

AN EXPLANATION OF DANIEL 2 AND 7

1. In the Old Testament there are six great Gentile empires, each of which had a particular mission in relation to Israel:
 - a. Egypt: the cradle of the nation Israel.
 - b. Assyria: took the ten tribes into captivity in 722 B.C.
 - c. Babylon: captured Jerusalem, destroyed the temple, carried Daniel off in 605, 597 and 586 B.C. (three deportations).
 - d. Three remaining world empires preceding the empire of Christ are: Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome.
2. Daniel 2:32-33 records Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a huge statue, revealing four kingdoms.
3. Daniel 7 presents God's viewpoint of the same governments as ravenous beasts.

God's View (Daniel 7)	Empire	Daniel's View (Daniel 2)
Winged Lion	Babylon	Head of gold
Bear	Medo-Persia	Shoulders/arms of silver
Winged leopard with four heads	Greece (Alexander the Great)	Stomach/thighs of bronze or brass
Mongrel empire	Rome	Legs/feet of iron and clay

4. The final stage of the fourth empire is described in both Daniel 7 and Revelation 13 as a 10-horned beast, which indicates 10 kings ruling simultaneously. This has not yet happened in world history, and can be seen as being fulfilled by some type of 10-nation confederacy and a revival of the Roman empire in the end times.
5. Daniel 7:8 anticipates the rise of the "little horn." His description matches the beast in Revelation 13 who is more popularly called the Antichrist. (See also Daniel 8:23; 9:26; 11:36; 12:11).
6. This little horn, according to Revelation 13 and 17, will be given authority over the 10 nations, and eventually become a world dictator.
7. This world dictator (Antichrist) will be defeated by Jesus Christ at His Second Coming (Rev. 19:19-21).

DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS

Daniel 9:24-27

In Daniel 9, three important events are presented: first, the approaching fulfillment of Israel's return to her land (vv. 1-2); second, the remarkable prayer of Daniel in view of the approaching fulfillment of prophecy (vv. 3-19); and third, the important prophecy concerning the seventy sevens of Israel's future.

When we consider biblical prophecy it is important that we remember that a prophetic year is 360 days, not 365. Accordingly, the years are somewhat shorter than in our modern calendar. This is in keeping with ancient calendaring.

Daniel is informed that God has appointed seventy sevens upon the Jewish people to finish all transgressions. After this, everlasting righteousness will follow. These "weeks" are best understood as representing years. Seventy weeks of years (seventy times seven years) will equal 490 years.

From the time of the decree to restore and build Jerusalem (including the rebuilding of the wall) until the coming of the Messiah will be seven weeks (49 years) and threescore and two weeks (62 weeks or 434 years). Adding 49 and 434, one arrives at a figure of 483 years, all but seven of the 490 years involved in the seventy weeks. It is important to note that the 70th week is discussed separately from the other 69. Note the following table:

606 B.C.	Nebuchadnezzar takes the first captives from Jerusalem.
539 B.C.	The decree of Cyrus for the return of the Jews exactly seventy years after Daniel was taken captive (cf. Ezra 1:1-2).
538 B.C.	The taking of Babylon by Darius and Daniel's visitation by Gabriel.
457 B.C.	The decree of Artaxerxes Longimanus in the seventh year of his reign to build the city of Jerusalem (cf. Ezra 7:13-26).
444 B.C.	The decree of Artaxerxes to restore and build Jerusalem in the twentieth year of his reign (cf. Neh. 2:1-8). This begins the 70 weeks of Daniel 9:24-27.
c. 4 B.C.	The birth of our Lord.
c. A.D. 33	The crucifixion of Christ.

AN EXPLANATION OF THE 70 WEEKS

Calculating from 444 B.C. to A.D. 33, one arrives at 478 years, not 483. However, this is due to our modern calendar reckonings, which are based upon the solar year of 365 days. The Jewish calendar was based upon a lunar year of 360 days. When the two calendars are adjusted and one allows an additional year for the transition from B.C. to A.D., the year c. A.D. 33 is the date at the end of the sixty-ninth week when Messiah is cut off (v. 26).

According to Daniel 9:24, six major events characterize the 490 years: 1) "to finish transgression," 2) "to put an end to sin," 3) "to atone for wickedness," 4) "to bring in everlasting righteousness," 5) "to seal up vision and prophecy," and, 6) "to anoint the Most Holy" (v. 24).

