

2300 DAY PROPHECY

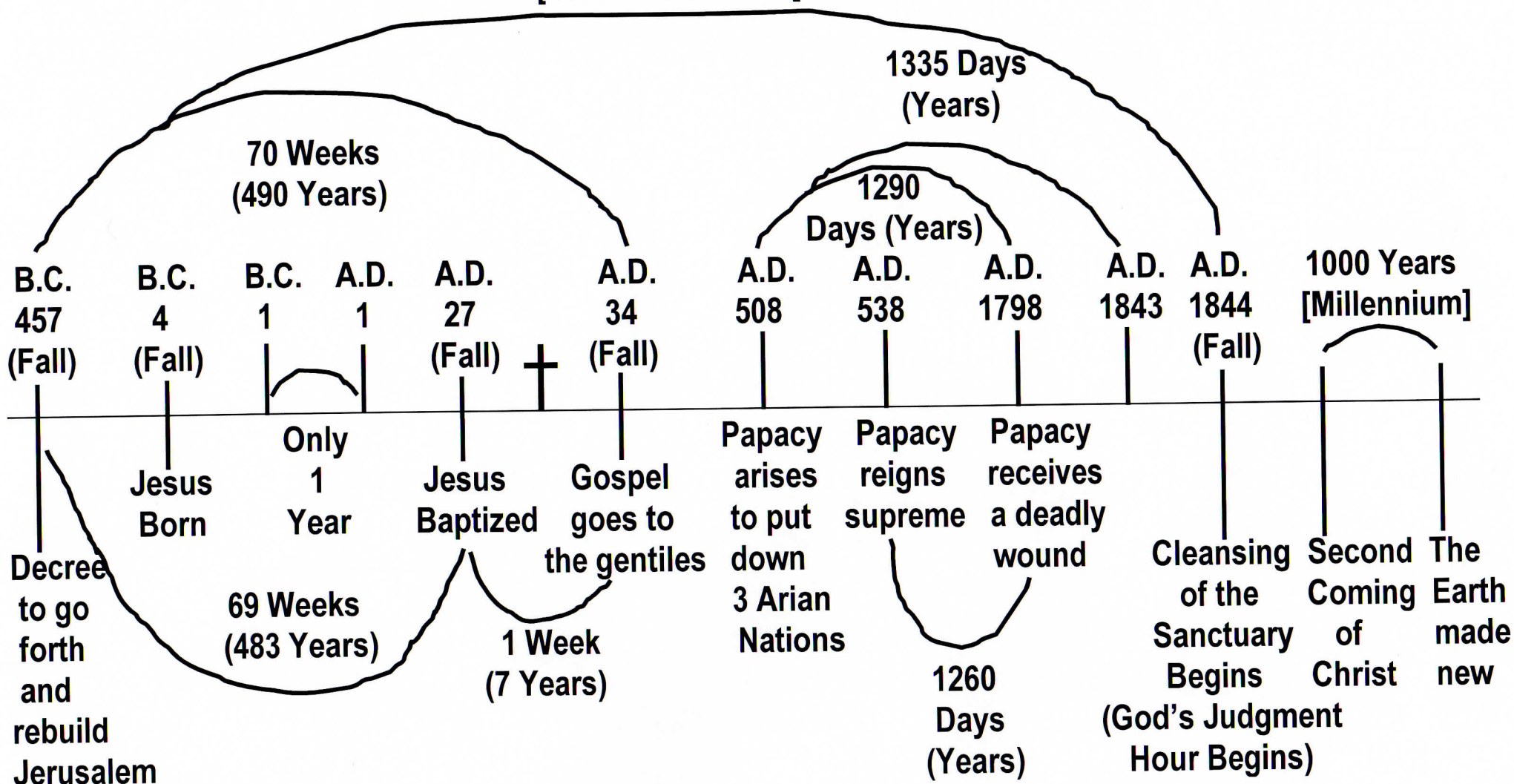
- 1 * Daniel 8:1-12 Vision of the world empires and the "little horn" which casts down the place of God's sanctuary
- 2 * Daniel 8:18-25 The interpretation of the vision
- 3 * Daniel 8:13-17 The sanctuary cleansed in 2300 days
- 4 Ezekiel 4:6 I have appointed thee each day for a year
- 5 * Daniel 8:26-27 Shut up the vision; none understood it
- 6 * Daniel 9:21-27 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people
[refer back to Study #2 "The Messiah" time chart to see that the 70 prophetic weeks are actually 490 literal years from 457 B.C. to 34 A.D. and that Jesus fulfilled that 70th week]
- 7 * Ezra 7:6-11 The commandment to go forth and rebuild Jerusalem-457 B.C. in the Fall-the only decree which restores the civil state and agrees with Christ's death
- 8 * Daniel 9:23-24 Strong's Concordance-Dictionary: 70 weeks are determined - Hebrew: Chathak (Khaw-thak') meaning-"cut off". Seventy weeks are determined, set aside, cut off from the earlier vision of 2300 days. See the color handout "The Five Links That Tie Daniel 8 to Daniel 9". There were no chapter divisions in the original Hebrew text. Since the 70 week messianic prophecy is beautifully fulfilled by applying the Bible principle of a prophetic day equaling a literal year, and since the 70 weeks are "cut off" from the previous vision of 2300 days, then to be consistent, we would have to apply a day for a year to the 2300 day prophecy also. This would become 2300 literal years of time beginning at 457 B.C. (Fall) [see time chart].
- 9 * Hebrews 9:23-28 Heavenly things purified with better sacrifices than the earthly
- 10 * Hebrews 9:2-3, 11-12 By His own blood Christ entered in once into the Holy Place
- 11 * Daniel 12:4-13 The time of the end of the 2300 Day prophecy
- 12 * Revelation 14:6-7 The hour of His judgement is come
- 13 * Daniel 7:8-14 I beheld till the thrones were cast down (placed)
- 14 * James 2:10-12 We shall be judged by the Law of Liberty
- 15 * Ecc. 12:13-14 Fear God and keep His commandments; every work is judged
- 16 * Rev. 22:11-21 The close of probation and the second coming of Christ

