### God's Revelation of the Future

The Seventy Weeks of Daniel

The Olivet Discourse

(Matthew 24:4-28)

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# Following the Rapture

 Here on earth the next significant period is one often designated as "The Tribulation."

### The Tribulation

 The Tribulation is a future period during which God will prepare his people, Israel, for Christ's return and bring severe judgments on the Gentile nations while at the same time bringing many people to himself.

- The "Seventy Weeks" prophecy is recorded in Daniel 9:24-27.
  - This prophecy is significant for two reasons.
    - It demonstrates the precision God has used at times when revealing the future.
    - It provides a framework for understanding the tribulation period.

- An Outline of 9:16-27
  - 9:16-19 Daniel's prayer
  - 9:20-23 God's response
  - 9:24-27 The "70 Weeks" prophecy
    - 9:24 God's reason for the 70 weeks
    - 9:25 Weeks 1 to 69
    - 9:26 Period between weeks 69 and 70
    - 9:27 Week 70

#### Dan 9:24 – Duration and Purposes

Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, [1] to finish the transgression, [2] to put an end to sin, and [3] to atone for iniquity, [4] to bring in everlasting righteousness, [5] to seal both vision and prophet, and [6] to anoint a most holy place.

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Dan 9:25 - Weeks 1 to 69

Know therefore and understand that <u>from the going out of</u> the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an <u>anointed one</u>, a <u>prince</u>, there shall be seven weeks [and sixty-two weeks. It] will be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time.

#### Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

#### Matthew 21:5

Say to the daughter of Zion, "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."

Dan 9:25 - Weeks 1 to 69

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- The Precision of this Prophecy
  - Sir Robert Anderson, in *The Coming Prince* (published in 1894), made the following calculations regarding the first 69 weeks.
    - The date of the decree to rebuild Jerusalem was the 1st of Nisan = March 14, 445 BC.
    - The date of the entry of Christ into Jerusalem was the 10th of Nisan = April 6, 32 AD.
  - This is a period of 476 years and 24 days.
  - However,  $69 \times 7 \text{ years} = 483 \text{ years}$ .

Dan 9:26 – Period between weeks 69 and 70

And <u>after the sixty-two weeks</u>, [1] an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And [2] the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed.

Dan 9:26 – Period between weeks 69 and 70

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Dan 9:27 - Week 70

And he [the prince who is to come] shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and [in the middle] of the week he [the prince] shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.

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#### Matthew 24:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Jesus left the temple and was going away, when his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. <sup>2</sup> But he answered them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly, I say to you, there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

#### Matthew 24:3-4a

<sup>3</sup> As [Jesus] sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" <sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered them ...

- References ...
  - Matthew 24:4-25:46
  - Mark 13:3-37
  - Luke 21:7-36

- An outline of the Matthew account
  - 24:4 Jesus cautions about the future
  - 24:5-8 1<sup>st</sup> half of the 70<sup>th</sup> week
  - 24:9-14 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 70<sup>th</sup> week
  - 24:15-20 Details about the middle of the 70<sup>th</sup> week
  - 24:21-28 Details about the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 70<sup>th</sup> week
  - 24:29-31 Events following the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 70<sup>th</sup> week, including the return of Christ to earth
  - 24:32-25:30 Parables related to Christ's return
  - 25:31-46 The Sheep-Goats Judgment

#### Matthew 24:4 - A caution

<sup>4</sup> And Jesus answered them, "See that no one leads you astray."

#### ▶ Matthew 24:5-8 – 1<sup>st</sup> half of 70<sup>th</sup> week

<sup>5</sup> For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray. <sup>6</sup> And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. <sup>7</sup> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. <sup>8</sup> All these are but the beginning of the birth pains.

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- Middle of 70<sup>th</sup> week
  - From the midpoint through the end of the Tribulation, things change dramatically for the Jewish people.