



## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES THE GREAT TRIBULATION

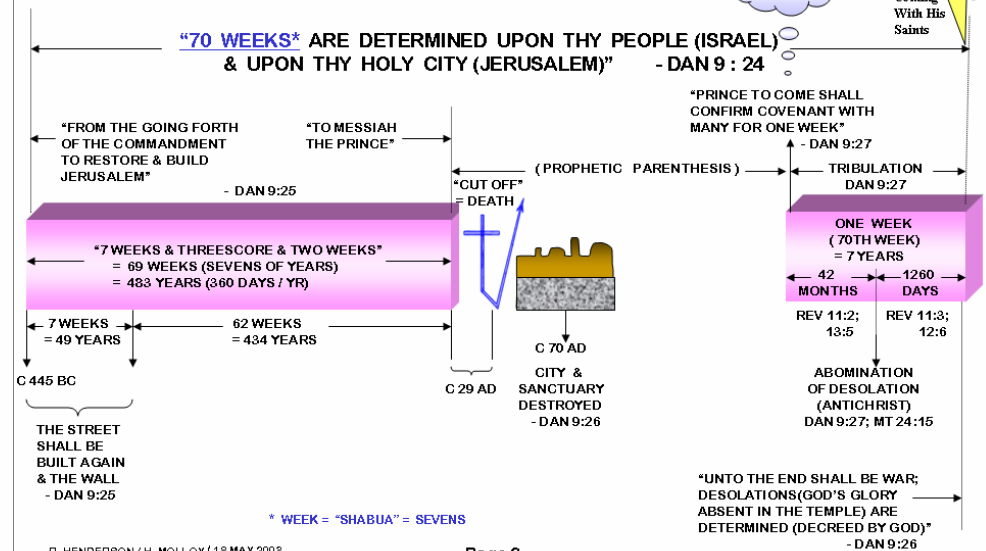
HOMEWORK: READ CHAPTER 46

- 41 The Sabbath and the Lord's Day
- 42 The Gentiles in History and Prophecy
- 43 Israel in History and Prophecy
- 44 Events Preceding the Second Coming of Christ
- 45 The Great Tribulation
- 46 The Second Coming of Christ
- 47 The Resurrections
- 48 The Judgment of Israel and the Nations
- 49 The Millennial Kingdom
- 50 The Judgment of Satan and Fallen Angels
- 51 The Judgment of the Great White Throne
- 52 The New Heaven and the New Earth



## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES THE GREAT TRIBULATION

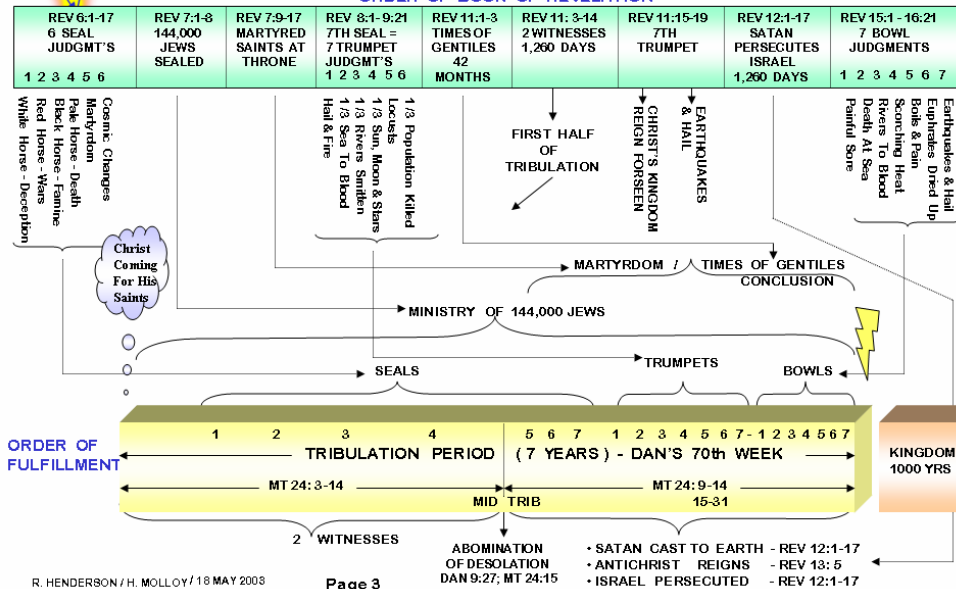
### ISRAEL'S 70 WEEKS VIA DANIEL - DAN 9:24 - 27 (THE TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE - JER 30:7)



