

Junior Discussion Plan

Year 2 Quarter 2 Week 8

Aim: The prophecy of the Messiah

Refer: The Great Controversy chapter 14, Daniel 5, 9

Have Ready: Whiteboard & pen or PowerPoint file

This section can be done as the following or by using the supplied PowerPoint file

This is a summary of the chapters in the book of Daniel

Daniel 1 – King's food

Daniel 2 – Dream of the statue

Daniel 3 – Golden statue and fiery furnace

Daniel 4 – Dream about the tree

Daniel 5 – Writing on the wall

Daniel 6 – Lion's den

Daniel 7 – Vision of the 4 beasts

Daniel 8 – Vision of the Ram and Goat

Now we will look at chapter 9

Read Daniel 9:1-3 to set the scene

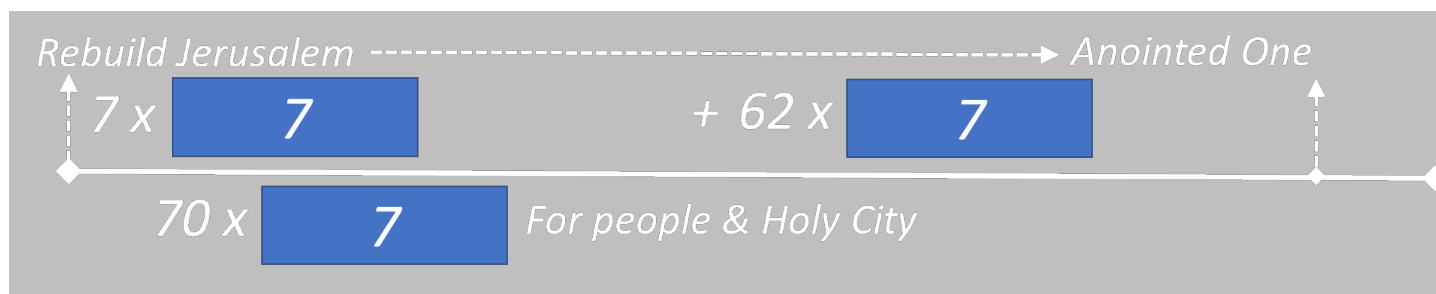
Daniel prays to God, praising God for His faithfulness and righteousness, and acknowledging that Israel had sinned and that they deserved their punishment. As Daniel is praying, the angel Gabriel appears to him at the time of the evening sacrifice.

Start reading from verse 24, writing a summary on the whiteboard at the same time:

Verse 24: Draw a line across the screen and write 70×7 or 70 weeks below it.



Verse 25: Above the line write $7 \times 7 + 62 \times 7$



Verse 26: Read verse 26

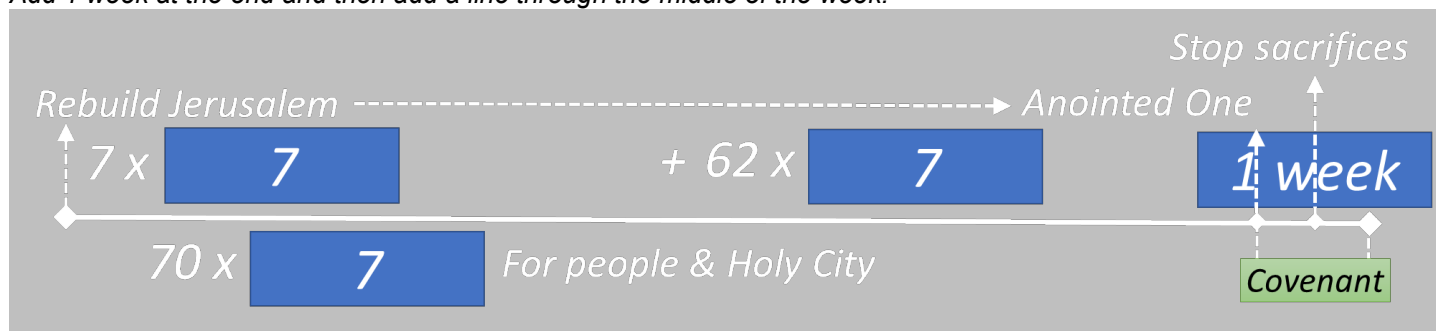
We are going to switch to the NASB version of the Bible here because it is easier to understand. (ASB & NKJV also ok)

Verse 27 says: And He (the Anointed One) will confirm a 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 abominations will come the one who makes desolate, until a complete destruction..."

