

## **ISRAEL THE CENTER OF THE WORLD, IN THE CENTER OF GOD'S JUDGMENT**

(Daniel 9:24-27) (Part 2)

### **The Seventy Weeks of Years Set apart for the Nation of Israel**

It is perfectly clear from this prophecy of Daniel nine in verse twenty-four that the 490 years were to be finished with the establishment of the Kingdom and the bringing of "everlasting righteousness", through the ministries of John the Baptist and of Jesus, the Messiah in the years AD 26-33, when each covered three and a half years, perfectly fulfilling all that was written of them in the Holy Scriptures. Had Israel accepted Messiah, then the end of the 490 years would have been marked by the establishment of the Kingdom.

The period of the last seven years of 490 years would have started with the testimony of John the Baptist and ended with the death and resurrection and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose joint ministries covered these seven years. However, the seven last weeks of prophecy was annulled by the rejection of Israel of their Messiah.

Jesus said of John, "And if you are willing to receive and accept it, John himself is Elijah who was to come [before the kingdom]. **He who has ears to hear let him be listening and let him consider and perceive and comprehend by hearing.**

If you are willing to receive, and accept, John is Elijah. The angel Gabriel revealed that Zachariah's son (John) would go before Him (Jesus) in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn back the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the disobedient and incredulous and unpersuadable to the wisdom of the upright (Luke 1:17). The Jewish nation was not willing to receive neither to accept the messenger prophesied in Malachi nor the Messiah who would come after him.

The rejection of Messiah canceled the seven years from A.D 26 -33 to another time when it would be relived at the end of the Christian era as a period of retributive judgments which we read in the book of Revelation from the chapter six to eighteen. This period is called the Great Tribulation, the Day of the Lord, Jacob's trouble, Day of Vengeance. It will take place in the last week of the seventy weeks of Daniel chapter nine. This will be the third of the three divisions

of Daniel's Seventy Weeks or the one week, of seven years to come beyond the resurrection of the saints. This is confirmed by the closing words of the Lord to Daniel, "But go thy way till the end be: for thou shall rest (die), and stand in thy lot (be raised) at the end of the days" (Daniel 12:13).

Israel is the focus point of all prophecy. Even the feasts speak of the future events related to their future as well as to the future of the bride of Christ; they are of historical and agricultural emphasizes.