



THE CORNERSTONE

July 2017



Fajita Fest July 2nd

1st Sunday in July!



in lieu of having it on the

4th of July



Sugar Land Bible Church will have their 4th of July Celebration on the First Sunday in July.

If you are planning to attend, please signup in the foyer! Sign up sheets will be in the Foyer





News from the Children's Ministry at Samuel Student Center Guatemala, June 2017

Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. 2 Cor. 4:1 (NIV)

Memories of God's Mercy

Last November when we were about to start a special service to celebrate the micro-bus that we had acquired to replace the one that was stolen, my beloved mother closed her eyes to meet her Lord.

Thanks to God, just before that we had our Vacation Bible School with the theme "CROSSING TO THE IMPOSSIBLE". It was a wonderful week with about 90 children attending. Our staff and invited helpers gave of their time and talents to bring the Word of God to the children. We also praise God for providing financially thanks to our donors.



Scripture for the Month:

Philippians 1:6 NASB

For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

Please pray for the Missions to China Trip. There is a pray calendar on the Name tag table. The Team will be leaving the last of June and will stay for 2-4 Weeks.

The Cornerstone Newsletter deadline is the 19th of each month. If you have any announcements or News worthy articles please submit them to Patricia Chandler at earl-budc@att.net or to Carol at Carol@slbc.org.



DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS, PART 9

Andy Woods—Pastor

In this series of articles, we are exploring a very important Bible prophecy, which is generally referred to as Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks, found in Daniel 9:24-27. In the first installment, we explained the background of the giving of this prophecy. With this background information in mind, we then turned our attention to a textual analysis of Daniel 9:24-27. We began to break the prophecy down into ten manageable facts. As the reader tracks with me through the presentation of these ten facts, concepts, or ideas, he will develop a very clear understanding of the Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks. In turn, he will be rewarded by the Holy Spirit with greater confidence that the Bible is indeed God's Word, and he will also obtain a blueprint or timeline through which he can understand how all end time events predicted in the Bible will ultimately come to pass.

In our second installment, we noted our *first* fact, which is the idea that the Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks concerns the nation of Israel in general and the City of Jerusalem in particular. As previously noted, this prophecy has nothing to do with the present age of the Church. In fact, the Church was a mystery, which is an unknown spiritual reality (Eph. 3:3-6, 9), at the time the Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks was given. In our third installment, we noted a *second* feature, which is the notion that the prophecy consists of a 490-year stop watch. In our fourth installment, we noted our *third* feature, which is the idea that each year of Daniel's 490-year stopwatch consists of 360 days. In our fifth installment, we noted our *fourth* feature, which is the idea that at the end of Daniel's 490-year period Israel will be politically and spiritually restored. In our sixth installment, we noted our *fifth* fact, which pertains to the notion that Daniel's 490-year stop watch began to run on March 5, 444 B.C. In our seventh and eighth installments, we presented our *sixth* fact. Exactly 483 years elapsed between the beginning of the prophecy (March 5, 444 B.C.) and when the Messiah formally presented His messianic credentials to the nation of Israel on Palm Sunday (March 30, A.D. 33). In other words, the first 69 weeks of the prophecy were fulfilled to the exact day. We are now prepared to offer our *seventh* fact.

Fact # 7: A Gap of an Unspecified Interlude Exists Between the 69th and the 70th Weeks of the Prophecy (Dan 9:26)

According to fact number 7, although the prophecy ran consecutively for 490 years, a gap of an unspecified duration of time exists in between the end of year 483 and the beginning of the year 484 of Daniel's 490-year prophecy. Thus, there is an undisclosed gap of time between the first sixty-nine weeks and the seventieth week of the prophecy. Another way of saying this is that there exists a gap of time in between the first 483 years of the prophecy and the final seven years of the prophecy. In other words, once Palm Sunday happened God placed His finger on the prophetic pause button. God's finger has remained on that pause button ever since. The prophecy is simply waiting for God to place His finger back on the restart button.

Before defending the existence of the gap, let us first ask and answer the question, "what is taking place during this gap of time?" What is taking place in that gap is something called the Church Age, which we, as believers in Jesus Christ, in current age are all a part of. The Church Age began on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2 and has been continuing ever since. The Church Age will conclude with the rapture of the church. God's church during this period consists of everyone, both Jew and Gentile (Eph. 2:14-15), who has trusted in the very Messiah that national Israel rejected back in the



first century. During this gap, God has been at work with this special group, or a new spiritual organism, called the church. Thus, God has been using the church, rather than the nation of Israel, as His primary instrument to reach a lost and dying world for the last two thousand years throughout the duration of this prophetic gap of time.