Daniel 9:26 discusses the cutting off of Messiah at week sixty-nine. Then the seventieth week is addressed. Again, contextually it should be noted that it (the 70th week) is separated from the other sixty-nine weeks. Further, a new and different personality is introduced: "The Prince." He should not be identified as the Messiah. Note the comment of Dr. Paige Patterson:

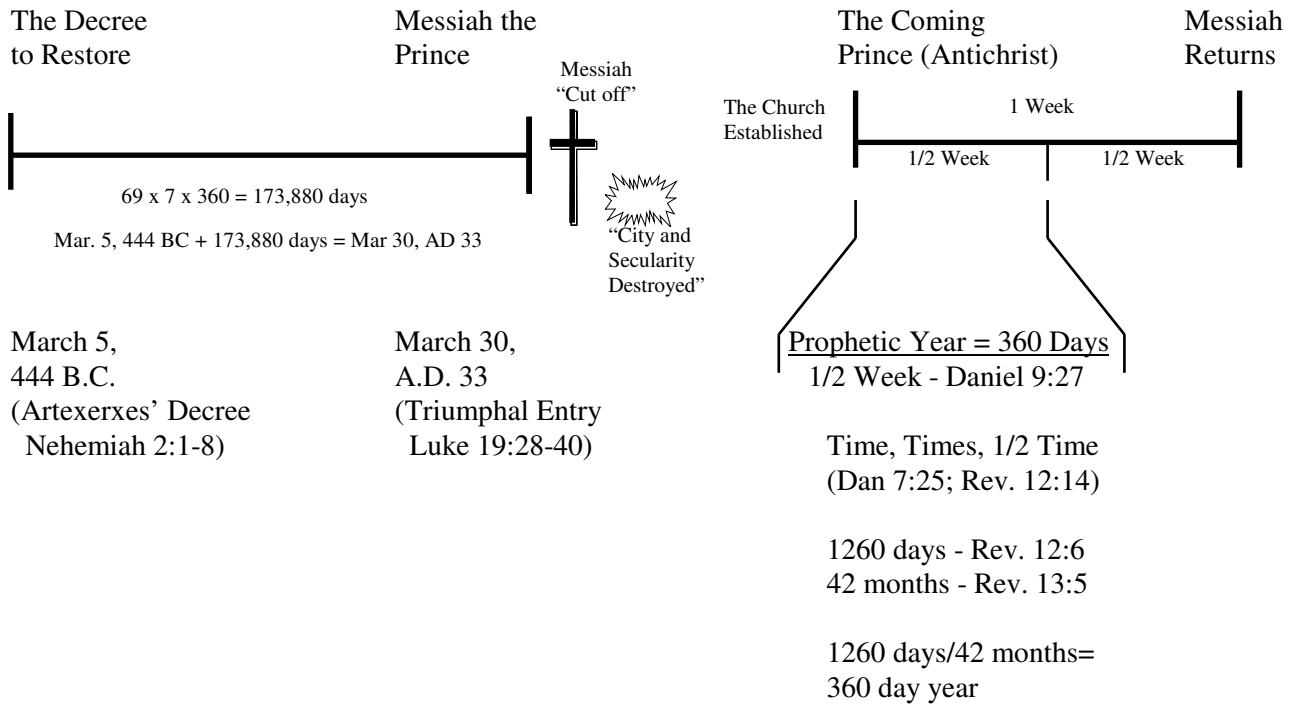
The seventieth week is the subject of discussion here (vv. 26-27). The "prince that shall come" is the beast from the sea (cf. Rev. 13) and the "little horn" of 7:8, who is the Antichrist. After making a covenant with Israel for one week or seven years, he will break it in the midst of the week, cause sacrifice to cease, and reduce the city of Jerusalem and the temple to destruction. Between the sixty-ninth and the seventieth week there is an uncharted lapse of time not revealed to Daniel or to any other of the Old Testament prophets. This intervening time span incorporates the age of the Church in which we now live and work. The events of sixty-nine weeks, including the cutting off of Messiah, are behind. The events of the seventieth week remain for the future and will be realized during the age of the Great Tribulation of seven years just prior to the bringing in of "everlasting righteousness" (v. 24).

