



SERIES:	27 Daniel - I Dare You - 2013
MESSAGE:	I Dare You: Understand!
SPEAKER:	Skip Heitzig
SCRIPTURE:	Daniel 9:20-27

MESSAGE SUMMARY

God wants us to understand! He wants us to understand the truth about life. He wants us to understand the way of salvation. He wants us to understand His plans for the future. Today we come to the scriptural key that unlocks the door to the prophetic future of God's plan. If you have never known it before, choose to understand it now. I dare you!

DETAILED NOTES

OUTLINE

- I. Understand It Generally (vv. 20-27)
- II. Understand It Specifically (v. 24)
- III. Understand It Messianically (vv. 25-26a)
- IV. Understand It Futuristically (v. 27)
- V. Understand It Practically

DETAILED NOTES

- I. Introduction
 - A. High school subjects; some were easy, some were hard— hard classes took a little more energy to understand
 - B. Daniel 9 is a technical timetable that deals with the Messiah and the nation of Israel
 1. It wasn't easy for Daniel himself to understand
 2. Three times in the text the angel tells him, "You need to understand this" (vv. 22, 23, and 25)
 3. Skip was armed with the equipment to show how precise God is and to win skeptics to Christ
 4. The backbone of Bible prophecy; everything else attaches to this
 5. Daniel prays to God, knowing that the 70-year captivity is almost at an end
 - a. God shows him something in the future
 - b. The Messiah is mentioned in this text; He's the center of everything

- i. A father, bone-tired, relaxed in his easy chair; his son wanted to play: "When you get Jesus Christ right, the whole world comes together"
 - ii. When you understand Daniel 9, the rest of prophetic literature comes together
 - 6. We have a mathematical calculation
 - 7. Bible prophecy is history written in advance
 - 8. No other religion can match the prophecy in the Bible
- II. Understand generally
 - A. This is an answer to prayer; Daniel has been reading Jeremiah, falls to his knees in prayer, and a messenger comes in answer before he finishes his prayer
 - 1. The angel Gabriel
 - a. He's shown up before
 - b. He's the chief prince for the nation of Israel
 - c. He's God's bouncer
 - 2. The year is 538 BC
 - a. Daniel's about 86 years old
 - b. In reading the prophecy in Jeremiah, he realized that the 70 years is almost up (see Jeremiah 25:9-12 and 29:10)
 - B. This is for the Jewish people in particular: "Your people" (v. 24)
 - 1. The most amazing nation ever
 - 2. God said to Abram that He would bless him and out of him would come a great nation (see Genesis 12)
 - a. World population right now is about seven billion
 - b. 13 million of them are Jews; less than 2/3 of 1%
 - c. About 1/3 of all the Nobel prizes have been given out to Jewish people
 - d. Israel 1/300 the size of China gets three times the headlines
 - e. Adolph Hitler killed six million Jews
 - f. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad would like to wipe them out
 - g. God has a special plan for this nation
 - C. This is for a set time—70 weeks
 - 1. Determined means divided or cut out of time
 - a. God cuts out and reveals a certain time to Daniel
 - b. He shows us what is going to happen for that specified period of time
 - 2. You might meet someone who calls themselves a deist
 - a. Believes in a god but not a personal god
 - b. God is not involved
 - c. God is learning as He's letting things happen
 - d. He's not in control of anything
 - 3. Our God is a God who is very precise and keeps perfect time
 - 4. In Hebrew it doesn't say 70 weeks
 - a. *Shabua shibim*
 - b. 70 sets of 7 something

- c. Could be days, could be years
- d. Many translations, including Jewish translations, interpret this as 70 weeks of years
 - i. In the West, we mark time by increments of 10
 - ii. In Jewish thought, it was periods of 7
 - iii. In the Old Testament they kept sets of 7 (days, years)
 - iv. For six years, you plow and plant; the seventh year, you allow the ground to rest
 - v. God's law, six and one
 - vi. Daniel has been reading about Israel's 70 year captivity
 - a) Their captivity was based on their disobedience (see 2 Chronicles 36:20-21)
 - b) They had not kept the law of resting the land
 - c) For 490 years they had not kept this law
 - vii. The angel Gabriel tells him of another time

III. Understand specifically (v. 24)

- A. Six things that will be fulfilled
- B. Complex but highly accurate verse of Scripture
 - 1. Three things fulfilled at the first coming of Jesus
 - a. Negative
 - b. Deal with sin
 - 2. Three things fulfilled at the second coming of Jesus
 - a. Positive
 - b. Deal with the kingdom
 - 3. The first three things
 - a. To finish the transgression
 - b. To make an end of sins
 - c. To make reconciliation for iniquity
 - i. The word reconciliation is *kaphar* in Hebrew; meaning to cover or atone for
 - ii. When Jesus came the first time, He came to fix the sin problem; "There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12)
 - iii. Jesus did not come to just be a good example for people
 - iv. God sent us what our greatest need required—a Savior
 - 4. The second three things
 - a. These things are not done yet
 - b. Bring in everlasting righteousness
 - i. This has not yet been done
 - ii. It will be; Jesus will enforce righteousness on the earth (see Revelation 19)
 - c. To seal up vision and prophecy