Add 1 week at the end and then add a line through the middle of the week.

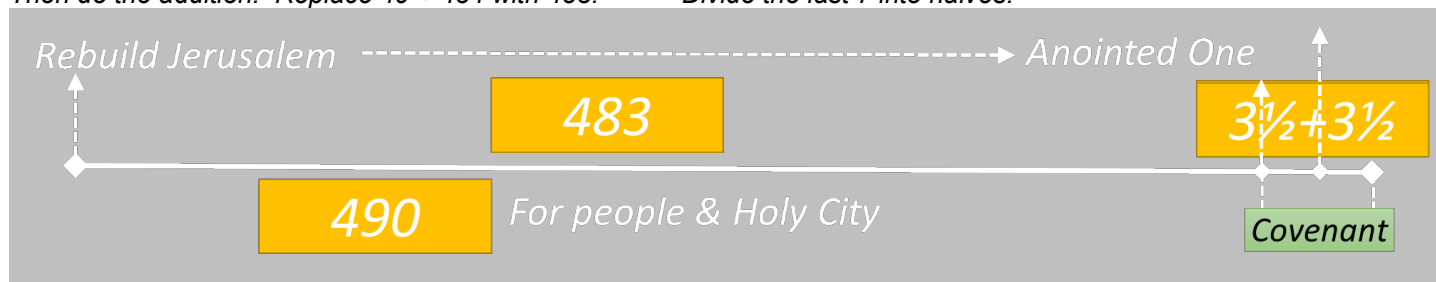


The New Testament was originally written in Greek and has then been translated into English by various individuals and groups. When you are doing a serious Bible study, or when you find a verse that is hard to understand, it can be very helpful to look at multiple translations, remember that every verse must agree with the rest of the Bible and most importantly pray for God to help us understand the meaning of the Bible.

Do the multiplications: $7 \times 7 = 49$...

Then do the addition. Replace $49 + 434$ with 483.

Divide the last 7 into halves.



God told the prophet Ezekiel to act out a number of prophecies, and God told Ezekiel to act out 1 day for every year of the prophecy.

In Ezekiel 4:1-6 God said:

...take a large clay brick and set it down in front of you. Then draw a map of the city of Jerusalem on it. Show the city under siege... Now lie on your left side and place the sins of Israel on yourself ...one day for each year of their sin.

After that, turn over and lie on your right side for 40 days—one day for each year of Judah's sin.

Bible scholars have found that the same principal, 1 day for each year, also applies to other prophecies in the Bible.

So when the prophecy says that something will happen for so many days, it means that in real life it will happen for so many years. We can see from our chart that:

483 years after the command to rebuild Jerusalem, the Anointed One would appear.

