

THE HOUR OF HIS JUDGMENT





“And do this,
knowing the time,
that now it is high
time to awake out
of sleep; for now
our salvation is
nearer than when
we first believed.
The night is far
spent, the day is at
hand”

(Romans 13:11, 12)

We must proclaim that the time of the Judgment has come. Every human being will be judged **NOW** (Revelation 14:6-7).

Why has the Judgment begun? Isn't it a future event? How can we know when it began?

We can answer these questions by studying Daniel 8 and 9. They describe the time of the Judgment.



- The judgment and the cleansing of the Sanctuary
- Prophecies to know the time of the Judgment:
 - 2,300 days
 - 70 weeks
 - The last week
- The time of the Judgment



THE JUDGMENT AND THE CLEANSING OF THE SANCTUARY



“Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to that certain one who was speaking, ‘How long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifices and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled underfoot?’ And he said to me, ‘For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.’” (Daniel 8:13-14)



Leviticus 16 explains how the cleansing of the sanctuary in the Day of Atonement was performed (Lv. 16:16). It was symbolic of our High Priest (Jesus) cleansing the Heavenly Sanctuary (Heb. 9:23-24). The Day of Atonement was a moment of judgment for the people of Israel. They should repent and ask for the forgiveness of their sins to be reassured that they were actually forgiven (Lv. 16:29-30).



The prophecy about the cleansing of the sanctuary in Daniel 8:14 refers to the End Time (Dn. 8:19). Daniel was told when the Heavenly Sanctuary would be cleansed with a Judgment based on the sacrifice of Jesus (not because there's sin in Heaven, but to end evil).





PROPHECIES TO KNOW THE TIME OF THE JUDGMENT





2,300 DAYS

"The vision of the evenings and mornings that has been given you is true, but seal up the vision, for it concerns the distant future." (Daniel 8:26 NIV)

A weird vision: a ram with two horns (Dn. 8:3-4), a male goat with a horn that breaks into four (Dn. 8:5-8), a little horn that takes away the daily sacrifices and casts down the sanctuary (Dn. 8:9-12), two saints that speak about days and cleansing (Dn. 8:13-14). Daniel couldn't understand it (Dn. 8:27).

However, Gabriel explained it to Daniel (Dn. 8:15-26).

Gabriel didn't explain the section of the 2,300 days. That's the part that Daniel didn't understand. In Hebrew, the word *hâzôn* is used to refer to the whole vision (v. 1), while *mar'ah* is used to refer to the 2,300 days (v. 26-27).



**Ram: Media and Persia
(v. 20)**



**Male goat: Greece
(v. 21-22)**



**Little horn: After
Greece (i.e. Rome)
(v. 23-25)**



**2,300 days: It is true
(v. 26)**

2,300 years

This period begins during the Media-Persia empire (Dn. 8:20)



This period ends in the End Time (Dn. 8:19)



Note on the “little horn”

Some interpret the little horn as Antiochus IV Epiphanes, a Seleucid king that desecrated the temple of Jerusalem and belonged to one of the 4 kingdoms that came from Greece. However, the actions of the little horn do not take place until “the latter time” (v. 19). However, Antiochus died in 164 BC, much earlier than the End Time.

The little horn comes “out of one of them” (v. 9). The Hebrew word used for “them” in this context is masculine, so it can only refer to heaven (which is also masculine) and not with horns (which are feminine). Therefore, the little horn comes out of one of “the four winds of heaven” (v. 8). It came from the west of Palestine and Greece: Rome.

70 WEEKS

“Therefore, consider the word and understand the vision:” (Daniel 9:23 NIV)

Gabriel came before Daniel again to explain him the “vision.” He used the Hebrew word *mar’ah*, which is used in Daniel 8 to refer to the 2,300 days. This way Daniel could understand what he didn’t before.

70 weeks (490 years according to the day/year principle) are “decreed” or “cut” [*chathak*] for the people of Israel (Dn. 9:24).



During the first 49 years (7 weeks), they had to rebuild Jerusalem. This happened during the times of Ezra and Nehemiah since 457 BC.



