

Mini Series: Daniel's Visions  
"70 Weeks Prophecy"



Truth Matters Church, Inc.

# Brief overview of Daniel 9



- ❧ Was written on 1<sup>st</sup> year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus (aka Darius the Mede): ~536BC
  - ❧ All Israel under Babylonian Rule: ~606BC-536BC (70 years)
    - ❧ Medes and Persians Empire began: ~536BC
- ❧ Daniel read Jeremiah and came across 70 year judgment pronounced to Israel and Judah
  - ❧ Came to realize along with the fall of Babylonian Empire, Israel's 70 year punishment was completed
- ❧ Daniel made prayer and supplication with fasting on behalf of all Israel
  - ❧ The angel Gabriel came in response around the time of the evening sacrifice (~3PM)
  - ❧ Gabriel gave Daniel 70 Weeks Prophecy...what is the significance of 70?

# Brief Overview of Daniel 9



- ❧ 70 years of Babylonian captivity correlates to 70 Sabbath years of rest missed, including the Jubilee year
  - ❧ 6 years may toil the land and harvest
  - ❧ 7<sup>th</sup> year is a Sabbath Year of rest, "Shmita" (year of release) or "sabbatical year"
  - ❧ Every 50th year is a Jubilee Year of rest
    - ❧ At the completion of 7 Sabbatical cycles (7x7=49 years)
- ❧ The 70 years of captivity makes up for the total number of Shmita years the people of Israel failed to let the land rest as commanded in the OT
- ❧ That 70 years of punishment is completed when we get to Daniel 9
- ❧ Gabriel delivered to Daniel the 70 Week Prophecy on in store next

# Brief overview of Daniel 9



- ☞ 70 Weeks prophecy was given to Daniel AFTER Ram and Goat vision:
  - ☞ The Great Statue: ~604BC
  - ☞ The Four Beasts: ~553BC
  - ☞ The Ram and Goat: ~551BC
  - ☞ 70 Week Prophecy: ~536BC
- ☞ We'll look at the 70 week prophecy given to Daniel using Scripture
- ☞ We'll break Daniel 9 in two parts:
  - ☞ v. 1-19: Daniel's Petition
  - ☞ v. 20-27: Gabriel's Response

# Daniel 9:1-19



1 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans – 2 in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, observed in the books the number of the years which was revealed as the word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years. 3 So I gave my attention to the Lord God to seek Him by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes. 4 I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed and said, “Alas, O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments, 5 we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances. 6 Moreover, we have not listened to Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings, our princes, our fathers and all the people of the land.

# Daniel 9:1-19



7 “Righteousness belongs to You, O Lord, but to us open shame, as it is this day – to the men of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, those who are nearby and those who are far away in all the countries to which You have driven them, because of their unfaithful deeds which they have committed against You. 8 Open shame belongs to us, O Lord, to our kings, our princes and our fathers, because we have sinned against You. 9 To the Lord our God belong compassion and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against Him; 10 nor have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His teachings which He set before us through His servants the prophets. 11 Indeed all Israel has transgressed Your law and turned aside, not obeying Your voice; so the curse has been poured out on us, along with the oath which is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, for we have sinned against Him. 12 Thus He has confirmed His words which He had spoken against us and against our rulers who ruled us, to bring on us great calamity; for under the whole heaven there has not been done anything like what was done to Jerusalem. 13 As it is written in the law of Moses, all this calamity has come on us; yet we have not sought the favor of the LORD our God by turning from our iniquity and giving attention to Your truth. 14 Therefore the LORD has kept the calamity in store and brought it on us; for the LORD our God is righteous with respect to all His deeds which He has done, but we have not obeyed His voice.

# Daniel 9:1-19



15 “And now, O Lord our God, who have brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand and have made a name for Yourself, as it is this day – we have sinned, we have been wicked. 16 O Lord, in accordance with all Your righteous acts, let now Your anger and Your wrath turn away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; for because of our sins and the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people have become a reproach to all those around us. 17 So now, our God, listen to the prayer of Your servant and to his supplications, and for Your sake, O Lord, let Your face shine on Your desolate sanctuary. 18 O my God, incline Your ear and hear! Open Your eyes and see our desolations and the city which is called by Your name; for we are not presenting our supplications before You on account of any merits of our own, but on account of Your great compassion. 19 O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and take action! For Your own sake, O my God, do not delay, because Your city and Your people are called by Your name.”