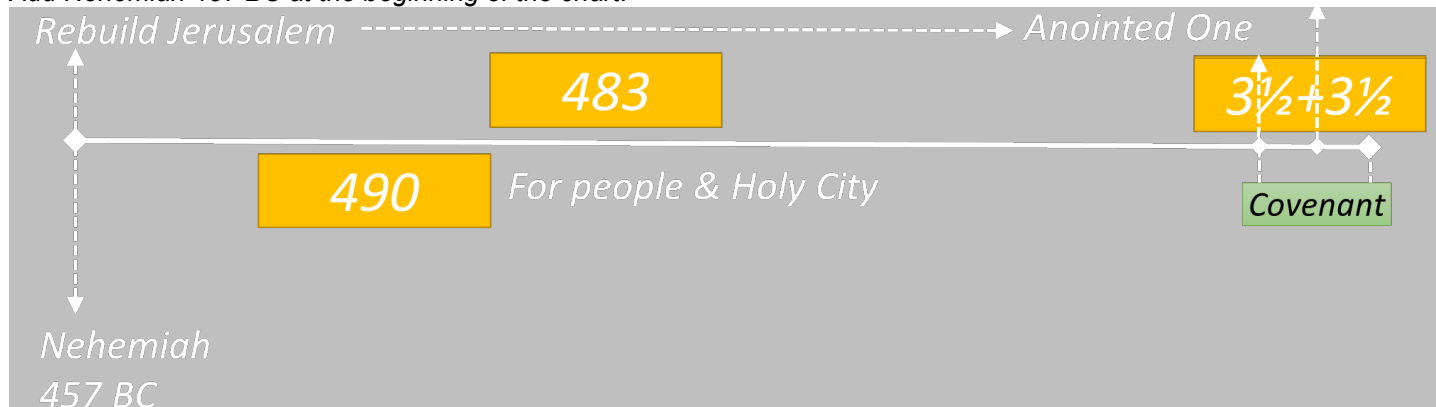
$3 \frac{1}{2}$ years later the sacrifices would stop.

$3 \frac{1}{2}$ years left for the Holy City to end their rebellion and sin etc.

When does the prophecy start? (When the command to rebuild Jerusalem is given)

The command to rebuild the city of Jerusalem is recorded in the book of Nehemiah – we will be studying Nehemiah's story in 4 weeks time. This occurred in 457BC (Nehemiah 2:1-6)

Add Nehemiah 457 BC at the beginning of the chart.



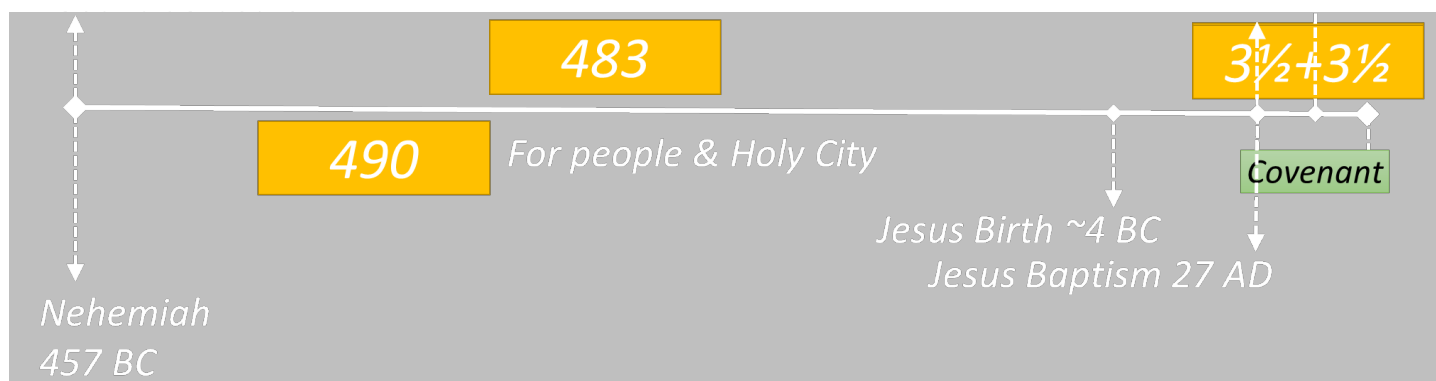
The calendar system that we most commonly use today is called the Gregorian calendar. The years before Jesus' birth are called BC meaning 'Before Christ' or BCE meaning 'Before Common Era' and count down as they get closer to Jesus' birth and the years after are called AD, which is Latin for 'the year of our Lord' or CE for 'Common Era' and count up from then till now.

If you go forward 483 years from 457 BC you come to 27 AD (Note: $457 + 27 - 1$ (because there is no year 0) = 483)

Extend the line at the beginning of the covenant and write 27 AD there.