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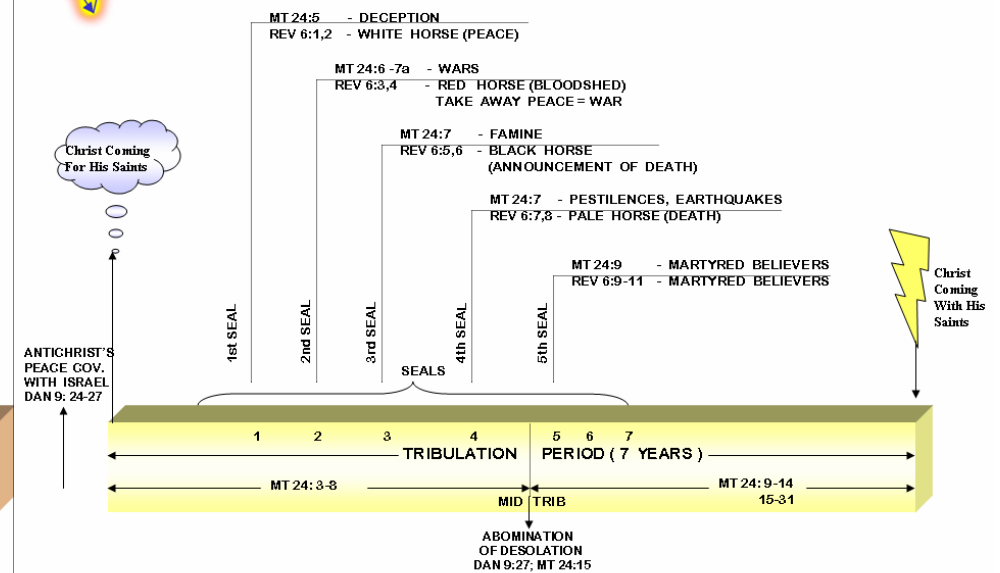
### DANIEL'S 70TH WEEK & THE TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE DAN 9:24-27 JER 30:7

#### ORDER OF BOOK OF REVELATION



## MAJOR BIBLE THEMES THE GREAT TRIBULATION

### CORRELATION OF MATTHEW CHAPTER 24 & REVELATION CHAPTER 6





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## THE GREAT TRIBULATION

### ISRAEL IN THE TRIBULATION

*These notes are a summary of the teaching in the Holly Hills Bible Church adult Sunday school class during February & March 1992.*

#### I. Background:

A. Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week is a 7 year period of tribulation for Israel and the world which is yet future – Dan. 9:24-27.

B. God has a six-fold purpose for the nation of Israel during Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week.

1. "To finish Israel's transgression" = Israel's departure from The Law, thus disobedience to the voice of God – Dan. 9:11,24.
2. "To make an end of Israel's sins" = Israel's iniquity, wickedness, rebellion against God, departure from God's work, shame among the nations and overall sin against God will end sometime during Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week - Dan. 9:5,8,11,24.
3. "To make reconciliation for Israel's iniquity" = Israel, who for centuries, has turned away from her God, will now turn to God and be brought back into harmony with God. The enmity and hostility of Israel toward God will be removed – Dan. 9:5,13,16,24.
4. "To bring in everlasting righteousness" = Israel will be shameful of their trying to establish their own righteousness and will accept the righteousness that God will give them through Jesus Christ – Dan. 9:7,18,24
5. "To seal up the vision and prophecy" = all the blessings and promises that God has made to Israel will be completed and finished by the end of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week – Dan. 9:24.
6. "To anoint the Most Holy" = probably refers to the Holy of Holies of the Millennial Temple where the Lord Jesus Christ will rule & reign from during the Millennial Kingdom (Ezekiel chapter 40-48) – Dan. 9:24.