The seventy weeks are a time of retribution, redemption, and restoration. They are especially related to the nation of Israel. Sixty-nine are past, the seventieth is yet to come. It also will primarily be related to Israel. Dr. John Walvoord notes concerning the seventieth week and verse 27:

The interpretation of "he" which begins verse 27 is crucial to understanding this prophecy in its fulfillment. In normal laws of reference, a pronoun refers back to the last preceding person mentioned. In this case, it is the "ruler who will come" of verse 26 rather than "the Anointed One" (Messiah) of the earlier portion of that verse. Because the fulfillment was never literally accomplished by Christ in His first coming, and even the New Covenant which some claim is referred to here, cannot be related to a seven-year covenant because it is eternal, this leaves the identification of the covenant-maker as the future world ruler, or Antichrist of the end time . . .

The concept that there is a time gap between 9:26 and verse 27, though opposed by many amillenarians, has a great deal of scriptural confirmation. One of the most important confirmations was the fact that the Old Testament presents the first and second coming of Christ as occurring at the same time as Isaiah 61:1-2. If the entire Inter-advent Age can be interposed between references to the first and second coming of Christ in the Old Testament, it certainly sets a precedent for having a time gap between the sixty-ninth "seven" and the seventieth "seven" of Daniel 9:24-27.

DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS



SEVENTY SEVENS OF DANIEL DANIEL 9:24-27

Babylonian Captivity 605-444 BC	Decree to Build Jerusalem 444 BC Neh. 1:5-8		Messiah Cut Off Dan. 9:26 After the 62 Sevens (would include the 7 sevens also)	Church est. at Pentecost Acts 2 Jerusalem Destroyed AD 70	Rapture 1 Thess. 4:13-18	Period of Preparation 10-Nation Kingdom	Seven-year Covenant Signed 7 Years - 70th Seven of Dan. 9:27		Second Coming Rev. 19:11-21 Resurrection of Martyred Tribulation Saints and the Millennium Rev. 20: 1-6 Judgment of Unbelievers at the Great White Throne Rev. 20:11-15	New Heaven New Earth New Jerusalem Rev. 21-22
	49 Years 7 Sevens Dan. 9:25	434 Years 62 Dan 9:25					3½ Years of Peace	3½ Years Great Tribulation Covenant Broken World Gov't Armedgeddon Rev. 16:16		

THE PREDICTIONS OF THE KING

Matthew 24

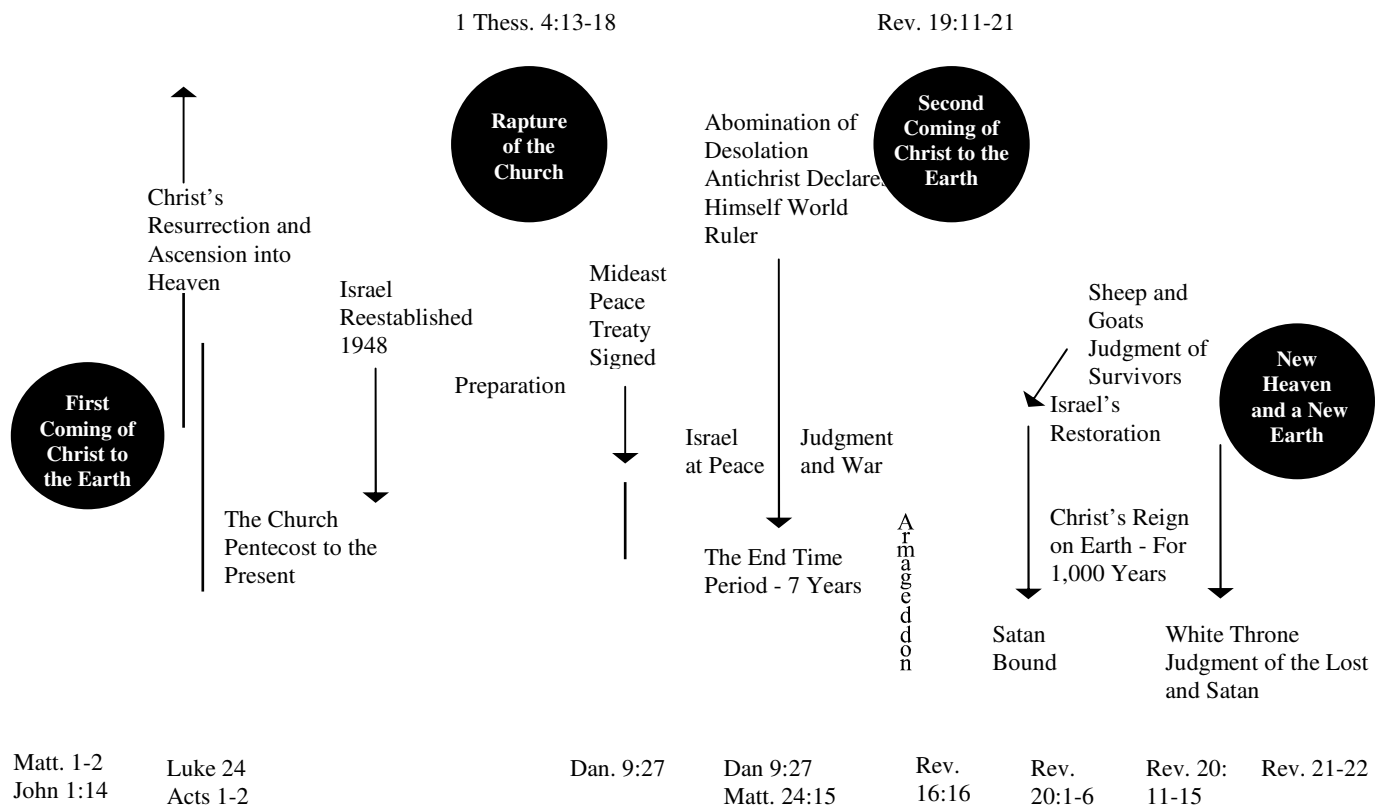
- I. The Destruction of the Temple in the Future - 24:1-2
- II. The Question of the Disciples Concerning the Future - 24:3
- III. The Explanation of Jesus Concerning the Future - 24:4-31

