

The First 69 of the 70 Weeks - History

| Year (B.C.) | Gentile Kings | Servitude | Captivity | Desolations | Overtaken | Events Described | |
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| 606 | 20 th year of Nabopolassar (Nebuchadnezzar's father) (Babylon) | 1 | | | 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This marks the beginning of “servitude”. From the establishment of Saul's kingdom (B.C. 1096) to Judah's servitude to Babylon (B.C. 606) = 490 years. | |
| 605 | Nebuchadnezzar II (Babylon) | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jehoiakim (king of Judah) 4th year, and Nebuchadnezzar's (king of Babylon) 1st year (Je.25:1). Jerusalem taken by Nebuchadnezzar during the 3rd year of Jehoiakim (Da.1:1-2). Nebuchadnezzar was used by God to discipline Judah (Je.27:6ff). | |
| 598 | | | | 1 | | 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This marks the beginning of the “captivity”. Nebuchadnezzar, during his 8th year of reign, besieged Jerusalem with Jehoiachin (king of Judah) as ruler (2Ki.24:12). Many (including Ezekiel) were carried away. Jehoiakim transferred his vassalage from Egypt to Babylon. Three years later (594 BC), he revolts against Nebuchadnezzar (2Ki.24:1). |
| 597 | | | | | | | Zedekiah reigns 11 years in Jerusalem (2Ki.24:18). |
| 589 | | | | | 1 | 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This marks the beginning of “desolations”. This is Nebuchadnezzar's 17th year of reign and his third invasion of Jerusalem. |
| 587-586 | | | | | | 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jerusalem is taken on the 9th day of the 4th month and the 11th year of Zedekiah (king of Judah)- 2Ki.25:2-3. Jerusalem was burnt on the 7th day of the 5th month (2Ki.25:8-9). This is “in the twelfth year of our exile [captivity] (Ek.33:21 “in”). That is, 11 full years and into the 12th year. This is Nebuchadnezzar's 19th year of reign (2Ki.25:8). |
| 574 | | | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is in the 25th year of captivity (Ek.40:1 “in”). That is, 24 full years and into the 25th year. |
| 562 | | | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the 37th year of captivity [exile] (Je.52:31 “in”). That is, 36 full years and into the 37th year. |
| 541 | Belshazzar | | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daniel's vision of the 4 beasts is in the 1st year of Belshazzar (Da.7:1). Daniel's vision of the Ram and Goat is in the 3rd year of Belshazzar (Da.8:1). |
| 538-539 | Darius (the Mede) | | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Babylon is taken by the Medes and Persians (Da.9:1) while Belshazzar celebrated a festival (Da.5). Daniel has the vision of the 70 weeks (Da.9:24-27). |
| 536 | Cyrus | 70 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the 70th year of servitude. The “servitude” ended the 1st of Nisan. This is the 3rd year of the Persian king Cyrus. Cyrus decrees and authorizes the Jews to return to Jerusalem (2Ch.36:22-23; Ez.1:1-4; Da.1:21; 6:28; 10:1). | |
| 534 | | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? The Temple's foundation was laid in the 2nd year of Cyrus (Ez.3:8-11). Daniel's last vision (Da. 10-12). | |
| 529 | Cambyses (Persian) | | 70 | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the 70th year of “captivity”. | |
| 521 | Darius I Hystaspes | | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darius I Hystaspes of Persia | |
| 520 | | | | 70 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the 70th year of “desolations”. The foundation for the second Temple is laid on the 24th day of the 9th month (Ha.2:10,18). This is in the 2nd year of Darius (Ha.2:10). | |

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| 516 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Temple is finished on the 3rd day of the ninth month of Adar (Ez.6:15). • This is the 6th year of the reign of Darius (Ez.6:15). |
| 515 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Temple is dedicated at the Passover, which is the 14th of the 1st month—Nisan (Ez.6:19). • From the dedication of Solomon’s Temple (B.C.1005) to the dedication of this second (B.C. 515) Temple = 490 years. • This is 70 years before the edict to build the city (B.C. 445). |
| 458 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decree of Artaxerxes to beautify the Temple (Ez.7). |
| 444-445 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70 weeks of Daniel begin. • The decree of Artaxerxes to Nehemiah which authorized the rebuilding of Jerusalem, including the walls and gates (Ne.2:3-8). This was Nisan 1 (March 5). |
| 397 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Canon closes which is the end of the first 7 weeks (Da.9:25). |
| 330 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rise of Greece under Alexander the Great. |
| 323 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The death of Alexander the Great resulting in the split of the kingdom by his 4 Generals. |
| 170 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerusalem taken by Antiochus Epiphanes. |
| 168 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Temple is defiled by Antiochus Epiphanes. |
| 165 | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerusalem retaken by Judas Maccabeus. • The Temple is cleansed, and the feast of Dedication is appointed (1 Macc. 4:52-59; Jn.10:22). |
| A.D. 4 | Herod (Rome) | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The birth of Jesus Christ the Messiah (Mt.1; Mk.1; Lu.1; Jn.1). |
| A.D. 28 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiberius Caesar • Herod the Tetrarch of Galilee • Pontius Pilate the governor of Judea • Anna & Caiaphas the high priests (Luke 3:1) | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The beginning of Christ’s ministry (Lu.3). |
| A.D. 32-33 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caesar • Pontius Pilate the governor (Rome) | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The crucifixion of Christ during Passover |
| NOTES | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The division of “Servitude”, “Captivity”, and “Desolations” is taken from Sir Robert Anderson’s “The Coming Prince”. • Daniel 9:2 tells us that the basis of the 70 weeks is the “desolations”. • Daniel 9:2 –While reading Jeremiah 25:11-12 and 29:1, Daniel was reminded that the 70 years of divine discipline under Babylon was nearly over. The Babylonian Captivity was the result of Israel not obeying God’s Word (Je.29:17-19). Israel did not give the land rest every 7th year (2Ch.36:20-21; Le.26:33-35, 43-44). Israel missed 70 Sabbatical years over a 490-year period. Thus these 70 Sabbaths will be made up in 70 years of captivity in Babylon (Je.25:11-12). | | | | |