

**Dan. 9 -<sup>24</sup>** "...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. <sup>25</sup>"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. <sup>26</sup>"And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah (Anointed one) shall be cut off, but not for Himself;

In 538 BCE, a proclamation by King Cyrus of Persia, who had conquered Babylon (Today's IRAQ & IRAN), permitted the exiles to return to Jerusalem. It was during the ensuing "Persian Period" that the Second Temple was built. Specifically in 457 B.C. a decree was given by Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem. This is the final decree that was given and likely the one that Daniel was referring to. In 444 BC Nehemiah was commissioned to start the restoration, according to **Neh. 2:1-20**. The prophecy of Daniel is in reference to this second decree by Artaxerxes and not the original proclamation of King Cyrus as some skeptics claim. The reason we deduce this is no mention is made of the King Cyrus but mention is made of Artaxerxes and a decree is mentioned, not a proclamation. **Neh. 2:1 -<sup>1</sup>** *And it came to pass in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, ...<sup>5</sup>And 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." ...<sup>7</sup>Furthermore 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, <sup>8</sup>and 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. <sup>9</sup>Then I went to the governors in the region beyond the River, and gave them the king's letters.*

It wasn't until 537 AD that the world converted to a dating system that finds its dating based on the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. The calculations for setting the year zero at that time which represents when the Lord Jesus Christ was born may have been off by 4 to 6 years and that He was actually born in BC 6 and died in AD 27, and not in year 0 and respectively 33 as we have been lead to believe. The way we deduce this is that the Gospel of Matthew tells us that Jesus was born under the reign of King Herod the Great, and history records that Herod the Great died in 4 BC. Now Matthew also tells us of the decree that Herod made to kill all the male children 2 years and under in his attempt to kill the Lord Jesus Christ. We deduce from this that Jesus may have been 2 years old at the time and it was while Herod was still alive, so that would put the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ at a minimum of 6 BC. Some sources think that he was born in 7 BC. Also a requirement for the birth of Jesus is

that his parents would be involved in a census decreed by Herod and carried out by Quirinius according to the Gospel of Luke. Such a census was likely conducted in 7 BC, making it almost certain that Jesus birth was in 7 BC or 6 BC. For more information on this we have selected the following quotations and web sites that you may visit. *The Gospel of Matthew tells us that Jesus was born under the reign of king Herod the Great, and he died in 4 B.C.E. It is likely that Jesus was actually born around 7 B.C.E. The date of his birth is unknown; it may or may not be December 25th. <http://webexhibits.org/calendars/year-history.html> Also / Herod (73-4 BCE) was the pro-Roman king of the small Jewish state in the last decades before the common era....The story about the slaughter of infants of Bethlehem in the second chapter of the Gospel of Matthew is not known from other sources, but it would have been totally in character for the later Herod to commit such a terrible act. [http://www.livius.org/he-hq/herodians/herod\\_the\\_great02.html](http://www.livius.org/he-hq/herodians/herod_the_great02.html)*

Also / an earlier Census in 7 BCE? There is evidence, however, that Quirinius could have been governor during the period of Jesus' birth.

*"An inscription found in Antioch tells of Quirinius being governor of Syria around 7 BC (evidently he was governor twice!)" - "Archaeological Support For The New Testament" (Christian Classics Ethereal Library) Also I "In 1912, however, the discovery by W. M. Ramsey of a fragmentary inscription at Antioch of Pisidia arguably established Quirinius was in Syria on a previous occasion. (1) His role was more military to lead a campaign against the Homanadenses, a tribe in the Taurus Mountains. This is confirmed by Tacitus. This means that Quirinius would have established a seat of government in Syria, including Palestine, from the years 10 to 7 BCE. In this position he would have been responsible for the census mentioned by Luke. This census of 7 BCE would therefore have been the 'first' census taken when Cyrenius was governor (Luke 2:2) and the historically documented census of 6/7 CE was really the second. There is further evidence of this first census of 7 BCE in the writings of Tertullian who records the census 'taken in Judea by Sentius Saturninus.' (2) C. Sentius Saturninus was Legate of Syria from 9 to 6 BCE. Another inscription, the Lapis Tiburtinus, was found in 1764 near Tivoli (Tibur). Composed after 14 CE, the inscription names an unknown personage who was legate of Syria twice. The man is described as having been victorious in war. - Jack Kilmon, "History and the New Testament"*

Some doubts have been raised by skeptics about the methods used to calculate the fulfillment of the Daniel prophecy. Some point out that the Jewish calendar differs from the Roman calendar prior to BC 45 and the standardizing on the 365 day Julian calendar (Later In AD 1500 the Gregorian calendar was adopted which made some refinements to deal with leap years.). So we looked into this and came up with the conclusion that the Jewish calendar correctly fixed the average year at 365 days, so it is no major factor in our calculations. Prior to the Julian calendar the Jewish year had 355 days plus leap years every 3<sup>rd</sup> year with 385 days in them.  $(355+355+385)/3 = 365$ . Pretty close to our  $365 + 1/4$  of today.