(The end time typified in the near destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70)
(cf. Mark 13; Luke 21)

(The end time realized in the tribulation of the world)

- A. The first half of the seven years tribulation -- 24:4-8
- B. The midpoint of the seven years tribulation -- 24:15 (See detailed explanation)
- C. The second half of the seven years tribulation -- 24:9-28
- D. The consummation of the seven years tribulation -- 24:29-31

TIME LINE OF BIBLE PROPHECY



THE COMING WORLD RULER

Key Text: Dan. 7:8; 9:27; 11:36-45; Matt. 24:24; 2 Thess. 2:3-12; 1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3; 2 John 7; Rev. 11:7; 13:1-10; 17:1-18; 19:19-21; 20:10.

Key Designations:

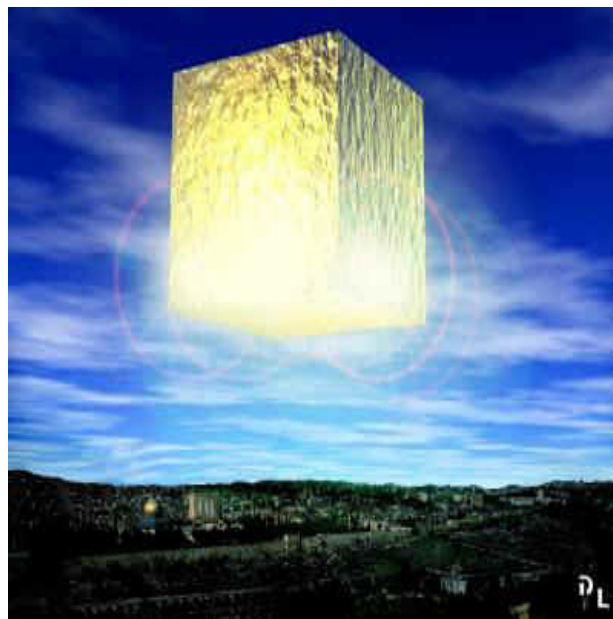
1. *The Little Horn.* Dan. 7:8
2. *The Prince (Ruler) who is to come.* Dan. 9:24-27
3. *The Antichrist.* 1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3; 2 John 7
4. *The Man of Lawlessness (Sin).* 2 Thess. 2:3-12
5. *The Beast.* Rev. 13:1-10

Key Description:

1. Antichrist is a present impersonal presence (force or spirit of the age).
1 John 4:3
2. Antichrist is a future literal person (The coming world ruler).
2 Thess. 2:3-12; Rev. 13:1-10
3. Antichrist is a future political power (A revived Roman empire).
Rev. 13:10, 17:1-18