C. The greatest manifestation of God's wrath & judgment upon this earth will occur during Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week (Matt. 24:21; Dan. 12:1). For Israel, it is referred to as "Jacob's Trouble"(Jer. 30:7).

D. Israel will come under severe attack both physically and spiritually:

1. By the nations of the world (Ezek. 38 & 39)
2. By the one world religious system (Ecclesiastical Babylon - Rev. 17:1-6)
3. By Satan, and one third of his angels (Rev. 12:1-17)
4. His antichrist and false prophet (Rev. 13:1-18)



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- E. Although the physical & spiritual persecution is great against Israel, God pours out His Spirit of Grace, (The Holy Spirit – Zech. 12:9) toward Israel and protects her from the onslaught of this persecution (Rev. 12:6-17; Zech. 12:1-14).
- F. From the beginning to the end of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week God demonstrates His love, grace and mercy toward Israel. The manifestation of His love, grace and mercy can be observed by His protection over Israel.

This protection during Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week can be likened to His protection of Israel during their captivity in Egypt. Although they were under severe persecution, God protected Israel from all the plagues He poured upon the Egyptians (Exodus chap 5-14; Dan. 9:15).

#### II. Comment:

One of the purposes in studying prophesy is to discover the wonderful attributes of God's (Father, Son & Holy Spirit) essence so that we can glorify Him (magnify His essence). The events concerning Israel during Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week certainly magnify God's love, grace and mercy toward Israel. The following summary of events which occur during the first and second halves of the Tribulation Period shows God's grace via His protection over Israel during the worst period the world will ever experience.

#### III. God's grace (via protection) over Israel during the first half of the tribulation period.

##### A. The 144,000 Jews protected:

Soon after the rapture of the Church (1 Thess. 4:13-18), it appears that a large portion of Israel turns to Christ. Scripture doesn't tell us how or why but we do know that "faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of Christ" (Rom. 9:17). At this point 144,000 Jews are sealed, 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes (the tribe of Dan is missing). There could be and there are many more Jews who believe on Christ but only 144,000 are sealed (Rev. 7:1-8).

The Gospel of the Kingdom (earthly - not the Church's Heavenly Gospel) is preached to all the nations of the world until the end of the 7 Year Tribulation Period (Matt.24:14). It appears that these 144,000 Jews are used by God to preach the gospel, because after their sealing it is indicated that a multitude of people, from all nations, are trusting Christ (Rev. 7:9-17). Also "the everlasting gospel" is associated with the 144,000 Jews (Rev. 14:1-6).

These 144,000 Jews are protected by God throughout their ministry. They have the Father's name written on their foreheads which is God's seal for ownership, security, and destination and guarantees that God would fulfill His ministry to the world through them (Rev.7:1-4; 14:1-6).



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God protects these witnessing Jews from the onslaught of both man's and Satan's persecution against them. This persecution is the manifestation of man's and Satan's deliberate rebellion against God. Some of the sources of the attempted persecution against the 144,000 Jews are:

1. The world's religious system (Ecclesiastical Babylon) – Rev. 14:8; 17:1-6
2. Satan – Rev. 12:9-13
3. The antichrist – Rev. 13:1-10; 14:9-12
4. The false prophet – Rev. 13:11-18; 14:9-12

#### B. The Two Witnesses protected:

Another example of God's protection of his people during the first half of the tribulation period can be seen in God's Two Witnesses.

God has foreordained (Rev. 11:4; Zech. 4:2-3, 11-14) to have two Jews (Scripture doesn't identify who they are) to be mighty witnesses in the nation of Israel during the first half of the Tribulation Period (Rev. 11:3-6). They will have the power to withhold the rain and bring great plagues upon the entire earth.

