

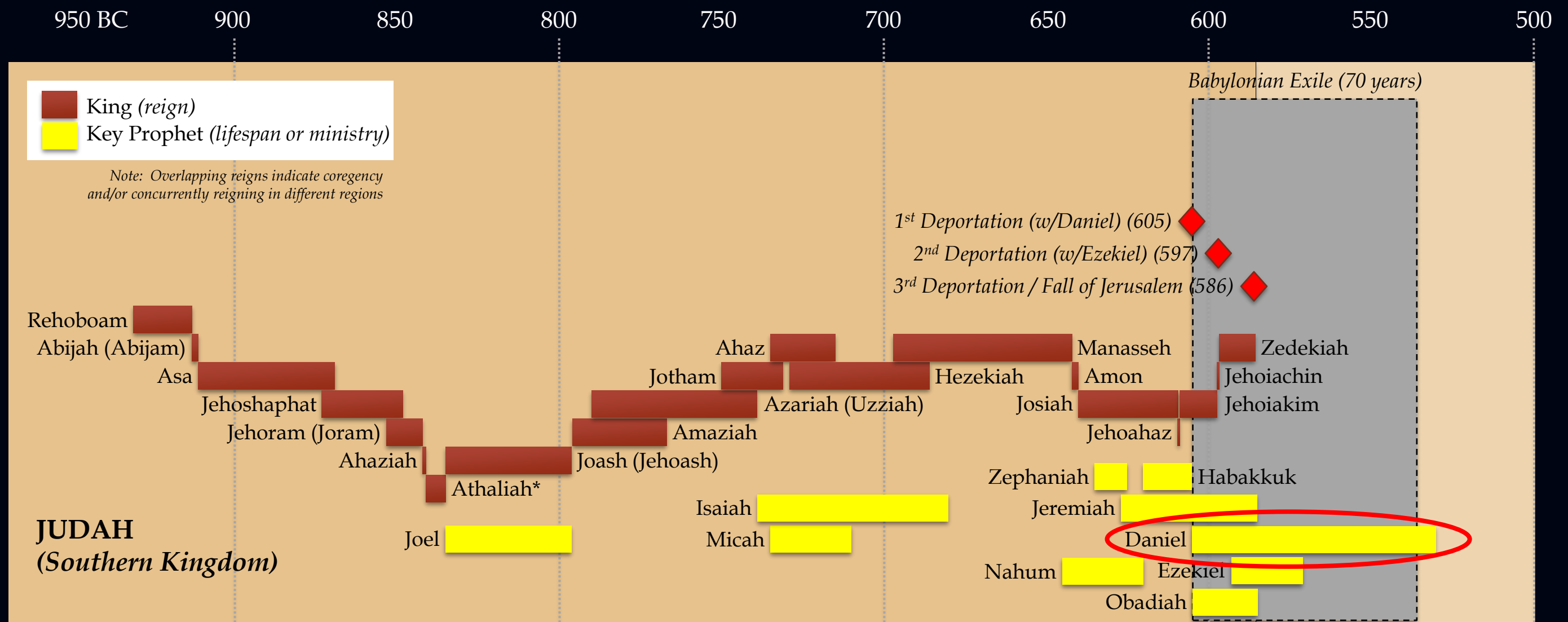
Daniel's Vision of the 70 Weeks

Daniel 9



Resources

- Tom Pennington, *Seventy Years & Seventy Weeks*, 4-part sermon series in 2019.
- Gleason Archer, Jr., *The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Daniel and the Minor Prophets*.
- Harold Hoehner, *Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ*.