2300 DAY PROPHECY TIME CHART

1 Prophetic day = 1 Literal year
Numbers 14:34 & Ezekiel 4:5-6

Unto two thousand and three hundred days;
then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. Daniel 8:13-17

2300 Prophetic Days
[2300 Literal Years]



The 2300 Days of Daniel 8

Adventists accept the fact that in Daniel 8:14, where it mentions “days” (in literal Hebrew-"ereb boqer"), it literally is translated "evenings-mornings". The term “evenings-mornings” is used in other places in the Old Testament (see Genesis 1:5- “the evening and the morning were the first **day**”). Knowing that in other places in the Old Testament this term is translated properly as “day” or “days”, the Bible translators would be correct in translating it as “days” in Daniel 8:14. This would mean no other number of days than 2300 days indeed. Expositors and Commentators of the Bible for centuries have tried various methods of explaining the fulfillment of this prophecy. One of the most popular explanations is that the 2300 days are literal days in prophecy and that this prophecy was fulfilled during the days of Antiochus IV Epiphanes. The following is taken from the Encyclopedia Britannica:

When Antiochus returned from Egypt in **167** he took Jerusalem by storm and enforced its Hellenization. The city forfeited its privileges and was permanently garrisoned by Syrian soldiers. The Greeks and those friendly toward them were united into the community of Antiochians; the worship of Yahweh and all of the Jewish rites were forbidden on pain of death. In the Temple an altar to Zeus Olympios was erected, and sacrifices were to be made at the feet of an idol in the image of the King. Against that desecration, Judas Maccabeus, leader of the anti-Greek Jews, led the aroused Hasideans in a guerrilla war and several times defeated the generals Antiochus had commissioned to deal with the uprising. Judas refused a partial amnesty, conquered Judaea with the exception of the Acra in Jerusalem, and in December **164** was able to tear down the altar of Zeus and reconsecrate the Temple. This deed is celebrated in the Jewish festival of lights, Hanukka.

All attempts to fit ‘Antiochus Epiphanes’ desecration of the Jewish temple into 2300 literal “evenings and mornings” have failed. The most nearly contemporary account in First Maccabees 1:54-59 and First Maccabees 4:52-54 is overwhelmingly precise in stating that he interrupted the temple services for three years and ten days [from the Jewish month Chislev 15, 168 B.C. to Chislev 25, 165 B.C.]. This time of the earthly temple’s desecration would be 1090 days (if you figure there are 360 days to a calendar year) or 1105 days (if there are 365 days to a calendar year). Neither total of days matches the 2300 days of the prophecy. If the meaning of Daniel’s 2300 “evenings-mornings” was 1150 evenings plus 1150 mornings (1150 literal days) instead, the 1105 days of earthly temple desecration still would not match the Biblical account.

God could have said 1090 days, or 1105 days, or any number He chose, but **His** prophecy would be accurate **to the day**. It is reasonable to conclude that, since the historical event mentioned above does not match the 2300 day (6.3 years) time period, then the 2300 day time prophecy cannot be fulfilled by that event, but must refer to something else. The truth is Bible expositors cannot find any good and accurate fulfillment of this 2300 day prophecy in history which has to do with the **earthly** Jewish temple.