These Two Witnesses will be hated by the entire world and assassination plots will abound. God will protect them and no man will be able to kill them during their ministry. Every person who attempts to kill them will be killed by the Two Witnesses (Rev. 11:5). At the middle of the Tribulation Period the antichrist who was previously killed (Rev. 13:3) will be restored to life and God will allow him to kill the Two Witnesses (Rev. 11:7). God resurrects them after 3 1/2 days which brings great fear upon the nations of the world (Rev. 11:11).

#### C. The nation of Israel protected from Russia & its allies

The most outstanding protection of Israel by God is seen during the invasion by Russia & its allies.

Sometime, probably during the first half of the Tribulation Period, Russia, Iran, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Libya, Germany, and Turkey will invade the nation of Israel. These nations will come with hordes of men and great military power. Their strength is so overwhelming that, from human viewpoint, Israel won't have a chance to survive. However God miraculously delivers the nation of Israel. God turns these armies against themselves to destroy each other. In addition He pours down rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone to aid in their destruction.

It will take the Israelites 7 years to burn and destroy their enemies' weapons and 7 months to bury all of their enemies' bodies.



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God will use this destruction to demonstrate to Israel that he is their God - and they will truly believe that forever. The nation of Israel will never again be scattered among the nations and God will pour out His Spirit upon them (Ezek. chap 38 & 39; Zech chap 12).

- IV. God's grace/protection over Israel during the second half of the tribulation period
- A. The relative peace that Israel enjoys during the first half of the tribulation period (because of her 7 year peace covenant with the Antichrist) will come to an abrupt end at the middle of the Tribulation Period – Dan. 9:27.
  - B. The antichrist (prince to come - Dan 9:26) will reveal his true identity to Israel when he ceases their worship of God in the temple and insists that he be worshipped as god in their temple and in their life. This event is called the "abomination of desolation" - Dan 9:27; Matt 24:15. The antichrist is also referred to as "the man of sin (lawlessness)" and he "comes out of the closet" and directly opposes God. He also exalts himself above God and publicly displays himself as God - 2 Thess. 2:3,4.
  - C. Coincident with these events with the antichrist, there is a great battle in heaven between the archangel Michael (Israel's guardian angel) and Satan (i.e. the dragon, the serpent of old, the devil). Satan and his angels lose the battle to Michael and his angels. Satan is cast out of heaven forever and is cast to the earth and he takes one third of his angels with him – Rev. 12:4, 7-9.
  - D. Satan is infuriated by being cast to the earth and he knows God has given him only a short time (i.e. 3 1/2 years). His wrath becomes great and is directed against Israel. Throughout history Satan's major purposes were to deceive the nations about Christ and to accuse the believers before God day and night. He now takes on another major purpose, that is to persecute the nation of Israel – Rev. 12:9-13; 2 Cor. 4:3,4.
  - E. This double whammy persecution (time of Jacob's trouble – Jer.30:7) from the antichrist and Satan thrusts Israel to total dependence upon the Lord Jesus Christ whom she now has accepted as her Messiah. It appears that all of Israel realizes and believes that God had used her to bring forth His Male Child and Ruler of all Nations. During this intense persecution Israel is totally focused on Christ and they are not even concerned about their lives (what a vast contrast to the Israel in Egypt and the wilderness) – Rev. 12:5,11,17.



