In His Hands #11 “The Determined End” Daniel 9: 20-27

**Intro:** Last week… Daniel praying Jeremiah’s Promise.

 70 years of Babylonians domination/exile; Restoration.

* Julie taking notes…. FATHER, PLEASE Help Him…

Help him say Daniel, not Jeremiah!

Difficult Text today… Answer to Daniel’s prayer

**ILL** - Jerome (translated Bible into Latin – Vulgate) in 400 AD

Jerome’s commentary on Daniel… *Because it is unsafe to pass judgment on the opinions of great teachers of the church and to set one above another, I shall simply repeat the view of each and leave it to the reader’s judgment.* (punted)

He listed **nine** possible Interpretations on Daniel 9 and declared himself unable to decide which if any was correct. (***Be Humble***!)

**t/s** – Yet, given to us for Understanding. Let’s Dig In!

t/s – **The LORD has Determined the End.**

 ***He knows what He’s doing; and he is Doing It!***

**Daniel 9: 20-27** Remind of Context; Read with comments

**Vs. 21** Last week, “*For Your Name’s Sake*… keep 70 year promise!”

 “*The time of the evening sacrifice*” = 3:00 pm (Davis)

* 70 years since Daniel was in Jerusalem; Temple gone 50! Daniel is still telling time by the patterns of temple worship. Years of yearning and affection, soul thirst!
* Daniel was in Babylon, but never ***OF*** Babylon!

**Vs. 23** “***Understanding***” as **Given and Gained** (Grace and Effort)

 “*Command issued*” = Word went

 **Key**: Vs. 24-27 given in ***answer to Daniel’s prayer*** for God to

 Forgive and restore in keeping his 70 year Promise.

**Vs. 24** Seventy Weeks = “***sevens***” = seventy sets of seven years (**490**)

 \* Highly symbolic for “complete”; but also **literal**

* Your people (Jews) and Your city (Jerusalem)
* Six Purposes Declared (very important --- will return later)

**Vs. 25** First 69 of the 70 = 483 years… 173,880 days (lunar calendar)

1. Temple will be rebuilt
2. Messiah will come…

“*Issuing decree to rebuild Jerusalem*” == Sending out Word!

* Cyrus, Darius or Xerxes? LORD’s Word went out?
* Fits time span from decree to rebuild in Nehemiah to Jesus’ Entry in Luke 19… 69 X 7years
* ***Greatest Prophecy ever Given***!

**Ps 119:89** – *Forever, Lord, Your Word is settled in Heaven*

**Vs. 26** A GAP between 69 and 70… After 69 and before 70th

1. Messiah will be cut off… nothing and no one!
2. Jerusalem destroyed by the People of **a Prince to come**.

(**anti-Christ**; Little horn; ultimate expression of rebellion)

**Church Age**… undetermined length… focus of Gabriel’s

Insight for Daniel is for ***Jerusalem and the Jews***.

The Church comes and goes in the GAP.

(***telescoped*** --- Event in distant future look closer together)

**Vs. 27** Final seven years… “***he***” = prince who is to come. (Anti-Christ)

 Seven years trouble divided into two 3 ½ year halves in **NT**!

 “***Make a firm covenant***” = coercive language… power-move

 Dishonesty and Desolation ***from*** the prince.

 Final Destruction ***of*** the prince (by God).

Context of Prayer = Insight into the future of Jerusalem (7 X 70)

Context of Daniel – In His Hands… God on His Throne… the LORD

NT Use of Daniel in Olivet Discourse and Revelation… END Times.

**The LORD has Determined the END.**

(Purpose not to Satisfy our Curiosity; but to Strengthen our Faith)

***This will take longer than you expect***;

***This will be more difficult than you imagine***;

but rest assured**… The LORD has Determined the END.**

**END** = Repeated Vocabulary… End, Consummation, Completion.

1. A termination or conclusion
2. The purpose or aim; ie., *the means to an End*.

Not only about the conclusion of history, but about the Purpose of History; God’s Purpose.

**Determined** = *Decreed*… note vs. 24, 26, 27…

 Predetermined, On Target, Scheduled, Certain!

 *Something that cannot be Changed*!

**The LORD has Determined the END.**

**Vs. 24** - **Six fold Purposed Statement**

 ***Sin Removed and Righteousness Established.*** Hallelujah!

 What is God’s Plan? What is He Up to? Purpose?

 ***He is making an End of Sin;***

***and to establishing Everlasting Righteousness***

 STOP! Is that the longing of your Soul?! Like Exile Daniel?

 Does the sin in your live, in this world break your heart, weary? Are you longing for God to Make things Right?!

 (Daniel; John on Patmos; Brethren in N. Korea today)

 Are you so OF Babylon that you have no such Longing?

**The LORD has Determined the END.**

For His Purpose; By His Power (27); Through His Person/Messiah

**The LORD has Determined the END.**

**ILL** – DH and I built a tree house… he was about 10

 No plans, just a creative vision… winging it, on the fly.

* ***unsafe, ugly, inaccessible***….
* Julie, “How are they going to get up there?!”
* DH, “We probably should have thought about that”

**Honestly, That is how most of us live our lives.**

**Maybe, That is how your Parents ran your family.**

**Sadly, That is how Leaders often run our society.**

**That is NOT How God runs His Creation!**

Our God Is the LORD of Hosts, the King of All Creation.

**He has Determined the END.**

Inv. – Purpose for Creation is Purpose for You.

 End Your Sin and Establish Righteousness. (All Things New)