

THE PROPHECY OF THE FIRST “SEVEN”— THE LAST WEEK OF THE SEVENTY WEEKS (II)

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At the Beginning of the Seven Years of the Last Week of the Seventy Weeks, Antichrist Making a Firm Covenant with Israel and Breaking the Covenant in the Middle of the Week

At the beginning of the seven years of the last week of the seventy weeks, Antichrist will make a firm covenant with Israel, and in the middle of the week he will break the covenant. **Daniel 9:27** says, “**He will make a firm covenant with the many for one week; and in the middle of the week he will cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease and will replace the sacrifice and the oblation with abominations of the desolator, even until the complete destruction that has been determined is poured out upon the desolator.**” Titus is a type of Antichrist. He destroyed, devastated, the holy city and the holy temple, and Antichrist will do the same thing. Titus killed and persecuted the holy people, and Antichrist will do the same thing. Daniel’s prophecy considers them as one. **The person referred to in verse 27 is the prince in verse 26 who will destroy the city and the sanctuary. That prince was Titus. But verse 27 refers to the coming Antichrist.**

Causing the Sacrifice and the Oblation to Cease

In the middle of the last week of the seventy weeks, Antichrist will cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease (12:7b, 11a).

Replacing the Sacrifice and Oblation with Abominations, That Is, Idols, of the Desolator, That Is, Antichrist

He will replace the sacrifice and oblation with abominations, that is, idols, of the desolator, that is, Antichrist (v. 11b; Matt. 24:15; Rev. 13:14-15; 2 Thes. 2:4). In **Matthew 24:15** the Lord spoke of “**the abomination of desolation, which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the Holy Place.**” According to **Revelation 13:14** and **15**, the abomination of desolation is **Antichrist’s image**, which is set up in the temple as an **idol**. Then **2 Thessalonians 2:4** tells us that Antichrist will sit in the temple to claim that he is God. **Daniel 9:27** refers to the “abominations [plural] of the desolator.” **These abominations may refer to Antichrist himself, to his image, and to idols he will put into the temple.**

Even until the Complete Destruction That Has Been Determined Is Poured Out upon the Desolator, That Is, Antichrist

These idols will remain in the Holy Place, in the temple, even until the complete destruction that has been determined is poured out upon the desolator, that is, Antichrist (v. 27; 2 Thes. 2:8; Rev. 17:11; 19:19-20). In other words, **the idols will remain in the temple for three and a half years until Antichrist is fully destroyed by Christ. Christ will wipe him out with the appearing of His parousia, His coming.**

The Seven Years of the Last Week Being the Last Seven Years of the Present Age

The seven years of the last week will be the last seven years of the present age of the mysteries of God, concerning **Messiah (Christ), the children of Israel, the believers, and the church.**

The Two Halves of the Last Week The Last Week Being Cut into Two Halves by Antichrist’s Breaking of the Seven-year Covenant That He Will Make with Israel

Now we need to see something concerning the two halves of the last week. The last week of the seventy weeks will be cut into two halves by Antichrist's breaking of the seven-year covenant that he will make with Israel (Dan. 9:27).

***The First Half Being before the Sixth Seal,
Which Comprises the Supernatural Calamities
on the Earth and Heaven and Which Will Be the Initiation
of the Great Tribulation of Three and a Half Years,
the Last Half of the Last Week***

The first half will be before the sixth seal of the supernatural calamities on the earth and heaven (Rev. 6:12-17). During the sixth seal the earth will become **a place that is not suitable for man to live on**. The sixth seal will be the **initiation of the great tribulation** of three and a half years, the last half of the last week.

The Second Half of Three and a Half Years

The second half of three and a half years is referred to in **Daniel 7:25** and **12:7**.

**Counted from the Ceasing of the Sacrifice and the Oblation
and the Replacing of These with Abominations, Idols,
by Antichrist Probably at the Time of the Sixth Seal**

This second half will be counted from the **ceasing of the sacrifice and the oblation and the replacing of these with abominations, idols**, by Antichrist **probably at the time of the sixth seal** (Rev. 6:12-17). On the one hand, God will shake the earth and the heaven, making the earth an unsuitable place in which to live. On the other hand, Antichrist will break his covenant with Israel, and he will persecute the Jews and devastate the temple.

**The Time of the Great Tribulation,
Beginning from the Sixth Seal of the Seven Seals
and Ending at the Seventh Bowl of the Seven Bowls,
Being "the Hour of Trial, Which Is About to Come
on the Whole Inhabited Earth, to Try Them
Who Dwell on the Earth"**

The second half of the last week, the last three and a half years of this age, will be **the time of the great tribulation** (Matt. 24:21, 15), beginning from the sixth seal of the seven seals (Rev. 6:12-17) and ending at the seventh bowl of the seven bowls (16:17-21), which will be "the hour of trial, which is about to come on the whole inhabited earth, to try them who dwell on the earth" (3:10). The first five seals have nothing to do with the great tribulation. The great tribulation will be initiated by the sixth seal. The seven bowls will be the last woe of the great tribulation, and **this tribulation is referred to as "the hour of trial."**

**Before the Three and a Half Years of the Great Tribulation,
the Overcomers among the Believers Being Raptured
into Christ's Presence (Parousia) in the Heavens**

Before the three and a half years of the great tribulation, the overcomers among the believers will be raptured into **Christ's presence (parousia)** in the heavens (12:5-6; 14:1; Luke 21:34-36; Matt. 24:36-44).