Book of Daniel

Prophetic Plan for the Gentiles

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Personal History of Daniel	Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of the Great Image & Daniel's Interpretation	Nebuchadnezzar's Image of Gold & Daniel's Friends in the Fiery Furnace	Nebuchadnezzar's Vision of a Great Tree & Daniel's Interpretation	Belshazzar and Handwriting on the Wall & Daniel's Interpretation	Darius' Foolish Decree & Daniel in the Lion's Den	Daniel's Visions of the Four Beasts & the Ancient of Days

Prophetic Plan for Israel

8	9	10	11	12
Daniel's Vision of the Ram and Goat	Daniel's Vision of the 70 Weeks	Daniel's Vision of Israel's Future		

Theme:
God's sovereignty over human history

**Daniel's Vision
of the
70 Weeks**

**Daniel's Prayer
for Restoring Israel (1-19)**

**God's Answer with a
Vision of 70 Weeks
for Israel's Future (20-27)**

Daniel's Prayer for Restoring Israel (1-19)

- The setting for the prayer (1-2)
 - During the exile, he studies the writings of Jeremiah and determines the Babylonian captivity would be 70 years

Daniel's Prayer for Restoring Israel (1-19)

- The setting for the prayer (1-2)
- The content of the prayer (3-19)

Daniel's Prayer for Restoring Israel (1-19)

- The content of the prayer (3-19)
 - Preparation (3)
 - Adoration (4)
 - Confession of Sin (5-14)

Daniel's Prayer for Restoring Israel (1-19)

- The content of the prayer (3-19) (*cont'd*)
 - Confession of Sin (5-14)
 - Acknowledging the true nature of their sin (5-6)
 - Accepting the just consequences of their sin (7-8)
 - Longing for the only remedy for their sin (9)
 - Affirming God's faithfulness in judgment of their sin (10-13a)
 - Confessing their stubbornness of heart (13b-14)

Daniel's Prayer for Restoring Israel (1-19)

- The content of the prayer (3-19)
 - Preparation (3)
 - Adoration (4)
 - Confession of Sin (5-14)
 - Appeal for God's forgiveness and restoration (15-19)

Daniel's Prayer for Restoring Israel (1-19)

- The content of the prayer (3-19) (*cont'd*)
 - Appeal for God's forgiveness and restoration (15-19)
 - Because of His past redemption (15)
 - Because of His righteousness (16a)
 - Because of the reproach of others (16b-18a)
 - Because of His great compassion (18b)
 - Because we have been called by Your name (19)

Important Reminders About Prayer

- Let a deepening understanding of Scripture drive your prayers
 - In properly approaching and understanding God
 - In properly understanding yourself and others
 - In properly seeking reconciliation with God
 - In knowing what to pray for
- Pray for others
- Know that God always hears the prayers of His people

Daniel's Vision of the 70 Weeks

- Daniel's prayer for restoring Israel (1-19)
- God's answer with a vision of 70 weeks for Israel's future (20-27)

God's Answer with a Vision of 70 Weeks for Israel's Future (20-27)

■ Gabriel's arrival (20-23)

- He arrives while Daniel is still praying (20-21)
- He came to give Daniel insight and understanding (22)
- He was dispatched at the beginning of Daniel's prayer – to one who is highly esteemed (23)

Psalms 139:4 ⁴Even before there is a word on my tongue,
Behold, O LORD, You know it all.

God's Answer with a Vision of 70 Weeks for Israel's Future (20-27)

- Gabriel's arrival (20-23)
- The vision given to Daniel of 70 'weeks' (24-27)

The Vision Given to Daniel of 70 'Weeks' (24-27)

- A duration of 70 'weeks' is decreed (24a)
 - The word 'weeks' lit. means "*sevens*", or "*units of seven*"
 - Context and history show these are units of *seven years*
 - 70 'weeks' = 70 units of *seven years* = **490 years**

The Vision Given to Daniel of 70 'Weeks' (24-27)

- A duration of 70 'weeks' (490 years) is decreed (24a)
- This period will see 6 great achievements (24b)
 1. to finish the transgression – *ending rebellion & apostasy*
 2. to make an end of sin – *ending the time for sin*
 3. to make atonement for iniquity - *fully paying the penalty for sin*
 4. to bring in everlasting righteousness – *cleansing & perfect obedience*
 5. to seal up vision and prophecy - *ending & fulfilling all revelation*
 6. to anoint the most holy place - *consecrating the future temple*

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Deal with Sin

1. to finish the transgression – *ending rebellion & apostasy*
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Deal with Righteousness

The Vision Given to Daniel of 70 'Weeks' (24-27)

