DANIEL 9:27 - 70th week (7-Year Tribulation Period)

Daniel 9:27 (NKJV)

27 Then <u>he</u> shall <u>confirm a covenant</u> with many for <u>one week</u>; But in the <u>middle</u> of the week He shall <u>bring an end</u> to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate."

The "he" in view is the Antichrist, the prince who is to come mentioned in v. 26.

At a future time, Antichrist will rise up out of the old Roman Empire, the Mediterranean basin, and he will confirm a covenant with many for one week; that is, a seven-year period of time. This will constitute the beginning of the 70th week of Daniel, which will bring to completion God's disciplinary program for Israel that will usher in the kingdom.

It is this reference right here that shows us the Tribulation Period will be exactly 7 years long. It is also called "the time of Jacob's trouble" (cf. Jer. 30:7), the day of the Lord's judgment (cf. 1 Thess. 5:1-4), and the day of wrath (cf. Rev. 6:16-17), etc.

"Many" here, in context, is speaking of unbelieving Jews. The whole passage has the Jews in view (cf. v. 24). They will be <u>desperate for peace</u> and protection and they will look to this Antichrist for both. "THE MANY", evidently meaning a MAJORITY of the Jews will enter into this covenant with him. Covenant denotes a strong, binding agreement!

However, in the middle of the week (that is, $3\frac{1}{2}$ years into this covenant relationship), the Antichrist will break his covenant with Israel. He then will bring to an end the Jewish sacrifices and offerings, which will have been reinstituted in conjunction with a rebuilt temple.

At precisely this point, the Antichrist will go into the temple of the Jews and declare himself to be God. He will demand that the whole world worship him. This is exactly what Jesus pointed out in Matt 24:15 as the signal to run for your life if you live in the Holy Land at that time.

Matthew 24:15-16 (NKJV)

15 "Therefore when you see the '<u>abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet</u>, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand),

16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

Note the phrase, "On the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate." Wing evidently refers to that which is highest, meaning the high point of abomination. Or, perhaps it refers to that which is overspreading. This one will cover all he does with abomination. He will be involved in the height of blasphemy and insult against God. It doesn't get more offensive than this and the Jews with insight will clearly understand that (cf. Dan. 7:25; 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:5-8).

Antichrist will carry on until the consummation which is determined is poured out on him, which will be his destruction personally carried out by Jesus at the Second Coming (cf. Dan. 7:11; Rev. 19:20).

2 Thessalonians 2:8 (NKJV)

8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom **the Lord will consume** with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

Note that three times in this text the word "<u>determined</u>" is found, as seen in verses 24, 26, and 27.

None of this is left to "chance". It is according to the determined PLAN of God. And note that just as the first 69 weeks, and that which relates to the GAP PERIOD, have literally been fulfilled, so will also all that pertains to the 70th week literally be fulfilled, just as determined.

Prophecy essentially revolves around two great themes: 1) Israel and 2) the Messiah. The next great prophetic event in relation to Israel is the seven-year covenant that Antichrist will sign with Israel. That will move prophetic history into the 70th and final week, which when it is completed, all six things mentioned in v. 24 will be accomplished.

Footnote: I believe that the Church will be raptured prior to this time. The Church, and of course, the Rapture of the Church, was a MYSTERY (a divine secret) not revealed until the NT (cf. 1 Cor. 15:52-54; Eph. 3:5). God will first complete His CHURCH and rapture her out of the world and then return to complete His program regarding Daniel's people Israel and Daniel's holy city Jerusalem. In other words, the Jews and Jerusalem are in view in this prophecy, but not the CHURCH.

Just as the Church had NO involvement in the first 69 weeks of Daniel, neither will it have any part in the 70th. This means the Church has no part in the 7-year Tribulation Period (cf. 1 Thess. 1:10, 4:16-17, 5:9, Rev. 3:10). The 70 weeks of Daniel specifically relate only to Israel.

"The world today is like a stage being set for a great drama. The major actors are already in the wings waiting for their moment in history. The main stage props are already in place. The prophetic play is about to begin..." – **John Walvoord**

The curtain that will go up to begin the play (so to speak) is the RAPTURE of the Church. That will be followed by the "drama" of the 70th week of Daniel. The watchword of the early church was "Maranatha", which means "Our Lord Comes"!

Perhaps Today! Live Ready!