**Daniel 9: History revolves around Israel**

**Main: When we are sure of Jesus’ first coming, we can be sure of His second**

**1. Jerusalem’s Predicted Seventy-Year Desolation (9:1-2)**

**Daniel to Babylon 605 BC (Dan. 1:1-3). First year of Darius 539 BC (Dan. 9:1) 605 – 539 = 66 years. Daniel likely about 83 years old**

**2. Daniel’s Prayer 9:3-19**

**Recognizing God’s Covenant-loyal Promises (9:3-4)**

**Daniel’s Confession of Israel’s Sins (9:5-14)**

**Daniel’s Petition for Forgiveness and Restoration of Israel (9:15-19)**

**3. Arrival of Gabriel (9:20-23)**

**4. The Seventy Sevens (9:24-27)**

**A. Six things that had to happen to establish the Millennium (9:24)**

**“For your people and for your holy city”: That’s important, because the six things directly involve Israel and Jerusalem. It is their transgression, for example; their rebellion against God that needs to end, and so on through the six things until the Temple built and anointed in the Millennium. This is a time-table of Israel, not the gap in-between.**

**B. The Seventy Weeks or “Heptads” Introduced (9:24)**

**Why sevens of years? The historical context, the prior contexts, and the future contexts help us.**

* **Historical context: Israel had violated the Sabbath rest for the land (Lev. 25) and they had done so for 70Xs or 490 years**
* **Prior contexts: Daniel was reading in Jeremiah (25:11-12; 29:10-14). He was aware of their 70 captivity and the land was enjoying its Sabbath-rests for 70 years due to their sin of disobedience in that regard (Lev. 26:33-35).**
* **Immediate and following contexts: Daniel 9:27 A strong proof is that the second half of the tribulation (Daniel 9:27) is said to be: 3½ years (1,260 days) in Daniel 7:25 and 12:7. It is also said to be 42 months (1,260 days) in Rev 11:2, or 1,260 days (Rev 11:3).**

**Best approach then, to take the “sevens” as years, not days.**

**B. The first Sixty-Nine Sevens (9:25)**

**The target decree must command the rebuilding of Jerusalem, including its plaza and wall. The work must be completed during a troublesome time. The decree meeting these requirements is in Nehemiah 2:1-8. That date is given in Nehemiah 1:1 and 2:1. The date was March 1, 444 BC.**

**From March 1, 444 BC until the presentation of Messiah as Prince, Triumphal Entry, (March 30, AD 33) was to be sixty-nine “sevens.”**

**69 heptads (sevens) = 483 years of 360-days**

**483 years**

**× 360 days**

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**173,880 days**

**Between March 1, 444 BC and March 30, AD 33, there were 173,880 days**

**C. Gap: Between the End of the 69th and the Start of the Seventieth (9:26)**

**Messiah cut off; Jerusalem destroyed**

**D. The Seventieth Seven (9:27)**

**The Covenant**

**The first half of the tribulation is said to be 3½ years (1,260 days) = 42 months or 1,260 days (Rev. 11:2-3).**

**The second half (The altar is in place!)**

**Some passages on the near and far fulfillment of prophecy: 1) Jesus’ first and second coming - Isa. 61:1-7 2) Cosmic events - Joel 2:28-32; Matt. 24:29-32; Acts 2:15-21, and Rev. 6:12-16 3). The Davidic Son - 2 Sam. 7:14 + Lk. 1:32-33**