

Revisiting Daniel's 1,335 Timeline

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WALKING PAST a neighbor's driveway sign the other day got me thinking again about the 1,335 timeline in Daniel.

For those who have not seen my recent study on this subject, here is a pdf:

<https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/5bd87a7c7d664f3e9c09a238b32742bd/Daniel%2012%20-%20Another%20Reason%202021%20Could%20Be%20a%20Pivotal%20Year%20In%20Bible%20Prophecy.pdf>

To reiterate and expand on what was suggested in the above study, it is intriguing to me that the construction of the Islamic Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque occurred over a 7-year period, between 685-86 AD and 692-93 AD. Is it possible the 7-year period during which these Islamic–anti-Christ edifices were set up on the Temple Mount is a foreshadowing of the Antichrist's reign during the Tribulation?

Furthermore, could this foreshadowing reveal the time of the Tribulation, and the years of redemption for two distinct groups of Jews?

RATIONALE

In Daniel 12 it is implied that the ultimate deliverance, or salvation, of Daniel's people, the Jews, will occur 1,335 days or years from when an abomination that causes desolation is set up:

“From the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away and the abomination that causes desolation set up, there shall be 1,290 days. Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days” (Dan. 12:11, 12).

There are two groups of Jews who will be “blessed” when they receive glorified bodies and come into eternal life at the end of the age:

- 1) Those who already know Jesus and who will be raptured before the Tribulation (1 Thess. 5:9; Luke 21:36).
- 2) Those who will accept Jesus during the Tribulation and who will be martyred and later resurrected at the Second Coming (Rev. 20:4).

Two redemptions call for two calculations of the 1,335:

- 1) Counting 1,335 years from when construction began on the Dome of the Rock, the prefigurative start point of the Tribulation, we arrive at 2021.
- 2) Counting 1,335 years from when construction ended, the prefigurative end point of the Tribulation, we arrive at 2028.

So by counting the 1,335 years from the beginning and end of the 7-year construction period, we arrive at the beginning and end of the tribulation period, and the years in which two distinct groups of Jews will be blessed by coming into eternal life.

It makes sense that both groups of Jews, those redeemed at the Rapture as well as those redeemed at the Second Coming, would be included in the 1,335 prophecy as both are indeed blessed.

CORROBORATION

Corroborating the Daniel 12 calculation is a reckoning based on the Fig-Tree Parable, which also points to 2021–28:

“Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near ... Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these [end-times events] have happened” (Matt. 24:32, 34).

Scripture defines the upper limit of a human lifespan, or generation, as 80 years (Ps. 90:10). Counting 80 years from when the “fig tree,” Israel, was replanted and began to put forth leaves in 1948, we arrive at 2028 for the upper limit of the final generation. Counting backward 7 years, 2021 becomes the calculated start point for the 7-year Tribulation.

Another type of corroboration for our Daniel 12 calculation is the Jewish reckoning of the 7-year Sabbatical cycle. It is noteworthy that the 7-year construction period of the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque (685–86/692–93 AD) corresponds to the Jewish reckoning of the Sabbatical cycle going back to the days of the Second Temple. According to the Jewish record, the Temple was destroyed in the latter part of the Sabbatical year 69–70 AD. Remarkably, there are exactly 88 “7s,” or 7-year periods, between 69–70 AD and 685–86 AD when construction began on the Dome of the Rock.

While the accuracy of the Jewish reckoning is debatable, the correspondence is nonetheless interesting and may be indicative, if not of God’s actual Sabbatical year, a pattern intended to call attention to the biblical cycles and how they are rhythmically entwined in the unfolding of history and Bible prophecy.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The 7-year construction period of the Islamic edifices (Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque) on the Temple Mount may be a foreshadowing of the Antichrist's reign during the Tribulation.

Additionally, the verse in Daniel 12 which states, "Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days" may have a dual fulfillment: one before the Tribulation, via the Rapture, and another after the Tribulation, via the resurrection of those who die as believers during this time.

Our Daniel 12 calculation is corroborated by the fig-tree calculation and, perhaps to some degree, the Jewish reckoned Sabbatical cycle.

Having highlighted these remarkable concurrences, this is not to set a time limit for the Rapture or Tribulation. The veracity of the 2021–28 reckoning depends on a correct interpretation of Scripture AND accurate dating of historical events. So even if the interpretation is correct, the dates and thus end points could be off by a matter of months, a year, etc.

Nevertheless, it appears the timelines in the Book of Daniel—the same scriptures studied by the magi 2,000 years ago to determine the time of Jesus' first coming—are being "unsealed" and understood as never before (Dan. 12:4, 8, 9). While we may not be able to determine beyond a doubt the exact time of the Lord's return, a number of concurrences suggest it is near—perhaps nearer than most would imagine.

NOTES:

1. For dates related to the Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque, see the notes section in my original Daniel 12 study linked above.

2. The 1,335 "days" in Daniel are counted as years. The biblical day-equals-a-year principle is found throughout Scripture, most prominently in Daniel chapter 9 where 490 days are counted as 490 years (Dan. 9:24-27; see also Gen. 29:27; Num. 14:34; Ezek. 4:5, 6).

3. The modern Jewish calendar erroneously reckons Sabbatical years (and all years) from what the Bible calls the seventh month, Tishrei, in the autumn (Lev. 23:24). However, Scripture says biblical years begin in the spring, in the first month called Nisan (Ex. 12:2).

4. Daniel 12 (complete) KJV:

¹2 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

²And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

³And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

⁴But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

⁵Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

⁶And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?

⁷And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.

⁸And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things?

⁹And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

¹⁰Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

¹¹And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

¹²Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

¹³But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.