

## What Prophets and Angels long to see...

Today we look at another means of support Peter gives his readers concerning their salvation. He wants them to know that their salvation was planned long ago and revealed to ancient prophets. In the first verses he says that they were ***chosen according to the foreknowledge of God***. Here, he illustrates it.

### 1 Peter 1:10-12

<sup>9</sup>obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

<sup>10</sup>As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that *would come* to you made careful searches and inquiries,

<sup>11</sup>seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.

<sup>12</sup>It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look.

**Salvation is something God planned long ago and revealed to the ancient prophets.**

The NIV says,

*For you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.*

“Salvation” (*sōteria*) refers to the salvation believers experience now, which will be consummated in the future, was also prophesied in the past.

**Prophesied in the Past: fulfilled in them.**

They enjoy the great privilege of living in the days

when the historical salvation is fulfilled

Lit. ***Prophet’s prophesied...– of the grace that would come*** – future salvation.

The prophets to whom God’s plan of salvation was revealed didn’t know what they were prophesying about and wanted to know.

- made careful searches and inquiries
- <sup>11</sup>seeking to know

They wanted to understand the specifics of the Holy Spirit's revelation.

Like two mountain peaks with a valley in-between:

Calvary: Where Jesus suffered.

Olivet: Where He will return in glory.

In-between is a separation of over two thousand years

– the present age of grace

We are able to see both events, one past, one still future

with a clearer perspective than they.

The Holy Spirit revealed that they were serving generations yet to be born.

Daniel was one of the prophets referred to by Peter.

**Daniel 9:1-4 Daniel seeks the Lord to understand Jeremiah's writings.**

**Daniel 9:5-19 Daniel's confession**

**Daniel 9:20-23 Daniel's encounter with Gabriel**

**Daniel 9:24-27 Daniel receives the answer - Prophecy**

**Note: Dan. 10:2-3, 12 Daniel again seeks to understand the visions.**

Daniel's prophecy is from the Holy Spirit via Gabriel concerning salvation.

I. e. the future of Israel.

## **1. Prophecy: Seventy-weeks until all is fulfilled**

**--Timing of the End**

“Seventy-weeks have been decreed for your people  
and your holy city,  
to finish the transgression,

to make an end of sin,  
 to make atonement for iniquity,  
 to bring in everlasting righteousness,  
 to seal up vision and prophecy,  
 and to anoint the most holy place.”

(Daniel 9:24.)

Lit. “Seventy-sevens” (seventy times seven or **490 years**)

We understand that the weeks are weeks of years –  
 Context shows that Israel’s 70-year exile was nearing completion;  
 and now another seventy sevens of years, until everything is completed.

**EVENTS LISTED BY DANIEL TO TAKE PLACE BY THE END OF 490 YEARS:**

1. Finish the transgression “rebel”
2. Make an end of sin – actual sins of daily life
3. Make atonement for iniquity
  - Jesus atoned for sin when he died on the cross
  - Applied to Israel when the nation accepts Jesus
  - as its Messiah and Savior
4. Bring in everlasting righteousness
  - “bring in righteousness of ages” – righteous rule of Messiah
5. Seal up vision and prophecy – fulfilled “to make an end”
6. To anoint the most holy place – lit. “to anoint a holy of holies”
  - Ezek 43:12 refers to the Millennial Temple

In the next verses gives Daniel an incremental breakdown of the 70 weeks [490 years] beginning with starting date of a decree to rebuild Jerusalem.

## 2. Time-table established from the Time of Nehemiah

(445 B. C. see Neh. 1; 2 -- Artaxerxes)

<sup>25</sup>“From the issuing of a **decree** to restore and rebuild Jerusalem

and the **coming of Messiah the Prince** (Jesus)

Seven weeks and sixty-two weeks

Built again, with plaza and moat,

Even in times of distress.

<sup>26</sup>After sixty-two weeks

Messiah will be cut off and have nothing,

People of the prince who is to come

Will destroy the city and the sanctuary.

End will come with a flood;

To the end: war – desolations are determined.”

(Dan. 9:25-26)

THIS IS COMPLICATED BECAUSE THE FLOW OF THE NUMBERS CONNECTED TO THEIR PROPHECIES:

### 1. 70 WEEKS FOR COMPLETION

THE FIRST PART OF THE PROPHECY SHOWS A TOTAL OF 490 YEARS UNTIL THE END.

