

Revelation's HOPE

Lesson 9: The Great Judgment

I. Revelation 10

“And I saw another strong angel coming down out of heaven, arrayed with a cloud; and the rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire; ² and he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left upon the earth; ³ and he cried with a great voice, as a lion roareth: and when he cried, the seven thunders uttered their voices” (**Rev 10:1-3**, ASV).

A. Key Points

- Little book that is “open”. What book?
- There once was a sealed Book

“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased” (**Dan 12:4** ASV).

- Only book of prophecy that was “sealed” was the book of Daniel. And specifically the vision of Daniel 8. “And the vision of the evenings and mornings which hath been told is true: but shut thou up the vision; for it belongeth to many days to come” (**Dan 8:26** ASV).
- “Time of the end” here, but “no more delay” in Revelation →

B. Eating a Scroll

⁴ And when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying, Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not. ⁵ And the angel that I saw standing upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his right hand to heaven, ⁶ and sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created the heaven and the things that are therein, and the earth and the things that are therein, and the sea and the things that are therein, that there shall be delay no longer” (**Rev. 10:4-6**).

- This message comes just before the coming of Jesus for the sounding of the 7th Trumpet is referred to in next few verses.
- “Delay no longer” = no more time (Chronos).
- “For the vision is yet for the appointed time, and it hasteth toward the end, and shall not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not delay” (**Hab 2:3** ASV).
- Habakkuk’s message prepares the way for YHWH to judge the earth.
- Revelation is saying that before Jesus comes there will be a time of Judgment.

II. What Message of Judgment?

A. When you think of the word “judgment” what comes to mind?

B. Most think it is negative, but what if it is in your favor? Then it is positive

C. **Revelation 22:12; Matthew 16:27** – Jesus’ reward is with Him = He will know who is on His side.

D. Verdict in favor of the Saints before He comes. Guilty verdict for “wicked” after He comes. → **Revelation 20:12**

*Why keep books? Why show records to thousands surrounding the throne?

III. Major Theme of Revelation

- A. There is a conflict between Good and Evil – see **Revelation 12**.
- B. Judgment shows God has done everything He can to save while Satan has tried to destroy (**Job chapter 1** is an example of this).
- C. Daniel spends quite a bit of time referring to the Judgment in **Daniel 7 & 9**.

IV. The Judgment of **Daniel 7**

- A. Context the judgment scene of Daniel 7: Judgment
- B. Where is it taking place: Heaven.
- C. Who does it involve: Good and evil people.
- D. Books = life history
- E. Law = standard of judgment
- F. When is the Judgment completed? Before Jesus comes!
- G. When does it take place: Daniel 8 tells us.

V. When the Judgment occurs

A. **Daniel 8**

“Out of one of them came another horn, which started small but grew in power to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land. ¹⁰ It grew until it reached the host of the heavens, and it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them. ¹¹ It set itself up to be as great as the commander of the army of the LORD; it took away the daily sacrifice from the LORD, and his sanctuary was thrown down. ¹² Because of rebellion, the LORD's people and the daily sacrifice were given over to it. It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground. . . ¹³ Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to him, ‘How long will it take for the vision to be fulfilled--the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, the rebellion that causes desolation, the surrender of the sanctuary and the trampling underfoot of the LORD's people?’ ¹⁴ He said to me, ‘It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be reconsecrated’ ” (**Dan 8:9-14** NIV).

- Reconsecrated = cleansed
- Alludes to the Day of Atonement / Judgment in Israel
- Presupposes a knowledge of the sanctuary system in **Ex. 25:8**.
- The system involved sacrifices. The lamb pointed to Jesus (**John 1:29**)

B. Two foci in Sanctuary

- Daily – Tamid in Hebrew. Focused on Ministry of sacrifices. Sinner confessed sin, animal was slain, blood was collected, lamb body was put on the altar and the blood “transferred” into the Holy Place of the sanctuary. **SACRIFICE NOT THE END OF THE WORK! Jesus was risen and went to heaven (see Hebrews)**
- Yearly - Day of Atonement /cleansing of the sanctuary. This was a time of confession. The Lord’s goat was slain and the scapegoat was taken into the wilderness to die on its own. Since without shedding of blood there is no

remission of sin, the “Lord’s goat” represents Jesus. The Scapegoat (*Azazel* in Hebrew) has been seen by rabbinical literature to represent demonic forcesⁱ:

“From the preceding analysis, it is evident that the authors of the apocalyptic texts known as *1 Enoch* and the *Apocalypse of Abraham* regarded Azazel as a demon. In fact, a number of attributes commonly associated with Satan appear in the depictions of Azazel contained in these works. Furthermore, the author of *1 Enoch* 10 apparently conceived of the scapegoat rite (especially as it is formulated in the Mishnah and in *Targum Pseudo-Jonathan*) as a paradigm of Azazel’s banishment. Thus ancient Jewish traditions appear to be in agreement with the interpretation which finds in the expulsion of the scapegoat a type or model of the eschatological defeat of demonic power”.

