

The 70th Seven / Daniel's Final Week

Updated:
12-11-2017

Daniel 9:27

"He will **confirm a covenant** with many for one 'seven.' In the **middle of the 'seven'** he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an **abomination that causes desolation**, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

Introduction:

In a nutshell, the 70th Seven is important because it's the only verse in the Bible that contains a time reference 'before' the "abomination that causes desolation". The abomination is important because that's the event that Jesus specifically pointed to in Matthew 24:15-31, as happening in conjunction with the rapture. (see [Matthew 24 page](#)) Of course, the exact timing of the rapture is God's well-kept secret but He has provided clues in the Bible so people can watch the signs and know that the time is near. Jesus said, "It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them." (Luke 12:37) As you can see, there's a special reward for servants who are watching, when Jesus comes, so there must be specific clues or 'signs' in the Bible to indicate the general time to watch. Yet, God never said the signs would be easy to decipher. Solomon said, "It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings." (Proverbs 25:2)

I've always said that it's more important to watch the 'signs' (or verses) from Daniel 11 that lead to the abomination, as Jesus said to do, than to watch for a specific date. Nevertheless, God included Daniel 9:27 as a clue, which includes the abomination, so it shouldn't be ignored. From the basic wording, the abomination happens in the 'middle of the 70th Seven', so the "confirmation of a covenant" must happen approximately 3.5 years *before* the abomination. (chart left) Unfortunately, that confirmation is rather vague, because a 'covenant' is just an agreement or promise. If a person could figure out the correct agreement, then they could add 3.5 years and have an *approximate* time for the rapture, but identifying the agreement or starting point is difficult to do.

Background: What is a Seven?

Before I go any farther, let me show that a "seven" is 7-years, rather than something else. In case you're not familiar, this verse is called the "70th seven" because there are sixty-nine other sevens that precede it. The others are not connected chronologically, but they are useful in proving the measure of time. Daniel 9:25 says, "Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens' and sixty-two 'sevens'." The decree to rebuild Jerusalem (not the temple) was issued by King Artaxerxes of Persia, in the seventh year of his reign, which was 458 BC (according to the NIV study notes for Ezra 7). It is not apparent to me why God separates the sevens, but the total is 483 years (69 times 7). That puts the 483d year around 25AD, which is very close to when Jesus started his ministry (the Anointed One) because He was not born in year 'zero'. He was born in the time of King Herod (Matt. 2:1) and Herod died in 4 BC. Plus, before Herod died, he ordered all Hebrew males, two years old and younger to be killed, so Jesus was probably about one. Since He started His ministry at age 30 (Luke 3:23), it would have been around 25AD or the 483rd year. The dates may not be exact, but the illustration is sufficient to show that a "seven" is "7-years" rather than something else.

Most likely interpretation for the 70th Seven

In addition to Daniel 11 giving the most detailed list of *events*, before the abomination, Daniel 9:27 also gives a vague indication of the *timing* before the abomination. I prefer to watch the *signs* in Daniel 11, not a date, but the two prophecies must align, so I find myself repeatedly drawn back to Daniel 9:27, for the sake of showing consistency in God's prophecies.

The abomination happens in the 'middle' of the 70th Seven, as noted in Daniel 9:27. But to be clear, the abomination is still at the 'start' of tribulation because the 1st half of the 70th Seven is not part of tribulation. (see chart on left) The *last half* of the 70th Seven is part of tribulation, particularly when the *two witnesses* prophesy for 1260 days (Rev 11), the Trumpet plagues take place (Rev 8-11), and the *antichrist* rises to power for 42 months. (Rev 13:5) The 'mark of the beast' is forced upon Israel *after* the two witnesses are killed, and then the Bowl plagues finish out the 2300-day tribulation (Dan 8:13-14), ending with Armageddon, the 7th Bowl. (Rev 16) That's a brief summary, illustrated on the chart.

