



## SAVED TO SERVE

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### DANIEL THE PROPHET - DANIEL 7 THE FOUR BEASTS & LITTLE HORN, PART 4

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study Daniel 7:13-14 and discover who the Son of Man is and what date He came before the Ancient of days to perform the work of judgment.

**“To the student of prophecy, the seventh chapter of Daniel is a most important record. By a continuous chain of events, the prophet gives the history from the days of Babylon to the great investigative judgment, which is the central theme of the chapter.”** {1901 SNH, SDP 88.2}

2. Read Daniel 7:13. Who is the Son of Man? Luke 19:9-10; 3:22-23
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3. **Note:** Let us recap. Who is the Ancient of Days? It is God the Father (Psalm 90:2; 41:13). The scene being described in Daniel 7:13 is Jesus coming before God the Father. The question we will answer in this lesson is when did the Son of Man come before the Ancient of days?

4. What event is about to take place when the Son of Man comes before the Ancient of Days? Daniel 7:9-10
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5. **Note:** As we saw in previous lessons, this scene of judgment was typified in the earthly sanctuary on the Day of Atonement. Since Jesus comes before the Father, it is He who will be opening the books to do this work of judgment. In the earthly sanctuary, only the high priest could officiate on the Day of Atonement. Let us compare the work of the high priest in the earthly sanctuary with the life of Jesus to prove that He is doing the work of judgment and discover what date it officially began.

6. The earthly sanctuary had an outer court, holy place, and the most holy place. Where was the altar of burnt offering in the earthly sanctuary? Exodus 40:29, 30, 33 & Leviticus 1:1-6
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7. **Note:** Jesus is the Lamb who was sacrificed for us (John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7). Just as literal lambs had to be killed on the altar of burnt offering in the outer court of the sanctuary, so Jesus, in type, was killed in the outer court. Literally, Jesus was killed at Calvary or Golgotha (Luke 23:33; John 19:17). However, for the application, the outer court would represent the earth because it was on the earth that Jesus came to die for our sins.

8. After the sacrificial animal was killed, where did the priest take the blood? Leviticus 4:1-6; Exodus 26:33
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9. Besides the Lamb, what other title is given to Jesus? Hebrews 3:1; 4:14-15
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10. Is there a sanctuary in heaven? Exodus 25:8, 9; Hebrews 8:1-2; 9:11
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11. After Jesus' resurrection and ascension to heaven (Acts 1:1-2, 9-10), where did He go and specifically to what compartment? Hebrews 8:1-4; 9:11-12, 24
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12. In the earthly sanctuary, where did the high priest minister on the Day of Atonement? Leviticus 16:2-3, 15-17; Hebrews 9:3, 7-8
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13. **Note:** This means that just as the earthly sanctuary was a type or pattern of the sanctuary in heaven, there must be an antitypical Day of Atonement in heaven, when Jesus began the work of cleansing the sanctuary and the work of investigative judgment. How are we to know when the antitypical Day of Atonement began and when Jesus moved from the holy to the most holy place? The answer is found in Daniel 8:14.

14. What does Daniel 8:14 say?

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15. **Note:** This 2300 Days prophecy could not be talking about the cleansing of the earthly sanctuary. After Jesus' death on the cross, the earthly temple services lost significance in God's sight because they pointed to Jesus. Therefore, the veil separating the holy from the most holy place was torn (Matthew 27:50-51). We discovered earlier in Daniel 7:13 that the Son of Man came to the Ancient of Days to perform the work of judgment, and we can now say, cleansing the sanctuary. Since Jesus is not on earth but in heaven, Daniel 8:14 is pointing us to Jesus' work in the heavenly sanctuary. Let us now pinpoint the exact date that Jesus moved into the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary to begin the work of investigative judgment.

16. What does a "day" represent in Bible prophecy? Ezekiel 4:6; Numbers 14:34

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17. If we find the starting date of the 2300 Days prophecy (2300 literal years), we can easily find the ending date, which is the date that the heavenly sanctuary began to be cleansed by Jesus. Read Daniel 8:14-16. We see that Daniel was confused at the vision. Now, scan the rest of Daniel 8. Does Gabriel explain to Daniel the meaning of the 2300 Days in Daniel 8? No. Gabriel comes again to give him wisdom and understanding in Daniel 9. What prophecy is brought to view in Daniel 9:21-24 which is a part of the 2300 Days prophecy?

