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753 BC

# TAKING BACK THE TIMELINE

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY ABOUT  
THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE ?

**Mondays 6pm ♦ June 15, June 22, June 29**

**Zoom Meeting ID: 848 5001 3662**

# Divided Empire

Daniel 2:41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly [m]fragile. 43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

*(written 537 B.C.)*

## Destruction of Jerusalem (70 AD)

Matthew 24:1 Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”

*(Jesus said this in 31 AD)*

# Destruction of Jerusalem and Signs of the End

Matthew 24:3 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?”

4 And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. 6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

*(Jesus said this in 31 AD)*

## Beginning of the End

Daniel 8:11 ...the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down. 12 Because of transgression, an army was given over to the horn to oppose the daily sacrifices; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered. 13 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?” 14 And he said to me, “For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.”

*(written 537 B.C.)*

## Beginning of the End

Daniel 8:15 Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. 16 And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision." 17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end." 18 Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright. 19 And he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be. *(written 537 B.C.)*

# Beginning of the End

Daniel 8:14 And he said to me, “For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.”

*(written 537 B.C.)*

Ezekiel 4:6 ... I have laid on you a day for each year.

*(Ezekiel was written 570 B.C.)*

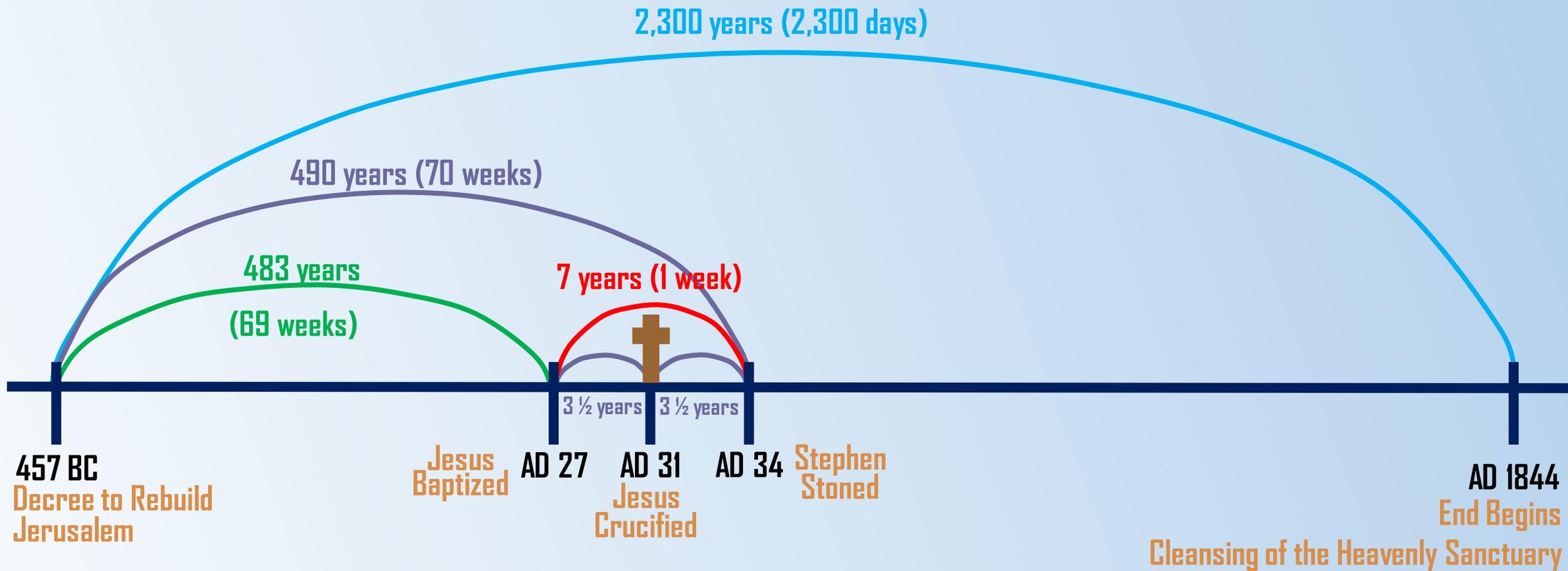
*(Daniel was written 537 B.C.)*

***2,300 prophetic days = 2,300 literal years***

## Rebuild Jerusalem (457 BC)

Daniel 9:25 “Know therefore and understand,  
That from the going forth of the command  
To restore and build Jerusalem  
Until Messiah the Prince,...

*(written 537 B.C.)*



457 BC  
Decree to Rebuild  
Jerusalem

Jesus  
Baptized

AD 27

AD 31  
Jesus  
Crucified

AD 34

Stephen  
Stoned

AD 1844  
End Begins

Cleansing of the Heavenly Sanctuary

2,300 years (2,300 days)

490 years (70 weeks)

483 years  
(69 weeks)

7 years (1 week)

3 1/2 years

3 1/2 years

# 7 Churches of Revelation 2-3

## Immediate Application

The message to the seven churches in Asia were specifically for these seven major churches during the time that John wrote Revelation. The cities, located in western Turkey, are mentioned in a clockwise order starting from starting Ephesus, the closest city to where John was held captive. God evaluates the spiritual condition of each church along this route and tell them how to proceed.