Many people question the idea that there could actually be a gap of time in Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks. For example, Steve Wohlberg contends:

Much of the Christian world is now locked in a fierce debate about whether Jesus will return for His church before the seven years (the pre-tribulation view), in the midst of the seven years (the mid-tribulation view), or at the end of the seven years (the post-tribulation view). Yet by far the most explosive question, which few seem to be asking, should be "is an in time 'seven-year period of great tribulation' really the correct interpretation of Daniel 9:27 in the first place?" Historically, protestant scholars have not applied Daniel 9:27 to a future period of tribulation at all! Neither have they applied the "he" to the antichrist! Rather, they applied it to Jesus Christ.

Thus, we need to ask the question, "is it exegetically defensible to contend that in between the end of verse 26 and the beginning of verse 27 there exists a gap spanning at least two-thousand years in duration with this period of time continuing right up until the rapture of the church?" There are at least *six* valid text-based reasons for contending that such a gap exists.

THE EVENTS PREDICTED IN VERSE 26 INDICATE A PAUSE

First, the events prophesied in verse 26 demonstrate that the prophecy at some point was put on hold. Daniel 9:26 says, "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." According to this verse, after 483 years (7 sevens and 62 sevens of verse 25) of the prophecy had transpired two things will happen. Number 1, the Messiah will be cut off and inherit nothing. Christ never inherited the kingdom in His First Coming because the nation of Israel rejected Him. That is why He is referred to as merely "Messiah the Prince" (verse 25) rather than as a king. He will not be the King until the nation of Israel accepts His Messiahship and honors Him as their King. Such a coronation did not happen at His First Coming. In fact, it was during this time that the nation of Israel turned Christ over to the Romans for execution (John 19:15).

Number 2, after the 483 years had transpired the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The city referred to here would represent the City of Jerusalem and the sanctuary represents the refurbished Jewish temple (John 2:20). This is a prediction of something that eventually took place in A.D. 70, which represented a terrible time in Jewish history. It took place almost 40 years after the time of Christ. This event represented the divine discipline imposed upon the nation for rejecting Jesus Christ (Deut. 28:49-50). The prince that is mentioned in verse 26 (not to be confused with the prince mentioned in verse 25) refers to Titus of Rome who, with his Roman legions, came against the nation of Israel in A. D. 70. Just as predicted, Titus destroyed both the City of Jerusalem and Jewish Temple. Roughly a million Jews lost their lives as a result.

Jesus also predicted the events of A.D. 70 during His triumphal entry on Palm Sunday as recorded in Luke 19:41-44. When Jesus came riding into Jerusalem on a donkey on Palm Sunday He began to weep. Luke 19:41 says, "When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it." Why was He weeping? He understood the prophecy of Daniel 9:26 and consequently what was



THE ALL CHURCH LADIES FELLOWSHIP REUNION



Date: July 22, 2017

TIME: 1:45 PM TO 4 PM.

Place: SLBC ~ Fellowship Room

THEME: ENCOURAGEMENT FOR SURVIVAL

Ice Cream Sundaes will be served

Kits will be prepared for each lady, we ask that the Ladies who will be attending to sign up in the foyer.

Sign-up list is in the Foyer.



Dear SLBC Church Family and Friends,

We have scheduled a Baptism Classes for: • **July 2, 2017**

This class will be held during the normal Sunday School hour (**9:45AM – 10:45AM**), in the **Conference Room #107**, across from the Church Library (*unless otherwise noted*). The subsequent Baptismal Service will be held on — **July 9, 2017** at Wayne Pittman's home located at **207 Lombardy, Sugar Land, TX 77478** in the Venetian Estates Subdivision

If you or a family member desire to be baptized, please respond to this email as soon as possible with the full name of the Candidate for Baptism as it should appear on the Baptismal Certificate.



soon to happen on account of Israel's unbelief. Jesus knew He was going to be cut off and inherit nothing. He also knew the next part of Daniel's prophecy predicting Titus of Rome's destruction of both the city and the sanctuary in A.D. 70. In Luke 19 Jesus provides an accurate picture of what the horrific events of A.D. 70 would be like. In verse 42 he explains to first-century Israel that peace had now "been hidden from your eyes." All the kingdom realities (Dan. 9:24) that the nation could have experienced would now be withheld because the nation had rejected its own king.

