Eternal Issues, Lesson Nine

**\*9 slides of photos**

**\*2 Copyright slide**

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**INTRODUCTION**

Throughout time, there have been only two significant forces in the entire universe: Sovereign God who created all things and Satan who’s been trying to seize control of everything ever since, man included. Every departure from the will of God, every false doctrine, every lie, every theft, every homicide or war or terrorist act is just an earthly manifestation of a heavenly conflict. Though we

can’t see it, that ongoing battle in the spiritual world is real and it’s one of the Bible’s central themes.

Most of Scripture is history, recorded in prose and poetry, but about one third is predictive prophecy – God telling His people about events future to when the prophecy was given. Ever since then, theologians without number have been trying to decipher those prophecies, theorizing a zillion or so “views” of exactly how this . . .

\*4

Christian era should end: Preterism, Historicism and the ever-so-popular Dispensational view *(seven-year-trib, pretrib rapture or whatever)*, each view with its own intrepid battalion of fire-breathing defenders. But the mere existence of so many end-time views shows that the

theologians themselves aren’t sure anyone’s got it right. So where can we find the truth? Well, on our way to the Seven-Year Tribulation or one of the other problematic scenarios, two events took place that should have changed the way we looked at Bible prophecy.

In 1948, the few precious Jews who survived the Nazi Holocaust fled Europe and established the new nation of Israel. In 1967, Jerusalem was freed of Gentile control for the first time in 2573 years. Those two events fulfilled more Bible prophecy than anything else that’s happened since the Cross! They also open two verses in Daniel that are key to understanding the rest of Bible prophecy.

\*5

**Daniel 12:4** “But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end.”

**Daniel 12:9** “And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.”

The freeing of Jerusalem from Gentile control in 1967 ended the “time of the Gentiles,” *Luke 21:24*, and began Daniel’s “time of the end!” Since Daniel was sealed until the “time of the end,” all prophetic views devised out of Daniel prior to 1967 are at best incomplete, or at worst, false doctrine! For instance . . .

It can now be proven that the beasts in Revelation, the Two Witnesses, the Seven Seals, and the Seven Trumpets are not events in our future! In fact, all have been fulfilled during the Christian era and we are just moments away from King Jesus appearing in the sky! Difficult realities to accept, perhaps, but true just the same.

\*6

There isn’t enough prophetic time left for the temple to be rebuilt in Jerusalem and there’s no waiting for a final Antichrist, either. Just ever increasing natural disasters and unrest among peoples, particularly around Israel and the rest of the Middle East, until the last trumpet sounds

and we’re in the eternal kingdom of God.

Every concept in this Teaching Outline might not be fully explained and like Amos, being just a “herdsman and gatherer of sycamore fruit,” some details might not be explained correctly. But despite this study’s manifold shortcomings, please set your end-time traditions aside for a while and open your Bibles, because . . . “If any man wills to do His will, he will know of the doctrine, whether it is of God or whether I speak of myself.”

EHS

**\*7 Title Page: Daniel and Revelation**

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\*29

Seven Important Rules of Interpretation

**1. The Cultural Setting of the Prophet.**

*All prophecy must be viewed from the prophet’s own knowledge base, not from ours. We must place ourselves in the sandals of the prophet and render his prophecy from his historic and cultural position. Interpreting a prophecy from our 21st century knowledge base can lead to false doctrine . . .*

**Hosea 7:8** “Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned.”

*In Hosea’s time, a flatbread was cooked one side at a time, just like we do pancakes today. This Hosea prophecy (written just before the fall of the northern kingdom of Israel) tells the Israelites that only half the story of the so-called “ten lost tribes” took place* ***before*** *they were dispersed by the Assyrians into the Caucuses Mountains region in 725-722 B.C.. Still part of God’s chosen people, Israel was still to become a multitude of nations, Genesis 48:19, but their future would be in among the Gentile nations, Amos 9:8-9.*

\*30

**2. Idioms Must Be Recognized As Nonliteral.**

**1Kings 21:21** “Behold, I will bring evil upon thee, and will take away thy posterity, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the wall.”