# Exposit Dan 9:1



1 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans –

❧ “first year”: ~536BC

❧ Darius was “the son of Ahasuerus” who was a king of Persia

❧ Darius was “of Median descent” or “of Persian descent”

❧ Hence, aka Darius the Mede

❧ Darius “was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans (Babylonians)”

❧ Darius is the 1<sup>st</sup> Mede/Persian king to ascend to the throne after Babylonian Empire ended



# Exposit Dan 9:2



2 in the first year of his [Darius's] reign, I, Daniel, observed in the books the number of the years which was revealed as the word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem, namely, seventy years.

❧ “the books” is in reference to OT Scripture

❧ “the number of years which was revealed.... to Jeremiah” was in reference to Jer 25:

11 This whole land [Israel and Judah] will be a desolation and a horror, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

❧ In Daniel 9, kingdom of Babylon ended, and Medes and Persians ascended to power

❧ This is referenced at the end of Daniel chapter 5...

# Exposit Dan 9:2



Daniel 5:30-31

30 That same night [the hand appeared and wrote on the wall] Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain. 31 So Darius the Mede received the kingdom at about the age of sixty-two.

☞ Belshazzar was the last Babylonian/Chaldean king

☞ Darius the Mede was the 1<sup>st</sup> Mede/Persian king

☞ So the end of Dan 5 and the beginning of Dan 9 are connected

# Exposit Dan 9:3



3 So I gave my attention to the Lord God to seek Him by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes.

✎ After reading Jeremiah, and after acknowledging Babylonian 70 year rule over them is completed Daniel turns his attention to God by prayer, supplications with fasting, sackcloth and ashes

# Exposit Dan 9:4-5



4 I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed and said, “Alas, O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments, 5 we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances.

❧ Daniel confessed his sins before God

❧ “who keeps His covenant” Daniel acknowledges that God is merciful and will keep His covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments

❧ Daniel also intercedes on behalf of all Israel for the rebellion and disobedience

# Exposit Dan 9:6



6 Moreover, we have not listened to Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings, our princes, our fathers and all the people of the land.

❧ 2 Chronicles 36:15-16 echoes the same thing

5 The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; 16 but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against His people, until there was no remedy.

❧ Daniel acknowledged all of Israel's sins leading to their destruction and being taken into captivity

# Exposit Dan 9:7



7 “Righteousness belongs to You, O Lord, but to us open shame, as it is this day – to the men of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, those who are nearby and those who are far away in all the countries to which You have driven them, because of their unfaithful deeds which they have committed against You.

- ✧ “Righteousness belongs to You, O Lord” – part of God’s righteousness is to punish sin and rebellion
- ✧ “but to us open shame” – there is no unrighteousness, no shame to God
- ✧ God’s punishment and discipline of His people is demonstration of His righteousness and their shame

# Exposit Dan 9:8



8 Open shame belongs to us, O Lord, to our kings, our princes and our fathers, because we have sinned against You.

❧ “belongs to us... to our kings, our princes and our fathers” – God punished all Israel **corporately** because of its leaders

TRUTH Principle:

❧ Corporate punishment is not the same as independent punishment

❧ Every person will be judged for his/her own sin, not the sins of their fathers or those in authority over them (Ez 18)

# Exposit Dan 9:9-10



9 To the Lord our God belong compassion and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against Him; 10 nor have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His teachings which He set before us through His servants the prophets.

- ✧ In the midst of judgment Daniel acknowledges His readiness to show compassion and forgiveness
- ✧ Daniel takes accountability for their sin
- ✧ God is in the clear
- ✧ All Israel **corporately** is held responsible



# Exposit Dan 9:11



11 Indeed all Israel has transgressed Your law and turned aside, not obeying Your voice; so the curse has been poured out on us, along with the oath which is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, for we have sinned against Him.