- The Priest would go into the Most Holy Place with the blood of the “Lord’s goat” and sprinkle it on the mercy seat.
- The Cleansing of the Earthly Sanctuary was a symbol of the Final Judgment of Jesus in the Heavenly Sanctuary.

C. Meaning of the 2,300 days

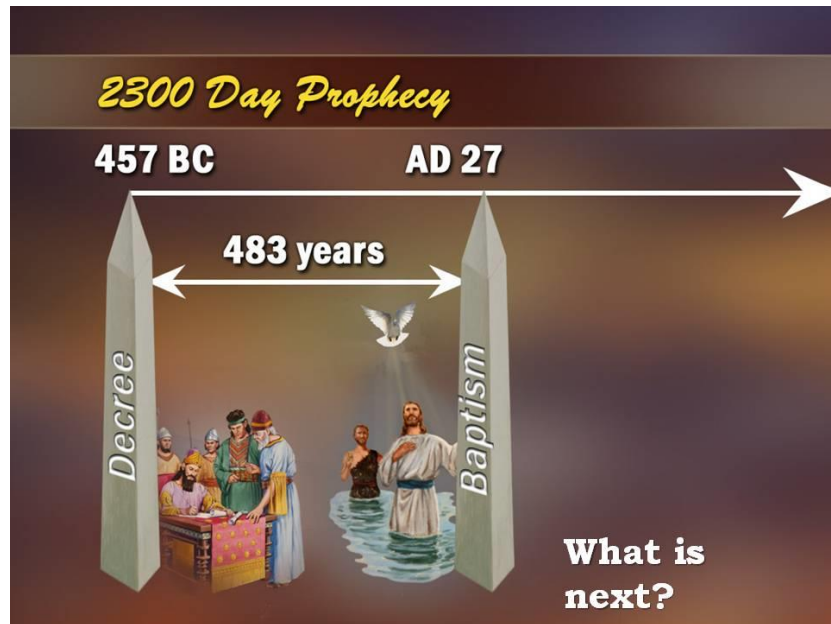
- **Daniel 8:16-17**: Understand the “vision” refers to the time of the end.
- The Vision involves the Heavenly Sanctuary
- The Vision involves Judgment
- Therefore, the 2,300 days has to be symbolic since it extends well beyond Daniel’s time to Jesus’ time and the END.
- **Ezekiel 4:6** – a day for a year.
- 2,300 days = 2,300 years.
- More information given in Daniel 9.

D. **Daniel 9:23-24**

- Daniel’s city – Jerusalem
- Daniel’s people – Hebrew captives
- Seventy weeks “cut off” for Daniel’s people. This is time allotted to them.
- Equals 490 years.
- Does it have a starting point?

E. **Daniel 9:25**

- Decree to restore and build Jerusalem = 457 B.C.E.
- To Messiah the Prince (important word that is used to describe Jesus)
- 457 B.C.E. is the start of both the 2,300 days and the 490 years.

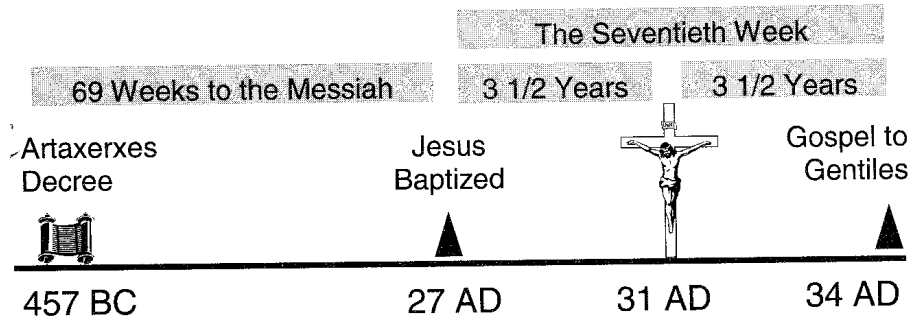


F. Prince “cut off”

“After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be put to death and will have nothing. The people of the ruler [Prince = Jesus] who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary [will cause the city and sanctuary to be destroyed]. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. ²⁷ He [the Prince] will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he [the Prince] will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him” (Dan 9:26-27, NIV).

- Another translation→
“And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator” (Dan 9:26 ESV).
- Jesus is the Prince who is “cut off” but “not for Himself” and brings and end to sacrifice.
- He is also the Prince who confirms a covenant (**Matthew 26:28**).
- After the time of Jesus one would come and destroy the temple and bring an abomination that makes desolation. This would be brought about by the hardheartedness of the Jews (see **Luke 21**).
- Let’s summarize this: Christ baptized, ministered & died on time! (**Galatians 4:4; Mark 1:15**). The graphic below makes this clear.ⁱⁱ

The Seventy Weeks



G. End of 490 Years = A.D. 34

- Stephen preaches a covenant lawsuit against leaders in Israel.