*So is God is going to perform surgery on those of Ahab’s relatives who can’t find a bathroom? Once again, if taken literally, that is what we have to believe, because that is what Scripture says.*

*But when understood idiomatically, the prophet Elijah is informing King Ahab of Israel that God is going to judge Ahab’s house because of his wicked deeds, and allow all of his male descendants to be killed off so that Ahab’s family tree will be wiped out.*

\*31

**3. Scriptural Adjacency.**

**Revelation 11:4** “These *(two witnesses)* are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.”

*For the definition of scriptural figures, first look within the surrounding verses, then the chapter, then the book, then the testament, then the whole Bible. It is faulty exegesis to use Old Testament definitions for “olive trees” and “candlesticks” if there are New Testament definitions that fit these New Testament figures perfectly!*

Romans 11:24-32 and Revelation 1:20

\*32

Rules 4 through 7, *Having the Right Heart Attitude*

**4**.**Recognizing the Bible as the true Living Word of God.**

**Hebrews 4:12** “For the word of God is quick *(Greek:* ζάω*, dzah’-o, living),* and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

**5. The Lord will not open His Word to us if we’re willing to compromise it.**

**6. The Lord can teach us nothing if we hold our doctrines above His Word.**

**7. We learn the doctrines of men from books by men, we learn to know God from His Word.**

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\*53

**What the Church knew in 1659…and then forgot**

\*54

What the Church has Forgotten

Bible scholars of the Middle Ages didn’t have the luxury of a library full of commentaries. As a result, they did extensive study in the Bible itself. Some of their writings, like those of Calvin and Luther, achieved immense success. Though not so widely known, other Reformation writers also found significant doctrinal insights from Scripture. Thieleman van Braght (the great Anabaptist theologian) and Matthew Henry (a Reformed theologian) are quoted below.

“FROM Adam to Noah, from Noah to Abraham, from Abraham to Moses, from Moses to Christ, from Christ to the end of the world, God ordained, for each of these periods, different customs, as regards to the external divine service of this church; also different signs, seals, and appurtenances; though

it is, was, and shall be, the same church, the same people, and also the same God whom they served, still serve, and shall serve unto the end.

*So what is the important difference between these ages?*

\*55

The only major difference between the antediluvian, the Levitical and the Christian eras lies in howGod willed to reveal Himself to man!

\*56

Thieleman J. van Braght, 1659AD . . .

“And that thus the Son of God died, and tasted death and shed his precious blood for all men; and that he thereby bruised the serpent's head, destroyed the works of the devil, annulled the handwriting and obtained forgiveness of sins for all mankind; thus becoming the cause of eternal salvation for all who, from Adam unto the end of the world, each in his time, believe in and obey Him, (Gen 3:15, 1Jo 3:8, Col 2:14, Rom 5:18).

“After the Ascension of Christ, the very numerous church which was at Jerusalem dispersed, on account of persecution, through the land of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles; so that this distinguished church, which, it appears, was the chief one on the face of the earth, had to sojourn secretly in a strange land, (Act 8:1).

\*57

Thieleman J. van Braght, 1659AD . . .

“Afterwards when the emperor Domitian had banished John, the holy apostle and evangelist, for the Gospel's sake, on the island of Patmos, the Holy Ghost revealed unto him the future state of the Church of Christ, namely, that she would have to flee into the wilderness, on account of the persecution of Antichrist, and there be fed by God, a thousand two hundred and threescore days, which, reckoned according to prophetic language, means as many years, **(Revelation 12:6-11)**.”

\*58

A THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND THREESCORE DAYS, WHICH, RECKONED ACCORDING TO PROPHETIC LANGUAGE, MEANS AS MANY YEARS!

\*59

Thieleman J. van Braght, 1659AD . . .