MAJOR EVENTS OF END TIME PROPHECY

1. Rapture of dead and living believers (1 Cor. 15:51-58; 1 Thess. 4:13-18).
2. Revival of the Roman Empire; supported by a ten-nation confederacy (Dan. 7:7, 24; Rev. 13:1, 17:3, 12-13).
3. Rise of the Antichrist: a world dictator (Dan. 7:8; Rev. 13:1-8).
4. The seven-year peace treaty with Israel; consummated approximately seven years before the second coming of Christ (Dan. 9:27; Rev. 19:11-16).
5. Establishment of a global religious system (Rev. 17:1-15).
6. Peace treaty with Israel broken after three-and-a-half years: establishment of a one world government, economic system and global religion; the final three-and-a-half years before the second coming of Christ (Dan. 7:23; Rev. 13:5-8, 15-17, 17:16-17).
7. Many Christians and Jews martyred who refused to worship the world dictator (Rev. 7:9-17, 13:15).
8. Catastrophic divine judgments represented by seals, trumpets and bowls poured out on the earth (Rev. 6-18).
9. World war breaks out focusing on the Middle East; Battle of Armageddon (Dan. 11:40-45; Rev. 9:13-21, 16:12-16).
10. Babylon destroyed (Rev. 18).
11. Second coming of Christ (Matt. 24:27-31; Rev. 19:11-21).
12. Judgment of wicked Jews and Gentiles (Ezek. 20:33-38; Matt. 25:31-46; Jude 14-15; Rev. 19:15-21; 20:1-4).
13. Satan bound for 1,000 years (Rev. 20:1-3).
14. Resurrection of Tribulation saints (Rev. 20:4).
15. Millennial Kingdom of Christ (Rev. 20:1-6).
16. Final rebellion at the end of the Millennium (Rev. 20:7-10).
17. Resurrection and final judgment of the wicked: Great White Throne judgment (Rev. 20:11-15).
18. Eternity begins: new heaven, new earth, New Jerusalem (Rev. 21-22)



KEY DEFINITION OF THE TERM “ANTICHRIST”

1. One who is against Christ
2. One who is in the stead of (in place of) Christ.



While the Tribulation period from a divine viewpoint will be a period of judgment on the earth, it will also be a period in which the prince of the kingdom of darkness will be permitted to manifest his kingdom in that realm over which Christ will ultimately triumph and reign. Satan intends to present the world with his masterpiece of deception. He will offer the world a substitute for Jesus Christ who, by Satan’s power, will appear to give the world everything it wants, but that which only Jesus Christ will give when He assumes His rightful role as King.

The instrument whom Satan will empower and through whom he will work to establish his kingdom here on earth is described in Revelation 13:1-10. This one referred to as “the beast,” we popularly call the Antichrist, will seek to imitate the reign of Christ and provide those in his kingdom with the benefits only Christ can truly provide. By Satan’s power (v. 2, cf. 11:7), Antichrist will be given political power over all the earth (v. 7). By establishing a one-world government, he will imitate the worldwide authority that will belong to Jesus Christ in His kingdom. Further, he will introduce a one-world religion which will be an imitation of authority which Jesus Christ will exercise as King-Priest when He reigns. In addition, he will introduce a one-world economy (cf. 13:16-17).

ANTICHRIST: THE COUNTERFEIT CHRIST Revelation 13:1-18

World Empires of the Bible in the History of Israel: The Seven Kings of Revelation 17:10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	CHRIST’S MILLENNIAL KINGDOM FINAL WORLD EMPIRE
EGYPT Gen. 46- Deut. 34 Jacob and Family in Egypt Until Exodus	ASSYRIA 722 B.C.- 605.B.C. Ten Tribes of Israel in Captivity	BABYLO N 605 B.C.- 539 B.C. Two Tribes in Captivity	MEDO- PERSIA 539 B.C.- 331 B.C. Captives of Israel Return 536 B.C.	GREECE 331 B.C.- 63 B.C. Israel under Control of Syria	ROME 63 B.C.- A.D. 70 Israel under Rome Jerusalem Destroyed A.D. 70 Decline of Rome	Rome to be Revived After the Rapture	