In Luke 19:43-44, Jesus explains:

For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side, and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.

The first-century historian Josephus validates how Christ's predictions here were literally fulfilled in the events of A.D. 70. For example, an embankment was built around the Jews when the Romans came against them thereby preventing them from escaping. Jesus also predicted that the temple would be taken apart brick by brick. Josephus tells us that because the temple caught on fire in the events of A.D. 70, its metal and gold began to melt and ooze down between the temple bricks, and it dried there. Consequently, the greedy Roman soldiers, to get their hands on this gold, were forced to take the temple apart brick by brick, exactly as Jesus had predicted.

Daniel 9:26 is clear that the events of A.D. 70 had to happen at the end of the first 483 years but before the final seven years of the prophecy (Dan. 9:27) could begin. My point is simply this: if the events of A.D. 70 had to take place before the final seven years of the prophecy could be fulfilled and if A.D. 70 took place almost 40 years after Palm Sunday, then there must be an interlude in the prophecy. At some point the prophecy stopped running concurrently. Otherwise, it would have been completely fulfilled seven years after Palm Sunday. In other words, because Daniel, in verse 26, predicted that there had to be the holocaust of A.D. 70 before the final seven years of the prophecy (Dan. 9:27) could transpire and because the events of A.D. 70 happened 40 years after Palm Sunday, evidently there had to be an interlude in the action before the transpiring of the 70th week of the prophecy.

VERSE 24 WAS NEVER FULFILLED

Second, if the prophecy had run consecutively with no interruption then the kingdom promises (Dan. 9:24) would have been set up upon the earth through national Israel seven years after Palm Sunday (March 30, A.D. 33). In other words, if there is no gap between the end of year 483 but before year 484 of the prophecy then all the six prophecies mentioned in Daniel 9:24 would have been fulfilled exactly seven years after Palm Sunday. Recall what we said earlier in our *fourth* fact. Once the 490th year of the prophecy transpires, Israel will be in a state of political and spiritual restoration. Yet, that was never the case seven years after Palm Sunday. Israel's unbelief continued as is evidenced by the nation's perpetual persecution of the infant church as recorded in the Book of Acts. Even today the nation of Israel, despite having been regathered from the four corners of the earth in 1948, still remains in a state of unbelief two thousand years later. Obviously at some point there was a pause in Daniel's prophecy and that pause has been continuing for the last two thousand years. (To Be Continued...)

Steve Wohlberg, *Exploding the Israel Deception: A Jewish Believer Exposes False Prophecies About Israel, the Temple, and Armageddon* (Roseville, CA: Amazing Facts, 1998), 43.

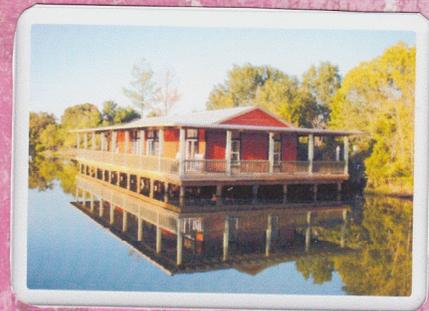
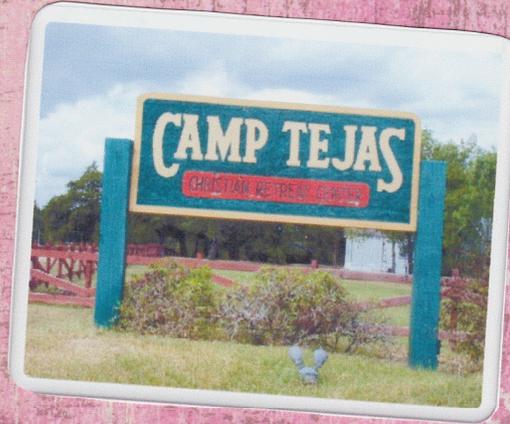
Join Us...

SLBC

Ladies' Retreat

Oct 13-15, 2017

@ Camp Tejas



*"Set Your Mind on the
Things Above" Col 3:2*

--Speaker Betty Cooke

Registration Open!



See foyer table for details.