☞ “so the curse has been poured out on us” in reference to:

Deuteronomy 11:26-28

26 “See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: 27 the blessing, if you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, which I am commanding you today; 28 and the curse, if you do not listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I am commanding you today, by following other gods which you have not known.

☞ God will always keep His Word, both the blessings and the cursings

# Exposit Dan 9:12



12 Thus He has confirmed His words which He had spoken against us and against our rulers who ruled us, to bring on us great calamity; for under the whole heaven there has not been done anything like what was done to Jerusalem.

- ❧ “He has confirmed His words” in reference to Jeremiah's message and warning
- ❧ God spoke through Jeremiah, and when all Israel refused to repent, He proceeded to inflict His wrath upon them as warned
- ❧ “under the whole heaven there has not been anything like what was done to Jerusalem” their destruction and captivity was the worst event to come upon a people up to that point in time and history
  - ❧ Food for thought: worse than the Flood, Sodom and Gomorrah

# Exposit Dan 9:13



13 As it is written in the law of Moses, all this calamity has come on us; yet we have not sought the favor of the LORD our God by turning from our iniquity and giving attention to Your truth.

- ❧ “law of Moses” in reference to the Torah (first 5 books of the OT)
- ❧ “yet we have not sought the favor of the LORD our God”: **critical key** to understanding why Israel wasn’t immediately acquitted after 70 year punishment of Babylonian rule was completed (when Belshazzar died)
- ❧ In order for God to show love and compassion to them, they needed to repent, seek the favor of their God and given attention to His truth!

# Exposit Dan 9:14



14 Therefore the LORD has kept the calamity in store and brought it on us; for the LORD our God is righteous with respect to all His deeds which He has done, but we have not obeyed His voice.

❧ “Therefore” is in reference of their non repentance

❧ “the LORD has kept the calamity in store and brought in on us” – God will not demonstrate His love and compassion apart from their repentance!

❧ NOTE: This holds true during the end times!

Matthew 23:38-39

38 Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! 39 For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’”

# Exposit Dan 9:15



15 “And now, O Lord our God, who have brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand and have made a name for Yourself, as it is this day – we have sinned, we have been wicked.

- ✧ Daniel appeals to God’s mercy and deliverance He’s demonstrated in the Exodus
- ✧ Since God will not act until they seek after Him, Daniel does so on their behalf

# Exposit Dan 9:16



16 O Lord, in accordance with all Your righteous acts, let now Your anger and Your wrath turn away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; for because of our sins and the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people have become a reproach to all those around us.

☞ “let now Your anger and Your wrath turn away” – Daniel appeals on all Israel’s behalf and confessed they (corporately) acted wickedly, the severe punishment and wrath is warranted, God alone is righteous, and they alone are to blame

☞ “Your holy mountain” = Jerusalem

☞ NOTE: Jerusalem is one of the seven mountains on which the harlot sits

☞ In our study so far, we’ve come across 2 of 7: Mount Seir (Ez 35; ancient Edom; present day: Jordan, Saudi Arabia) and Jerusalem

# Exposit Dan 9:17-18



17 So now, our God, listen to the prayer of Your servant and to his supplications, and for Your sake, O Lord, let Your face shine on Your desolate sanctuary. 18 O my God, incline Your ear and hear! Open Your eyes and see our desolations and the city which is called by Your name; for we are not presenting our supplications before You on account of any merits of our own, but on account of Your great compassion.

- ✧ “for Your sake” is the heart of Daniel’s appeal
- ✧ God chose the people of Israel as His own people
- ✧ God’s reputation and glory is being appealed to by Daniel!
- ✧ Not “on account of any merits of our own” – not by “works” but by faith in God’s great compassion and promises!

# Exposit Dan 9:19



19 O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and take action! For Your own sake, O my God, do not delay, because Your city and Your people are called by Your name.”