A “WHAT IF IT IS TODAY” MODERN SCENARIO

1. United Nations organized as a first step toward a world government in 1946.
2. Israel is formed as a recognized nation in 1948.
3. Europe is rebuilt after World War II, setting the stage for its role in a future revival of the Roman Empire.
4. The rise of the Soviet Union as a world military and political power.
5. World movements such as the Common Market, the World Bank and the Euro dollar set the stage for future political and financial events.
6. China becomes a world military power.
7. The Middle East and the nation of Israel become the constant focus of worldwide tension.
8. The Arab oil embargo in 1973 results in world recognition of the power of wealth and energy in the Middle East.
9. Lack of a powerful political leader prevents the Middle Eastern nations from organizing as a political power.
10. The Rapture of the church sends the world into hysteria.
11. The rise of a new leader in Europe and the Middle East who later is identified as the Antichrist who unites them in a Mediterranean confederacy.
12. The new Mediterranean leader imposes a peace settlement for seven years on Israel.
13. A northern army (Russia?) accompanied by several other nations invades Israel and is destroyed by judgments from God.
14. Peace settlement in the Middle East is broken after three-and-a-half years.
15. The Antichrist becomes a world dictator.
16. The Antichrist claims to be God and demands that all worship him at the pain of death.
17. The Antichrist defiles the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem.
18. The more terrible judgments of the Great Tribulation described in the seals, trumpets, and bowls of the wrath of God in the Book of Revelation.
19. Worldwide discontent at the rule of the Antichrist resulting from many catastrophes causing rebellion and gathering of the world’s armies in the Middle East to fight it out with Armageddon as the center of the conflict.
20. Second coming of Christ occurs accompanied by the armies from heaven.
21. The armies of the world attempt to fight the armies from heaven but are totally destroyed.
22. Christ’s millennial reign is established.

THE ANTICHRIST
(An Analysis of his Person and Work)

1. He will appear on the scene in the latter times of Israel's history (Dan. 8:23).
2. He will not appear until the Day of the Lord has begun (2 Thess. 2:2-3).
3. His manifestation is being hindered by He (Holy Spirit?) who restrains (2 Thess. 2:6-7).
4. This appearance will be preceded by a departure (v. 7), which may be interpreted either as a departure from the faith or a departure of the saints to be with the Lord (v. 1).
5. He will rise from the revived Roman Empire and he will be a ruler of the people who destroyed Jerusalem (Dan. 9:26).
6. He will be the head of the last form of Gentile world dominion, since he is like a leopard, a bear and a lion (Rev. 13:1; compare Dan. 7:7-8, 20, 24; Rev. 17:9-11). As such, he will be a political leader. The seven heads and ten horns (13:1; 17:12) will be federated under his authority.
7. His influence will be worldwide, for he will rule over all nations (13:8). This influence will come through the alliance he will make with other nations (Dan. 8:24; Rev. 17:12).
8. His rise to power will come through peaceful means (Rev. 6:1-2).
9. He personally will be marked by his intelligence and persuasiveness (Dan. 7:8, 20; 8:23), and also by his subtlety and craftiness (Ezek. 28:6), so that his position over the nations will be by their own consent (cf. Rev. 13).
10. He will rule over the nations in his federation with absolute authority (Rev. 13:4ff). He is depicted in Scripture as doing his own will. This authority will be manifested through a change in laws and customs (7:25).
11. His chief interest will be in might and power (11:38).
12. As the head of the federated empire, he will make a seven-year covenant or treaty with Israel (9:27), which will be broken after three and a half years (v. 27).
13. He will introduce idolatrous worship (v. 27) in which he will set himself as god (11:36-37; 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:5).
14. He will bear the characterization of a blasphemer because of his irreverent assumption of Deity (Ezek. 28:2; Dan. 7:25; Rev. 13:1, 5-6).
15. This one will be energized by Satan (Ezek. 28:9-12; Rev. 13:4), will receive his authority from him, and will be controlled by the pride of the devil (Ezek. 28:2; Dan. 8:25).
16. He will be the head of Satan's lawless system (2 Thess. 2:3), and his claim to power and to Deity will be proved by signs effected through satanic power (vv. 9-10).
17. He will be received as god and as ruler because of the blindness of the people (v. 11).
18. This ruler will become the great adversary of Israel (Dan. 7:21, 25; 8:24; Rev. 12).
19. This ruler, at the time of his rise to power, will be elevated through the instrumentality of the "harlot," the corrupt religious system, which consequently will seek to dominate him (Rev. 17:3).
20. This system will be destroyed by the ruler so that he might rule unhindered (vv. 16-17).
21. He will become the special adversary of the Prince of princes (Dan. 8:25), His program (2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 17:14), and His people (Dan. 7:21, 25; 8:24; Rev. 13:7).
22. While he continues in power for seven years (Dan. 9:27), his satanic activity will be strongest in the last half of the seven-year period of the Tribulation (7:25; 9:27; 11:36; Rev. 13:5).
23. His rule will be terminated by a direct judgment from God (Ezek. 28:6; Dan. 7:22, 26; 8:25; 9:27; 11:45; Rev. 19:19-20). This judgment will take place as he is engaged in a military campaign in Palestine (Ezek. 28:8-9; Rev. 19:19), and he will be cast into the lake of fire (v. 20; Ezek. 28:10).
24. This judgment will take place at the second advent of Christ (2 Thess. 2:8; Dan. 7:22) and will constitute a manifestation of His messianic authority (Rev. 11:15).
25. The kingdom over which the beast ruled will pass to the authority of the Messiah and will become the kingdom of the saints (Dan. 7:27).

