

A Secret Rapture?

Part V

The Seventy-Sevens

The END of Daniel's 70th Week

What is finished?

compiled by Rachel Cory-Kuehl, 2016

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Scripture is from The NKJV unless otherwise noted

The prophecy of the “seventy-sevens” (*Daniel 9:24-27*) was a key part of John Darby’s teaching on the “Secret Rapture” of the church. In Part One of this series, I explained “the postponement theory” - Darby’s teaching that the last “week,” was “postponed” until the church could be raptured out of this world. Any study of the “secret rapture” doctrine, must include an examination the “seventy-sevens,” and an explanation of just what is “finished” at the END of the 70th “week.”

I’ve been writing Scripture studies for some 40 years now, but I’ve been reluctant to address the prophecy of the “seventy sevens” on this website. **The prophecy was given for “the time of the end.”** According to Daniel 12:4, **it will remain sealed until that time.** I am writing about it now, because I believe that we are presently approaching the starting point of the “seventy-sevens.”

I want to make a few things clear. I have *not* been visited by an angel - at least not one I could see with my naked eyes. I have not heard a mysterious voice giving me the interpretation of these things, though I do admit to an uncanny ability to remember pertinent verses of Scripture, while working on this Rapture series. I’m just a student of the Word, and I share with you those things that make sense to me.

WHAT IS FINISHED?

Daniel 9:24 “Seventy weeks (sevens) are determined for your people and for your holy city,

- (1) to finish the transgression,
- (2) to make an end of sins,
- (3) to make reconciliation for iniquity,
- (4) to bring in everlasting righteousness,
- (5) to seal up vision and prophecy, and
- (6) to anoint the Most Holy.”

In this study I will compare the wording of phrases from the prophecy of the “seventy sevens,” to the wording of the instructions spoken to Moses, concerning the ceremonies to be performed on **the Day of Atonement**.

Each appointed Feast and each ceremony connected with the Ancient Tabernacle, was a prophecy of Jesus Christ, and of those things He would do to accomplish the redemption of those who would believe in Him. See our study “[An Ancient Prophecy](#).”

I personally believe the prophecy of the “seventy sevens” will bring us to the Glorious Return of Jesus Christ, and to judgment day for planet earth - the fulfillment of the ancient Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur prophecy.

THE INSTRUCTIONS

Leviticus 16:9-17 [**The Day of Atonement**] Lots were cast over two goats.

“Then Aaron [the High Priest] shall offer the goat on which the lot for the LORD fell, and make it a sin offering. 10 But the goat on which the lot for the scapegoat fell shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make atonement upon it, to send it into the wilderness as the scapegoat.

11 Then Aaron shall offer the bull of the sin offering (1st sacrifice) which is for himself and make atonement for himself and for his household, and he shall slaughter the bull of the sin offering which is for himself.

12 He shall take a firepan full of coals of fire from upon the altar before the LORD and two handfuls of finely ground sweet incense, and bring it inside the veil. 13 He shall put the incense on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that is on the ark of the testimony, otherwise he will die.

14 Moreover, he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat on the east side; also in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

Leviticus 16:9-17 continued:

15 Then he shall slaughter the goat of the sin offering which is for the people (2nd sacrifice), and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat.

16 **He shall make atonement for the holy place**, because of the impurities of the sons of Israel and because of their transgressions in regard to all their sins; and thus he shall do for the tent of meeting [the Tabernacle] which abides with them in the midst of their impurities.

17 When he goes in to make atonement in the holy place, no one shall be in the tent of meeting until he comes out, **that he may make atonement** for himself and for his household and **for all the assembly of Israel.**" (NAU)

The High Priest anointed the Most Holy Place (within the veil) on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). He sprinkled the blood of the "Lord's goat" on the Veil, on the Mercy Seat of the Ark, and on the ground in front of the Ark. In so doing, he made atonement (reconciliation) for the confessed sins of Israel. In so doing He "cleansed" the Sanctuary.

