

# Bible Extra 2019

Week 6 – Revelation 13 & 14

Part 2

The Harvest of the Earth

# Re-visiting the 144,000

1. The whole people of God past and present.
2. Just the martyrs or some subset of future martyrs.
3. Converted, male, Jewish, virgins who will witness for Christ during the final 7-years tribulation after the church is raptured.

According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

1 Thes 4:14-17

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

1 Cor 15:51-52

Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.

Mt 24:29-31

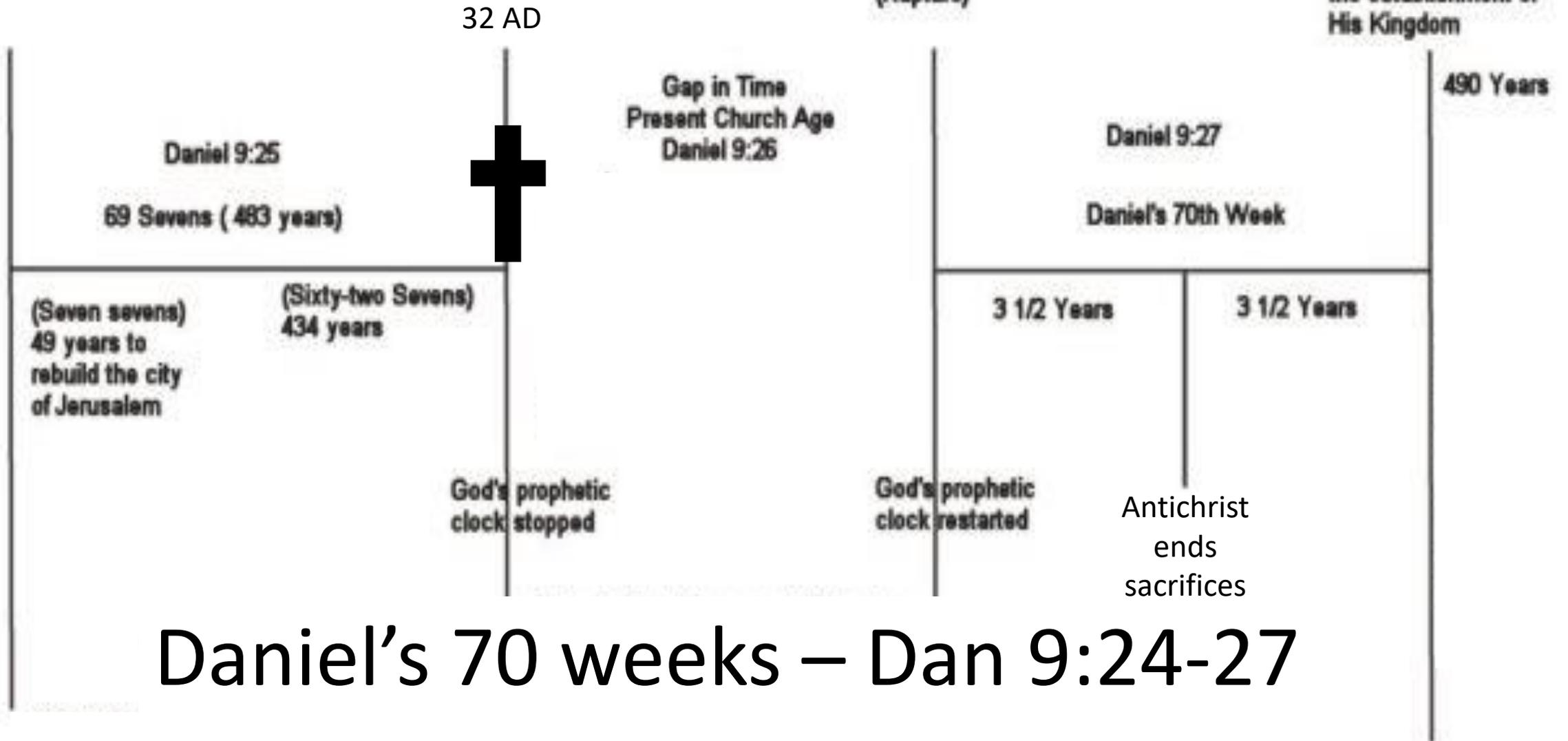
Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

Mt 24:40-41

Mar. 14, 445 BC  
Artaxerxes' Decree

Covenant of Israel  
with the Antichrist  
(Rapture)

The Second Coming  
of the Messiah and  
the establishment of  
His Kingdom



Daniel's 70 weeks – Dan 9:24-27

If it is accepted that God has 2 separate peoples and different programmes for each, then the doctrine of the rapture of the church before the Great Tribulation follows logically. This is how the church “parenthesis” ends so that God can turn his attention back to Israel for the next dispensation.

Dispensationalism teaches that after the rapture of the church, national Israel again takes centre stage during the tribulation and Jews finally begin accepting Jesus as their Messiah. To keep their strange doctrinal system from collapsing [they] must prove the doctrine of the pre-tribulational rapture – a doctrine wholly unknown to Christianity before the 19th century.

T.L. Frazier

# Arguments FOR a pre-trib rapture

- Christians not appointed to suffer wrath (Eg Rev 3:10, 1 Thes 5:9)
- “Come up here” Rev 4:1
- “Left Behind” Mat 24:40
- 2 Thes 2:3-8

Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God. And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendour of his coming.

2 Thes 2:3-8

# Why I don't believe in a pre-tribulation rapture

- It's a 19th century doctrine that arrived with Dispensationalism
- It has no clear and explicit support anywhere in Scripture
- Splitting Daniel's weeks has no textual support, and his prophecy better fits the "tribulation" of Antiochus Epiphanes in 168 BC.
- Jesus says explicitly that the rapture comes AFTER not BEFORE the tribulation (Mat 24:29-31)
- Revelation indicates Christians will be alive on earth during the tribulation (Rev 13:7)
- All rapture verses are in the context of the final and decisive Day of the Lord / Last Trumpet