- A duration of 70 'weeks' (490 years) is decreed (24a)
- This period will see 6 great achievements (24b)
- From the decree to restore/rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah is 69 'weeks' (483 years) (25a)
- Jerusalem will be restored in the first 7 'weeks' (49 years) (25b)
- After Messiah's arrival, He will be killed (26a)

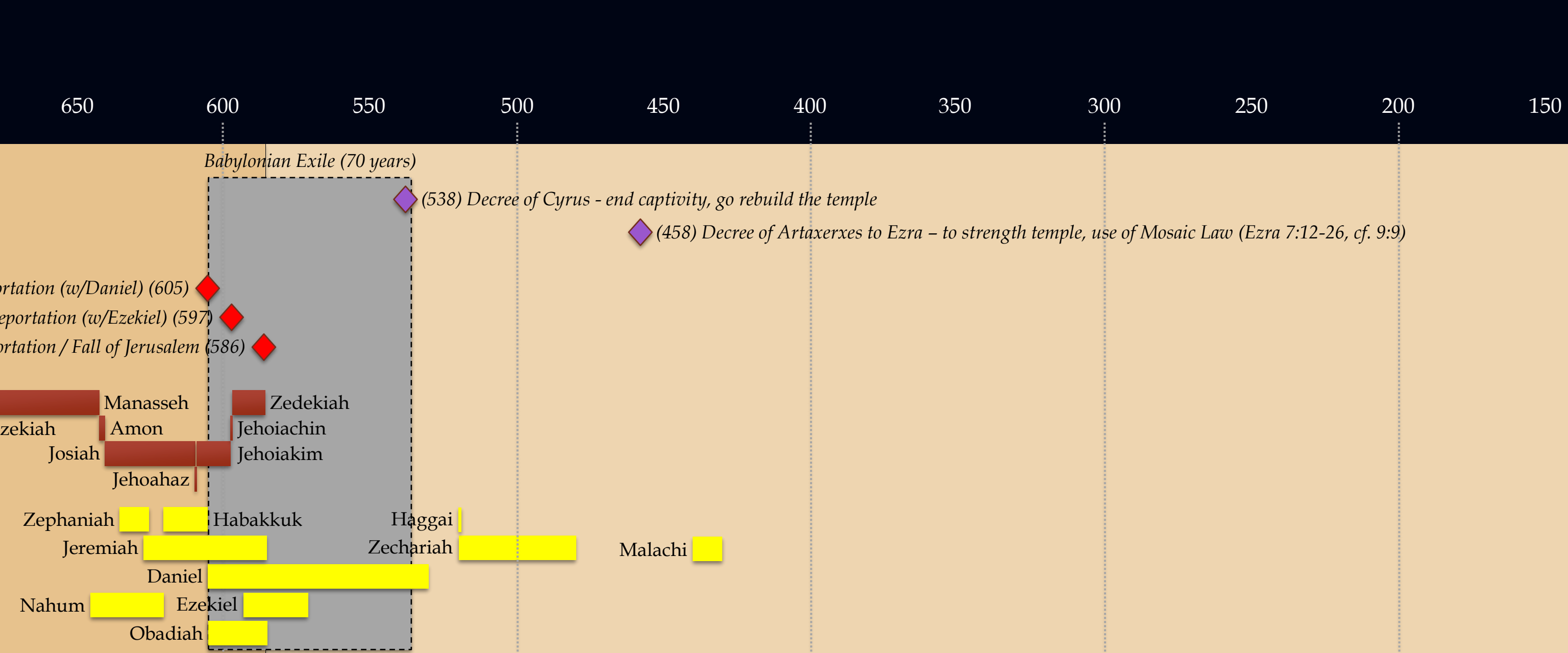
Analysis of the 69 Weeks