Leviticus 16:20-22 [The scapegoat] "When he has finished atoning for the holy place and the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall present **the live goat** (the scapegoat or Azazel goat). 21 Then Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the people of Israel, and all their transgressions, all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and sending it away into the wilderness (the uninhabited place) by means of someone designated for the task (a "fit man"). 22 The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to a barren region; and **the goat shall be set free in the wilderness.**" (NRS)

THE PROPHECY FULFILLED

As the "Lord's goat," Jesus bore our sins. He "carried them." He will carry them UNTIL the court of Heaven hands down it's judgment (*Daniel 7:9-14, 22-27*). **Satan will then be judged responsible for all the sins of God's people.** He was the instigator of the original rebellion. He started the war. He tempted and lured human beings into sin. **The sins of the redeemed will be "placed upon the head" of Satan.**

Acting as our High Priest, Jesus will transfer the guilt of those sins to Satan. Then, as the "fit man" of the prophecy, He will cast Satan into the "bottomless pit" - the "without form and void" - the "uninhabited place." Jesus will do this at His glorious return.

*NOTE: **Satan will be left alive**, just as the Scapegoat (the Azazel Goat) was left alive, banished to the “uninhabited place.”*

Jeremiah the prophet was shown “the earth” after “the great day of the LORD” (*Jer 4:23-26*). It was “without form and void” (*Strong’s #08414 & #0922*). These are the same Hebrew words used in Genesis 1:2, to describe the earth on the first day of creation, before God made anything. The earth was dark and without life.

Once dominion of this earth is taken from Satan and given to “the Son of Man,” Christ Jesus will execute the judgment of the Heavenly Court (*Daniel 7:14 & 24*). He will bind Satan to “the uninhabited place” for 1000 years (*Rev 20:1-3*).

I believe it is very possible, that “the uninhabited place” will be this earth - left desolate and devoid of life by the last plagues. See our study, “[Trumpets and Bowls](#)” or our study, “[Millennium](#).”

With the commands concerning the Day of Atonement as our guide, let’s take another look at the prophecy of the seventy-sevens.

THE SEVENTY SEVENS

Daniel 9:24 “**Seventy weeks (sevens) are determined for your people** and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy.”

1. To finish (*or consume*) the transgression (*of desolation*)
2. To make an end (*a final end*) of the sins (*of God’s people*)
3. To make reconciliation (*or atonement*) for iniquity
4. To bring in everlasting righteousness (*or justice*)
5. To seal up (*to secure, or to validate*) vision and prophecy
6. To anoint the Most Holy (*Place*)

**Five of the things to be accomplished,
can definitely be linked to the Day of Atonement.**

The High Priest **made a final “atonement”** for the congregation of Israel on Yom Kippur. **He made “an end of sins”** by confessing them over the head of the scapegoat, which then carried those sins away from Israel forever.

The High Priest “cleansed” - the record of those sins, from the Tabernacle through the anointing performed with the blood of the Lord’s goat. “Almost all things are cleansed with blood” (*Hebrews 9:22*).

The Hebrew word “kaphar” (#03722) translated as “reconciliation” (“*reconciliation for iniquity*”) can legitimately be translated as “atonement.” To “**make reconciliation**” is to “**make atonement.**” Christ is now acting as our High Priest in Heaven - the “true Tabernacle” (*Heb. 8:2*). He will make the final reconciliation for our iniquities.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION USES SANCTUARY IMAGERY AND LANGUAGE

Revelation 15:8, and 8:3, uses imagery from Leviticus 16:17 and the Day of Atonement. In 15:8, “smoke from the glory and the power of God filled the temple (in Heaven) so that **no one could go into it** until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed” (NJB). This parallels Leviticus 16:17. “**There shall be no man in the Tabernacle of meeting** when he goes in to make atonement in the Holy Place, until he comes out. . .”

Revelation 8:3 speaks of a messenger with a “**golden censer**” standing at **the Alter of Incense**. The “golden censer” of the Ancient Tabernacle, was carried by the High Priest on the Day of Atonement, into the Most Holy Place.

Only the confessed sins of the congregation of Israel were atoned for on the Day of Atonement. But not to worry. Those who have embraced Christ as “the Lamb of God,” are “grafted in” to the Olive Tree of Israel (*Romans Cpt 11*). They are part of “the congregation” for whom final “atonement” is made.