“Whether we begin to reckon these years from the death of the apostles; or with the year 300, when the so-called patriarchs had their origin; or with the year 600; or a little later, when Mohammed rose in the east among the Greeks, and the pope in the west among the Latins, and raised no small

persecution against the defenseless and innocent little flock of the church of Christ, so that all who did not wish to be devoured, either in soul or in body, had to hide themselves in deserts and wildernesses; let it be reckoned as it may, say we, a very long period is to be understood by it, which has extended to this, or about this time . . .”

*Thieleman J. van Braght*

July 31, 1659AD, from pp21, 25, and 40 of Martyrs Mirror*.*

*And Thieleman J. van Braght was not alone!*

\*60

Matthew Henry in his 18th Century *Commentary on the Whole Bible* came to the same conclusions. The following excerpts are quoted from Vol VI, p1157, col 1, par I & II:

Par 1: “Some think these *(Two)* witnesses are . . . the church of the believing Jews and that of the Gentiles . . .”

Par 2: “. . . the time of their prophesying, or bearing witness for Christ. A thousand two hundred and three score days . . . and if the beginning of that interval could be ascertained, this number of prophetic days, taking a day for a year, would give us a prospect of when the end should be.”

*The above principles were well understood by most Bible scholars prior to the 20th century.*

*Unfortunately, the Church has allowed these major insights into prophetic Scriptures to be forgotten.*

\*61

Who else wrote about Day-Years?

*A few notable theologians, there are many more . . .*

Tichonius, 380 A.D.

Benjamin Nahawendi, c. 850 A.D.

Solomon bar Jeroham, c. 950 A.D.

Abraham bar Hiyya, 1136 A.D.

Arnold of Villanova, 1292 A.D.

Joachim of Floris, 1202 A.D.

John Wycliffe, c. 1379 A.D.

Nicholas of Cusa, c. 1452 A.D.

Martin Luther, 1522 A.D.

Philip Melanchthon, 1543 A.D.

Johan Funck, 1558 A.D.

King James I, 1609 A.D.

Matthew Henry, 1662-1714 A.D.

Sir Isaac Newton, 1727 A.D.

Appolos Hale, 1840 A.D.

William Miller, 1789-1849 A.D.

Josiah Litch, 1809-1886 A.D.

Uriah Smith, 1827-1915 A.D.

\*62

But Where Did the Day-Year Idea Come From?

*It’s from the Bible, of course!*

**Numbers 14:34** “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.”

**Ezekiel 4:5** “For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days: so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the house of Israel.”

*It was 390 Hebrew years from the close of the Old Testament to the birth of Jesus.*

**Ezekiel 4:6** “And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year.”

*It was 40 years from the birth of Jesus to the Cross.*

\*63

Here’s the principle!

\***A DAY**\*(( **IS EQUAL TO** >>>>>>>>>>>>> \* \***A YEAR**\*

(((((((((((((((((( **HEBREW YEAR, 360 DAYS** (((((((((((((((((((\*\* \* \*\*

(((((((((((((((((((((( **ROMAN YEAR, 365.24 DAYS** (((((((((((((((\*\* \*

When Scripture uses “days” *in a prophetic sense*, they should be viewed as Hebrew or Solar years depending where they appear in the Bible.

**Hebrew Year** = For Old Testament prophecy only! Daniel used a Hebrew prophetic calendar of 360 days or .9857 of a Solar year.

*From Torah, the Israelites understood a year to be 360 days, see Genesis 7:11, 7:24 and 8:4.*

**Solar Year** = For New Testament prophecy! John was raised under Roman rule and used the solar calendar ) 365.24 days.

\*64

**End-Time Prophecy Begins With Daniel in Babylon**

CHART

**NOTE:** This graph presents the conservative historic position. The dating may be verified in any conservative reference work such as *Halley's Bible Handbook* or *Zondervan's Pictorial Bible Encyclopedia*.