Daniel 9:27 (NIV)

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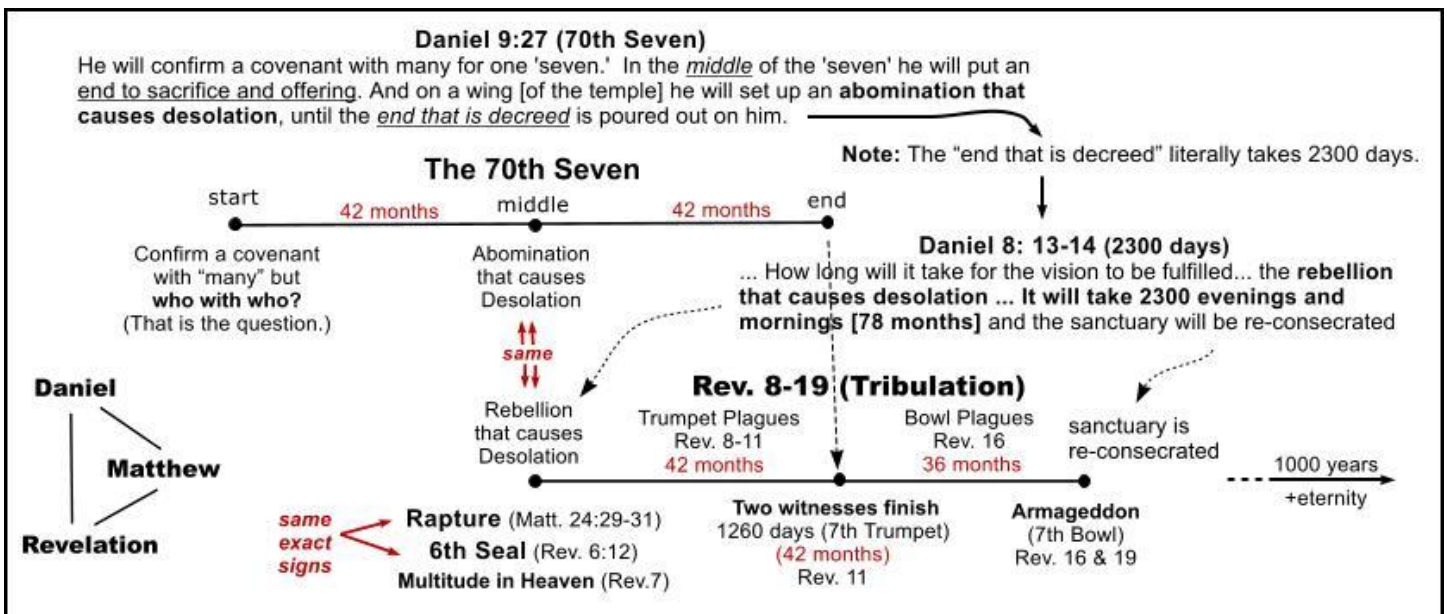
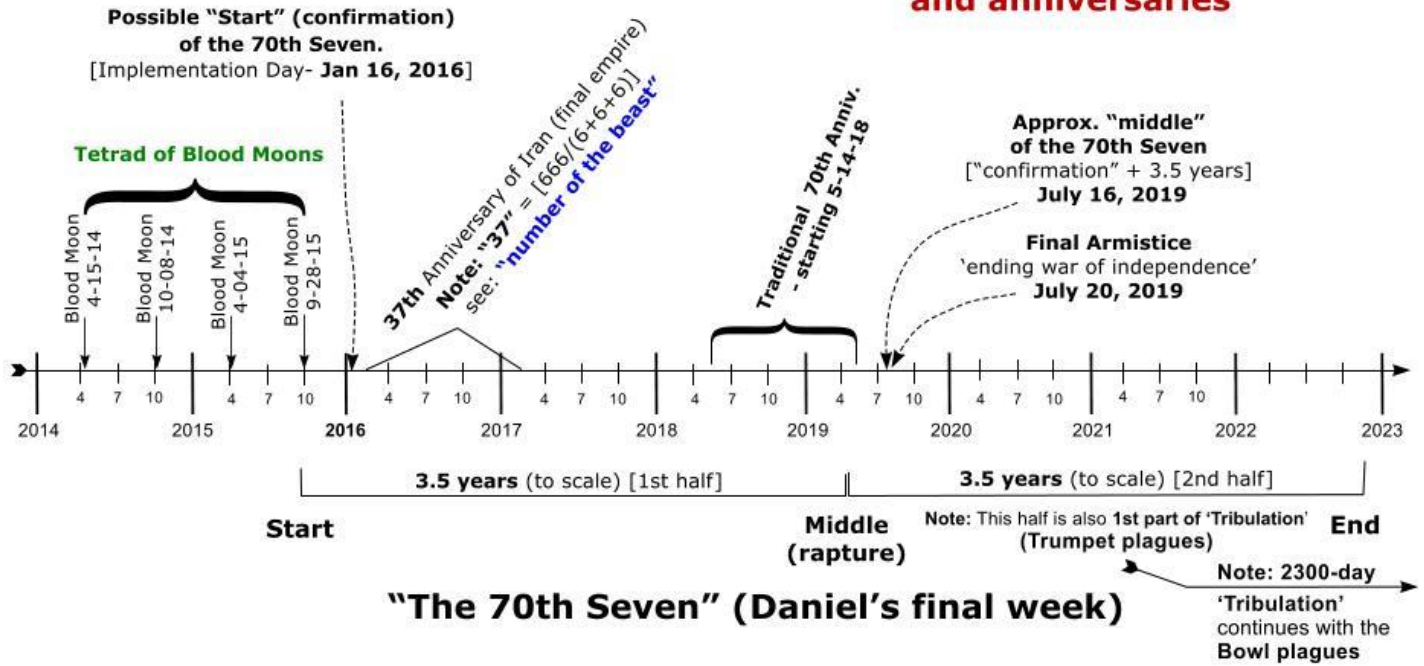
First of all, the subject of this verse is **Iran**, not Israel as many people have been led to believe, since the one who 'confirms a covenant with many' is the same one who sets up the abomination. Then, "*the end that is decreed is poured out on him,*" which is the 'tribulation' (Trumpet and Bowl plagues in Revelation), which is poured out upon the antichrist and armies of the beast. Note: The way I understand it, the 'beast' is a group of 10-nations that will make up the 'north', in Daniel 11, but Iran will lead those nations as the 'king of the north', who will ultimately be led by the antichrist, who is a person (the 'mouth' in Rev 13:5). In general, Revelation can be confusing because 'beast' can refer to the nations or armies, or the antichrist who is leading the armies, but Iran is in the center.