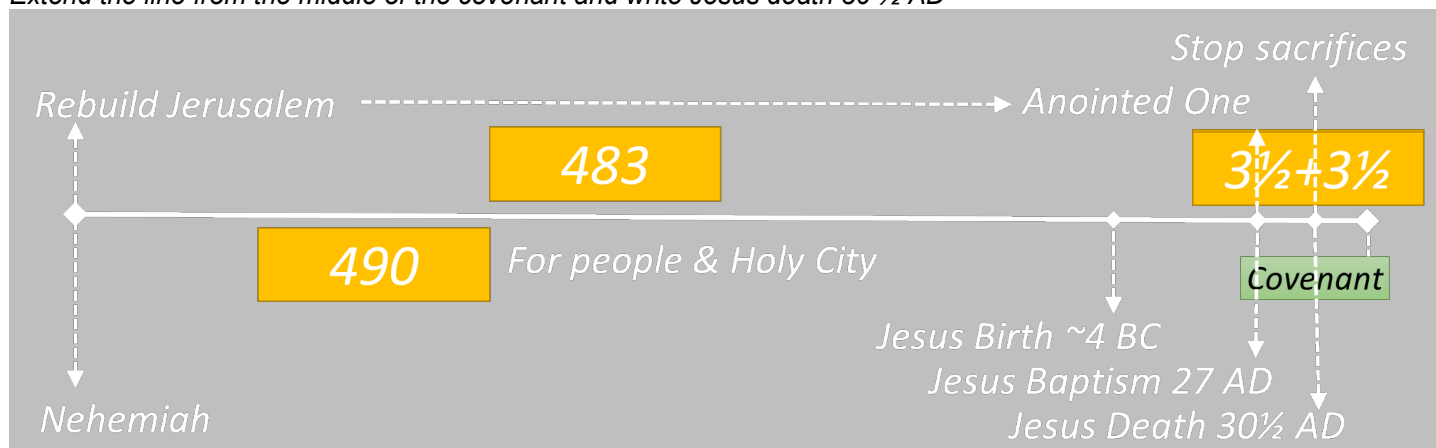
Jesus was baptized 27 AD. That is when He began His official ministry on earth as the Messiah or Anointed One. Numbers 4 tells us that the Priests began their ministry in the temple at the age of 30 so we believe that Jesus was probably 30 when He started His ministry.

Therefore, Jesus birth would have actually been around 4BC



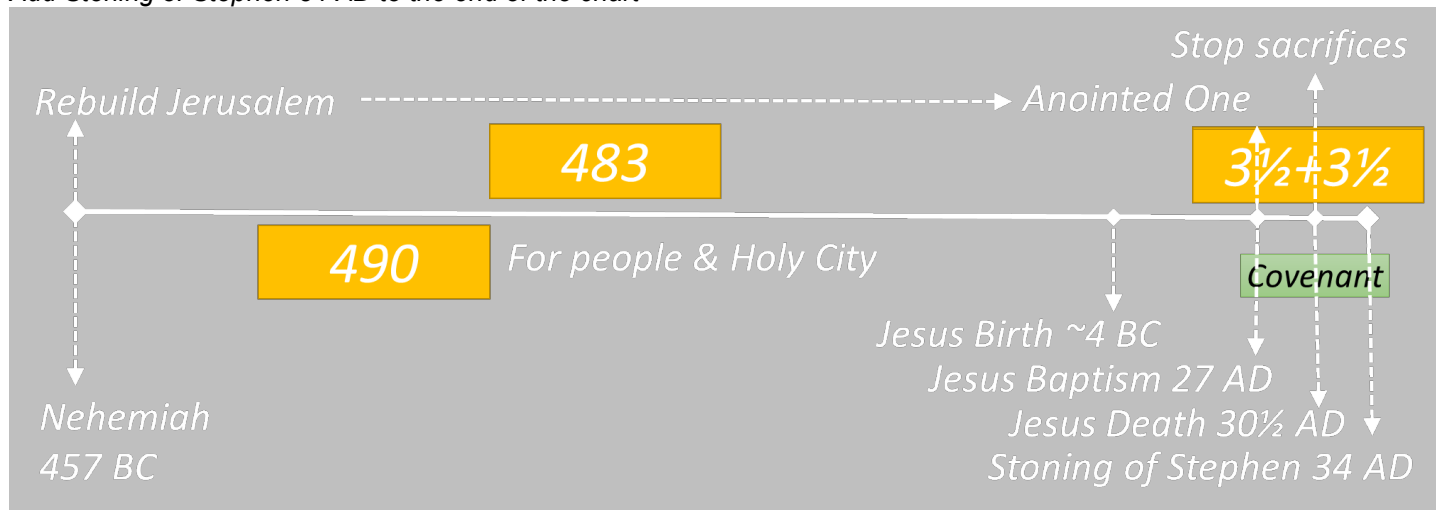
When Jesus died the curtain in the temple that separated the Most Holy place from the Holy Place was torn open to show the earthly Sanctuary and its' sacrifices were no longer needed. (Matthew 15:37) – Jesus was the final sacrifice.

