- Intro: <u>We are in Daniel 9</u>, where Daniel was praying that Israel would obey God and return to their land as King Darius would very soon make a decree that they could return.
  - \* <u>In v24-</u> <u>To answer Daniel's prayers</u>, God sent the angel Gabriel with another vision that told Daniel God had determined an overall time period of 490 years to finish Israel's future---,
    - --- which would end with Messiah coming to fulfill all of OT prophecy, and completely restore the nation, as He brought His kingdom to earth.
  - \* <u>Then from v25</u>, Gabriel began dividing this larger segment of 490 yrs, into **4 smaller time periods** that would bring significant events for the nation.

## 1<sup>st</sup>- Gabriel showed Daniel that the 490 years would begin with Artaxerxes decree

for the Jews to return to the land and rebuild the city of Jerusalem, and that this rebuild project would take 49 years. And history shows this to be perfectly accurate.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup>- In v25 Daniel learned that 483 years after the king's decree to rebuild the city, "the Anointed One", the Messiah would present Himself to the nation.

- This happened exactly 483 years later, as Jesus formally rode into the city on a donkey on Palm Sunday 32 AD, to receive praise from the people, all to fulfill Zech. 9:9.

3<sup>rd</sup>- <u>In v26 Gabriel showed Daniel that the next time period was a mystery</u> because it came AFTER the 483 years, but was before the final 7 years spoken about in v27, and this period of time was given no limit, no identifying number of years.

- <u>So we learned</u> from what Gabriel said, and other prophecies, that this is the church age.
- <u>It's the unknown</u> time period between Christ's 1<sup>st</sup> coming to die, and 2<sup>nd</sup> coming to reign.
- <u>This took place because</u> God was setting Israel aside and putting them on hold for the rest of history as we know it, <u>to discipline them</u> for fully rejecting their Messiah-----, <u>to take away their privilege</u> of being God's witness in the world, because of their sin---,
  - , <u>and to crush their pride</u>, for thinking God would never punish them, because they were His special people. (God taught them He is no respecter of persons)

## @ Now- after learning of this mystery period of time, In v26 Gabriel shows Daniel ---

#### C. WHAT HAPPENS TO ISRAEL IN THIS UNKNOWN ERA OF TIME. (26- read) 3 events.

#### <u>**1. The Messiah will be executed.</u>** (26a) <u>Gabriel describes this in 2 ways</u>.</u>

#### a. "The Anointed One will be cut off"

- , The Hebrew for "cut off" means "to kill", it was used to describe executing a criminal.
- , <u>So Gabriel told Daniel</u> that after Messiah presents Himself to the nation on the very day that would end the 483 yrs (69<sup>th</sup> week) Messiah would then be executed as a criminal.
- , <u>And just like Gabriel said</u>, Christ was crucified just 5 days later, on Friday, after being falsely accused and condemned to die on a Roman cross like a criminal.
- , <u>So not only did</u> Israel miss the point of Christ's formal entry into the city, they also missed this part of Gabriel's message, about "the Anointed One, the Ruler" being executed.
- , <u>The Jews were so pridefully</u> selfishly preoccupied with the coming of Messiah's kingdom, they were offended at the idea that their Messiah would die, and they miserably failed to explore, understand, and accept Ps 22, 69, Isaiah 53 and other passages.
- , In the NT, Paul later said -- "we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews".
- , <u>And this is the very reason</u> most of Christ's followers left Him in John 6, because He told them they had to be willing to "eat His flesh and drink His blood", which was a metaphor referring to the fact that He, their true Messiah, had come to die for sin.
- , <u>After resurrecting</u>, Jesus even rebuked His own disciples on the Emmaus Road for failing to understand He had to die for sin. (<u>Lk 24:25-27</u>)

#### b. Also, Gabriel described Messiah's death by saying- "He will have nothing".

- , <u>Jesus came to Israel</u>, God's chosen people, to be received, honored, and glorified as their rightful Messiah, for them to be saved and show Him to the world, but He got none of that.
- <u>John 1:10-11</u>- "He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to his own, but his own did not receive him."
- Q- "He got nothing He did deserve, and everything He didn't deserve. They gave Him a cross instead of a crown."

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> event-- Jerusalem will be overwhelmed and completely destroyed. (26b) >>>

### 2. Jerusalem will be overwhelmed and completely destroyed. (26b)

\* Here, Daniel learns - who will do this, what they will do, and how bad it would be.

### a. Who brings this destruction?- "the people of the ruler who will come".

- , This ruler is the final wicked king we learned about in ch. 7,8, (11). He is the antichrist.
- , <u>Daniel's visions of ch 2 and 7</u> show that this king comes from the final form of the 4<sup>th</sup> world Empire- which is Rome, who will rule the world in the end times.
- , But <u>v26 shows</u> this ruler "is to come", meaning he's not there when Messiah is crucified, but his people are there; <u>So Daniel learns</u>-- it's the Romans who destroy Jerusalem.