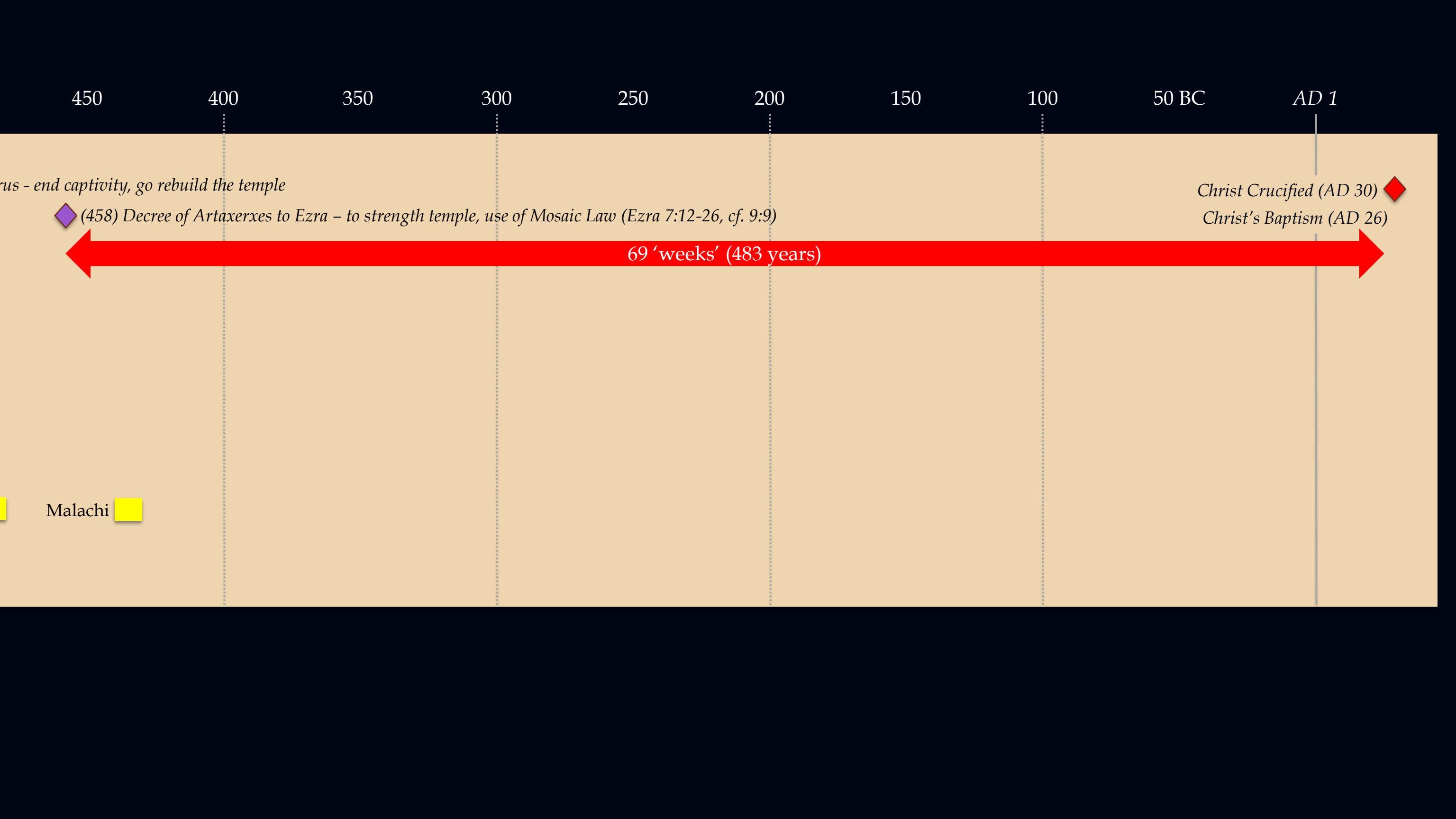
X Option 1 – Start at the Decree of Cyrus in **538 BC** - *to end captivity and to rebuild the temple* (Ezra 1:2-4, 6:3-5)

- $538 \text{ BC} + 483 \text{ years} = \mathbf{55 \text{ BC}}$ for arrival of Messiah
- **Doesn't work!**

Analysis of the 69 Weeks

Option 2 – Start at the Decree of Artaxerxes to Ezra in **458 BC** – *to strength temple, use of Mosaic Law* (Ezra 7:12-26, cf. 9:9)