Along those lines, I'm almost certain that the "covenant with many" was the JCPOA or Iranian nuclear agreement with the P5+1 (US, UK, France, Russia, China, + Germany), which makes up the 'many'. The "confirmation" most likely came on 'Implementation Day', January 16, 2016, which is when Iran completed its requirements for the agreement, and in return, some of the sanctions were lifted. If 3.5 years are added, then that would put the approximate 'middle of the 70th Seven' near **July 16, 2019**. Of course, that date has passed and the abomination and rapture didn't occur, but I've always said that the middle of a 7-year period cannot be pinpointed to 1-day. On the contrary, the middle in general could be several months, so I have not given up that the Iranian nuclear agreement was the "covenant with many." Besides, the Parable of the 10-virgins says that the "*Bridegroom was a long time in coming*" (Matt 25:5), so you would not expect Jesus to come on the *exact* middle.

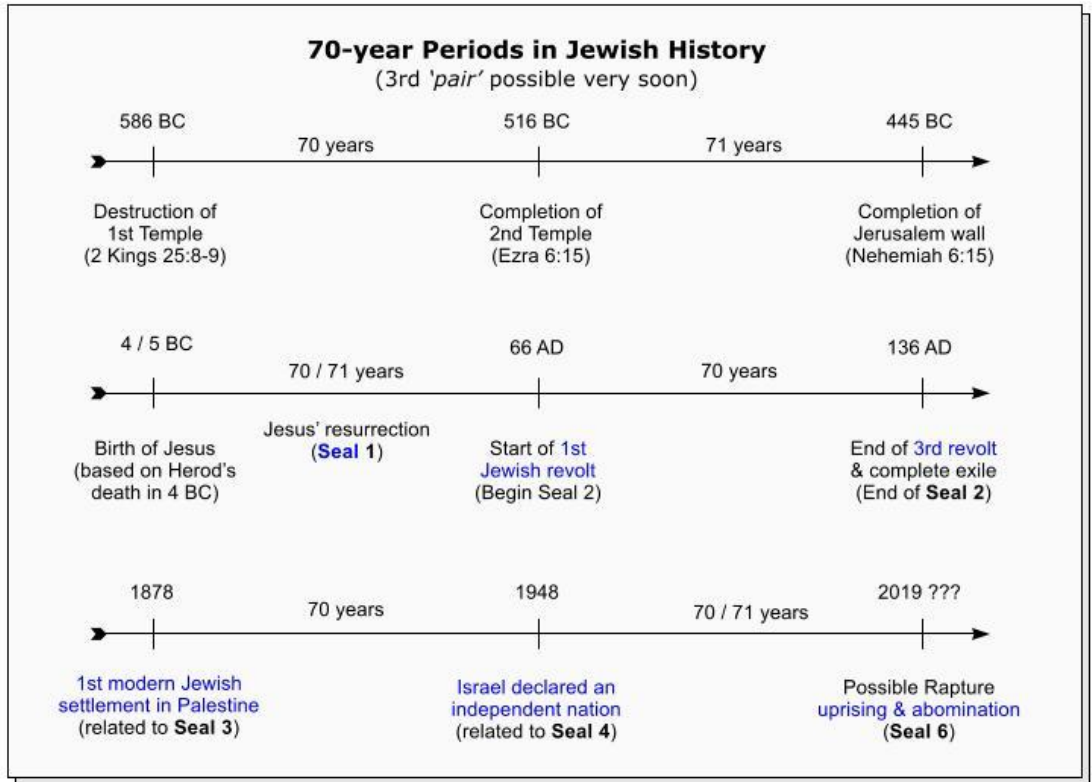
Other considerations for the nuclear agreement as the 'covenant with many' is that it has fulfilled parts of Daniel 11, so it serves to link Daniel 9 and 11. I mean, the *interim* agreement that provided the framework, Nov 24, 2013, fulfilled Daniel 11:23. After the implementation in Jan-2016, America was dragging its feet on fulfilling it's part of the bargain, so Rouhani complained to the P5+1 at the UNGA, Sept-2016. That prompted Obama to release billions of dollars in frozen assets, which fulfilled Daniel 11:28. (It's interesting to note that verse 28 is the only *modern* verse that specifically mentions the 'king of the north' by title.) Another consideration about Implementation Day is that it means the 70th Seven started in 2016, which is a year on God's 'timeline of 37's', which seems appropriate to me. Then, Trump was elected (in 2016) and subsequently dropped out of the nuclear agreement, in 2018, which has led to our current situation. Thus, the nuclear agreement has remained front and center, since 2013, and remains a primary catalyst to current events, potentially leading to the *abomination* in Daniel 11:31.

Charts for the 70th Seven:

Illustration of Daniel's 70th Week, including blood moons and anniversaries



see related page:
[The Seals Explained](#)



Full moons in the Bible

God defined the **original Passover**, in Egypt, as the 14th of the 1st lunar month (Exodus 12:6). The next day, the Feast of Unleavened Bread starts on the 15th. That's a full moon because a lunar month averages 29.5 days, and starts on a new moon. Before that, the **flood** started on the 17th of the 2nd month (Gen 7:11), and the ark came to rest on Mt. Ararat on the 17th of the 7th month, both of which are *near* a full moon. **Purim** also falls on a full moon because the Israeli victory over the Persians, for which it represents, happened on the 13th/14th of the lunar month (Esther 9:1-19). God also defined the **Feast of Tabernacles** (Sukkot) to start on the 15th of the month (Leviticus 23:34). Of course, **Jesus was crucified** and resurrected during Passover, so that also happened during a full moon, from the 14th to the 16th. Thus, at least five major events, in the Bible, occurred on or near full moons, so the chances of the rapture happening on or near a full moon is always a little higher in my book.