- i. Complete all predictions in the Old and New Testaments
 - ii. We are still waiting on a lot of these to happen
 - d. To anoint the most holy
 - i. In Hebrew: *qodesh*, the holy of holies
 - ii. Believed to refer to the holy temple that is coming (see Ezekiel 40-46)
 - e. A time period for 490 years in which these three things are completed
- IV. Understand Messianically (v. 25)
 - A. This is the pinnacle of the book of Daniel; the greatest prophecy in all of Scripture
 - 1. Tells of 69 periods of seven and then Messiah will show up and will die
 - a. There will be a commandment to go back and rebuild Jerusalem
 - b. From that command until the Messiah there will be 60 weeks or 483 years
 - c. There are three periods
 - i. Period one: seven sevens--49 years
 - ii. Period two: 62 sevens--432 years
 - iii. Period three: one seven--7 years
 - d. When is the timetable?
 - i. In history, there were four commands for the Jews to go back to Jerusalem
 - ii. Three of them are seen in the book of Ezra
 - iii. The only one that fits this description is in Nehemiah
 - 2
 - a) Nehemiah goes back
 - b) Rebuilds the city and the temple
 - c) It took 49 years to accomplish
 - 2. We know who gave the command and specifically when the command was given
 - a. Given by the Persian monarch Artaxerxes
 - b. March 14, 445 BC
 - c. Should mean we could count forward 483 years (69 weeks) and arrive at the time Messiah shows up
 - i. *The Coming Prince* by Sir Robert Anderson
 - ii. Calculations based on Daniel's prophecies
 - iii. Through his meticulous calculations, he arrived at April 6, 32 AD; 173,880 days
 - iv. That is the day that Jesus ascended the Mount of Olives and rode a donkey into Jerusalem fulfilling prophecy (see Mark 11:1-11 and Zechariah 9:9)

- v. Halfway down, He broke down and audibly wept telling them that they should have known about this day that was for their peace (see Luke 19:41-42)
 - a) In times of peace, kings road on donkeys
 - b) In times of war, they road on horses
 - c) In Revelation 19, Jesus comes back on a horse
 - vi. He predicted what will happen in AD 70, when the Romans will come against them and destroy the city
 - a) He held them publicly accountable for not knowing what Daniel predicted
 - b) Exactly 173,880 days from March 14, 445 BC to April 6, AD 32; on the tenth of Nissan as the lambs are presented
 - c) God is precise
- B. "Messiah shall be cut off" (v. 26)
 - 1. *Karath* in Hebrew; to be cut off--to kill by piercing
 - 2. "Not for himself"
 - a. Jesus didn't die for himself
 - b. He came as an atonement
 - c. It was not a Roman travesty
 - 3. "The people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city"
 - a. In AD 70, Titus Vespasian forced his way into Jerusalem and killed a million Jews
 - b. He starved out 100,000 Jews
 - c. It was horrible, it was predicted
 - 4. Be careful when witnessing to Jewish friends
 - a. When Daniel wrote this, there was no temple in Jerusalem
 - b. He is predicting events that will take place after the temple is rebuilt
 - c. The Messiah had to arrive somewhere before AD 70
- V. Understand futuristically (v. 27)
 - A. The final seven-year period, somewhere in the future toward the second coming of Jesus Christ
 - B. The six things are not all fulfilled
 - C. We are in the long gap known as the church age
 - D. At the end of this age there will be a seven-year period with a pact that is broken in the middle—three and half years
 - E. To seal this in your own heart, Jesus said, "When you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains...there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world...they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:15-30)
- VI. Understand practically: This should motivate us

- A. Prayer—what happens when you pray
 - 1. Daniel understood more after he prayed
 - 2. His prayer is only three minutes long
 - 3. Use that time and engage with God
- B. Providence
 - 1. The hand of God in the glove of circumstance
 - 2. God moves powerful rulers to get his stuff done
 - 3. He's in charge
- C. Precision
 - 1. The God who can make these kinds of precise predictions: Can you trust your life to Him?
 - 2. Will you trust your life—your future, your family—to this kind of precise God?
 - 3. Jesus Christ was the lamb slain before the foundation of the world (see Revelation 13)
 - 4. Put Jesus in His proper place in your life, your hold world will come together

Hebrew Terms: שָׁבָעִים שְׁבַע; *shabua shibim*, weeks seventy; כָּפַר; *kaphar*, appease; שְׁדָךְ; *godesh*, holy; תָּכַר; *karath*, off

Publications referenced: *The Coming Prince* by Sir Robert Anderson

Figures referenced: Adolph Hitler, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Artaxerxes, Titus Vespasian,

Cross references: Genesis 12, 2 Chronicles 36:20-21, Jeremiah 25:9-12, Jeremiah 29:10, Ezekiel 40-46, Nehemiah 2, Zechariah 9:9, Matthew 24:15-30, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:41-42, Acts 4:12, Revelation 13, Revelation 19

Topic: Prophecy

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