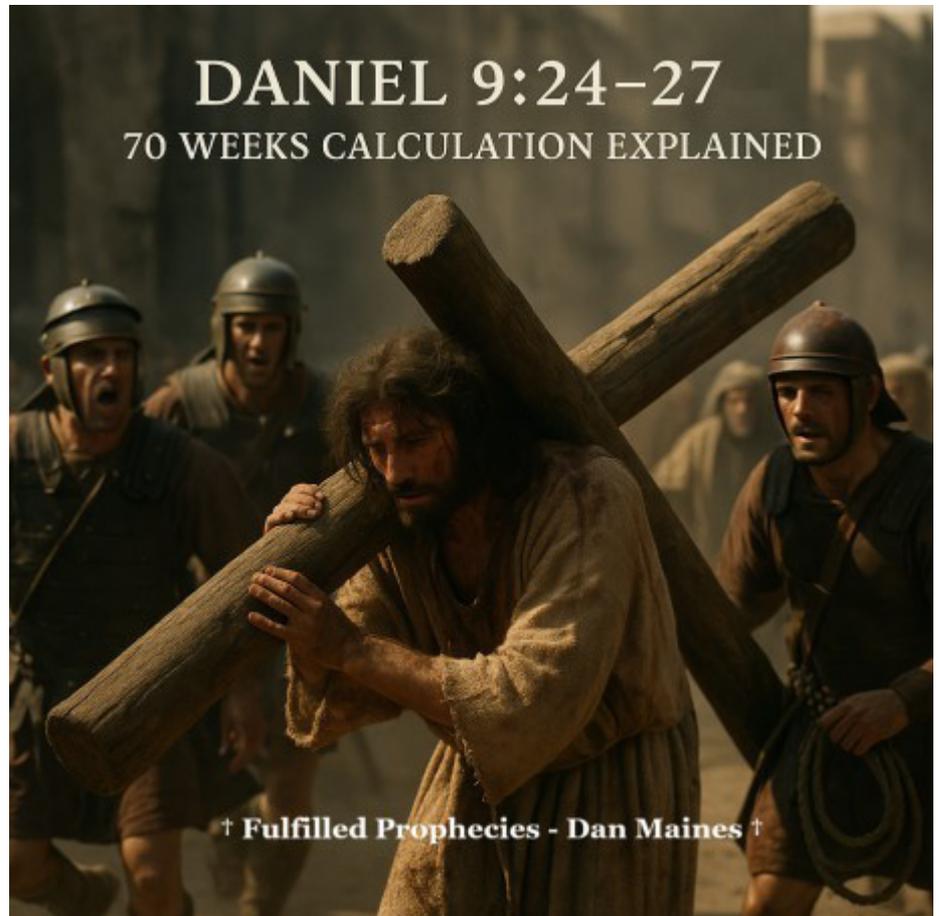


# Fulfilled Prophecies

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## Daniel 9:24-27 – 70 Weeks Calculation Explained



By Dan Maines

## Daniel 9:24-27 – 70 Weeks Calculation Explained

**Daniel's 70 weeks began with the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem (around 457 BC, Ezra 7).**

† Each "week" represents 7 years, so 70 weeks = 490 years total (Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6).

† From 457 BC, count 69 weeks (7 + 62 = 483 years), that brings us to about AD 27-30, the time of Christ's baptism and crucifixion (Luke 3:13, 21-23; John 19:16-18).

† The 70th week (the final 7 years) was when Christ confirmed

the covenant (Daniel 9:27). In the middle of that week (after 3½ years), He was "cut off," ending the sacrifices (Hebrews 9:15-26; Matthew 27:50-51).

† Isaiah 53:8-11 supports the Messiah being cut off for the sins of His people, harmonizing with Daniel 9:26.

† The remaining 3½ years extended to the gospel's confirmation to Israel (Acts period), ending when judgment fell on Jerusalem in AD 70 (Acts 1:8; Acts 7:51-60; Matthew 23:37-38).

† So the 70 weeks point directly from Jerusalem's restoration to Christ's death and end in the city's destruction, complete fulfillment by AD 70 (Luke 21:20-22).

### † **The Starting Point – 457 BC**

† Ezra 7 records Artaxerxes' decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem, which included civil and religious restoration. This fits Daniel 9:25 exactly (Ezra 7:7-26; Nehemiah 2:18).

### † **The 69 Weeks (483 Years)**

† From 457 BC, counting 483 years brings you to AD 27-30, right when Jesus began His ministry and was crucified after the 62 weeks. That's why it says the Messiah would be cut off (Daniel 9:26; Luke 3:23; John 19:30).

### † **The 70th Week**

† During the final week, Jesus confirmed the covenant with many (Daniel 9:27; Matthew 26:28). In the middle of the week, He was cut off, ending the need for sacrifices. That's His death at the cross around AD 30 (Hebrews 10:9-14).

† Hebrews 9:26 reinforces that Christ's sacrifice occurred at the end of the ages, showing that Daniel's prophecy reached its conclusion in that generation.

### † **The Second Half of the Week**

† The remaining 3½ years completed the full 7year covenant confirmation period, as the gospel continued going out primarily to Israel until the nation's final rejection (Acts 2:36-39; Acts

3:25-26; Acts 13:46).

### † **From the Cross to AD 70**

† The 3½ years was the second half of the 70th week, not a span stretching from the Cross to the destruction of Jerusalem.