**At the End (It Should Be in the Last Year)
of the Three and a Half Years of the Great Tribulation,
the Majority of the Believers, Both the Dead
and Resurrected and the Living, Being Raptured
into Christ's Presence (Parousia) in the Air**

At the end (it should be in the last year) of the three and a half years of the great tribulation, the majority of the believers, both the dead and resurrected and the living, will be raptured into Christ's presence (parousia) in the air (1 Thes. 4:16-17; Rev. 14:14-16; 2 Thes. 2:1, 3-4, 8). The New Testament clearly reveals that there will be at least two kinds of raptures. One is before the tribulation, and the other is after the tribulation. **The one before the tribulation will be for the overcomers, and the one after the tribulation will be for the majority of the believers.**

*The Universal Woman,
Who Symbolizes the Majority of the Saints,
Being Nourished for Three and a Half Years
in a Place on the Earth Prepared by God for the Living Saints
Indicating and Proving That the Majority of the Living Saints
Will Be Raptured after the Fulfillment
of the Three and a Half Years of the Great Tribulation*

The fact that **the universal woman, who symbolizes the majority of the saints**, will be nourished for three and a half years in a place on the earth prepared by God for the living saints (Rev. 12:6, 14) indicates and proves that **the majority of the living saints will be raptured after the fulfillment of the three and a half years of the great tribulation**; that should be in the last year of the three and a half years.

*The Harvest, Which Symbolizes the Majority of the Living Saints,
Being Reaped after the Worship of Antichrist and His Image
Also Indicating and Proving That the Majority
of the Living Saints at the Lord's Coming
Will Be Raptured after the Great Tribulation
of Three and a Half Years*

The harvest, which **symbolizes the majority of the living saints**, being reaped (14:14-16) after the worship of Antichrist and his image (vv. 9-13) also indicates and proves that the majority of the living saints at the Lord's coming (v. 14) **will be raptured after the great tribulation of three and a half years**.

During the time of the great tribulation **God will prepare a place to nourish His people who remain**. This shows how kind our God is. This is similar to the way that the Lord took care of the children of Israel when they were in Egypt. God judged the Egyptians with all kinds of plagues, but **the children of Israel were kept in a place called Goshen where they were covered, protected, and preserved**.

These facts, which will transpire, prove that **the majority of the saints who will not be matured before the great tribulation will be left on this earth to go through the time of the great tribulation**. As we have pointed out, the earth at that time will be an unsuitable place in which to live. Those who have to pass through the time of the great tribulation will suffer something. The overcomers will have been raptured, and there will be many supernatural calamities. I believe it will be hard for the believers to love the world during that time. Do we believe that the Bible is the Word of God? We have to listen to all these things. My burden is not to teach prophecy. I am giving you a word of warning. **Daniel's and John's hearts were on God. But where is our heart today?**

THE SPIRITUAL LESSONS IN SEEKING THE LORD'S APPEARING

**Giving Heed to the Prophetic Word as to a Lamp
Shining in a Dark Place, until the Day Dawns
and the Morning Star Rises in Our Hearts**

In seeking the Lord's appearing, there are some spiritual lessons. First, **we need to give heed to the prophetic word as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in our hearts** (2 Pet. 1:19; Rev. 22:16; 2:28). Preceding the Lord's open coming, the Lord will appear as the morning star in the darkest hour of the night to those who are watchful and looking for His appearing (2 Tim. 4:8). **They have been enlightened by the shining of the prophetic word, which is able to lead them to the dawning day and to the rising of the morning star in their hearts**.

**The Day and the Hour of the Overcomers' Rapture
Not Being Knowable to Us,
but the Year of the Rapture of the Majority
of the Believers Being Able to Be Figured Out by Us
according to the Last Week of the Seventy Weeks,**

**by the Parable of the Fig Tree Predicted
by the Lord in Matthew 24:32-33**

The day and the hour of the overcomers' rapture are not knowable to us (Matt. 24:36-44), but the year of the rapture of the majority of the believers can be figured out by us according to the last week of the seventy weeks, by the parable of the fig tree predicted by the Lord in Matthew 24:32-33. These verses say that the fig tree will become tender and put forth leaves. Then the Lord said that when we see this, we should know that the summer is near. [In Matthew 24:32-33 the fig tree signifies the nation of Israel, becoming tender signifies the coming back of life, and putting forth leaves signifies the outward activities.](#)

The Fig Tree Signifying the Nation of Israel

The fig tree is a symbol of the nation of Israel (Jer. 24:2, 5, 8; Hosea 9:10) and was cursed by the Lord in Matthew 21:19: "Seeing a fig tree on the way, He came to it and found nothing on it except leaves only. And He said to it, May there no longer be fruit from you forever! And the fig tree was instantly dried up." [The fig tree was full of leaves but fruitless, signifying that at that time the nation of Israel was full of outward show but had nothing that could satisfy God.](#) From this time, the nation of Israel was truly [dried up](#).

