

Section Two: The Kingdom of God on Earth (Present)

Category B: Rapture – Kingdom Intelligence Report #3

Topic: The Context of the Event (continued)

In our previous intelligence report, we learned that the prophecy of Daniel 9:24-27 is absolutely critical in resolving the timeframe of the Rapture. The key premise for this text involves the relationship which exists between the mystery of the Church and the nation of Israel. If the replacement of Israel by the Church, as God's instrument for fulfilling His purposes in our world, is indeed temporary, then when and how will that temporary replacement end, and Israel's restoration begin? The answer to this question is two-fold; involving the concepts of "interval" and "overlap." A strong consensus exists regarding the interval, consisting of a period of time between the 69th and 70th weeks of Daniel's prophecy. On the other hand, a much greater level of disagreement exists regarding the overlap; primarily due to an unwarranted insertion of the Church Age into the 70th week of Daniel's prophecy. There are four elements contained in the prophecy of Daniel 9:24-27 that demand its **exclusivity**, as it pertains to the nation of Israel; eliminating any possibility of an "overlap" of the Church Age into Daniel's 70th week. They are:

(1) Historical/Logistical:

If the first 69 weeks were exclusive to Israel, and they were, why shouldn't we come to a similar conclusion about the 70th week? Common sense dictates that we should.

(2) Ancestral/Racial:

All 70 weeks have been designated for Daniel's people, the Hebrew race, including not only his ancestors, but because of the nature of this prophecy, his physical descendants as well.

(3) National/Contractual:

Daniel's people, at the time of this prophecy, were not a random group of Semitic tribes, but a theocratic nation under God, by means of the Mosaic Covenant; with the very center of the nation's existence being its capital city, the holy city of Jerusalem.

(4) Prophetic/Purposeful:

The 70 weeks have a comprehensive purpose, stated with unmistakable clarity in **Daniel 9:24**. This purpose has not yet been fulfilled. However, its realization is essential to Israel's future promised place in the Kingdom of God on earth, resulting in the restoration of God's Plan A.

In comparing Daniel 9:27 with Matthew 24:15-31, we can conclude that Daniel's 70th week is identical to the seven year period of Tribulation on earth, described by Jesus in His Olivet Discourse, and detailed by the Apostle John in Revelation 6:1-19:21. **Since Daniel's 70th week is exclusive to Israel, there will be no overlap of the Church Age into Daniel's Seventieth Week!** Therefore, the timing for the Rapture of the Church can be established with a consistently high degree of certainty. As the Rapture event culminates the Church Age, it will in turn, allow for the initiation of Daniel's 70th week, the Tribulation period, the time of Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:7). During this momentous time, God will again turn His attention to His chosen people, the nation of Israel. He will restore them to their promised place in the Kingdom of God on earth, as revealed in Daniel 9:24 and confirmed in **Romans 11:25-29**; where Paul, in v25, refers to the Church Age in its direct relation to the restoration of Israel as "until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in." In other words, when the Church Age is complete, Israel's restoration will begin.