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\*65

Daniel’s Seventy “Weeks” Prove the Day-Years

*Prophecy given to Daniel in the first year of Darius, 536 B.C.*

**Daniel 9:24** “Seventy weeks *(*~ioyc’ib.vi *shiveem’,* ~ioyci’buv\*, shavuim’, or seventy sevens)* are determined upon **thy people** *(the Jews)* and upon **thy holy city** *(Jerusalem)*, 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.”

*This prophecy is in Hebrew and in the Old Testament!*

The addressees are stated: This is to the Jews of Daniel’s time and about their holy city, Jerusalem.

*It is not to the Church or about the end of the Christian era!*

\*66

**Daniel 9:25-27** “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 . . .

*Four decrees about the Jewish people were issued by Medo-Persian kings. The only one that fulfills the above prophecy is the decree of Artaxerxes 1 (444-445 B.C.) recorded in Nehemiah 2:8.*

*So this is the beginning time for this prophecy.*

And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, *(killed)* but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood *(of foreign people)*, and unto the end of the *(spiritual)* war desolations are determined.”

\*67

There is no word in Hebrew that just means a week. Instead, the Jews call a week “a seven.”

The Hebrew word for “seven” used everywhere in the Old Testament is ~[\bv , shavua, meaning “a seven.”

But the word for seven used in **Daniel 9:25-26** is not ~[\bv, shavua, it is ~ioy[ibuv, shavuim, the male plural form of shavua!

Shavuim, a **plural** of seven, requires a multiplier so these 69 weeks are not weeks of ordinary 24 hour days!

Ezekiel 4:5-6 states, “a *(prophetic)* day for a year.”

\*68

**CHART: Neo-Babylonian Empire/Medo-Persian Empire**

\*69

**So Let’s Look At That Verse Again**

**Daniel 9:25-26** “. . . and after *(69 weeks from the decree of Artaxerxes I)* shall Messiah be cut off *(killed)*, but not for himself.”

*Our history is written in solar years of 365.24 days.*

*Hebrew prophetic years have 360 days, so we must convert prophetic years to solar years to fit the historic record.*

69 weeks, each with 7 days = 483 days

(Conversion factor to fit our solar year is 360/365.24 = .9857)

483 x .9857 = 476.068 of our years.

*So Gabriel is telling Daniel there will be 476 solar years from the decree of Artaxerxes I to the Cross.*

\*70

**CHART: Daniel’s 69 “Weeks” Prove Day-Years**

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\*182 BIFIDS & CHIASMS The Mirrors of Scripture

\*183

**Webster’s Dictionary says:**

**Bifid**: An object or document separated into two equal or almost equal parts or lobes.

**Why the concept is important.**

Major prophesies in the Bible are Bifidic.

\*184

*Bifidic books are repetitive in nature. Isaiah is not 14 different subjects, but seven subjects repeated.*

**BIFID IN ISAIAH** \*\*

1ST HALF 2ND HALF

CHAPTERS CONTENTS CHAPTERS

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1-5 Ruin and Restoration 34-35

6-8 Biographical Information 36-40

9-12 Blessings and Judgments 41-45

13-23 About Gentile Nations 46-48

24-27 Redemption and Deliverance 49-55

28-31 Ethics and Sermons 56-59

32-33 Restoration of Israel 60-66

*If Daniel & Revelation are bifidic, they are repetitive!*

*\*\* Packer Tenny White’s Bible Dictionary*

\*185

**PROVING DANIEL’S BIFID**

*Daniel’s prophecies were written in two languages.*

**Daniel 2:4** “Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriack, ‘O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream’”

*Daniel 2:4 through 7:28 was written in Chaldee, the court language of the Babylonians*.

*Daniel 8 through 12 were written in Hebrew, the language of the Jews.*

**Why?**

\*186

*Daniel is in two languages because it has two audiences.*

**Chaldee**

Chapters 2-7

In a Gentile language because those chapters are to and about the Gentile empires *and their descendants* who would rule in Holy Land during “*The time of the Gentiles*.”