# 7 Churches of Revelation 2-3

## Prophetic Application

We see the prophetic application of the churches corresponding to different time periods dealing with Christians, such as the apostolic period for Ephesus; 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> century persecution by the Roman Empire for Smyrna; the time after Constantine's conversion for Pergamum; the Dark Ages for Thyatira; the time of Protestant scholasticism for Sardis; the revival of Protestantism for Philadelphia; and finally the last centuries of earth's history for Laodicea. Each message ends with an appeal to the churches. Although the message was for the churches back then, they apply to people today, who are dealing with similar spiritual situations.

# Message to Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7)

1 “To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, ‘These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: 2 “I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars; 3 and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name’s sake and have not become weary. 4 Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent. 6 But this you have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. 7 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.” ’

*(written 95 AD.)*

## Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7)

**Immediate Context:** Among the Christian churches Ephesus was the most influential. The Nicolaitans threatened the purity of Ephesus' faith and Ephesus became loveless and legalistic, backsliding from their first love. If they didn't get their act together their responsibility of being Jesus' witness would be taken away from them.

**Prophetic Context:** Apostolic Period that that started with a lot of passion, but eventually lost its first love.  
(31 AD – 100 AD)

# Message to Smyrna (Revelation 2:8-11)

8 “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write,  
‘These things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and  
came to life: 9 “I know your works, tribulation, and poverty  
(but you are rich); and I know the blasphemy of those who say  
they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. 10  
Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer.  
Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison,  
that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days.  
Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.  
11 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the  
churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second  
death.” ’

*(written 95 AD.)*

## Smyrna (Revelation 2:8-11)

**Immediate Context:** Smyrna had a life of poverty. Christians received hostility from Jews that were living there. The encouragement was for them to focus on the reward to come.

**Prophetic Context:** Persecution of Christians by the Roman Empire (100 AD – 313 AD)

# Message to Pergamum (Revelation 2:12-17)

12 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write, ‘These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword: 13 “I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. 14 But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality. 15 Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate. 16 Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth. 17 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.” ’ *(written 95 AD.)*

## Pergamum (Revelation 2:12-17)

**Immediate Context:** Pergamum was considered to be the intellectual center, as well as pagan religious center, of the Hellenistic world. Emperor worship was the issue that Christians in Pergamum faced, but they still remained faithful to God. However, there were a number of people who were compromising by teaching pagan beliefs.

**Prophetic Context :** Compromise after Constantine's Conversion (313 AD – 500 AD)

# Message to Thyatira (Revelation 2:18-29)

18 “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, ‘These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: 19 “I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first. 20 Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. 21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. 22 Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. 23 I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works. 24 “Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. 25 But hold fast what you have till I come. 26 And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations— 27 ‘He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’ — as I also have received from My Father; 28 and I will give him the morning star. 29 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’ (*written 95 AD.*)

## Thyatira (Revelation 2:18-29)

**Immediate Context:** Thyatira was the least important city among the seven, but it did have commercial importance. The threat for Christian in Thyatira was from within, causing them to be divided. They were active, but not necessarily faithful. They were poor laborers, so they had the pressure to participate in their pagan festivals held by their line of work.

**Prophetic Context :** Apostasy of the Dark Ages  
(500 AD – 1600 AD)

# Message to Sardis (Revelation 3:1-6)

1 “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, ‘These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: “I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you. 4 You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. 5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. 6 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’

*(written 95 AD.)*

## Sardis (Revelation 3:1-6)

**Immediate Context:** Sardis had a grand history of once being the greatest city in that region. The church at Sardis was lifeless although a few were still faithful.

**Prophetic Context :** Protestant Scholasticism, also known as Protestant Orthodoxy  
(1500s AD – 1700 AD)

# Message to Philadelphia (Revelation 3:7-13)

7 “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, ‘These things says He who is holy, He who is true, “He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens”’: 8 “I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name. 9 Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. 10 Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. 11 Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. 12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name. 13 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’ *(written 95 AD.)*

# Philadelphia (Revelation 3:7-13)

**Immediate Context:** The youngest city of the seven was Philadelphia. It was a strong city. Their problem came from the Jews. However, Jesus has given them many opportunities to do service. This was a highly commended church.

**Prophetic Context :** Revival of Protestantism  
(1700 AD – 1900 AD)

# Message to Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-22)

14 “And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: 15 “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. 16 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. 17 Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked— 18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. 21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. 22 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’ ”

*(written 95 AD.)*

## Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-22)

**Immediate Context:** Laodicea was the ancient world's financial and commercial center. It was famous for its school of medicine, with its treatment for eye diseases. The whole analogy of being neither hot nor cold comes from its geographical position, where their water was distasteful.

**Prophetic Context :** Lukewarm Church during the end times (1900 AD – End)

# Timeline - Present

- Apostolic Period [Ephesus] (31 AD – 100 AD)
- Destruction of Jerusalem (70 AD)
- Persecution by the Roman Empire [Smyrna] (100 AD – 313 AD)
- Compromise after Constantine's Conversion [Pergamum] (313 AD – 500 AD)
- Divided Empire [Feet of Iron and Clay] (476 AD – End)
- Apostasy of the Dark Ages [Thyatira] (500 AD – 1600 AD)
- Protestant Scholasticism [Sardis] (1500s AD – 1700 AD)
- Revival of Protestantism [Philadelphia] (1700 AD – 1900 AD)
- Cleansing of the Heavenly Sanctuary End time era begins (1844 AD)
- Lukewarm [Laodicea] (1900 AD – End)

2016 1743 1816 670 BC 1760 1651 1693 1233 1466  
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