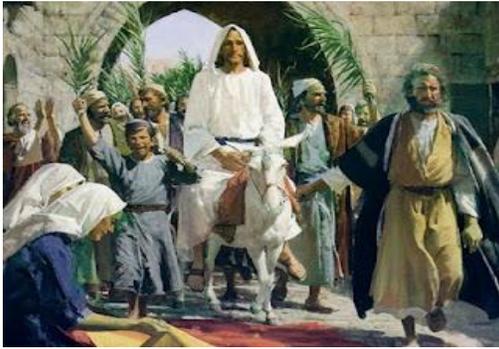


Prophecy: The Messiah Will Appear in Jerusalem in A.D. 31



*One of the most amazing prophecies in the Old Testament is found in the Book of Daniel. The angel Gabriel appears to Daniel and reveals to him the **exact number of days** that will pass between the time the command is given to rebuild Jerusalem and the time the **Messiah will appear** in Jerusalem and be killed, appearing to have accomplished nothing. Only one historical person's life fulfills this prophecy of the Messiah:*

Jesus of Nazareth

This is what Gabriel tells Daniel:

Daniel 9:24-26(NKJV)

²⁴ Seventy weeks are determined For your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy.

²⁵ Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.

²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary

According to the Book of Daniel, 483 years [(7 x 7) + (62 x 7)] will pass between the time the command is given to rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One comes. Since a biblical year is 360 days, we're actually being told that 173,880 days will pass. So to find out if this prophecy was fulfilled, we only need to count forward 173,880 days from the time of the command and see if anyone entered Jerusalem and was killed, appearing to have accomplished nothing. If such a person exists, the Word of God confirms that person is the Messiah.

So when was the command given? The Book of Nehemiah tells us.

Nehemiah 2 :1-8

¹And it came to pass in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, that I took the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had never been sad in his presence before.

²Therefore the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing but sorrow of heart." So I became dreadfully afraid,

³and said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' tombs, lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire?" ⁴Then the king said to me, "What do you request?" So I prayed to the God of heaven.

⁵And I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it." ⁶Then the king said to me (the queen also sitting beside him), "How long will your journey be? And when will you return?"

So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time. ⁷Furthermore I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given to me for the governors of the region beyond the River, that they must permit me to pass through till I come to Judah,

⁸and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he must give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel which pertains to the temple, for the city wall, and for the house that I will occupy." And the king granted them to me according to the good hand of my God upon me.

According to the Book of Nehemiah, the command to rebuild Jerusalem was given in the 20th year of the reign of Artaxerxes (446 B.C.) during the month of Nisan (March/April).

[Using this Calendar Conversion Tool](#), we can calculate the time frame in which the prophecy must be fulfilled. Counting 173,880 days into the future from Nissan 1 to Nissan 30 in the year 446 B.C. (the year 3315 in the Jewish Calendar), we learn that the prophecy must be fulfilled between the dates of 13 April A.D. 31 and 12 May A.D. 31:

Gregorian Calendar: 20 March 446 B.C.

Jewish Calendar: 1 Nisan 3315

+173,880 days (360 days x 483 years)

Gregorian Calendar: 13 April A.D. 31

Jewish Calendar: 4 Iyyar 3791

And

Gregorian Calendar: 18 April 446 B.C.

Jewish Calendar: 30 Nisan 3315

+173,880 days (360 days x 483 years)

Gregorian Calendar: 12 May A.D. 31

Jewish Calendar: 4 Sivan 3791

Did anyone appear in Jerusalem between 13 April A.D. 31 and 12 May A.D. 31 who fulfilled the prophecies of the Messiah and was killed, appearing to accomplish nothing?

Yes. Jesus of Nazareth.

During the Passover festivities in Jerusalem in the year A.D. 31, Jesus was killed in such a way. According to David Reagan's commentary on the subject, [the New Testament provides evidence that two Sabbaths occurred](#), one on Thursday and one on Saturday, during the week of Jesus of Nazareth's crucifixion.

Given other historical records and evidence, we can be certain that the crucifixion of Jesus occurred on the 24th of April A.D. 31, a date that falls between the predetermined timeframe of 13 April to 12 May for the Messiah's appearance.

Thus, we can be certain that Jesus of Nazareth fulfilled the requirements of this messianic prophecy. No other historical individual appeared during April/May of A.D. 31 who could fulfill this prophecy. Furthermore, Daniel 9:26 predicted, "after this period of sixty-two sets of seven... a ruler will arise whose armies will destroy the City and the Temple."

Did this happen? Yes.

In A.D. 70, thirty-nine years after Jesus was killed, a ruler named Titus (who later became Emperor of Rome), led the Roman legions into Jerusalem where they destroyed the City and the Temple. This completed the messianic prophecy of Daniel 9:24-26, and made it **impossible** for anyone to appear after the year A.D. 70 and make a legitimate claim to [fulfillment of the messianic prophecies](#).

History and the Old Testament prophecies are clear: **Jesus of Nazareth is the Anointed One, the Messiah, the Holy One of God, and the Lamb of God.** As a human being, the most important thing you can do in your life is [investigate these claims and build a personal relationship with Jesus](#)