

Personal/Small Group Study Notes

Week of July 25, 2021, A.D.

The Seventy “Sevens” (490 years) of Daniel

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

Read Daniel 9:20-23

1. These verses were written by the prophet Daniel while the Jewish people were in exile in the Babylonian kingdom for a period of seventy years (from 586 B.C. to 516 B.C.). Why did God send the Jewish people into exile? Is the God of the Bible the God (a) of only the Jews? or (b) of all people? Does God hold all people of all nations equally accountable for knowing and following His righteous decrees?
2. Refer to verse 20. To your knowledge (and/or in your opinion), to what sin was Daniel referring when Daniel said that he was (a) “confessing my sin”? and (b) confessing “the sin of my people Israel”? Why would Daniel be confessing the sin “of my people Israel” in addition to Daniel’s personal sin?
3. How often do you confess your sin to God? How often do the leaders of our nation confess “the sin of our people America”? How often do you confess “the sin of our people America” and what is “the sin of our people America”?
4. How seriously do you take (and what is) your personal sin? How seriously do the people of America take our national sin? Does our personal and national sin include our failure to “remember the sabbath day by keeping it holy”?
5. Has God blessed America? If so, how and why? Has God ever punished America for its sin? If so, how and why? Will God punish America for its current sin? Based on the contents of the Bible, in your opinion, what (if any) will be the nature and extent of America’s punishment from God?

6. What can (and what should) the church in America do to (a) call America to repentance, (b) call the church in America to repentance, (c) encourage God not to bring wrath and/or physical destruction upon America?
7. Refer to verse 22. Do you believe in angels? Do you believe that God mentally and/or spiritually speaks to every person who is “born again” (i.e., a Christian)? Do you believe that a Christian can be (a) too spiritual and/or (b) too carnal/worldly?
8. What “insight and understanding” has God given to you (if any) about God’s plan for (a) the future of America? (b) the future of the American church? (c) the future of your church family? and/or (d) the future of the world?

Read Daniel 9:24-26

9. Please state your understanding and/or your informed opinion of the meaning of these verses? Has the prophecy of verse 24 been fulfilled and/or completed?
10. Please identify each prophetic event (as of 516 B.C) which is recorded in verses 25-26 and state how and when any of those events (a) has already occurred and/or (b) will occur.

Read Daniel 9:27

11. Please identify each specific event which is prophesied in verse 27 and state how and when each of those events (a) has already occurred and/or (b) will occur.
12. Does God want us (i.e., those humans who are now citizens of heaven through faith in Christ Jesus) to (a) study and seek to understand the yet-to-occur prophetic events which are contained in the Bible? (b) embrace those prophetic future events with excitement and great anticipation? (c) do all that we can to bring those prophetic events into reality? and/or (d) tell all of our family and all of our friends about God’s plans for the future of the people of America and for the people of the world?

Consider: God calls and equips each and every born-again person (i.e., every redeemed person who is now a follower of Christ) to love the Bible, to learn and know the precepts of the Bible, and to live in accordance with the precepts of the Bible. Nothing else that we do or experience during our lives on earth will matter (or even be considered of any value) when each believer faces Jesus one-on-one at the judgement seat of Christ. “You think about that” always! Amen.