“All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel” (**Acts 6:15**).

“But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God” (**7:55**).

“They began to stone him... at the feet of a young man named Saul” (**7:58**).

- Jesus the Judge stands when He has finished his work. Another place says this →

“At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people--everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered” (**Dan 12:1 NIV**).

- Jesus stands in favor of Stephen as a visual reminder that HE is on Stephen’s side! It also enrages the audience because the verdict is against them! What happens next? →
- Sweet Scroll reference in Revelation 10 has a root in the Hebrew Scriptures.

“And he said unto me, Son of man, eat that which thou findest; eat this roll, and go, speak unto the house of Israel. ² So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat the roll. ³ And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness. ⁴ And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them. ⁵ For thou art not sent to a people of a strange speech and of a hard language, but to the house of Israel; (**Eze 3:1 ASV**).

- Ezekiel, Habakkuk and other prophets prophesied to Israel, and at the end of 2,300 days others would prophesy.

VI. 2,300 Days end in 1844

- Huge emphasis on the soon coming of Jesus in 1844. William Miller and other preachers of different denominations (Methodist, Christian Connection, etc) united to share this message.
- Estimates say a revival of godliness occurred resulting in 2/3 of America looking forward to the return of Jesus.
- Jesus did not come, and a great disappointment occurred.
- Not unlike what happened to Jesus' disciples (see the last chapters of Matthew and Luke).
- The ones who held to the belief in the soon coming of Jesus were known as Adventists. They held on even after 1844 and discovered they were prophesied to have a bitter experience long ago (once again this is not unlike the disciples who had their Shepherd struck and they as sheep scattered).

VII. The Little Scroll

“But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced to his servants the prophets.”⁸ Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me once more: ‘Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.’⁹ So I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, ‘Take it and eat it. It will turn your stomach sour, but ‘in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey.’¹⁰ I took the little scroll from the angel's hand and ate it. It tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach turned sour.¹¹ Then I was told, ‘You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, languages and kings’ ” (Rev 10:7-11 NIV).

- This group of people then went on to read Revelation 11
- They did not give up but prophesied again!
- This happens when the 7th angel is about to sound = Jesus is coming →

“The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.’¹⁶ And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God,¹⁷ saying: ‘We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. . .¹⁸ The nations were angry, and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your people who revere your name, both great and small-- and for destroying those who destroy the earth.’¹⁹ Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a severe hailstorm” (Rev 11:15-19 NIV).

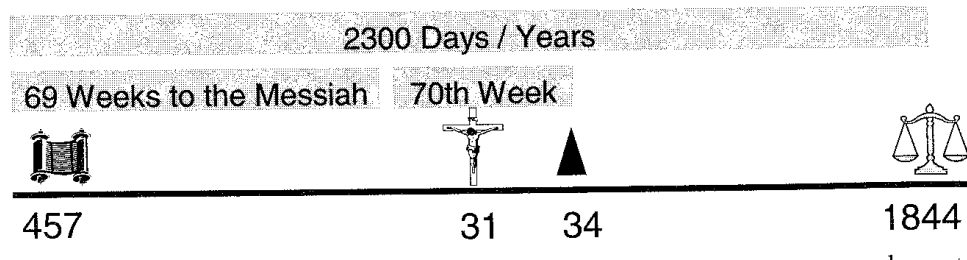
- Sounding of the 7th Trumpet = end of the world.
- This involves judging the dead and rewarding the servants of God.

- We will learn more about this later, but by re-studying the Bible these disappointed disciples gained hope. Like the Road to Emmaus. Summary→

VIII. Summary

- Worldwide revival
- Millerite Movement / Adventism
- Thought Sanctuary was this earth = cleansed by fire
- Were greatly disappointed
- Not first time in history this happened: See Disciples
- Prophesied that this would happen: Revelation 10 & 11.
- Visual summary:

The Judgment / Cleansing of the Sanctuary



- A group of people emerged and a message is still being preached→

Rev 10 (Paulien)

We Live Between the “No More Delay”
and the “About to Sound”

	Angel of Rev 10	“About to Sound”
Daniel’s Time Prophecies	“But”	Period of the Seventh Angel
Mystery of God	Proclaimed	
	“Time no more”	“Mystery of God Finished”

- God raised up a prophetic people to preach a prophetic message calling the world back to worshipping the Creator! This is Good NEWS!
- 1 John 2: 1-2 says this is GREAT NEWS!

- Revelation 3:5 challenges us: Do we have our name in the book of life? Do you??

ⁱ Helm, Robert. Azazel in Early Jewish Tradition, (Andrews University Seminary Studies, Volume 32 number 3, Autumn 1994), 217-226.

ⁱⁱ Used by permission from Jac Colon, founder of Revelation Now ministries (www.revelation-now.com)