PREDICTED EVENTS RELATING TO THE CHURCH

1. Apostasy and rejection of biblical truth will permeate the professing church.
2. The rise of political and spiritual systems as major opponents of Christianity.
3. The ecumenical movement promoting a world church organized in 1948 (WCC).
4. Increased moral chaos resulting for a departure from biblical doctrines.
5. Increasing evidence of spiritism, the occult, and Satan worship.
6. The Rapture of the believers (1 Thess. 4:13-18).
7. Lifting of the restraint of sin by the Holy Spirit (2 Thess. 2).
8. A united world religious movement gains power and forms a world religious body (Babylon).
9. World religions work with the Antichrist to secure world domination.
10. The world religion (harlot) is destroyed by the ten kings supporting the Antichrist to pave the way for worship of the world ruler as God (Rev. 17:16-17).
11. Those who have come to believe in Christ as Savior since the Rapture suffer persecution because they refuse to worship the world ruler.
12. Second coming of Christ occurs, and remaining Christians in the world are rescued and enter the millennial kingdom (Rev. 20:1-6).

PREDICTED ORDER OF PROPHETIC EVENTS RELATED TO ISRAEL

1. The Holocaust and suffering of Jews in World War II lead to worldwide sympathy for a homeland for the Jews.
2. United Nations recognizes Israel as a nation and provides 5,000 square miles of territory, excluding ancient Jerusalem in 1948.
3. Israel, though immediately attacked by those nations surrounding her, achieves increases in territory in subsequent wars.
4. Though Russia at the beginning was sympathetic to Israel, the United States becomes her principal benefactor and supplier of military aid and money.
5. Israel makes amazing strides forward in reestablishing her land, its agriculture, industries, and political power.
6. In a series of military tests, Israel establishes that she has a superior army to that of surrounding nations.

7. Arab power opposing Israel is sufficient to keep Israel from having peaceful coexistence with other nations in the Middle East.
8. Israel continues in a state of tension and conflict until believers are raptured.
9. With the formation of a ten-nation confederacy under the leadership of Antichrist, Israel is forced to accept a seven-year peace settlement.
10. The world and the Jewish people celebrate what appears to be a genuine peace in the Middle East.
11. Israel prospers and more Jews return to Israel after the peace is settled.
12. After three-and-a-half years of peace, the covenant is broken and the Middle East ruler becomes a world dictator and a principal persecutor of Israel.
13. The world dictator desecrates the temple of Israel and sets up an idol of himself to be worshipped.
14. Worldwide persecution of Jews begins.
15. A Jewish remnant emerges who puts their trust in Christ.
16. Though the world ruler massacres both Jews and Gentiles who fail to worship him as god, some survive from both Jews and Gentiles and are rescued by Christ.
17. The second coming of Christ rescuing persecuted Jews and Gentiles and bringing judgment upon all wickedness in the world and unbelievers.
18. The promised kingdom on earth with Jesus. For 1,000 years, all believers experience unusual blessing as the object of Christ's favor.
19. With the end of the millennial kingdom and the destruction of the present earth, all believers have their place in the eternal state and the new heaven and the new earth.
20. Those who are saved are placed in the New Jerusalem, the New Earth, and the New Heaven.