## b. What will the Romans do? -- "they will destroy the city and the sanctuary".

- , <u>Just as Gabriel said</u>, only 38 yrs after Christ died, the Romans attacked the Jews for their constant rebellion during a 4-year war (66-70 AD). <u>Josephus -- Historian Werner Keller-</u>
- Q- <u>The Romans</u> attack was an inferno almost unparalleled in history. The Jews had grown increasingly hostile toward the Romans. Finally in AD 66 a Jewish revolt broke out. <u>Nero</u> gave command of his troops to Titus, who in turn left His son Titus II, in charge, who came (70AD Passover) with 80,000 troops, who surrounded and laid siege to the city.

<u>Those who tried escaping</u> were crucified at the rate of 500 daily, until the nearby forests ran out of trees for crosses. Starvation was rampant, thousands of bodies were thrown over the walls, and many thousands more were piled up in alleys. People ate anything they could, leather belts and sandals, clothing, hay, corn stalks, and other unspeakable things.

<u>Once Titus</u> gained entrance to the city, 115,000 corpses were removed over 3 months. All survivors were sold into slavery, and the Romans went to other nearby cities where thousands of Jews were caught and had their throats cut, and many others were taken to Rome to die as gladiators in the Roman games. A total of 1.3 million were killed, and over 100,000 were sold into slavery. (from Mac. Notes- Dan. 9 - pg 30ff)

## NOTE 2 things.

- 1<sup>st</sup>- <u>Jesus promised this to Israel</u>, for their rejection of Him. (Lk 19:41-44)
  - , <u>He said</u> "not one stone will be left on another". <u>Titus' soldiers</u> burned the temple to melt all the gold, and dismantled every stone to get the run-off. (Perfectly fulfilled)
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- <u>Israel asked for this</u>. (Matt 27:21-25) They called for the murder of their Messiah and accepted full responsibility for it, and God held them to their word.

## c. Gabriel also described how bad this will be. - "The end will come like a flood".

- <u>To end of the 4-year war</u>, Rome came in like a flood and devasted and destroyed Jerusalem and its Temple, and killed or removed most all the Jews from their homeland.
- \* <u>Daniel knew</u> that soon the temple and city would be rebuilt, but he learned that far into the future, Israel will kill their Messiah, and the city + sanctuary would be destroyed again.

#### 3. "War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed". (26c)

- This statement has been fulfilled in basically 2 ways.
- a. This can refer to Rome's attack in 70 AD, which desolated the nation.

## b. It can also refer to Israel's future in the church age (and trib), before Christ's return.

- <u>The word for "war"</u> is general, not speaking of any 1 war, and the word "desolations" is plural, so this may include the future trouble Israel has suffered since the 1<sup>st</sup> century.
- <u>History shows</u> that since 70 AD, the Jews have been hated, hunted, harmed and killed in many places in the world, from that time until now.
- Q- <u>The word</u> "desolations" can also mean "to astonish". No other group in history has been as consistently astonished by violence, as Israel. (Mac- Future of Israel, p33)
- Q- In the 1<sup>st</sup> crusades (1096), the crusaders wanted to kill European Jews so they couldn't claim their homeland, so crossing Europe, they massacred many Jewish communities.
  <u>The 2<sup>nd</sup> crusades</u> of 1146 were equally bad. In France in 1236, three thousand Jews were deliberately trampled by horses. In 1290 Edward I ordered the Jews to leave England.
  <u>During the bubonic plague</u> of 1348, the Jews were accused of poisoning the wells that supposedly started the epidemic. Jews had to flee for safety to Poland and Russia.
  <u>Other hatreds</u> were pushed upon Jews in European countries, and the greatest one was the murder of 6 million Jews by Adolf Hitler.
- \* Now, as the church age is coming to a close and the tribulation approaches, antisemitism is rising sharply. Israel is being constantly attacked by Iran and their proxy terrorist groups, and when they defend themselves, they're branded as murderers.

(Hezbollah- Lebanon, the Hootie's in the SE, and Hamas in Gaza)

<u>Sum-</u> <u>The Jews have suffered much</u>, and Isaiah 2:4 tells us that when Jesus returns to set up His kingdom, there will be no more war. The Jews will be especially glad for that.

# IV. THE LAST TIME PERIOD OF 7 YEARS (1 week) (27- read)

- \* <u>In this last verse</u>, Gabriel explains the final <u>week or "7</u>" (7 yrs) of God's dealing with Israel in history, before Messiah returns to permanently restore all things.
- \* In this 7-year period, all kinds of activity will take place for the Jews and the world. (Rev 6-19)
- \* And the "He" of vs 27 is "the prince who is to come" of vs 26. This is the antichrist.
- \* We saw him described earlier as "the horn" of 7:20, and the "stern-faced king" of 8:23.
- \* In v27 Gabriel gives 4 events that come in relation to this prince. (3 he does, 1 is done to him)

# A. THE ANTICHRIST WILL CONFIRM A COVENANT WITH ISRAEL. (27a)

- \* According to Daniel 2 and 7, this final world ruler will arise from the revived Roman Empire.
- \* <u>As he progresses</u> to world power, he will make agreements with Israel to protect them.
- Q- Israel is the most hotly disputed land in the world.