† The first 3½ years of that final week were from Christ's baptism to His death. He was "cut off in the middle of the week" (Daniel 9:27). The remaining 3½ years extended through the ministry of the apostles as the covenant was confirmed to Israel before it turned to the Gentiles (Acts 2–7).

† When we say it's not referring to a "gap" between the Cross and the destruction of Jerusalem, we simply mean the 3½ years of the second half of the 70th week does not extend all the way from the Cross (AD 30) to AD 70, that's 40 years, not 3½.

† The 70 weeks themselves are continuous, no interruptions, no missing years. The "middle of the week" is the Cross (about AD 30), and the second 3½ years finishes around AD 33–34. That completes the 490-year prophetic period.

† Everything after that, up to AD 70, is still part of the same historical outcome Daniel described ("desolations determined"), but not part of the 70 weeks' count. The prophecy's purpose was to measure the time until the covenant was confirmed and sin was atoned for (Daniel 9:24), not to extend the week all the way to Jerusalem's fall.

† So, to restate clearly: there is no gap in the 70 weeks. The 70th week runs from Christ's baptism to about AD 33–34. The destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 is the final outworking of that prophecy's fulfillment, not a separate or "gapped" event.

† After that, there was a period of continued rebellion and persecution leading up to AD 70, which was the outpouring of judgment Daniel's prophecy ends with. The 70th week was complete by around AD 33–34, and the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 was the final act of judgment that brought the prophecy to its visible fulfillment.

### † **Fulfillment in AD 70**

† The prophecy ends with the desolation of the temple and city.

That's exactly what happened in AD 70, when Rome destroyed Jerusalem, ending the Old Covenant system forever (Matthew 24:12; Luke 21:56; Hebrews 8:13).

† Everything fits without gaps or speculation, the 70 weeks lead straight from the restoration decree to the cross, then to the temple's destruction in AD 70. Fulfilled perfectly (Matthew 5:17; Luke 21:22).

### **Why the 70 Weeks End Before AD 70**

That's a very good question, and it's one that has caused confusion even among those who agree the prophecy is fulfilled. The key lies in understanding what the 70 weeks were meant to measure and what Daniel said would happen after those 490 years.

Here's the clear explanation, backed by Scripture and timing:

### **The 70 weeks (490 years) measure covenant fulfillment, not destruction**

Daniel 9:24 says the 70 weeks were "determined for your people and your holy city" to accomplish six specific things:

† to finish 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.

† All of those were fulfilled by Christ's ministry and death, not by Jerusalem's destruction. His atonement (AD 30) and the gospel's confirmation to Israel (ending around AD 33–34)

completed the prophetic purpose. That's what the 70 weeks measured.

† The 70 weeks ended around AD 33–34, when the covenant was fully confirmed and the gospel turned from Israel to the nations (Acts 7:51–60; Acts 13:46).

### **AD 70 was the result, not part of the 70 weeks**

Daniel 9:26–27 makes a distinction between the end of the 70th week and the destruction that follows:

† Verse 26: "After the sixtytwo weeks the Messiah will be cut off..." that's the Cross.

† "...and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary." that's Rome in AD 70.

† Notice it says "after," not "during." The destruction happens after the 70 weeks have achieved their purpose.

† AD 70 is the final outworking and visible judgment Daniel predicted, but it's not part of the 490year time count. The 70 weeks ended with covenant completion; the destruction was the final confirmation that Israel's old system had passed away (Hebrews 8:13).

### **Why many extend it to AD 70**

† Many extend it to AD 70 because they assume the prophecy must include the city's destruction as part of the timeline. But the text doesn't say the desolation happens within the 70 weeks, it happens after them.

† Daniel 9:27 ends the 70th week with the covenant confirmed and sacrifices stopped. Then it says, "on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate." That's the Roman invasion years later.

† AD 70 fulfills the final stage of Daniel's prophecy, but the 70 weeks themselves end decades earlier, right after the gospel's confirmation to Israel.

**† The 70 weeks (490 years): 457 BC to AD 33–34 Covenant completed in Christ.**

**† After the 70 weeks: Roman destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 Judgment confirming the prophecy's end.**

† The difference is between what the 70 weeks measure (redemption) and what follows (judgment).  
In short: the 70 weeks end around AD 33–34, but the prophecy finds its final historical outcome in AD 70, the destruction that proved it was all fulfilled.

### **Historical References**

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6, describes the destruction of the temple in AD 70 as the final desolation foretold by Daniel.

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3, connects the fall of Jerusalem with the fulfillment of Christ's prophecies.

### **How it applies to us today**

† This prophecy proves God's perfect timing and faithfulness. Christ's covenant was confirmed and completed exactly as foretold (Hebrews 9:15; Galatians 3:16-17). We now live in the everlasting New Covenant, where the temple is no longer made with hands but is the body of believers in Christ (2 Corinthians 6:16; Ephesians 2:19-22).

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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### **Source Index**

† Daniel 9:24-27; Ezra 7:7-26; Nehemiah 2:18; Isaiah 53:8-11;

Matthew 24:12; Luke 21:20-22; Hebrews 8:6-13; Hebrews 9:15-26; Hebrews 9:26; Hebrews 10:9-14; Acts 2–7; Acts 7:51–60; Acts 13:46

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3

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