

Revelation 5 before the throne

Time question – could the 7 weeks referred to in Daniel be an indicator of progressive persecution, etc. and not necessarily meaning a specific period of 365 days?

In Daniel 9 you get the prophecy of 70 weeks. Daniel 9²⁴ “Seventy ‘sevens’^[a] are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish^[b] transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the Most Holy Place.^[c]

²⁵ “Know and understand this: From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One,^[d] the ruler, comes, there will be seven ‘sevens,’ and sixty-two ‘sevens.’ It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. ²⁶ After the sixty-two ‘sevens,’ the Anointed One will be put to death and will have nothing.^[e] The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. ²⁷ He will confirm a covenant with many for one ‘seven.’^[f] In the middle of the ‘seven’^[g] he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple^[h] he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.^{[i]”[j]}

We have multiple prophecies and multiple times. There were actually 490 years between Daniel and Jesus. That is seventy weeks where each day equals 1 year. Seven days per week, one year per day, seventy weeks is 490 years. There are multiple time periods. Seven Sevens, 62 Sevens, and 1 seven. That’s a total of 70 sevens, but are these one even, three events, 1 recurring event, three recurring events? What’s going on?

But there are multiple prophecies here that all have to do with the Anointed One, the messiah. The end will come like a flood, but God promised he wouldn’t destroy the world with flood. Floods are often symbols of war and invading armies. That is prevalent in Isaiah. The

temple was destroyed again in 70 AD after the first coming of the messiah. The temple will need to be rebuilt and sacrifices will start up again in the temple, but to whom will the sacrifices be offered? Whoever rebuilds the temple is who Jews will believe is the messiah. This person will be for anti-Christ. He will be against Y'shua. He will advocate a one world religion and the sacrifices in the temple will be made to him. He will require this. That is going to be the last abomination that causes desolation in the temple. All of this will happen before Jesus comes again. When that temple is destroyed there will never be sacrifices in the temple again.

Remember also that the term sevens indicates completion. These are the completion of the events that God says is going to happen. They aren't finished until they are complete no matter how many days or years it takes. It's not as much an issue of numbers of days or years as when each of these events will be finished and never repeated again. So the seventy sevens was totally accurate if one day is a year when foretelling the birth of Jesus. In fact, the magi, and King Herod were all looking for the messiah at that time. But, the King will come again. So what is the last seven? It will be when it is complete. Some events only happen once, like when Isaiah says before this baby can say mommy or daddy the invasion will happen. That was a singular event. But, the Advent of Y'shua doesn't happen once. It happens twice. The first time He comes as the baby lamb who is the suffering servant who dies for us. The second time He comes as the Lion of Judah, the all powerful King. Speaking of which...

5 Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals.

- Why right hand? Remember covenant class
- Theory 1 – The Inheritance Scroll – The Deed. When you received an inheritance it was recorded on a scroll. In Israel it was custom for deed to be recorded and sealed with seven seals. Remember that in the tribes land was given by covenant and any addendums to the covenant, what family, for how long, etc. were written in the

deed. Land eventually has to return to the family to whom it was covenanted (in perfect theory).

- Theory 2 – this is the scroll from Daniel 12 “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. ² Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise^[a] will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. ⁴ But you, Daniel, roll up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. Many will go here and there to increase knowledge.”

- Let's look at verse 2.

- ² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?”

Who is this mighty angel? What does it mean that he is mighty? Is he a power?

Worthy. Who does power have to do with worth?

³ But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. ⁴ I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside.

What does it mean “in heaven or on earth or under the earth?” Who does that include? Everyone, living and dead. No one less than the Ancient of Days could open the scroll.

Why was Yochanan weeping that no one could open the scroll? Was it because of the importance of that type of scroll? One study suggested that this scroll is the book referred to in Daniel. Daniel saw what was ahead and it made him physically sick and he was not allowed to

reveal what he saw. John is now revealing what Daniel saw so in the end times we could be urgent and ready. Whatever reason Yochanan thought it was important that the scroll be opened.

⁵ Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

⁶ Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits^[a] of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne.