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18. **Note:** 70 weeks x 7 days = 490 days. 490 days represent 490 years, because a day represents one year in Bible prophecy.

19. Read Daniel 9:24. It says 70 weeks or 490 literal years are "determined" on the Jews to finish sin. What does the word "determined" mean? **Answer: In the Hebrews Strong's Concordance the number for the word "determined" is 2852, and it means "to cut off."**

20. **Note:** The fact that the 70 weeks are "cut off" means that it is a part of something larger - the 2300 Days prophecy. So, if we find the starting date for the 70 weeks prophecy, we will have the starting date for the 2300 Days.

21. What does Daniel 9:25 tell us to look for to figure out the starting date of the 70 weeks prophecy?

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22. Which king gave the commandment or decree for the Jews to rebuild their temple in Jerusalem and in what year of his reign was it given? Ezra 7:7-13, 21-27

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23. **Note:** During what year of king Artaxerxes' reign was the decree given? According to history, king Artaxerxes began his reign in 464 B.C.

"In (Nehemiah 2:1) we have another Artaxerxes. We may safely identify him with Artaxerxes Macrocheir or Longimanus, the son of Xerxes, who reigned 464-425 B.C." Smith's Bible Dictionary <http://biblehub.com/topical/a/artaxerxes.htm>  
**Count seven years in the future from 464 B.C. and you will arrive at the date 457 B.C., the year that Artaxerxes gave the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem.**

24. **Note:** Using 457 B.C. as the starting date for the 2300 prophetic days and continuing 2300 years in the future, you will arrive at A.D. 1844. When you do the math, you will get 1843, however, it is VERY IMPORTANT to remember that when you cross over from B.C. to A.D., you must add one year because there is no "zero year." Look at the following example for clarity (2 B.C., 1 B.C., then 1 A.D., 2 A.D., etc).

In 1844, Jesus moved into the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary to begin the work of cleansing it - the work of investigative judgment on the antitypical Day of Atonement. Under the Jewish calendar, the Day of Atonement always occurred on the tenth day of the seventh Jewish month. In the year 1844, that date fell on October 22. Therefore with certainty, we can conclude that the date when Jesus officially began the work of cleansing the heavenly sanctuary was October 22, 1844. See the following quotation from the book *The Great Controversy* for confirmation.

"In like manner the types which relate to the second advent must be fulfilled at the time pointed out in the symbolic service. **Under the Mosaic system the cleansing of the sanctuary, or the great Day of Atonement, occurred on the tenth day of the seventh Jewish month (Leviticus 16:29-34), when the high priest, having made an atonement for all Israel, and thus**

**removed their sins from the sanctuary, came forth and blessed the people.** So it was believed that Christ, our great High Priest, would appear to purify the earth by the destruction of sin and sinners, and to bless His waiting people with immortality. **The tenth day of the seventh month, the great Day of Atonement, the time of the cleansing of the sanctuary, which in the year 1844 fell upon the twenty-second of October,** was regarded as the time of the Lord's coming. **This was in harmony with the proofs already presented that the 2300 days would terminate in the autumn, and the conclusion seemed irresistible.**" {GC 399.4}

25. Read Daniel 7:14. What three things does the Son of Man receive?

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26. After the close of what event does Jesus receive dominion, glory, and a kingdom? Revelation 19:1-2

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27. **Note:** After Jesus finishes His work as High Priest in heaven and concludes pronouncing verdicts in the judgment, He takes off His priestly robes and puts on His kingly robes to receive His dominion, glory, and kingdom. See Revelation 22:11-12; 19:11-16; 21:9-10.

28. As we close, let us see practically what we need to do on earth in order to share in Jesus' dominion, glory and kingdom when He shall return.

29. Read Romans 8:17. What is Christ's desire for us?

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30. In order to share in Christ's glory and kingdom, what does He outline for us to do through His power? 2 Timothy 2:12

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a) 2 Timothy 2:11; 1 Corinthians 15:31

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b) 2 Timothy 2:12

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c) 2 Timothy 2:15

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d) 2 Timothy 2:14, 16

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