**Hebrew**

Chapters 8-12

Daniel 8-12 are in Hebrew because they are to and about the future of God’s chosen people during the time their land was under Gentile control during *“The time of the Gentiles.”*

*Both Daniel 2-7 and 8-12 are about a time of Gentile rule of the Holy Land so Daniel is bifidic and repetitive!*

**Luke 21:24** “And they *(the Jews)* shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall

*And the time of the Gentiles was over on June 6, 1967.*

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\*187

So When Are We Prophetically?

The time of Gentile control of Jerusalem ended on June 6th, 1967 so *“The time of the Gentiles”* is over!

**Daniel 12:4** “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 *(through the book)*, and knowledge shall be increased.”

*The only epochal “time” in Scripture following “The Time of the Gentiles” is Daniel’s* “Time of the End,” *so right now, we are in the time of the end!*

\*188

*But there’s another Hebrew poetic form employed in the prophetic books.*

**THE CHIASM**

The chiasm is a poetic stepladder and the chiasm is *repetitive* in nature!

The concepts in the ascending two or three steps are repeated in the descending

two or three steps.

\*189

**A TWO-STEP CHIASM in the Old Testament**

**Isaiah 55:8** “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.”

are not **YOUR** thoughts B = B neither are **YOUR** ways

**MY** thoughts A = A **MY ways** sayeth the Lord.

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\*190

**THREE-STEP CHIASMS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT**

**Mark 5:3-5**

**A** Who had his dwelling **among the tombs**;

**B** and no man could **bind him**,

**C** no, not **with chains**:

**C** he had been bound **with chains**,

**B** neither could any man **tame him**.

**A** And always he was **in the tombs**...

**Acts 17:24-25 A** God that made the world **and all things** therein,

**B He is Lord** of heaven and earth,

**C** Dwelleth not in temples made **with hands**;

**C** Neither is worshipped **with men's hands**,

**B He giveth** to all life, and breath,

**A And all things**.

*If Daniel and Revelation are chiasmic, they will contain prophecies that are fulfilled at the* ***SAME*** *time!*

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\*191

Daniel Sealed Until the End of the Christian Era

**Daniel 12:4** “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, *(through the book)* and knowledge shall be increased.”

*The above is a command, so Daniel has to do something to seal the book, which he does by verse 9.*

**Daniel 12:9** “And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.”

*By sovereign decree, the book of Daniel was now sealed!*

*But Daniel couldn’t modify what the Lord had inspired him to write, so what did Daniel do between verses 4 and 9 to seal the book?*

\*192

Daniel’s Chronology is the Key

**(605BC) Daniel 2:1** “In the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams.” *(Conservative dating, liberal scholars claim 604BC)*

**(592BC) Daniel 3:1** “Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold.” *(No direct archeological evidence (GAD)*

**(558BC) Daniel 4:1-37** Nebuchadnezzar goes insane. *(We have some archeological evidence that supports this event)*

**(536BC) Daniel 5:30-31 “**In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. And Darius the Median took the kingdom.” *(Fall of the Babylonian Empire, conservative date****,*** *liberal scholars claim 539)*

**(535BC) Daniel 6:1** “It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom.”

\*193

Daniel Is Out of Chronological Order!

**(605BC) Daniel 2:1** “In the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar,Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams.”

**(592BC) Daniel 3:1** “Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold.”

**(558BC) Daniel 4:1-37** Nebuchadnezzar goes insane.

**Chs. 7 & 8 were written here . . .**

**(536BC) Daniel 5:30** “In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.”

**Ch. 9 was written here . . .**

**(535BC) Daniel 6:1** “It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes.”

**Ch. 7 (552BC) Daniel 7:1** “In the first year of **Belshazzar** king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed.”