Analysis of the 69 Weeks

- ◆ **Option 2** – Start at the Decree of Artaxerxes to Ezra in **458 BC** – *to strength temple, use of Mosaic Law* (Ezra 7:12-26, cf. 9:9)
 - 458 BC + 483 years = **AD 26** for arrival of Messiah – **works!**
 - This would be the year of **Christ's baptism** and beginning of His ministry (*for those holding a date of AD 30 for Christ's death*)

Analysis of the 69 Weeks

Option 3 – Start at the Decree of Artaxerxes to Nehemiah in **444 BC** – *to rebuild Jerusalem* (Neh 2:5-8,17-18)

- 444 BC + 483 years = **AD 40** for arrival of Messiah – a problem!
- Proposed solution
 - Use a 360-day ‘prophetic’ year (based on Rev 12:6)



Analysis of the 69 Weeks

◆ **Option 3** – Start at the Decree of Artaxerxes to Nehemiah in **444 BC** – *to rebuild Jerusalem* (Neh 2:5-8,17-18)

- 444 BC + 483 years = **AD 40** for arrival of Messiah – a problem!
- Proposed solution
 - Use a 360-day ‘prophetic’ year (based on Rev 12:6)
 - 444 BC + 483 ‘prophetic’ years (476 years) = **AD 33** – **works!**
 - This maps to the time of **Christ’s triumphal entry** (*for those holding a date of AD 33 for Christ’s death*)

Analysis of the 69 Weeks

- X Option 1** – Decree of Cyrus in **538 BC** ending in **55 BC**
 - ◆ Option 2** – Decree of Artaxerxes to Ezra in **458 BC** ending in **AD 26** with **Jesus' baptism**
 - ◆ Option 3** – Decree of Artaxerxes to Nehemiah in **444 BC** ending in **AD 33** with **Jesus' triumphal entry** (using 'prophetic' years)
-
- Either of the last two options is possible!
 - Regardless of which it is, this prophecy is perfectly fulfilled in Jesus Christ's arrival as Messiah!

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- After Messiah's arrival, He will be killed (26a)
 - Christ was killed 3+ years after His baptism, 5 days after His triumphal entry

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- Jerusalem and the Temple will be destroyed, with war and desolations to the end (26b)
 - Both were destroyed by the Romans in AD 70!

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- The final 70th week follows (27)

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The Final 70th Week (27)

- **These final 7 years are in the future because the accomplishments of v24 are not yet completed, among other reasons**
- **Antichrist will make a 7-year covenant with Israel (27a)**

The Final 70th Week (27)

- These final verses of v24 are not
- Antichrist

Matthew 24:15–30 ¹⁵“Therefore **when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel** the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains... ²¹For then **there will be a great tribulation**, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will...

²⁹But **immediately after the tribulation** of those days THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and **they will see the SON OF MAN COMING** ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

The Final 70th Week (27)

- These final 7 years are in the future because the accomplishments of v24 are not yet completed, among other reasons
- Antichrist will make a 7-year covenant with Israel (27a)
- In 3.5 years, Antichrist will break the covenant and end all worship in the temple (27b)
- Antichrist will then desolate the temple (27c)

The Final 70th Week (27)

- These final 7 years are in the future, v24 are not yet completed, among them
- Antichrist will make a 7-year covenant
- In 3.5 years, Antichrist will break the temple (27b)
- Antichrist will then desolate the temple (27c)

2 Thessalonians 2:3–4 ³Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

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2 Thessalonians 2:8⁸Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;

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- Antichrist will then desolate the temple (27c)
- Antichrist will ultimately be completely destroyed per God's decree (27d)
- Daniel's 70th week is the 7-year tribulation yet to come

Closing Reflections

- Daniel's vision of the 70 weeks is an amazing prophecy concerning the coming of Messiah
- Be in awe of how the life of Jesus Christ perfectly matches the prophesied timing of the arrival of Messiah!
- Be in awe of the final accomplishments that will take place at Christ's Second Coming
- Be in awe of God's sovereignty, knowledge, and power to direct all things
- Be in awe of Jesus, our perfect Messiah!