



## ❖ INTRODUCTION

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of April in 32 AD, at about 2:00 in the afternoon, one of the most significant events of history took place.

Amazingly, the hundreds if not thousands who witnessed this event, failed to understand the significance of that event.

That event is what we celebrate today. It had been called the “Triumphal Entry”. We have named today, “Palm Sunday”, celebrating that day when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey in the midst of waving palm branches and shouts of “hosanna, blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Most, perhaps all the people there that day, even those who shouted hosanna didn’t really appreciate the significance and true nature of this King. Most surely missed the significance of this day in Israel’s history.

The significance of the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the exact timing of this event on this exact day was spoken of over 500 years before.

We find the prophecy of this day and discover its true significance in the plan of God in Daniel 9.

"Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy. 25 "Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.' It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. 26 After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. 27 He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

## ❖ The Plan of a Sovereign God v. 24

"Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city

- God has a plan for His-STORY.
- God orchestrating His plan as it is played out in TIME.
- "Seventy 'sevens' are decreed" for Israel: 490 years
- Daniel’s “70 Weeks” prophecy demonstrates the detailed extent of God’s plan.
- The fulfillment of this prophecy demonstrates God’s absolute sovereignty in orchestrating His perfect plan to PERFECT fulfillment.

## ❖ The Purpose of the Sovereign King v. 24

- to finish transgression:  
Israel's sin of rebellion will be brought to an end
- to put an end to sin:  
Israel's sin would be brought to an end
- to atone for wickedness:  
Payment for sin will be made: crucifixion
- to bring in everlasting righteousness:  
Establishment of an age characterized by righteousness to continue on into eternity.
- to seal up vision and prophecy :  
The full realization of all that has been prophesied for Israel.
- to anoint the most holy:  
The consecration of the Temple in the Millennium

## ❖ The Presentation of the Savior-King v. 24-25

- Length of time Predicted:  
there will be seven 'sevens,' (49 years)  
and sixty-two 'sevens (434 years)  
(483 years total).

- The Starting Point: The issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem

Possible interpretations of "decree to rebuild Jerusalem":

1. Cyrus (538): Proclamation was not a mandate to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem but to build the temple. (Ezra 1:2-3)
2. Darius Hystaspes (519): Reissuing of Cyrus's decree. (Ezra 6:1-3, 6-7)
3. Artaxerxes (458): "To inquire about Judah and Jerusalem with regard to the Law of your God" (Ezra 7:11-14, 19-20)
4. Artaxerxes Longimanus (445): To rebuild Jerusalem (Neh. 2:5-8)

**The Starting point: 14, March 445**

- The Ending Point: Coming of the Messiah Anointed One (Triumphal Entry)

**Date of Triumphal entry: 6, April 32** (Lk. 3:1, 23)

Calculation of time from decree to coming of the "Anointed One"

<b>Jewish Calendar</b> (360 days per year)	<b>Gregorian Calendar</b> (365 days per year)
(7 x 7) + (62 x 7) years = 483 years	445 BC - 32 AD = 476 years
	476 years
	x 365 days
	173,740 days
	+ 116 days in leap years
	+ 24 days from 14, March to 6, April
483 years	173,880 days
x 360 days	
173,880 days	

- God revealed to Daniel His determined and decreed **PLAN** for Israel in the future.
- God revealed the time of the presentation of Messiah to Israel to the exact **DAY**, over 550 years in advance.
- God orchestrated human events over the course of over 550 years to bring the **EXACT** fulfillment of His plan.
- God has a plan for His-story and He is orchestrating His plan with unfaltering precision as it is played out in **TIME**.

❖ **The Passion of the Savior-King v. 26**

After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing.  
(11, April 32)

- God revealed to Daniel that after His presentation to the nation, the Messiah would be “cut off and have nothing.”
  - “cut off” is a term used for carrying out an execution. It speaks to Christ’s **CRUCIFIXION**.
  - “have nothing” refers to the rule of Christ over Israel as a nation. Because Israel rejected Christ, there is presently no Messianic kingdom. Christ has no rule over Israel as a **NATION**.

❖ **The Preeminence of the Sovereign King v. 26-27**

The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.

The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. 27 He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

- God decreed that the temple and the city of Jerusalem would be destroyed. This was fulfilled between March & September in 70 A.D. when the Romans destroyed much of the city and the Temple and gained control of Jerusalem.
- God has decreed a 70<sup>th</sup> “week” (7 years) in which He will bring “desolations” on the earth, particularly Israel.
- A future Roman ruler (the Antichrist) will establish a peace treaty with Israel to begin the 70<sup>th</sup> “week” but will break this treaty in the middle and desecrate the Temple.
- Christ will defeat the Antichrist, establish His kingdom and rule in **PERFECT** righteousness.

**❖ Conclusion**

- The Past:
  - **PERFECTLY** fulfilled by a sovereign God.
  
- The Present:
  - The same God who decreed and executed the perfect plan for the past is the same sovereign King **TODAY**.
  
  - The same God who we believe has decreed and will execute the perfect plan for the end of time is the same sovereign King **TODAY**.
  
  - Here we are in the middle . . . How will we trust and submit to the Sovereign King of Creation . . . **TODAY**?
  
- The Future:
  - Certain expectation of **PERFECT** fulfillment of God's plan and the demonstration of His Glory into eternity.

**PRAYER OF RESPONSE & COMMITMENT**

Sovereign God,

You have perfectly decreed and executed your plan in the past. You have a perfect plan for the future. Your wisdom is beyond me. Your ways are beyond me. Teach me to trust in your sovereign plan for my life. By your grace, and with your strength, I will trust you with my life **TODAY**.