Any sin for which a “sin offering” had not been offered at the Temple *prior* to the Day of Atonement, would be left upon the head of the sinner. That sin would not be transferred to the head of the scapegoat. Any Israelite with unconfessed sin, would be “cut off from the people” in the eyes of God (*Lev. 23:29*). No further confession or sacrifice could be offered by such an individual, after the High Priest entered the Most Holy Place on this day. **This parallels Revelation 22:11**. “He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.” The last call to repentance is done.

A trumpet was sounded each day for the 10 days leading up to the Day of Atonement - warning the people that this day was approaching. It was time to get right with God. In Revelation, the Trumpet Judgments precede the Day of final judgment.

Was Jesus alluding to the prophecy of Daniel Cpt 9, when he told Peter to forgive the brother “up to seventy times seven” (*Matthew 18:21*)? **The end of the “seventy sevens” would represent the end of forgiving.**

It is important to understand that the sinner would not receive *final atonement* for the year, *until* the High Priest cleansed the record of his sins from the Tabernacle, and transferred his sins to the scapegoat. The sinner did *not* receive this atonement *when* the “Lord’s goat” was killed.

Just so - in God’s plan for mankind - sinners who have confessed and embraced Christ as Lord, will not receive *final atonement* until Satan is found guilty by the Heavenly “court,” and Christ (with His people) have been vindicated. Yes - final atonement *is* promised. But it is *not yet* accomplished fact. Those who say that God forgave all the sins - of all men - for all time, *when* Jesus died, must ignore the prophecies of the Tabernacle.

TO FINISH THE TRANSGRESSION

What is “the transgression” to be “finished” by the end of the seventy-sevens? Was it the execution of God’s son? Possibly. Jesus did cry out, “It is finished!” But I would suggest another possibility. **The end of the seventy-sevens will see the “finish” of “the transgression of desolation”** - the image of the Beast, set up in the Temple at Jerusalem, the worship of that image, and the finish of the Beast it represents (*Rev 19:19-21*).

Daniel 8:13 “Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to that certain one who was speaking, ‘**How long will the vision be**, concerning the daily sacrifices and **the transgression of desolation**, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled under foot?’”

The word “*kalah*” (#03615), translated “finish” in Daniel 9:24, is elsewhere translated as “**consume**” (57 times) and “**end**” (44 times), according to Strong’s. The “transgression causing desolation” would therefore be consumed, or come to it’s end, at the completion of the seventy-sevens.

This fits with my understanding of what Jesus will do when He returns. **I believe** that Jesus’ return for judgment (of Satan and all who serve him) will fulfill the prophecy of the “seventy sevens” and the prophecy of the Day of Atonement. The Beast (with its Little Horn) and the False Prophet, will be cast into the Lake of Fire (*Rev 19:19-20*). Satan will be thrown into the “uninhabited place” - the “bottomless pit” - the “without form and void.”

Daniel 7:26 “But **the court shall be seated**, And they shall take away his dominion (rulership), to consume and destroy it forever.”

Jesus will carry out the judgment of the Heavenly Court. He will destroy the Beast kingdom. The Beast and the False Prophet (*Satan's arms of power*) will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone on THIS DAY! (*Rev. 19:20*) This day will see the END of Satan's dominion. Christ will throw Satan into a "bottomless pit" and "**set a seal on him,**" so that he cannot escape for a thousand years (*Rev. 20:1-3*).

NOTE: The prophecy of the "seventy-sevens" does mention a seal.

TO BRING IN EVERLASTING RIGHTEOUSNESS

The word here translated as "**righteousness**" is elsewhere translated as "**justice.**" **At the end of the seventy-sevens, God will "bring in everlasting justice" or "vindication."** The word is *tsedaqah* (*Strong's #06666*). **The Heavenly "court"** will hand down a final verdict. Christ will be vindicated, and He will then carry out the judgment of the court against Satan, his Beast empire, and against the Little Horn who rules it. Christ will meet out "justice." Those who serve Him will be rewarded and those who fight against Him will be destroyed. When the 7th Trumpet sounds, all of Heaven will celebrate the final judgment of the "court."