**Ch. 8 (549BC) Daniel 8:1** “In the third year of the reign of king **Belshazzar** a vision appeared unto me.”

**Ch. 9 (536BC) Daniel 9:1** “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.”

\*194

**DANIEL’S FIRST CHIASM!**

*In Chaldee for the Gentiles*

PROPHECY----- ----- SUBJECT----

**A** ch.2 The Great Image **4 Gentile Empires**

**B** ch.3 The Fiery Furnace God's People in Tribulation

**C** ch.4 Nebuchadnezzar Insane Gentile Rulers Judged

**C \***ch.5 Belshazzar Killed Gentile Rulers Judged

**B \***ch.6 The Lions Den God's People in Tribulation

**A** ch.7 The Four Beasts **4 Gentile Empires**

ch.8

**\* ch.5 was actually written here.**

ch.9

**\* ch.6 was actually written here.**

ch.10-12

*So the prophecies in this chiasm are not sequential.*

*They are parallel and concurrent!*

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\*195

**CHIASMS REVEAL HIDDEN TRUTHS**

**A-A Daniel 2 and 7** Are about the Gentile empires that would have dominion over the Holy Land during the “time of the Gentiles.”

**B-B Daniel 3 and 6** Are about God's people in tribulation during the “time of the Gentiles.”

**C-C Daniel 4 and 5** Are about judgment on the Gentile rulers at the end of the “time of the Gentiles.”

***Central message of 1st chiasm****:* During “the time of the Gentiles” there will be four major Gentile empires *(Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome and their descendants)* ruling in the Holy Land into the far future. Also, during that time, God’s people *(the Jews)* will suffer great persecution, at the end of which, God will judge the nations that made His land a desolation and made slaves of His people, Jer 30:10-11.

\*196

**DANIEL'S 2ND CHIASM**

*In Hebrew for the Jews*

PROPHECY SUBJECT

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**A** ch.8 Ram and He Goat **2 Gentile Empires**

**B** ch.9:24-26 69 Sevens Messiah in Gentile Times

**B** ch.9:26-27 70th Seven The Time of the Gentiles

**A** ch.10-12 North & South **2 Gentile Empires**

***Central message of 2nd Chiasm:*** After the Jews return from captivity there will only be two major Gentile empires *(Medo-Persia, Greece and their descendants)* who will have dominion over the Holy Land into the distant future. During that time, Messiah will be born, will be killed, the temple will be desolated and an abomination set up. But in the end, the enemy will be destroyed.

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\*197

Daniel’s bifid and chiasms prove his prophecies to be parallel in time.

If Revelation is patterned like Daniel, (and the same God inspired both books) then Revelation is not about suppositional events in a theoretical “ Seven-Year Great Tribulation,” but a series of *parallel prophecies* primarily about the Christian era!

\*198

**BUT HOW CAN WE PROVE IT?**

*Could the Seven Churches, the Seven Seals, the Seven Trumpets and the Two Witnesses be repetitive prophecies primarily about the Christian Era?*

We know the Seven Churches existed during the Apostle John’s lifetime, but could the Seals, Trumpets and Two Witnesses already be fulfilled?

\*199 **Revelation is Bifidic** parallel

\*200

Revelation 1:19 is the key!

Revelation is a synopsis of the 6000 years God has been dealing with man.

It is about events **PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE** from the time of John.

The Seven Seals were opened by the Lord immediately ***after*** He was glorified.

The “little book” of Revelation is index to the rest of the Bible.

Its 12 visions are God the Father’s repeated pictures of major events that will take place

before, during and after the Christian era.

\*201

The “Little Book” of Revelation 5

**Revelation 1:19** “Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.”

*The following is “hast seen,” i.e., before John’s time.*

**Revelation 5:1-4** “And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside *(Because there will be two readers)*, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong

angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth *(before the Cross)*, was able to open

the book, neither to look thereon.”. And I wept much, because no man *(including Jesus)* was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.

\*202

*. . . next, the things that “are” during John’s time.*

**Revelation 5:-7** “And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David *(Jesus)*, hath prevailed *(so when did Jesus prevail?)* to open the book, and to

loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb *(Greek:* .kíßïí, *arnion, a defenseless little lambkin)*as it had been slain *(on the Cross)*, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God *(Isaiah 11:1-3)* sent forth into all the earth. And he *(Jesus)* came and took the book out of the right hand of him *(God the Father)* that sat upon the throne.”