The UN, Nato, the US, the EU, Russia, China, the Arab nations, and the Vatican, are all preoccupied with what happens to the land, especially the city of Jerusalem.

- \* <u>Israel became</u> a nation again in 1948, and has had to fight 3 different major wars to stay alive. The <u>1948 war</u> to hold independence, <u>1967-</u> 6 day war, the <u>1973</u> Yom Kippur war.
- \* And they've had to defend themselves constantly. (the latest- Oct. 7-2023 near Gaza)
- \* <u>Israel is tired</u> of fighting to survive, so when antichrist makes an agreement to protect them, they will jump at the chance, especially because he will allow them to rebuild their Temple.
- \* <u>This covenant</u> will be the start of the last period of 7 years in Israel's history before Messiah fully restores them at His 2<sup>nd</sup> coming. <u>This is the Tribulation period</u>.

## @ Notice - Gabriel says the covenant will be - "with many". What does that mean?

- 1. <u>It means that most of the Jews will want the agreement</u>, but probably not the Orthodox Jews, because they believe Israel should never make treaties with anyone.
- It may also refer to the fact that the UN and the Vatican want Jerusalem to be declared an international city, because it represents the world's 3 greatest ancient religions. (Christianity, Judaism, Islam- all which stemmed from Abraham)
  - <u>When antichrist</u> takes over the nation and the city, his agreement might include those other world political powers.

# B. IN THE MIDDLE OF THE 7 YEARS, ANTICHRIST BREAKS THE COVENANT. (27b)

- \* Gabriel says- "In the middle of the 'seven', he will put an end to sacrifice and offering".
- \* <u>As antichrist allows</u>- the Jews will finish the Temple early in the Trib, and worship there.
- \* <u>But by the 3 1/2 year mark</u>, antichrist will have gained full control of the world, his true colors will come out, his allegiance to the Jews will end, and he will stop their worship in the Temple, and completely turn on them.
- \* <u>From this point</u>, in the last 3 1/2 years of the tribulation, the antichrist will persecute the Jews like never before in history. Rev 12:13-17, refers to it as "a flood", just like v26.
- \* <u>When antichrist turns on them</u>, the Jews should have known this would happen-- because Isa 28:18 calls this covenant-- "a covenant with death", and "an agreement with hell".

### The 3<sup>rd</sup> event is--

## C. ANTICHRIST WILL THEN-- "SET UP THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION". (27c)

- \* <u>This is Gabriel's description</u> of how antichrist will defile the Jews temple in the same way Antiochus Epiphanies did in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC, as described in Daniel 8.
- \* <u>The word</u>- "Abomination" refers to something detestable, and the word "desolation" refers to destruction, so this is- <u>'The detestable destruction of Temple worship.'</u>
- \* And antichrist will perform this in the same way Antiochus IV did.
- \* <u>He will enter</u> the Jews Temple, stop and destroy everything that is used in their worship, and defile the Temple by setting himself up as God to be worshipped by the whole world.
- \* In Matt 24:15-22, Jesus told the disciples antichrist would do this (warning future Israel) . and it's also described in Daniel 7:25, 8:25, 11:36-37, 2 Thess 2:3-4, Rev. 13:4-6.
- Sum- What Satan has wanted to do since his rebellion and fall from heaven (receive worship), he will use the antichrist to accomplish, as the false prophet forms a 1 world religion to worship antichrist as God.

## Last -- D. ANTICHRIST WILL BE DESTROYED IN JUDGMENT. (27d)

# D. ANTICHRIST WILL BE DESTROYED IN JUDGMENT. (27d)

- \* Gabriel finished explaining this vision by describing the antichrist's end.
- \* Gabriel said- "he will continue on-- until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."
- <u>2 Thess 2:8</u>- "And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.

<u>Rev. 19:19-20-</u> " And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.

And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone."

## CONCLUSION- Note 3 things.

- <u>1. This prophecy was given to Daniel</u> some 500 years before Christ's first coming, and God described it all as a foregone conclusion.
  - This tells us we don't have to worry about the future. God is in control;
  - <u>Satan, his people</u>, and his wicked system of ungodliness in the world are on the losing side, and their time is coming as sure as the sun rose this morning.
  - <u>And because God keeps His promises</u>, you can be sure that if God fulfilled every detail of the first 69 weeks of Daniel's prophecy, He will surely fulfill the rest of it. **It's coming**.

## 2. Although God has severely chastened and set Israel aside during the church age ---,

<u>1 day He will restart</u> His plan for Israel and fulfill all His prophetic promises to them, as He protects and saves 1/3 of them from the antichrist and then brings them into their kingdom.

- <u>3. If you are lost without Christ</u>, don't wait for that 70<sup>th</sup> week, those last 7 years of tribulation, to think about being saved.
  - <u>Multiple millions</u> will be saved during that time, but life will devastating to those new believers, as antichrist demands the mark of the beast to buy or sell---
    - ---- and mounts his forces to seek to wipe out the memory of all the Jews and all believers from the earth.