



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Daniel's 70th Week

SPEAKER SP Daniel Foo

THEME Time of the End

DATE 30 & 31 January 2021

MESSAGE SUMMARY

THE PROPHECY OF DANIEL'S 70TH WEEK

SP taught about the prophecy of Daniel's 70th week, which can be gleaned from Daniel 9:24-26. The "70 weeks" in Daniel 9:24a refers to 70 weeks of years, with each day representing a year, so each week represents 7 years. These 70 weeks can be divided into three parts:

- First 7 weeks of years ($7 \times 7 = 49$ years), where Jerusalem was rebuilt and restored (Daniel 9:25, Ezra 1:1-2, Ezra 6:14).
- Next 62 weeks (434 years), marked by three events – crucifixion of Jesus Christ, destruction of Jerusalem and the temple, and an age marked with war and desolation (Daniel 9:26a).
- A suspension of judgement until the last week (7 years), which has yet to be fulfilled because Israel rejected the Messiah.

THE SUSPENSION OF THE 70TH WEEK

The 70th week, when Daniel 9:24 is fulfilled, has not yet happened because of Israel's rejection of the Messiah. They have been seeking a "political Messiah" to give them peace and rest. During Jesus' time, it was rest from the Roman occupation. Today, it is rest in their own land from enemies.

Israel rejected the Messiah on numerous counts:

- (1) Rejected John the Baptist
- (2) Rejected and crucified the Lord Jesus
- (3) Did not recognize the sign of His resurrection
- (4) Rejected Stephen's message (Acts 6-7)

The Kingdom of God (KOG) started with Israel (Exodus 19:5-6), but was given to the church to bear fruit (Matthew 21:43). The KOG will be restored to Israel after the rapture (Acts 15:13-18).

We belong to the church, who by God's grace, have been granted the fulfilment of Daniel 9:24.

THE 70TH WEEK IS NOT RELEVANT TO THE CHURCH

In teaching about the 70th week, SP highlights that there are prophecies that are not specifically for the church. It is important to discern which are for Jews, which for Gentiles and which for the church.

The prophecy in Daniel 9:24 is **not** for the church because:

- (1) Christ said that it is already finished (John 1:29, 19:30)
- (2) Christ was already made sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- (3) We are already reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:18)
- (4) We already possess God's righteousness (Romans 3:21-22)
- (5) We are already sealed with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13, 4:30)
- (6) We are already anointed (1 John 2:27)

From this, SP reminds us to appreciate the grace of God upon our lives.

THE SEAL, TRUMPET AND BOWL JUDGMENTS OF THE 70TH WEEK

Daniel's 70th week refers to the 7 years of tribulation. It is separated into two parts, each being three and a half years. The second half being worse than the first. Once the peace treaty with the anti-Christ is confirmed, the tribulation years begin (Daniel 9:27).

Lord Jesus opens the first scroll, which releases the seven seal judgments. The seven seal judgments (Revelation 6:1-8:1) then release the seven trumpet judgments (Revelation 8:1-11:19). Several events surround the mid-tribulation such as war in Heaven (Revelation 12:7-12) and Satan going after the remnants, who God will hide (Revelation 12:1-6, 13-17). Finally, the bowl judgments will occur in the final three and a half years (Revelation 15:1-16:21).

In the final three and a half years, those remaining on earth would have to make one of two choices:

- (1) Either take the Mark of the Beast to live through the tribulation but incur God's wrath and end up in the Lake of Fire; or
- (2) Become a tribulation saint and be martyred

There is a contrast between the raptured church and tribulation saints. The raptured are overcomers of gates of hell (Matthew 16:18). The tribulation saints will be overcome by the religious beast (Revelation 13:7).

CONCLUSION

In closing, SP points us to the battle of Gog and Magog (Ezekiel 38-39), which would result in the appearance of the anti-Christ (AC). After the church is raptured, the AC will be fully revealed (2 Thess 2:3, 6-7). The tribulation years would be terrible times, getting increasingly so in the last three and a half years. During which, people will die for their faith. Yet, in God's mercy, a great multitude will come to know the Lord by the 144,000 evangelists and two witnesses (Revelation 7:9, 14, 14:6).

Understanding Daniel's 70th week gives us a deeper appreciation of the Cross and the grace and mercy of God on the church. It reminds us that our choices affect our destiny. Echoing Deuteronomy 30:19, SP exhorts us to "choose life that both you and your descendants may live."

QUESTIONS

1. How is the prophecy in Daniel 9:24 for Israel but not for the Church?

2. 2 Thessalonians 2:6-7 tells us that the Church is now restraining the lawlessness which is already at work. Have you been the salt & light for Christ by “restraining lawlessness” in your circle of influence? What are some of your struggles? How do you think we can overcome them?

3. In the Great Tribulation years, all remaining on earth has 2 choices to make:
A. either take the Mark of the Beast to live through the tribulation but incur the wrath of God to end up in the Lake of Fire; OR
B. become a Tribulation Saint and be martyred

Both choices require one to go through great sufferings and persecutions. It is much easier for one to make the choice early in the window of grace (right now). Have you led someone to Christ before? If yes, share your journey. If not, is there a loved one that you would want to share the good news with? What can you do for this loved one?