Several places in the Bible, prophets used a **day** to represent a **literal year** (refer to Numbers 14:34 & Ezekiel 4:5-6). Since a Bible principle has been set, Christian scholars use this precedent to help Christians everywhere understand other time prophecies in the Bible, such as Daniel 9, the great Messianic prophecy of 70 weeks (490 literal years), which is accepted by most all fundamental Bible believing denominations. A common and well known principle of Bible understanding is that a Bible passage is to be taken as literal **unless** no literal sense can be made of the passage; **then** it may be understood as having a possible **figurative (or symbolic)** meaning. Good theologians of all denominations apply this principle of Bible understanding constantly. For example, see commentaries on Revelation's "four horsemen of the Apocalypse" or the Beasts of Daniel 7 where these passages are rightly understood **figuratively**. Why should it then be thought false prophecy or a heretical concept when this same Bible principle is used to understand the 2300 days of Daniel's prophecy in a **figurative** sense, especially when no other reasonable understanding can be found. The application of the 2300 evenings and mornings (or literally days) could be understood to represent a **day for a year**, or **2300 literal years**, reaching down to the time of the end. This prophecy, when understood in relation to the final cleansing (literally in the Hebrew-"putting right") of the temple **in heaven** by the investigation and judgement concerning the books of record of all human lives (so that those with whom we'll be living for eternity will be satisfied as to who constitutes the saints and who really are unfit for eternal life), makes good sense. God does not want any angel having any question in their minds as to whom Jesus will be resurrecting (or not resurrecting) when He comes to rapture His church.

As long ago as 1733, Sir Isaac Newton, the celebrated scientist who first explained the operation of gravity, was also a serious student of Bible prophecy and world history. He wrote the following notice about the prophecies of Daniel, chapters 8 and 9, and this theory of Antiochus Epiphanes:

This horn was at first a little horn, and waxed exceeding great, but so did not Antiochus. It is described great above all former horns, and so was not Antiochus. His (Antiochus') kingdom, on the contrary, was weak and tributary to the Romans, and he did not enlarge it. The horn was a king of fierce countenance, and destroyed wonderfully, and prospered and practiced; that is, he prospered in his practices against the holy people: but Antiochus was frightened out of Egypt by a mere message of the Romans, and afterwards routed and baffled by the Jews.

The horn was mighty by another's power; Antiochus acted on his own. The horn stood up against the Prince of the host of heaven, the Prince of Princes; and this is the character not of Antiochus but of Antichrist. The horn cast down the Sanctuary to the ground, and so did not Antiochus; he left it standing.

The Sanctuary and Host were trampled under foot 2300 days; and, in Daniel's prophecies, days are put for years: but the profanation of the Temple in the reign of Antiochus did not last for so many natural days. These were to last till the time of the end, till the last end of the indignation against the Jews; and this indignation is not yet at an end. They were to last till the Sanctuary which had been cast down should be cleansed, and the Sanctuary is not yet cleansed. **Newton's *Daniel and the Apocalypse*, page 222.**

THE FIVE LINKS THAT TIE DANIEL 8 TO DANIEL 9

DANIEL 8

THE RAM = MEDO-PERSIA
 THE HE-GOAT = GREECE
 THE LITTLE HORN = ROME (IN BOTH PHASES — PAGAN AND PAPAL)

THE ANGEL GABRIEL DECLARED THAT THE VISION WOULD REACH ITS CLIMAX IN THE FAR DISTANT FUTURE — AT “THE TIME OF THE END” ... (V.18)

DOUBTLESS DUE TO THE PROPHET’S EXHAUSTION, THE EXPLANATION WAS SUSPENDED AT A VITAL PHASE, AND DANIEL WAS INSTRUCTED TO TEMPORARILY “SHUT UP THE VISION” (V.26)

THE PRINCIPAL DETAIL LEFT UNEXPLAINED WAS A TIME PROPHECY — THE MYSTERIOUS “2300 DAYS” OF VERSE 14.

THEREFORE THE PROPHET REMAINED IN A STATE OF FRUSTRATION AND PERPLEXITY — HOPING THAT THE EXPLANATION WOULD BE CONTINUED AT AN EARLY DATE. “I WAS ASTONISHED AT THE VISION,” HE SAYS, “BUT NONE UNDERSTOOD IT.” (V.27)

DANIEL 9

“THE MAN GABRIEL” (V.21)

“WHOM I HAD SEEN IN THE VISION AT THE BEGINNING” (V.21)

“I AM NOW COME FORTH TO GIVE THEE SKILL AND UNDERSTANDING” (V.22)

“UNDERSTAND THE MATTER, AND CONSIDER THE VISION” (V.23)

“SEVENTY WEEKS ARE DETERMINED UPON THY PEOPLE” (V.24)