Extend the line from the middle of the covenant and write Jesus death 30 ½ AD



During His ministry, Jesus sometimes sent His followers out to preach in other towns, but He told them in Matthew 10:5 to only go to the Jewish towns. It was after the stoning of Stephen, when the followers of Jesus fled from Jerusalem that the Gospel was taken other nations. This was the end of the time that the Jews had specifically been given, but unfortunately, the leaders of the day chose NOT to put an end to their rebellion and sin.

Add Stoning of Stephen 34 AD to the end of the chart



Remember that when Daniel was given this prophecy, it was a future prophecy. In fact, Daniel didn't live to see it happen. But for us, we can look back and see exactly how the prophecy was fulfilled. It helps us to know that God is in control. And if God says it will happen, then it will.

William Tyndale found God while studying a Greek Bible and became a strong supporter of the scriptures. He became a travelling preacher but was frustrated when the priests would undo his work after he had left; he realised if the people had their own Bibles they could study and test the truths for themselves.

One day someone argued with him, "We were better to be without God's laws than the Pope's." Tyndale replied: "I defy the pope and all his laws; and if God spare my life, ere many years I will cause a boy that driveth the plough to know more of the Scripture than you do." (GC refers: --Anderson, Annals of the English Bible, page 19.)

There had been no printing presses when John Wycliffe translated the first English Bible from Latin almost 150 years earlier - it was copied by hand. Now Tyndale determined to translate the Greek Bible into the English of the common people so even the poorest could understand. He was soon forced to flee and seek shelter in Germany, where more than once, he had to move but finally the Bibles were printed and smuggled into England.

One time, the Bishop of Durham, trying to stop the spread of Bibles, by purchasing all the Bible for sale; what he didn't realised was the money he paid enabled Tyndale to print even more Bibles. When Tyndale was arrested and ordered to tell who paid for the printing, he said the Bishop helped most!

Tyndale became a martyr, but the influence of his Bibles could not be stopped. It was around this time that the Church of England was created as the countries official church and while many of the doctrines of Rome were renounced, much of the style of worship was kept and the king of England was declared the head of the church rather than the Pope. Religious freedom was still forbidden and the principal salvation through Jesus rather than by works was gradually lost again.

John and Charles Wesley were born in the early 1700's; they found the truth when they experienced a violent storm on a ship and saw the peace of a group of Moravians – a church founded on the teachings of John Huss. For years they had been working to earn God's salvation; now, after much study, they realised that they had salvation through Jesus as a gift of God.

They spent the rest of their lives sharing this truth with the people of England. Their followers became known as the Methodists. The life of the Methodists was not easy as they were often persecuted and beaten, and their property was damaged and stolen. John Wesley wrote that God saved him from death several times: One time, a mob tried to push him over and trample him, but he did not fall; someone in the mob tried to hit him over the head with a large stick, but he kept missing. At other times he was punched or hit with stones, but God worked miracles and he felt no pain at all!