Revelation 11:15-18 "**The seventh angel sounded** his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: 'The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.' 16 And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, 17 saying: 'We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. 18 The nations were angry, and your wrath has come. The time has come (1) for judging the dead, and (2) for rewarding your servants the prophets and your people who revere your name, both great and small-- and (3) for destroying those who destroy the earth." (NIV)

All Heaven are celebrating the verdict of "the court."

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 "I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated: . . . The court was seated and the books were opened." v.13 "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him." v.14 "**Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,** that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed."

The Son of Man will go before the Ancient of Days and the Heavenly Court,
just as the High Priest of Israel came before the LORD
in the Most Holy Place of the Ancient Tabernacle,
on the Day of Atonement.

This did *not* happen immediately after Jesus ascended to Heaven, 40 days following His resurrection. No! He did *not* receive the dominion at that time.

Hebrews 2:8 “We do not yet see all things put under him.”

A PROPHECY FOR THE TIME OF THE END

Look at the context of the “court” scene in Daniel Chapter 7. Daniel looks from earth to see the events happening in Heaven. On earth, the Little Horn is speaking pompous words and persecuting the saints of God. In fact, the saints are “given into his hand” for three and a half terrible years, leading up to the announcement of the final judgment of this “court.”

Daniel 7:21-22 “I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.”

NOTE: The saints have not yet taken possession of the kingdom.

Daniel 7:25-27 “He [the Little Horn on the Beast] shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time. But the court shall be seated, And they shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it forever. Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.”

*The prophecy of Daniel seven is absolutely for the last days!!
It would not even be understood until the TIME of the END.*

Daniel 12:4 “But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.”

*In Daniel 9:27, the “prince to come” will “bring an end to sacrifice and offering.”
In Daniel 8:9-11 “the little horn” will “take away the daily” (the daily sacrifices).*

Daniel was clearly told that the vision of Chapter 8 “refers to the time of the end” (*Dan. 8:17*), and “the latter time of the indignation” (*Dan. 8:19*). **The Little Horn is an END TIME actor.** His forces “will take away the daily sacrifices and place there (*right in the Temple*) **the abomination that causes desolation**” (*Dan. 11:30*).

If the Little Horn of Daniel Chapter 8 is **for “the time of the end,”** then so is the “prince to come” of Daniel Chapter 9. The angel Gabriel said to Daniel, “I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.” “Consider the matter, and understand the vision” (*Daniel 9:22-23*). Understand WHAT VISION? The vision of Daniel Chapter 8, the one that Daniel was praying about for three full weeks.

Daniel 9:27 “Then he will make a firm 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 one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

The one who makes a covenant with many for “one seven,” will “put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering” at the Temple of Yahweh. Putting a stop to all sacrifice and grain offering will definitely put a stop to the “daily” or “continual” morning and evening sacrifices.

Daniel 11:31 “Forces sent by him shall occupy and profane the Temple and fortress (*the walled courtyard around the Temple*). **They shall abolish the regular burnt offering** and set up the abomination that makes desolate.” (NRS)

2 Thessalonians 2:4 [The coming son of perdition] “opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that **he sits as God in the temple of God**, showing himself that he is God.”

In place of the “daily” or “regular burnt offering,” he will set up “the abomination that makes desolate” in the Temple. He will demand worship. He will threaten anyone who refuses - with death (*Rev. 13:15*). He “sits as God in the Temple of God, showing himself that he is God” (*2Thess. 2:4*). Only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life will refuse to serve the evil imposter (*Rev. 13:8*).

All those who worship the Beast or his image, will be “cut off” from God. **This is “the abomination causing desolation.”** They will suffer the judgment of the last plagues (*Rev. 14:9-10*). Those plagues will cause the complete devastation of this earth - leaving it desolate, and a fit place for Satan to be imprisoned.

OTHER TRANSLATIONS OF DANIEL 9:25-27 show no gap.

As you read through Isaac Leeser Translation of the passage, notice:

1. There is **NO “then”** in the Isaac Leeser Translation (LEE) of Daniel 9:25-27. That’s the word John Darby sited in his analysis of this passage, to say there was a gap, a postponement, a delay of the 70th “week.”