- ✧ “For Your own sake” – “because of Who You Are” a God who is full of compassion and mercy and ready to save and forgive!
- ✧ Again Daniel is appealing for God to take action because Jerusalem and all of Israel are “called by [His] name”

Now to the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of our study, Gabriel’s response and the 70 weeks prophecy



# Daniel 9:20-27



20 Now while I was speaking and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God in behalf of the holy mountain of my God, 21 while I was still speaking in prayer, then the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously, came to me in my extreme weariness about the time of the evening offering. 22 He gave me instruction and talked with me and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you insight with understanding. 23 At the beginning of your supplications the command was issued, and I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed; so give heed to the message and gain understanding of the vision.

# Daniel 9:20-27



24 “Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy place. 25 So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. 26 Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 And 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.”

# Exposit Dan 9:20-21



20 Now while I was speaking and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God in behalf of the holy mountain of my God, 21 while I was still speaking in prayer, then the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously, came to me in my extreme weariness about the time of the evening offering.

- ❧ “while I was speaking and praying” – Pretty amazing when you consider that God hasn’t responded up to this point!
- ❧ But God responded as soon as Daniel opened his lips and prayed!
- ❧ “the man Gabriel” – Gabriel is identified as a male (masculine) angel
- ❧ “the vision previously” is the Ram and Goat vision
- ❧ “in my extreme weariness” v. 3 says Daniel was praying and fasting
- ❧ Gabriel arrived “about the time of the evening offering” – around 3-4PM
  - ❧ No literal sacrifices occurred (Temple was destroyed)
  - ❧ Daniel continued to kneel and pray 3 times a day (Dan 6, Lion Den’s account)

# Exposit Dan 9:22-23



22 He [Gabriel] gave me instruction and talked with me and said, “O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you insight with understanding. 23 At the beginning of your supplications the command was issued, and I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed; so give heed to the message and gain understanding of the vision.

- ☞ “command” is *dābār* which is associated with a royal decree (in context Yaweh issued the command)
- ☞ “highly esteemed” is ‘*chamudah*’ (Heb) and means precious or valuable
  - ☞ Characteristic of Daniel and all believers!

Now to the main course “give heed to the message and gain understanding of the vision” [70 Weeks Prophecy]...

# Exposit Dan 9:24



24 “Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy place.

- ❧ “Seventy weeks” [more on this]
- ❧ “have been decreed” is chatak (Heb verb) which means determined, divided out
- ❧ “for your people and your holy city” = “all Israel and Jerusalem”
- ❧ “to finish the transgression” = “when all Israel is done rebelling and sinning against their God”
- ❧ “to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity” [more on this]
- ❧ “to bring in everlasting righteousness” [more on this]
- ❧ “to seal up vision and prophecy” [more on this]
- ❧ “and to anoint the most holy place” [more on this]