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- F. The Israel that was not willing to be gathered unto Christ for love and protection at His first coming (matt 24:37-39) is now more than willing because her stony heart has been replaced with a new heart. This is evident by their faith in the shed blood of Christ (the Lamb) and their testimony in word concerning Christ – Rev. 12:11,17.
- G. Because of Israel's faith & testimony in Christ many of them will be martyred. They will be delivered up to be killed because of their faith in Christ. It is clear that their love for Christ is so much greater than for the love of their own lives. – Matt. 24:9; Rev. 7:9-17; 12:12,17.
- H. God pours out his matchless and marvelous grace over the nation of Israel (Zech. 12:10) and delivers her during the second half of the tribulation (Rev. 12:10; Dan. 12:1). This is evidenced by the following examples:
1. God prepares a place in the wilderness in the land of Israel for her protection and safety (Rev.12:6,14). Note that Israel's place is on earth and the Church's place is in heaven where there are many mansions (John 14:1-3).
  2. God feeds and nourishes Israel in her place of protection and safety. God's "feeding" (Rev 12:6) and "nourishing" (12:14) of Israel are very tender terms. They are used of a mother who breast feeds her child. So God takes Israel into his bosom and gives her love, tenderness, contentment, satisfaction, and desire for growth in the midst of the turmoil and persecution thrown at her.
  3. God's protection over Israel will last the entire duration of Jacob's trouble (i.e. 3 1/2 years) - Rev. 12:6,14; Dan. 12:1,7.
  4. While Israel is being protected by God, God lays a very heavy burden on, and cuts in pieces, those nations of the world who come against Israel - Rev. 12:12; Zech. 12:1-5.
  5. God gives Israel the power to overcome Satan. This power is through the blood of the Lamb – Rev. 12:11.
  6. God's deliverance and protection of Israel is likened to when he delivered them out of Egypt (i.e. "on two wings of a great eagle") – Rev. 12:14; Ex. 9:1-4.



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7. No matter how Satan attacks Israel, God is right there to protect her. When Satan tries to carry away the remnant of Israel by a flood, God immediately opens up the earth to swallow the flood to protect the remnant – Rev. 12:15-17. There is no reason not to take this literally because God has opened the earth before to protect his people (e.g. from self appointed leaders – Num. 16:1-4, 28-35).

#### V. Summary:

Often times we are under the impression that the time of "Jacob's trouble" (Jer. 30:7) is a time where God is pouring out His wrath and judgment on the Jews, but this is not so. It is clear that God brings the scattered Jews back into the land in unbelief at the beginning of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week (i.e. Tribulation Period). He brings them back because they are His people and he loves them and is through disciplining them by scattering them among the nations. He does not bring them back to pour out his wrath and judgment upon them. Once they are back in the land it appears that all of the Jews will turn to Christ soon after the rapture. We can observe that by the middle of the Tribulation Period that all Jews are believers. This is seen in Rev. 12:17 where the remnant (all Jews who are alive = loipos (gr.) - the rest or the only remaining ones) keep God's commandments and have the testimony of Jesus Christ. Never again will Israel turn its back on God and their Messiah.

God's wrath and judgment is poured out on the peoples of the world and not the Jews. Israel in the tribulation sanctifies God and God uses this to sanctify His name before all nations.

*"and I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the nations, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the nations shall know that I am the Lord, saith the Lord God, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.*

*For I will take you from among the nations, and gather you out of all countries and bring you into your own land.*

*Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean; from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.*

*A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.*

*And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep mine ordinances, and do them.*

*And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God." Ezek. 36:23-28*



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### REASONS WHY THE CHURCH WILL NOT GO THROUGH ANY PART OF DANIEL'S 70<sup>TH</sup> WEEK

1. Scripture teaches the coming of our Lord for His saints. This 'catching up' of believers is commonly referred to as the 'Rapture'. - 1 Thess. 4:13-18
2. The Rapture is not to be confused with the "2<sup>nd</sup> Coming" – the second advent of our Lord with His saints to rule & reign on earth. - Rev. 19:11-16; Zech. 14:1-5
3. The Thessalonian believers were taught by Paul that they would be raptured & not experience the Day of the Lord. - 2 Thess 2:1-3
4. The Day of the Lord (preceded by the Rapture) comes as a thief in the night – by surprise - 1Thess 5:2
5. The Day of the Lord is for people of darkness (unbelievers) & not people of light (believers) - Thess. 5:4,5
6. The Day people (people of light) should be arraying themselves with the helmet of salvation (protecting their minds) with a confidence in being delivered from the Day of the Lord. - 1 Thess. 5:8
7. The Reason for this confidence is that God has not appointed believers to wrath (Day of the Lord) but to deliverance from the wrath to come. - 1 Thess. 5:9  
Rom:5:2,9; 1 Thess. 1:10; Rev. 6:16,17
8. Looking forward to the coming of Christ at the Rapture is a comfort to believers – How could this be a comfort if the Rapture is to occur in the middle or at the end of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week? - 1 Thess 4:13-18
9. Scripture describes in detail Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week & the church is never mentioned. - Rev. chapt.4-19
10. The hope (fixed confidence) of every believer is the imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are to keep watching for Him with an attitude of expectancy. - Titus 2:13; Phil. 3:20

