

The Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks – 8

The prophecy in **Daniel 9:27** was fulfilled, which foretold that Messiah the Prince would “*cause the sacrifice and oblation to cease*”.

- The physical infrastructure for Israel’s worship was first the tabernacle, and afterwards the temple, the design of both being given by **divine inspiration** to Moses - **Exodus 25:9** and David - **1 Chronicles 28:11**.

This was **God’s** temple. **God** provided it’s initial design. **God** gave His blessing on worship in the temple, and on prayers towards it - **2 Chronicles 7:15-16**. But it was also **God**, after Israel’s rebellion against Him, who sent the Babylonians to destroy the temple - **2 Chronicles 36:14-21**. **God** afterwards moved the emperor of Persia to command the **rebuilding** of the Temple - **verse 22**. **God** sent the vision to **Daniel** in **chapter 9**, informing him of first a **restoration** of Jerusalem and the temple, and then their **destruction** again.

- God sent, at the **very time** predicted in Daniel’s prophecy of the seventy weeks, His son Jesus of Nazareth to be Messiah the Prince, who declared, “*Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill*” - **Matthew 5:17**. David in his **Psalms 69:31** declared -

“I will praise...God with a song, And...thanksgiving. 31 This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bull, which has horns and hooves.” The apostle Paul showed how David understood that the sacrifice and oblations of the law of Moses were God’s method of **prefiguring the actual redemptive work** of Messiah. Once Jesus had performed that work, there was no more need for those animal sacrifices -

- *“The law (of Moses), having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect = Strong 5048 = Greek teleios = complete”* - **Hebrews 10:1**. In other words, animal sacrifices could not bring mankind to that state of preparation for eternal fellowship with God.

This fact had been recognized while the Law of Moses was still in effect, when David wrote in his **Psalms 40:6** - *“Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears You have opened”; Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.”** The Septuagint version renders this, *“a body you have prepared me”*, which is used in **Hebrews 10:5** for God’s devoted *“servant”*, Jesus of Nazareth - **Deuteronomy 15:12-17; Isaiah 53:11** -

- **Hebrews 10:12** *“But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God ... 18 Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.”* The way of salvation from sin and death is no longer by observance of the law of Moses, but to *“Repent, and ... be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (viz., Messiah the Prince) for the remission of sins”* - **Acts 2:38**.

The things which Jesus Christ preached were God’s revelation of what mankind had failed to perceive concerning His purpose, though foretold in the Law and the Prophets, concerning the role of Messiah the Prince at his first coming. As we have already noted, there was an expectation of his coming **at the time** he did appear. And if we have the patience to delve into the details, we can discover the hand of God at work in the very **time of his appearing** to Israel.

- More next time, God willing.