*. . . and finally “shall be,” i.e., future to John’s time.*

**Revelation 6:1** “And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see *(the Christian era)*.”

\*203

So The Seals are Opened Right After Jesus is Glorified, *but what about the Seven trumpets?*

***Look at what Jesus said about His coming Crucifixion***.

**Luke 12:49-50** “I came to send fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! But I have a

baptism to be baptized with, and how distressed I am till it is accomplished!” (NKJV)

*Obviously Figurative language:*

*Jesus is referring to the fire on the brazen altar that burned the sacrificial lamb (a type of Christ)*

*so this “baptism” is His coming crucifixion.*

\*204

**The Seven Trumpets Begin to Sound.**

**Revelation 8:2-6** “And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. And another angel *(Jesus)* came and stood at the altar *(the Cross)*, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne *(Isa 53:12, Rom 8:34*, *Heb 7:25)*. And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angels hand. And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast *it* into the

earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake. And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.”

*Luke’s 12:49-50, “I came to send fire on the earth”*

*parallels the above quote so both are about the Cross.*

*So obviously, Revelation’s trumpets start to sound*

*at the beginning of the Christian era.*

\*205

**Revelation is also Chiasmic**

*The 1st Chiasm*

PROPHECY SUBJECT

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**A** ch. 2-3 The Seven Churches The Church

**B** ch. 6 The Seven Seals Christian era trials

**C** ch. 7:4-8 The 144,000 12 Tribes of Israel

**C** ch. 7:9-14 A Great Multitude The Gentile Church

**B** ch. 8-9 The Seven Trumpets Christian Era trials

**A** ch. 11 The Two Witnesses The Church

***Central message of 1st Chiasm:*** During the Christian Era there will be Two Witnesses, seven different church periods, and seven different kinds of churches. The Jewish people and the Gentile Church are those two witnesses. Trials, plagues, famines, tribulation and wars will take place. But those who die in Christ, both Jew and Gentile, will be with the Lord. At the end of this era, God will set up a kingdom that will remain forever.

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\*206

*Revelation’s 2nd Chiasm*

PROPHECY SUBJECT

**A** ch.12 Woman with 12 Stars Jews during this Era

**B** ch.13 Leopard, Lion, Bear Beast Satanic Kingdom

ba ch.14 144,000 & The Gospel All the Redeemed

**C** ch.15 Song of Moses and Lamb Jew & Gentile Redeemed

**C** ch.16 Bowls of Wrath Wrath for the Wicked

**B** ch.17 Seven Headed Beast Satanic Kingdoms

ba ch.18 Babylon All the Lost

**A** ch.20 The Thousand Years Gentile Church Era

***Central message of the 2nd Chiasm:*** There will be only seven major Gentile empires *(and their descendants)* who will control the Holy Land during the Christian Era. They will be ruled by Satan. Concurrent with those visible kingdoms will be the spiritual kingdom of the Lord Jesus, in which the saints *(both Jew and Gentile)* will be spiritually ruling on Earth. At the end of this era, Jesus will return to reward the saints and judge the wicked. Then, according to Revelation 11:15, the everlasting Kingdom of God begins immediately.

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**\*72 TITLE: THAT WHICH MAKES DESOLATE**

\*73

Since we can prove Daniel’s 69 weeks were actually 483 Hebrew years . . .

Shouldn’t we be consistent and view the rest of the prophetic “days” in Daniel as Hebrew years?

\*74

Daniel’s Final Vision

**Daniel 10:1** “In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.”

*Historic pin: the third year of Cyrus’ control of Babylon . . . 533 B.C. !*

\*75 Neo-Babylonian Kingdom slide

\*76

The 1290 Days of Daniel 12:11

**Daniel 12:11,** NAS "And from the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days.”

*But is this abomination a thing or a person?*

\*77

**Mark 13:14** “But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet,

standing where **IT\*\*** ought not, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains.”

