the transgression of desolation are going to do—‘to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?’

So, if we believe that the ‘Daily’ is Christ’s high priestly ministry—when did Christ begin that ministry? When did Christ ascend to heaven? 31 AD. So if we take that approach, the question is ‘how long is the total vision about the Papacy removing the understanding of Christ’s sanctuary ministry and the Papacy, to give both the heavenly sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?’

Now, when did the Papacy come into history? The ‘Mystery of iniquity’ is mentioned by Paul as already at work, so they were already at work, but not on the throne of the earth until 538. But let’s give the benefit of the doubt here and say that the very moment Christ ascended into the heavenly Sanctuary; the Papacy began to remove the understanding of His work in the heavenly sanctuary from the minds of men. So, that took place in 31 AD and the question is ‘how long

shall be the complete vision concerning the Papacy and Christ's sanctuary ministry to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?

We know what the answer is in Daniel 8:14: **"And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed."**

The earliest point in history that you can argue that the Papacy was blocking the understanding of Christ's heavenly ministry would be 31 AD, if you are going to give the the benefit of the doubt, which is the earliest you can possibly say this, because He was not doing His high priestly ministry before 31 AD.

So the earliest you can start this vision, the question is 'how long', is 31 AD. And then it tells us we need to understand that this vision is 2300 years long. So if you add 2300 years to 31 AD., when did Christ begin the investigative judgment? 2331 AD--He hasn't done it yet!

That is simple math, and this is why we are suggesting that the 'Daily' is a subject that brings strong delusion on Seventh-day Adventists! Let's be realistic; this false view is what we are teaching today, and whether we admit it or not, by teaching this, we are destroying the very foundation of Adventism!

If we go back to the pioneer position, it says, 'How long shall be the complete vision concerning Paganism', the complete vision of Daniel 8, and that begins with the Medes and the Persians, and then in chapter 9 and you have the key to understand the vision--Daniel 9:25 **"Know therefore and 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."**

457 BC is totally within the history of Daniel 8 and when you put the 2300 years onto it, it comes right to where it is supposed to come -1844.

This is a very simple and profound argument and it was William Miller who discovered and used it, against those in his day in the protestant world that were taking the wrong view of the Daily. This was a foundational understanding, that if you teach that the 'Daily' is Christ's high priestly ministry you destroy 1844, and the foundation of Adventism. William Miller knew it and opposed that very same false view. But decades later, in the early 1900s, we began to take on these old false views and to cover up the foundations so we could no longer understand these things.

Daniel 8:11 "Yea, he magnified [himself] even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily [sacrifice] was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down;" Notice here it says the 'PLACE' of his sanctuary was cast down; it does not say the 'sanctuary' was cast down. So are we to believe that Heaven was cast down? That is what the false view would be saying if it was referring to Christ's ministry.

Looking now at Daniel 8:12, **"And an host was given [him] against the daily [sacrifice] by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered."**

This phrase 'by reason of transgression' means 'in transgression', 'in sin', so what it is saying is that a host, an army, was given the Papacy against Christ's high priestly ministry 'in

transgression'. If you are going to use the Hebrew correctly and take the false meaning of the Daily, it means in this verse, Christ's high priestly ministry commits sin! It is 'in transgression!'

But how reasonable the text is when you follow the Pioneers: "And an host (army) was given him (the Papacy) against the daily (Paganism) [*sacrifice*] by reason of transgression, (In transgression--that is, by uniting church and state) and it cast down the truth to the ground; (The gospel, the Law and the Sabbath) and it (the Papacy) practised, and prospered."

Certainly the 'false view' of the Daily brings in strong delusion, confusion and doesn't even make sense!

Appendix 2: Amazing Bible Numbers.

You will notice some numbers referring to time that occur over and over in scripture and they are connected with the number 7. Did you know that science has no explanation of the 7 day week? Yes we have no other explanation for why we even have a seven-day week, except for Creation. It is true! We have a year because that is the time it takes for the earth to travel around the sun; we have a month because that is the time it takes for the moon to travel around the earth; we have a 24 hour day as that is the time it takes for the earth to rotate once on its axis. But there is no explanation or event that explains the seven-day week, except the fact that it was set up by our Creator in the beginning when He made this world. Unbelievers cannot explain this.

This 2300 day/year prophecy we have studied here has a section in it or the 70 weeks—a week is 7 days; 70×490 . The we see out of that there is a 'week' of years at the end of that time which involves Jesus the Messiah. Half a week is $3 \frac{1}{2}$ days. Here it is $3 \frac{1}{2}$ years. The first part involved Jesus in person and His ministry, ending with His death in the spring of AD 31, and the second part, His disciples, ending with Stephen's death in AD 34.

The judgement of drought in Elijah's day lasted half a week of years, $3 \frac{1}{2}$ literal years. The judgement on Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 2, lasted a week of years, 7 years, called 7 'times'. 7 years of days is 2520 days. Half a 'time' or week, in literal years is 1260 days. Both of these, 7 'times' or 'Half a time' are found in various time prophecies. The longest of them is 2520 years divided in half into 2×1260 ended in 1798, the starting of the 'time of the end' Now some people claim they can figure out definite times for the Sunday Law, or Jesus coming, or the 'Later Rain/Loud Cry' but the angel said 'there shall be time no longer' that is referring to time prophecies, no more after that! It is interesting that the 1260 years allotted for the Papal rule is mentioned in 7 places in the Bible! These are not things that some person could have planned, made up or done! it is a signature of 'the Wonderful Numberer'!