Becoming Tender Signifying the Coming Back of Life

Eventually, the Jews in Israel lost their homeland and were scattered to many other nations. It seemed impossible that after so many centuries they could be brought back to their forefathers' land and be formed into a nation. But in 1948 the nation of Israel [was re-formed](#); that was the nation of Israel becoming tender, coming back to life.

Putting Forth Leaves Signifying the Outward Activities

When the Jews regained Jerusalem in 1967, that was the fig tree putting forth its leaves. One of the final signs that will take place will be the rebuilding of the temple. According to recent news reports, some of the Jews are preparing for the rebuilding of the temple with all its services. [The temple of God will be rebuilt before the Lord comes back](#) (cf. 24:15; 2 Thes. 2:4).

In view of the Lord's coming back, [we need to consider the world situation today](#). The tendency of the development in the political, economical, and military situation in Europe is toward that of a strong man rising up. This strong man will be the one who will sign the seven-year covenant with Israel. From the day that this strong man, Antichrist, signs this covenant with Israel, there are seven years left to the end of the present age. After three and a half years he will break this covenant, and the second half of three and a half years will be the time of the great tribulation. Just before the initiation of the great tribulation, the overcomers of Christ will be raptured. [If the believers who are alive at that time are not ready and matured, they will be left on the earth to pass through the time of the great tribulation.](#) The tribulation will come from three directions: [from God, from Antichrist, and from Satan](#). God will judge the entire universe by supernatural calamities, making the earth unsuitable for living. Satan and Antichrist will do their best to destroy and damage mankind.

***Summer Signifying
the Age of the Restoration of the Nation of Israel***

When we see the fig tree, symbolizing the nation of Israel, becoming tender and putting forth leaves, we should realize that the summer is near. [Summer signifies the age of the restoration of the nation of Israel](#) (Acts 1:6).

***The Fig Tree Becoming Tender and Putting Forth Its Leaves
Taking Place before Antichrist Makes the Covenant
of Seven Years with the Nation of Israel
at the Consummation of the Present Age;
Hence, the Seven Years of the Last Week
Being Able to Be Figured Out***

The fig tree becoming tender and putting forth its leaves takes place before Antichrist makes the covenant of seven years with the nation of Israel at the consummation of the present age; hence, the seven years of the last week can be figured out.

**Watching and Being Ready to Be Taken,
by Being “Stolen” by the Appearing Lord
as the Secret “Thief,” into His Presence
(Parousia) in the Heavens**

We need to **watch and be ready** to be taken, by being “stolen” by the appearing Lord as the secret “thief,” into His presence (parousia) in the heavens (Matt. 24:40-44). A thief comes to steal precious things at an unknown time. The Lord will come secretly as a stealing thief to steal us if we are so precious.

**Taking Heed to Ourselves
and Being Watchful at Every Time,
Beseeching That We May Prevail to Escape
All the Things of the Great Tribulation**

We need to take heed to ourselves lest our hearts be weighed down with debauchery and drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day of the great tribulation come upon us suddenly as a snare, as it will come in upon all those who dwell on all the earth; and furthermore, **we need to be watchful at every time**, beseeching that we would prevail to escape all the things of the great tribulation in the last three and a half years of the last week of the present age and to stand before the Son of Man, Christ (Luke 21:34-36). **We need to be on guard** that our hearts would not be weighed down with debauchery, drunkenness, and the anxieties of life. **Debauchery is indulgence in drinking and feasting. If our heart is full of anxieties, then it has no room for God, for Christ. We may even come to a meeting, but our heart is not in that meeting, because it is preoccupied with worldly things.** **We need to guard our hearts** because we do not want the day of the great tribulation to come upon us suddenly as a snare. This day will be like the flood that came suddenly to the people at Noah’s time. **We need to watch and pray** that we may prevail to escape all these things and stand before the Son of Man. This corresponds with Revelation 14:1, which indicates that the raptured overcomers will stand before the Savior on Mount Zion in the heavens before the great tribulation (cf. 12:5-6, 14).

**Keeping the Word of Christ’s Endurance
That We May Be Kept by Him out of the Hour of Trial,
Which Will Come on the Whole Inhabited Earth,
to Try Those Who Dwell on the Earth**

We also need to keep the word of Christ’s endurance that we may be kept by Him out of the hour of trial, which will come on the whole inhabited earth, to try those who dwell on the earth (Rev. 3:10). Today the word we keep is the word of endurance. As long as we keep the word of God, we will suffer. People will persecute us. Even our parents and relatives may despise us. We need to keep the Lord’s word of endurance so that we may be kept out of the time of the great tribulation as a trial that will come on the whole inhabited earth to try those who dwell on the earth. We have to be watchful and ready to learn the spiritual lessons. To become matured is not an overnight matter. Therefore, we have to prepare ourselves for His coming by loving Him so that we can grow in Him and be matured for His appearing.

(The Prophecy of the Four "Sevens" in the Bible, Chapter 1)