Why is he worthy and how did he triumph?

- There are two pictures of messiah here. In Tanach there are two different pictures of the messiah as well. One is the suffering servant as seen in Isaiah 53 and Psalm 22. The other is the King Psalm 2, Zechariah 14. The servant is the lamb and the king is the lion. Looking at Tanach prophetically you see that Y’shua is a lamb and a servant when He comes the first time and the second time he is the lion of Judah and the now and future king.
- Why is it important that the Lamb has seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth? These are the whole and perfect attributes of the Ancient of Days. The Ancient of Days sits on the throne and holds the scroll. Only someone who is equal to the Ancient of Days can take the scroll from the Ancient of Days. The Lamb, even though He was wounded and He was a servant, is also a Lion and king. He has perfection. And the song that follows attributes all of the power of God to Him.

⁸ And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they

were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll

and to open its seals,

because you were slain,

and with your blood you purchased for God

persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.

¹⁰ You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign^[b] on the earth."

- Y'shua comes with the authority and power of YHWH. There is only One that can be seen on the throne, that is Y'shua because YHWH is Spirit and can't be seen. Y'shua and YHWH are one, John 10:30, 14:9, Deuteronomy 6:4). The word in Hebrew is echad.
- Let's talk about Shema for a moment and see the plurality of God and the echad.
- Let's also remember why Y'shua is worthy. He is worthy because He died. He paid the price for sin. He saved all who would believe in Him. But He is also the groom. He died to overcome the law that denies the groom marriage to His unfaithful bride. In Y'shua not only does he pay the price so the marriage feast of the lamb can happen, but His blood also washes the bride clean.
- A new song – A song celebrated a new act of deliverance or intervention in the Tanach. All songs are written in the feminine form – Shirashah Shidashah – because a song is like a woman. She is "sad" because of the birth pains and glad because of the child who is going to be born. The "new song" or "renewed song" here is written in the masculine form – Shir Shdash – because there is no more sadness, only gladness.

- Even though what is about to happen is massively horrible the song is a celebration because after these events there will be a thousand year reign.
- Notice that the elders sing the song, not the angels. It is a redemption song. Y'shua made "us" kings and priests. Angels are not redeemed (Psalm 96). The song also marks Y'shua redeeming the ten tribes of Israel so she can be restored as the Bride again. 1 Peter 1:19)

¹¹ Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. ¹² In a loud voice they were saying:

A Hebrew term for countless numbers is Myriads of myriads and chiliads of chiliads. They surround the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne.

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

- The worthiness of the Lamb is perfectly summed up in the seven fold ascriptions of the lamb 1) power – omnipotence, 2) riches – possessions, 3) wisdom – omniscience, 4) strength – ability, 5) Honour – reputation, 6) glory – praise, 7) blessing – worship.
- He has dominion. What will the seals do? No flood? Cleansing.
- This is the fulfillment of Philippians 2:9-¹¹ ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!”

- Five songs are sung in Chapters 4 and 5. 1) Song of Adoration 4:8, 2) Song of Elohim’s creative power:4:1, 3) An new song by the believers 5:9-10, 4) A song by the messengers – 5:12, 5) A song sung by the whole creation 5:13.

¹⁴ The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

- What does Amen mean? It means Yes or so be it.
- Aleph-beit – Hay - numerical value is 5
- The Breath or the Spirit. As in Ruach
- There are two hay’s in the name of YHWH reading from right to left it is Yod, Hay, Vav, Hay. In the Divine name, the ‘Yod’ speaks of the unseen hand of Elohim in creation.
- According to Talmud Yod is a symbol of creation and is metaphysical. “God created the universe with the letters ‘yod’ and ‘hay’. With the yod He created the world to come; while with the hay, He created this world.’ (Manachos 29b)
- If God created the universe with His unseen hand, he uses that hand to hold the scroll with seven seals. The Yod remains metaphysical or “not of this world.” Yod may also be read as Yad – hand. We will look at yod in chapter 10.
- The two hays in the name of YHWH stand for the whole of history, redemption from beginning to end.