THEN THE PROPHECY BEGINS TO BREAK DOWN SPECIFICS INCREMENTS OF TIME.

### 2. 62 +7 = 69 WEEKS – JERUSALEM REBUILT AND MESSIAH CUT OFF.

- **483 years** following the decree of Artaxerxes in 445 B C to rebuild and restore Jerusalem. (A. D. 32)
- Then we see the death of Messiah,

<sup>26</sup>After sixty-two weeks

Messiah will be cut off and have nothing,

“**Cut off**” describes the death penalty,

**“nothing”** means death of messiah.

Israel rejects Jesus Christ as Messiah and has him crucified.

### **3. THIS IS FOLLOWED BY — A TIME GAP KNOWN AS ‘THE CHURCH AGE’**

TIME GAPS ARE VERY COMMON IN PROPHECY:

FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN (CHRIST’S FIRST COMING) ...THE GOVERNMENT WILL REST ON HIS SHOULDERS” (RELATED TO MESSIAH’S SECOND COMING.” (Is. 9:6)

“BEHOLD YOUR KING IS COMING TO YOU; HUMBLE AND MOUNTED ON A DONKEY, EVEN ON A COLT, THE FOAL OF A DONKEY”

(REFERRING TO MESSIAH’S TRIUMPHAL ENTRY DURING HIS FIRST COMING),

AND “HIS DOMINION WILL BE FROM SEA TO SEA, AND FROM THE RIVER TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH”

(RELATED TO MESSIAH’S SECOND COMING) (ZECH. 9:9-10).

THE TIME GAP BEGAN IN 32 A. D., AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF THE LAST SEVEN YEARS (THE SEVENTIEST SEVEN) BEFORE THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST.

SEVERAL EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THIS TIME:

THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM AND THE TEMPLE.

ALSO THE BEGINNING AND CONTINUATION OF THE CHURCH;

AND THE TEMPORARY REMOVAL OF ISRAEL FROM THE PLACE OF COVENANT BLESSING ENJOYED BY IT FROM THE TIME OF ABRAHAM (ROM. 11:25-27);

AND THE SUBSEQUENT INCLUSION OF THE GENTILES, UNTIL THEIR FULLNESS COMES IN.

### **4. FOLLOWED BY — ONE BAD WEEK: 70<sup>TH</sup> WEEK**

The 49 years or [7 weeks] is the time taken to rebuild Jerusalem.

The final 7 years [week] refers to the Tribulation period, in which Antichrist comes to power and God’s wrath is poured on in a series of final judgments.

Also during this time Israel as a nation is brought to faith in Jesus, their Messiah.

### **3. Establishment of the Tribulation (final week)**

<sup>27</sup>And **he** will make a firm covenant with the many for one week,  
 but in the middle of the week  
**he** will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering;  
 and on the wing of abomination  
 will come **one who makes desolate**,  
 even until a complete destruction,  
 one that is decreed,  
 is poured out on **the one who makes desolate**.

Dan. 9:27.

- Antichrist – prince of the people to come
- Antichrist makes a firm covenant the world to bring about peace.
  - This starts the 7-year Tribulation.
- In the middle [3 ½ years] antichrist breaks the peace treaty.  
 Israel is beguiled into thinking they will have peace.

Isa. 28:18 calls it “*AN AGREEMENT WITH HELL.*”

**THE GREAT TRIBULATION THEN COMMENCES: MATT. 24:15-28**

1. The Devil Rules the World through antichrist:
2. The Wrath of God is poured out exponentially.
3. Christ Returns with all His glory! (Game over!)

Peter has explained about prophets seeking to understand what they were prophesying. Notice Peter’s words of application:

“Therefore, prepare your minds for action,

keep sober in spirit,

fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you

at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 1:13).

**First**, prepare your minds.

If we are near to Christ's second coming, we should become aware of their meaning, significance and application in our lives.

**Second**, keep sober in spirit.

we should also attempt to do greater in our own lives as far as prayer, priorities, and heavenly goals.

**Third**, hope and long for Christ's Second Coming.

Peter speaks of *angels longing* to see the ultimate end of our salvation.

There is great significance for what angels long to understand.

What does your heart long for?

"We do not usually learn that Christ is all we need until we reach that place where He is all we have! Then He is all we want! As long as we have props to lean upon, we do not feel a desperate need of Him. Utter destitution brings complete dependence." Vance Havner

Peter says,

"... fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."