*\*\* In Greek:* δει, dei, *a neuter pronoun.*

According to Mark, the abomination is not a person, but an “it,” so the abomination is not the Antichrist.

The abomination is a thing!

\*78

But Were Sacrifices Abolished When Jerusalem Fell?

*The Bible Shows otherwise!*

**Jeremiah 41:5** “There came certain from Shechem, from Shiloh, and from Samaria, even fourscore men, having their beards shaven, and their clothes rent, and having cut themselves, with offerings and incense in their hand, to bring them to the house of the LORD.”

*Jeremiah 41:5 was written 6 to 10 months after the temple was destroyed, so sacrifices were still being offered at the temple site!*

\*79

Local Gods

In Old Testament times, a belief among Middle Eastern people was that “gods” had a limited geographic sphere of influence, *II Kings 17:27.* Osiris had power in Egypt, Baal had power in Syria, Dagon was lord in Philistia, Marduk had control in Babylon, Melkart was potent in Tyre and our God had to be feared in the holy land.

So in 586 B.C., when Nebuchadnezzar invaded Judah for the second time, he would not have wanted to stop the Jews from worshiping their “local” God, and he didn’t, *Jeremiah 41:5.* However, the rebellious Jews murdered Gedaliah, Nebuchadnezzar’s governor for the area, *Jeremiah 41:2.* In response, Nebuchadnezzar sent Nebuzaradan, captain of the king’s guard, to Jerusalem to carry the final captives off to Babylon, *Jeremiah 52:30*. Since sacrifices were indeed abandoned while Daniel was in Babylon, the last of the priests were undoubtedly included in this final captivity.

*According to Daniel 9:17, sacrifices were abandoned sometime while Daniel was in Babylon, but when?*

\*80

Liberal Scholars or the Scripture?

*This is where you decide who you are going to believe!*

1. God told Jeremiah the prophet that the Jews would be captive in Babylon for 70 years, Jer. 25:11-12 and 29:10

2. Daniel recognized that the 70 years of captivity were over in the first year of Darius, Dan 9:1-2.

3. Conservative scholars have always recognized 536 B.C. as the first year of Darius so 536 B.C.+70=606 B.C and the fall of Jerusalem.

3. Liberal historians claim that Jerusalem fell in 605 B.C.

4. They further claim that Darius sacked Babylon in 539 B.C., three years before the generally accepted date. If the liberals were right, then the captivity lasted only 66 years.

*Three times the Scripture states that the Jews would be captive in Babylon for 70 years, so the liberal scholars are wrong.*

\*81 The Final Captivity Slide

\*82 The 1290 Days = 688 A.D. slide

\*83

**Declaration of the Bishop of Jerusalem**

When Khalifah Omar entered Jerusalem in 639AD, he was met at the gates by Bishop Sophronius who ushered him through the city. Seeing the temple mount (then in ruins), Omar declared that he was going to build a memorial to Muhammad on the original site of the temple of God. Sophronius exclaimed in horror, “Verily, this is the Abomination of Desolation as spoken of by Daniel the prophet, and it now stands in the holy place.” Though Sophronius was an old man of 80 years, Khalifah Omar put him in prison and forced labor, the rigors of which killed him.

Paraphrased from Jerry Landay’s, *The Dome of the Rock,* Newsweek, New York, NY, 1972, p. 18

Somehow, we have managed to forget the truth for which Sophronius gave his life. The Dome of the Rock being the Abomination that maketh Desolate is not new theology.

*This knowledge has been in the Church for over 1300 years!*

\*84 Picture of Dome of the Rock slide

\*85 Chart of the abolished sacrifices, 70 7s vision and 1290 days vision

\*86

**Isaiah 28:9-10** “Whom shall he teach knowledge? And whom shall he make to understand doctrine?

them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.”

*And that’s the way it is!*

*Understanding Bible prophecy is cumulative,*

*one concept built upon another until we dimly see a little of God’s wonderful plan*

*for the Church, the Jewish people, and the rest of His creation.*