# “Seventy weeks”

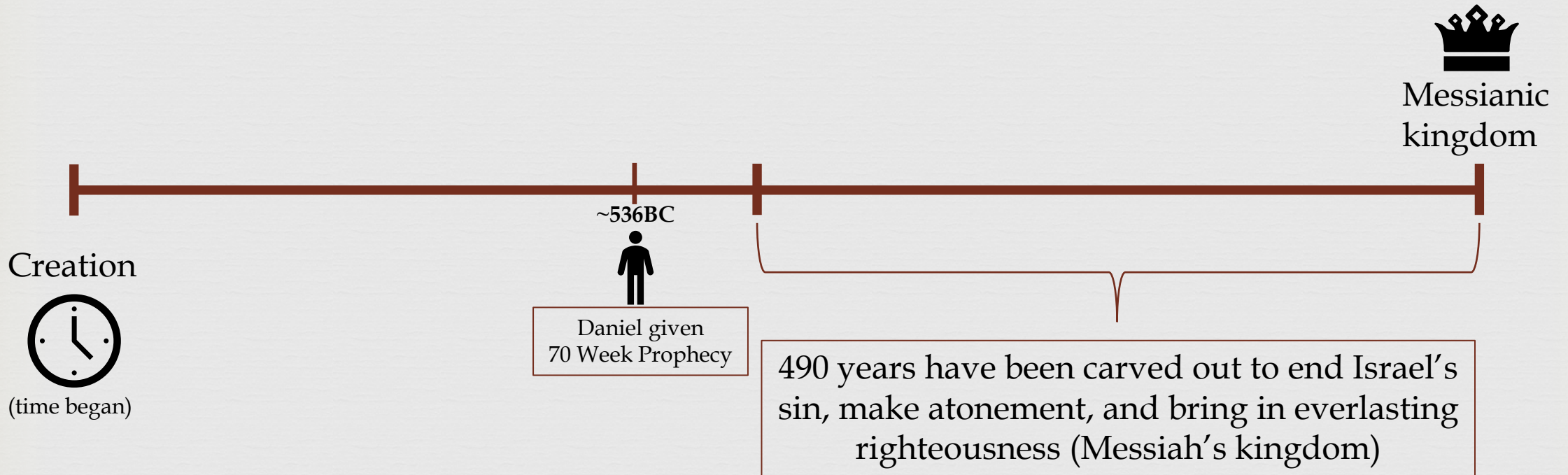


- ❧ “seventy weeks” is “shibim shabua”
- ❧ ‘shibim’ is seventy in Hebrew
- ❧ “shabua” is a full 7 day cycle in Hebrew
- ❧ “seventy weeks” = “seventy sevens” = 70 sets of 7 years
  - ❧ “70x7 years” = 490 years
- ❧ 70 is a key theme in connection with Israel’s punishment and restoration
  - ❧ God through Jeremiah pronounced a 70 year judgment in Babylonian captivity
  - ❧ God through Daniel pronounced a 70x7 (490) years to end their punishment

## TRUTH:

- ❧ God decreed and divided (carved) out 490 years of human history to bring an end of their punishment and to usher in everlasting righteousness

# “Seventy weeks”



# “to make and end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity”



- ☞ “end of sin” is ‘tamam chattath’ which means to complete or finish sin or a sin offering
- ☞ “make atonement for iniquity” is ‘kaphar avon (āwōn)’ which means to make propitiation of sin

TRUTH:

- ☞ God decreed and divided out 490 years of human history to make Israel’s sin complete and finally atone for their sin



# “to bring in everlasting righteousness”



- ❧ “bring in” means to come, or arrive
- ❧ “everlasting righteousness” is ‘olam tsedeq’ which means perpetual (unending) justice and righteousness

## TRUTH:

- ❧ When the 490 years of punishment has been completed, God will usher in a perpetual (unending) state of justice and righteousness!
  - ❧ Truth behind: “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on Earth”

# “to seal up vision and prophecy”



- ❧ “to seal up” is ‘chatham’ which describes affixing an impression on a clay document and keep its contents closed
  - ❧ In Daniel “vision was sealed up”
  - ❧ In Revelation, only One was found worthy to break the 7 seals
  - ❧ NOTE: the timing of the end of the 490 years coincides with the breaking of the 7 seals in Revelation!
- ❧ In v. 24, the contents that are sealed is this very prophecy

# “and to anoint the most holy place”



- ❧ “to anoint” is ‘mashach’ which means to smear or anoint
  - ❧ Jesus Christ in Hebrew is “Yeshua Hamashiach” which means “Joshua the Messiah” or “Joshua the Anointed One”
  - ❧ In a religious ceremony it means the setting apart of people or things for divine service
- ❧ “the most holy” is ‘qodesh’ which means the sacredness, the holy thing or place
  - ❧ NOTE: this does NOT necessarily mean a building (or Temple!), for example...

# “and to anoint the most holy place”



Exodus 3:4-5 (in the burning bush account)

4 When the LORD saw that he [Moses] turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” 5 Then He said, “Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground [qodesh].”

- ☞ CASE IN POINT: Do not assume “to anoint the most holy place” means to anoint a physical building or Temple
- ☞ The qodesh, the most holy place can also be the ground by which God chose and sanctified

# Catarroja AMP: Dan 9:24



24 “[490 years] have been [carved out of history] for [all Israel and Jerusalem], [at the end of those 490 years Israel’s punishment for their sin and rebellion will be completed, Messiah, will make full atonement for their sin, usher in Messiah’s everlasting kingdom where there will be an unending state of justice and righteousness, Yaweh has decreed this vision and prophecy with His royal authority and will consecrate the most sacred place].