Daniel's prophecy may be broken up into 3 parts. 7 weeks + 62 weeks plus 1 week. Because the last 1 week is after the messiah is cut-off we are not concerned with it. It is agreed by both Jewish scholars and Christian scholars that the weeks referred to in Daniel are likely weeks of years. In other words 69 weeks likely represents 483 years in this prophecy. When you add 483 to BC 457 you get 26 AD. There is still 1 year to account for in our calculation of 27 AD as the date of Christ's death. For it seems that Dionysius' made one further error in his setting of Year 0 for Christ's birth. He let the year 1

AD be the year immediately following the year 1 BC. The year 0 was completely skipped. If this is true then we would have to subtract 1 year from our calculations ending up with the cutting off of the Anointed one in AD 26 as prophesied by Daniel and fulfilled by our Lord Jesus Christ. Some possible explanation of why Dionysius was so wrong in his calculations is discussed at the following website. We will quote just a portion of what they say here; *Dionysius' original task was to calculate an Easter table. In the Julian calendar, the dates for Easter repeat every 532 years. The first year in Dionysius' Easter tables is C.E. 532. Is it a coincidence that the number 532 appears twice here? Or did Dionysius perhaps fix Jesus' birthyear so that his own Easter tables would start exactly at the beginning of the second Easter cycle after Jesus' birth? <http://webexhibits.org/calendars/year-history.html>*

**What about the "Prophetic Calendar"?** Many claim that there is a prophetic 360 day year in the Scriptures, based on the Roman 360 day calendar. Another prediction made in the book of Revelation is based on this 360 day calendar, which seems to give credibility to this claim. **Rev. 11 –<sup>2</sup>**...*And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. <sup>3</sup>And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days...."* 42 months equals 3 ½ years. 1260 days / 360 also equals 3 ½ years.

As it turns out calculations of "the Cut-Off Anointed One" that are based on a 360 day year work out as well. But these calculations ignore the indications that Jesus was born before 4 BC and ignore the missed year 0 in the Dionysius calculations. And they also assume an earlier date of 457 BC of the decree rather than later date of 445 BC. Sir Arthur Anderson in His book "the Coming Prince", Josh McDowell in His book "More Evidence that Demands a Verdict" and the website called "Messiah Revealed" promote this method of calculation. *Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem occurred 173,880 days (483 X the Hebrew 360 day year) after Artaxerxes' decree was given in 445 B.C. (as recorded in **Neh. 2:1-20**) to rebuild Jerusalem. This was the first time that Jesus allowed anyone to proclaim him as "King." Note, the Hebrew word for "week" is "shavua" and literally means "seven." Therefore, in Hebrew, the idea of 70 weeks is "seventy sevens." The meaning of the word "weeks" was used in reference to both days and years. <http://www.messiahrevealed.org/>*

**Is it coincidence that both calculations draw the same conclusion?** It is possible that Dionysius set the year 0 did it to fit the prophecy according to Roman 360 day years instead of Jewish 365 day on average years. Both methods of calculation work when differing assumptions are made.

**We must conclude that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Promised Messiah.** Regardless of which calculation is used makes it impossible that any other Messiah than the Lord Jesus Christ could have fulfilled the "cut – off" messiah prophecy of Daniel 9. The Daniel prophecy states that afterward the Temple in Jerusalem would be destroyed. In AD 70 the temple was destroyed during the first Jewish Holocaust in which 2 Million Jews and Christians lost their lives and it has never been rebuilt

since then, making it now impossible for any other the “cut-off Anointed one” to come to Israel. Beyond this the time frame for this to occur has totally run out. Therefore we are left with no other possible conclusion, but to conclude that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Messiah whose coming was promised in the Old Testament. The Jews today try to down play the scriptures concerning it. They do not recognize a “Cut-Off Anointed One” in their scriptures. The greatness of the Lord Jesus Christ as Messiah seems to be completely missed by the Muslims who think that Mohammed who fulfilled no prophetic predictions and performed no miracles is a greater prophet. Also Mohammed was too late in history to fulfill the prophecy. The wise men of Jesus day were likely aware of the soon coming Messiah based on Daniels prophecy as it is likely they came from Persia (IRAN) the land from which Daniel prophesied about the coming of the Messiah.

In the Revelation of Jesus Christ to John, Jesus Identified himself in the same way God is identified in the Tanakh. There is no doubt that the Anointed One is equal with God for He is God. **Rev 1:8** "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." **Eccl 3:11** "no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end."

We sometimes criticize the Apostle Thomas as “doubting Thomas”, but Thomas gives us a stunning and accurate statement about who the Lord Jesus Christ really is. **John 20 - 27** Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." **28** And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" **29** Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Notice that Jesus never rebuked him for saying this for indeed the Lord Jesus Christ, the anointed one, the King of Israel is God. None other can make this claim.

