

Thomas J. Short's Translation Of Daniel 9:24-27^A

9:24 Seventy 'sevens' have been allocated for your people and your holy city to terminate the rebellion, to stop sin, to atone for iniquity, to bring in perpetual righteousness, to put a seal on vision and prophecy, and to anoint *The Most Holy One*.^B

9:25 You should know and understand that from the issuance of an order for Jerusalem to be restored and built until *the* Anointed^C leader, *there will be* seven 'sevens' and sixty-two 'sevens.' It will be restored and built, *both* streets and wall, and the times will be poured out.^D

9:26 After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed will be executed^E without any *basis for* condemnation in him. The city and the holy place will be ruined, along with^F the coming leader.^G They will be cut off in a flood^H and until the end, desolating war is determined.

9:27 He^I will strengthen a covenant with many *for* one 'seven.' Within half of the 'seven' my sacrifice and drink-offering will be removed. Upon the Temple *will come* an abomination of desolations. Until the end, the pouring out of desolation is determined.

^A My translation is based on the Hebrew (Aramaic, actually), but takes into consideration some of the fine points of meaning brought out in the Greek texts, including that of Theodotion, whose translation of Daniel was extremely popular within the 2nd/3rd Century Church.

^B Contrary to what some English versions indicate by adding "*place*," I am convinced that this anointing of the "Most Holy One" is a reference to the "Anointed" leader (i.e., "Messiah the Prince") Whose coming is prophesied in the very next verse. The holy place will be specifically mentioned in verse 26.

^C Anointing with scented olive oil was part of the ancient Israeli coronation ceremony. The Hebrew (Aramaic) title, מָשִׁיחַ [*mashiyach* /maw-shee-akh/], later came into the Greek as Μεσσίας [*Messias* /mes-see-as/] and eventually into English as "Messiah." The parallel Greek title, Χριστός [*Christos* /khris-tos/], which also means "The Anointed," came into English as "Christ."

^D Like sand pours out in an hourglass, thus, having a meaning of "time will pass."

^E While the literal meaning of this word is "cut off" I've chosen to use the judicial term "execution" because of its close connection to the judicial term "condemnation" that follows closely after it.

^F This is where the problem with the homographs (words with the same spelling but different meanings) comes into play. In ancient Hebrew (Aramaic) there were no written vowels; therefore, the preposition, "with" אִם [*im* /eem/], looked exactly like the noun, "people" אָם [*am* /am/]. Though I end up disagreeing with every English Bible version, I believe that the preposition was the intended word and that it makes the most sense grammatically and contextually. This understanding ties the fate of the city & the Temple to that of the "Messiah," exactly as Jesus indicates elsewhere, making Him the key player of verses 26 & 27. And lest you think my translation is unique and therefore completely invalid, there are ancient Greek texts of Daniel which followed this exact same translation track. That was how I first became aware of this variant understanding.

^G This is the exact same word for "leader" that was applied to the Messiah in verse 25; yet another reason to believe that the person being talked about in verses 26 & 27 is the Messiah.

^H Swiftly, as in a flash flood.

^I For the reasons already given, I believe this pronoun refers to the Messiah.

The Seventy “Sevens” Of Daniel 9:24-27

The 1st Period of 7 Cycles = 49 years = Fall 457 BC – Fall 408 BC = During which Jerusalem is completely rebuilt

The 2nd Period of 62 Cycles = 434 years = Fall 408 BC – Fall AD 27 = Until the Messiah

The Final Cycle = 7 years = Fall AD 27 – Fall AD 34 = The Messiah ministers for 3 ½ years & then will be cut off

1st Year of 70th Cycle

AD 27

Fall

AD 27/28

Winter

AD 28

Spring

AD 28

Summer

The Immerser begins ministry in Tiberius' 15th Year (Luke 3:1)

2nd Year of 70th Cycle

AD 28

Fall

AD 28/29

Winter

AD 29

Spring

AD 29

Summer

The Immerser's ministry continues

3rd Year of 70th Cycle

AD 29

Fall

AD 29/30

Winter

AD 30

Spring

AD 30

Summer

Jesus immersed (Luke 3:21ff) Jesus begins ministry (John 2:13ff)

4th Year of 70th Cycle

AD 30

Fall

AD 30/31

Winter

AD 31

Spring

AD 31

Summer

Apostles Appointed (Luke 6:12ff)

5th Year of 70th Cycle

AD 31

Fall

AD 31/32

Winter

AD 32

Spring

AD 32

Summer

The Immerser executed

6th Year of 70th Cycle

AD 32

Fall

AD 32/33

Winter

AD 33

Spring

AD 33

Summer

Death & Resurrection of Jesus Church Established (Acts 2)

7th Year of 70th Cycle

AD 33

Fall

AD 33/34

Winter

AD 34

Spring

AD 34

Summer

Saul's Conversion (Acts 9)