They should prepare to receive the Messiah during the following 434 years: 62 weeks, until 27 AD. (Dn. 9:25)



After the death of the Messiah, Jerusalem and the temple would be destroyed (Dn. 9:26)



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70 weeks (490 years)

49 years

434 years

457 BC

408 BC

27 AD

Artaxerxes gave Jerusalem full political and judicial autonomy. He appointed Ezra as legislator (Ez. 7:12-26), and Nehemiah began to rebuild Jerusalem (Neh. 2:5)

The Jews had to begin preparing for the coming of the Messiah the Prince (Jesus) who would be anointed by His baptism



THE LAST WEEK

"Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering." (Daniel 9:27)



Jesus and the apostles gave Israel the last chance to accept God's covenant for 7 years (from 27 AD to 34 AD).

Israel definitely rejected the Messiah by killing Stephen (34 AD). They rejected the covenant as a nation.

In the middle of that period, Jesus was crucified (3 and a half years after He was baptized).

He confirmed the covenant by His death (Mt. 26:28), and the sacrifices of the temple became meaningless (Mr. 15:38).



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3 ½ years

3 ½ years

457 BC

408 BC

27 AD

31 AD

34 AD

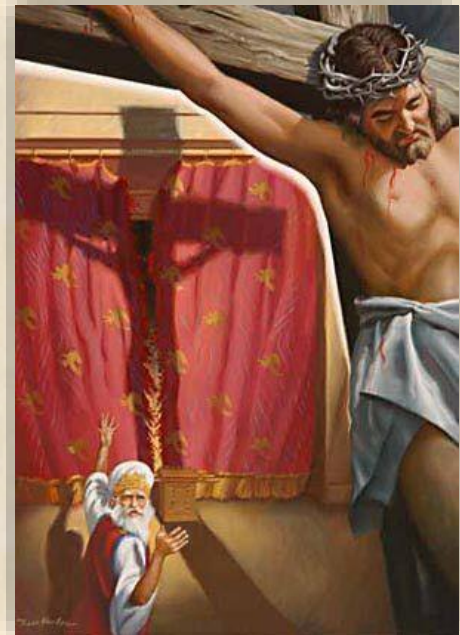


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The Jews had to begin preparing for the coming of the Messiah the Prince (Jesus) who would be anointed in His baptism

Jesus confirmed the covenant with His blood, thus annulling the old sacrificial system

When the Sanhedrin ordered the stoning of Stephen, Israel rejected the covenant as a nation





THE TIME OF THE JUDGMENT



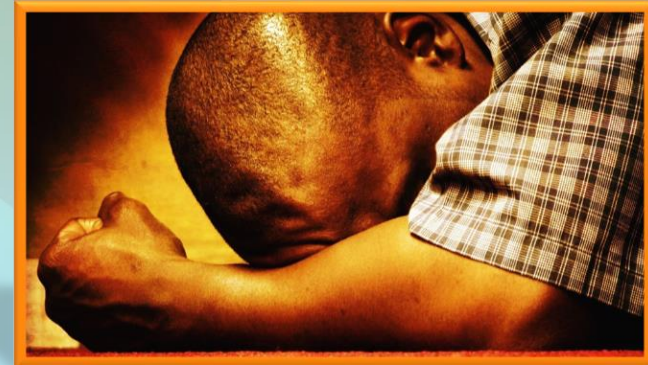
"Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come;" (Revelation 14:7)



Gabriel ended his explanation in Daniel 9 (Dn. 9:21). However, Daniel 9 only covers the first 490 years of the 2,300-year period. What happened during the other 1,810 years?

The "little horn" (Pagan and Papal Rome) tries to destroy God's people and replaces the sacrifice of Jesus with false worship. It attacks the foundations of the Heavenly Sanctuary where Jesus is interceding for us (Heb. 7:25; 9:24). It teaches a false concept of God and His justice.

The cleansing of the Sanctuary began in 1844. God is vindicated, and His people are judged and redeemed. What should we do? Repent and preach the Gospel (Lv. 16:29; Rev. 14:7).



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The Jews had to begin preparing for the coming of the Messiah the Prince (Jesus) who would be anointed in His baptism

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We could call this last period "the time of the Gentiles." After the 2,300 years, the Investigative Judgment begins. Everyone in the universe can see God's justice as He redeems us

“Solemn are the scenes connected with the closing work of the atonement. Momentous are the interests involved therein. The judgment is now passing in the sanctuary above [...]

All who would have their names retained in the book of life, should now, in the few remaining days of their probation, afflict their souls before God by sorrow for sin, and true repentance. There must be deep, faithful searching of heart.”

E. G. W. (Sons and Daughters of God, December 14)