

Daniel 9:20-27

Faithfulness in Messiah

How God answered Daniel's prayer

1- God answered this prayer MYSTERIOUSLY.

- Is Daniel 9:24-27 literal, symbolic, typological, or a bit of all these?
- 'One of the most difficult passages in the OT'.

- *Daniel 9:22 (Gabriel said) 'O Daniel, I have now come out to give you insight and understanding.'*

- *Daniel 9:25 (Gabriel said) 'Know therefore and understand ...'*

- *Daniel 9:23 (Gabriel said) 'Therefore consider the word and understand the vision.'*

This passage applies in recurring ways:

- Flavius Josephus wrote of how Daniel referred to the Antiochus IV Epiphanes desecration of the Temple in 167BC and also to the Roman destruction of the Temple in 70AD.
- Hippolytus expected a recapitulation of Antiochus IV in a future Antichrist.
- Jesus and the Gospel writers, Matthew and Mark, referred to Daniel's prophecy having levels of fulfillment.

Matthew 24:15 (ESV) “So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand)”

- *Matthew 24:16 (ESV) then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.*
- *Matthew 24:34 (ESV) Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.*
- *Matthew 24:21 (ESV) For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be.*
- *Matthew 24:27 (ESV) For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.*

2- God answered this prayer MESSIANICALLY.

- v25 '*... the coming of an anointed one (mâšiyah, Messiah), a prince ... (IE. Jesus' Lordship)*
- v26 '*... an anointed one (mâšiyah, Messiah) shall be cut off and shall have nothing ... (IE. Jesus death.... forsaken)*

Daniel 9:24-27 predicted that the Messiah would come in a series sevens.

- v24 - (ESV) *Seventy weeks (or sevens)* = 490 years

- v25 - *Seven weeks (or sevens)* = 49 years,
- v25 - *Sixty two weeks (or sevens)* = 434 years
- v27 – *One week (or seven)* = 7 years

We may not know the exact details of all these numbers, which are probably symbolic, but basically this prophecy said that in **about 500 years after Daniel's time**, (which was in the 5th century BC), the Messiah would come.

And that is exactly what happened with the coming of JESUS!

3- God God answered this prayer MERCIFULLY.

- *Daniel 9:18 (ESV)For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy.*
- *Daniel 9:23 (ESV) 23 At the beginning of your pleas for mercy a word went out, and I have come to tell it to you, for you are greatly loved. Therefore consider the word and understand the vision.*
- *Exodus 34:6 ESV[6] The LORD passed before him (Moses) and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God *merciful* and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast *love* and faithfulness ...*

3- God God answered this prayer MERCIFULLY.

■ *Daniel 9:24 “Seventy weeks (heb. sevens) are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place (or holy one).*