Conclusion/Application: 5 commands to each believer in view of the imminency of His return

- a. Be sound minded vs. instability
- b. Be sound unto prayers - calm vs. frenzy
- c. Keep on having fervent (stretched out) love
- d. Be hospitable to everyone
- e. Use spiritual gifts properly = to edify or build up believers - 1 Pet. 4:7-12





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## THE TRIBULATION

### WHERE IN TIME IS DANIEL'S 70<sup>th</sup> WEEK?

#### A. The Starting Point – Dan. 9:26

1. Must occur after the Cross
2. Must occur after the Temple destruction – 70 A.D.

#### B. The Ending Point – 6 Purposes of 70<sup>th</sup> Week – Dan. 9:24

1. "TO FINISH THE TRANSGRESSION" (FUTURE)  
Must relate to Israel (Thy People) – their rebellion against God will end – in the future  
The Great Tribulation will stimulate Israel to belief & all Israel will be saved –  
Rom.11:26
2. "TO MAKE AN END OF SINS" (FUTURE)  
Fulfillment of New Covenant to Israel at the end of 70<sup>th</sup> Week – Jer. 31:31-34; Rom. 11:27
3. "TO MAKE RECONCILIATION FOR INIQUITY" (PAST – REALIZED IN FUTURE)  
Reconciliation (kaphar – atonement)  
Speaking of the death of Jesus Christ at Calvary – 2 Cor.5:19
4. "TO BRING IN EVERLASTING RIGHTEOUSNESS" (FUTURE)  
The Cross brought in perfect righteousness – 2 Cor. 5:21  
This perfect righteousness will be Israel's throughout the Millennium & all eternity
5. "TO SEAL UP THE VISION AND PROPHECY" (FUTURE)  
Seal = to complete, to finish  
Daniel's vision & prophesy will be fulfilled or finished at the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week
6. "TO ANOINT THE MOST HOLY" (HOLY OF HOLIES) (FUTURE)  
Refers to the Temple during the Millennium described by Ezekiel (chap 40-41)

#### C. Conclusion

The 70<sup>th</sup> Week is yet future – the full effecting of these blessings come to Israel at the return of Messiah.

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### REASONS WHY DANIEL'S 70<sup>TH</sup> WEEK IS YET FUTURE

1. 6 of the 6 blessings in Dan. 9:24 have not yet been fulfilled for Israel. The one that was fulfilled (reconciliation for sin) has not been appropriated by Israel – Dan. 9:24
2. From the end of the 69<sup>th</sup> Week (past) to the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week (future) Israel will experience war & the city & sanctuary will be laid waste (physically & spiritually). – Dan. 9:26
3. The Temple must be rebuilt because the antichrist causes the sacrifice & meal offering to cease. This is the abomination & blasphemous act by the antichrist in the middle of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week. – Matt. 24:15; Dan. 9:27; 2 Thess. 2:1-4; Rev. 13:1-14

#### Observe Scripture correlation:

a. middle of week	= 3 ½ yrs	Dan. 9:27
b. 42 mo.	= 3 ½ yrs	Rev. 13:5
c. 42 mo.	= 3 ½ yrs	Rev. 11:2
d. 1260 days	= 3 ½ yrs	Rev. 11:3
e. 1260 days	= 3 ½ yrs	Rev 12:6

4. Our Lord stated that the events in Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week were yet future to His 1<sup>st</sup> Advent & were associated with His 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent. – Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:1-3; 14, 15, 29, 30
5. There is a long gap between the end of the 69<sup>th</sup> Week & the start of the 70<sup>th</sup> Week. There are many gaps in Scripture that relate to the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Advents of our Lord.  
e.g. a. Isa. 61:1,2 cp Luke 4:16-21  
b. Isa. 9:6,7