Compare the New King James:

Daniel 9:27 “Then he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week,”

*If we accept the LEE Translation, the word “then” of the NKJV becomes simply a word to say “**at that time**” this is what will happen, rather than a word to indicate a space of time, or a gap.*

Daniel 9:25-27 “Know therefore and comprehend, that from the going forth of the word to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the anointed the prince will be seven weeks:

and during sixty and two weeks will it be again built with streets and ditches around it, even in the pressure of the times.

26 And after the sixty and two weeks will an anointed one be cut off without a successor to follow him:

and the city and the sanctuary, will the people of the prince that is coming destroy; but his end will come in a violent overthrow; but until the end of the war devastations are decreed against it.

27 And he will make a strong covenant with the many for one week; and in the half of the week will **he cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease**, and this because of the prevalence of the abominations which bringeth devastation, and until destruction and what is decreed shall be poured out upon the waster. Isaac Leeser (Jewish Bible)

2. In the LEE Jewish Translation, we can more easily see TWO princes.
 - A. “The anointed the prince” in verse 25, who is “cut off without a successor” in verse 26, **and**
 - B. “The prince that is coming,” who will make a covenant for one week, but “cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease” half way through that covenant period

PRINCE, OR PRIEST, OR RULER

In the Torah, BOTH priests and kings were anointed. The anointed “prince” of verse 25 could be either. The word translated as “prince” is #05057 *nagiyd*, meaning leader, ruler, captain, or prince. This is NOT necessarily Christ Jesus. **This could be a High Priest** of the Aaronic bloodline.

The confusion arose because **the King James Version translated the passage with the words “Messiah the Prince” rather than with “the anointed prince.”** This caused students of prophecy to believe the 69 “weeks” ended with Christ Jesus, who is “THE Anointed Prince.” Considering the context of passage is the restoration of the Temple and the sacrifices, it makes sense to think this will be a High Priest from the line of Aaron. He will be “cut off” violently, when the second “prince” takes over the Temple Mount.

The second “prince” - “the prince that is coming,” will be a ruler - a powerful ruler. He the will stop the daily sacrifices, and then set up the “Image of the Beast” right in the Temple. **He will be the Little Horn** - the Antichrist - the “son of perdition” (either Satan or one that he channels). See our study “[Masterpiece of Deception](#).”

NOTE: Satan himself was “anointed” (Ezekiel 28:14). He is also called “the prince.”

TO SEAL UP BOTH VISION AND PROPHECY

A prophet of God was validated or vindicated in the eyes of the people *when* his prophecy came to pass. The people would view him as having the “seal of God.” For Daniel, the fulfillment of the prophecies was far in the future, beyond the lifetime of the prophet. Was the LORD telling Daniel that he would not be vindicated until the very end of time? I believe so. God will set His “seal” on both the vision and the prophet himself, at the final day.

Daniel 12:9-13 “And he said, ‘Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. . . . None of the wicked shall understand, but **the wise shall understand**.’”

Vision and prophecy would be “sealed” - validated or made secure, at the end of the “seventy-sevens,” when Jesus fulfills the prophecy. The prophecies of Daniel Chapters 7, 8 and 9, predict the final destruction of the Beast, it’s Little Horn, it’s Great Harlot, and it’s False Prophet.

For “vision and prophecy” to be validated and made secure forever, Jesus Christ must come to accomplish the prophesied destruction of the Evil Empire. He cannot return UNTIL He receives the dominion, from the Heavenly Court.

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 “I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated: . . . [The court was seated and the books were opened.](#)” v.13 “I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! [He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.](#)” v.14 “[Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,](#) that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.”

Even if I’m right about the prophecy of the seventy-sevens, we still cannot pinpoint the exact starting date for the fulfillment - the day, month, and year. We will see it only when a command is issued to restore and to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple.

I believe it very possible that the Old City of Jerusalem, (including the structures currently standing on the Temple Mount) will be destroyed, probably in a Middle East war. This will necessitate a rebuilding. The “seventy-sevens” (70 weeks) will begin with the “command to restore and to rebuild Jerusalem.”

*We pray this study will prove a blessing.
Prophecy Viewpoint*

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