### Other predictions of the coming “Anointed one” all made approximately 400 or more years prior to the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**The Suffering Servant** **Psalms 22 - 14** I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me. **15** My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death. **16** For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced<sup>3</sup> My hands and My feet; **17** I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. **18** They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots. **Isaiah 52 - 14** Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men; **15** So shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; For what had not been told them they shall see, And what they had not heard they shall consider. **Isaiah 53 - 3** He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. **4** Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. **5** But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; ... **7** He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; ... **8** He was taken from prison and from judgment, ... For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. **9** And they made His grave with the wicked-- But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth. **10** Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He

has put Him to grief. ... **11** ... By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities.

**The Bethlehem Prediction** **Micah 5 - 2** "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting." **3** Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel. **4** And He shall stand and feed His flock In the strength of the LORD, In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth; **5** And this One shall be peace.

**He will be a light to the Gentiles** **Isaiah 49 - 6** Indeed He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth."

### Key dates in Daniel which archeologists have confirmed.

Provided by <http://www.patmospapers.com/daniel/dandates.htm>

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 608 B.C.       | Jehoiakim becomes king of Judah  |
| 605 B.C.       | Nebuchadnezzar defeats Egyptian army at Carchemish; First invasion of Jerusalem; Daniel taken to Babylon; Nabopolassar dies; Nebuchadnezzar becomes king |
| 603 B.C.       | Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 2   |
| 597 B.C.       | Second Babylonian invasion of Jerusalem; Ezekiel taken to Babylon  |
| 595 / 594 B.C. | Revolt in Babylon against Nebuchadnezzar   |
| 594 / 593 B.C. | Probable date of Daniel chapter 3  |
| 586 B.C.       | Jerusalem burned and leveled; most of the Jews taken to Babylon  |
| 562 B.C.       | Death of Nebuchadnezzar  |
| 539 B.C.       | Fall of Babylon; Daniel chapter 5  |
| 538 B.C.       | Date of Daniel chapters 6 and 9  |
| 537 / 536 B.C. | Cyrus' decree to rebuild the temple  |
| 536 B.C.       | First Jews return to Judea; End of 70 years of captivity predicted by Jeremiah   |
| 535 B.C.       | Vision of Daniel 10-12   |
| 522 B.C.       | Darius becomes king  |
| 520 B.C.       | Darius' decree to rebuild the temple   |
| 457 B.C.       | Artaxerxes' decree to restore Jerusalem; Beginning of 70-week and 2300-day prophecies  |
| 444 B.C.       | Artaxerxes' commission to Nehemiah. Neh 2:1-20   |

Our calculated year of death based on prophecy.

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 27 A.D. | Jesus the Anointed One lays down his life for all of mankind exactly 483 years after the prophecy was given. Exactly fitting the prophecy of 483 years until the Anointed one will be cut off given by Daniel in BC 457. 457BC + 483 = 26 AD + missing yr. 0 = 27 AD. |
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# The Cut off Anointed One.

Jesus asked of his followers; **Matthew 16 - 15**... "who do you say that I am?" **16** Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." **17** Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. This question of “who Jesus is”; is a question that every person who has ever heard the name of Jesus Christ must answer. There are several possible answers given to us in the Bible, including; Only Begotten Son of God, Son of Man, Prince of Peace, Almighty God, Counselor, Ruler, Creator, Savior of Mankind, Friend that sticks closer than a brother, Our High Priest, Mediator, Advocate, the Lamb of God that was slain, Prophet, Rabbi, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, the Worthy One, the Perfect One, the One who knew no Sin, the Sanctifier, the First Born from the dead (referring to His resurrection). And there are other titles given for Him as well. But the title that brought great pleasure to the Lord Jesus in this passage was the title “the Christ” which means “Anointed One”.

In the Jewish Bible (Tanakh) and the Old Testament of the Christian Bible the original Hebrew word for “Anointed One” is “Mah-shee-agh” (Messiah). Today this word is translated as the word “Messiah” in the English Tanakh and in the Old Testament of the English Christian Bibles. Several hundred years before the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ 70 Jewish Scholars had translated this Hebrew word “Mah-shee-agh” (Messiah) to the Greek word “Christ-os” (Christ) in a Greek version of the Tanakh called the Septuagint. Copies of this text dating to 200 BC were found as part of the Dead Sea Scrolls find early in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, settling a centuries old debate as to whether Christian or Jewish Scholars were the translators of this document. The Septuagint was commonly read from in the Jewish synagogues of Jesus’ day. The tradition of referring to the “Anointed one” as the word “Christ-os” (Christ) was continued in the writing of the Christian New Testament. Both words Messiah and Christ in our english Tanakh and Christian Bible mean “Anointed One”.

The Old Testament predicts the coming of “The Anointed One”, the Messiah. The New Testament records the fulfillment of those predictions in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Perhaps the clearest prediction regarding the coming of the “Anointed One” in the Bible is found in the Old Testament book of Daniel, starting in chapter 9 verse 24. There are things about this prophecy that make it only possible that it could have been fulfilled by the Lord Jesus. And perhaps it was this prophecy that Peter was thinking of when he correctly identified the Lord Jesus as the Christ.

R.T.L.

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Nashville: Thomas Nelson unless otherwise noted