



1. Running Out of Time



2. For years, Mr. Smith had neglected to pay his taxes. Year after year when tax time would come, he would just ignore it. He figured he had better things to do than to fill out a bunch of forms. So, as each year went by, he would buy new cars, take expensive vacations, add to his material possessions, but never pay his taxes. His wife was alarmed at this. So, she asked her husband to please go to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and pay the taxes. He wouldn't. "The government already has enough of my money," he said. "They don't need anymore."



3. But one day it all caught up with him. Mr. Smith received a notice in the mail from the IRS stating that taxes stretching back 10 years were long overdue and payment was expected within 60 days. His wife was frantic. She went to her husband and begged him to humbly confess his negligence to the IRS and work things out. Mr. Smith refused. "Honey," he said. "It's just a form letter."



4. The 60 days came and went. Mrs. Smith took it upon herself to call the IRS. She asked for an extension, and they graciously agreed. They gave the Smiths another 60 days. During that time, she begged—no, pleaded with her husband to go take care of this business, to make things right before they lose everything they have. He just wouldn't do it.



5. The next 60 days came and went. Again Mrs. Smith called the IRS. Again, she asked for an extension. And believe it or not, again they graciously agreed. They gave them—yes, you guessed it—another 60 days. During this time Mrs. Smith tried everything she could. She didn't just plead with her husband, this time she screamed at him. She even threatened him with divorce if he didn't take care of this. He absolutely refused.
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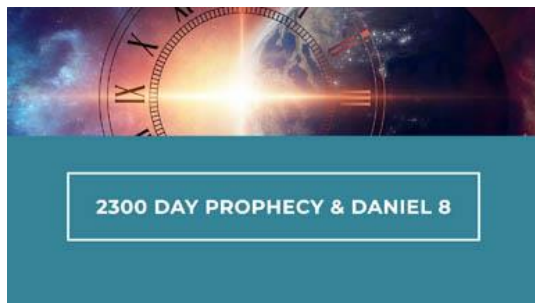
6. And at the end of that third set of 60 days, Mrs. Smith called the IRS and asked for another extension. This time they refused. They explained to Mrs. Smith that her husband had evaded taxes for over 10 years, and he had been given two extensions on the deadline, but now it was time for the taxes to be paid. "Honey," said Mr. Smith. "They have no intentions of following through. Besides, they have other things to worry about."
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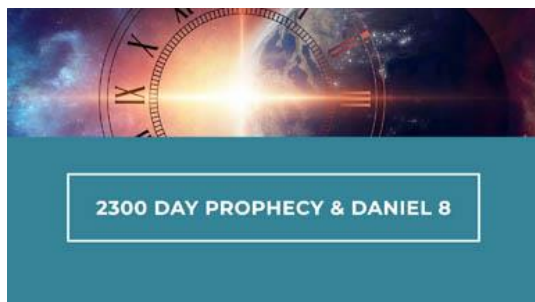
7. The IRS called day after day. They sent numerous registered letters to get his attention. But he ignored them all. Finally, one day, Mr. Smith came home from work and walked in the door. Three men dressed in black suits were waiting for him. One read him his rights while the other two took his hands, placed them behind his back, and put on the handcuffs.
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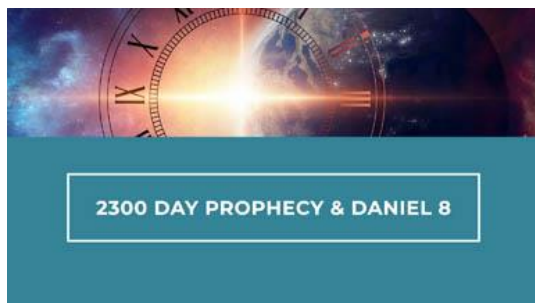
8. They led Mr. Smith out of the door to face charges of tax evasion. Mrs. Smith sobbed uncontrollably. The officers felt badly about the situation because they hadn't meant to hurt the wife. But what could they do? Mr. Smith had been given plenty of opportunities to do what was right. He just ran out of time.



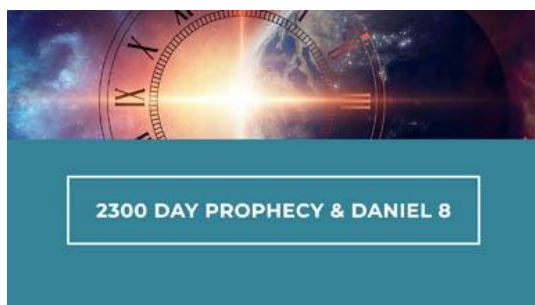
9. **Tonight's prophecy talks about this world running out of time.** It's known as the 2300-day prophecy, and it's found in Daniel chapter 8. This prophecy is meant to be a wake-up call for Christians who are living at the end of time. It's a prophecy that warns us we are living in the time of God's final judgment. Above all, it's a prophecy that's telling us it's time to turn our eyes upon Jesus.



10. But first a little history. This was a prophecy that was studied by a group of people about 200 years ago, but they misinterpreted part of it because they thought they found the date when Jesus would come. Of course, they were disappointed because the Bible says no one knows the day or the hour that Jesus will come back.



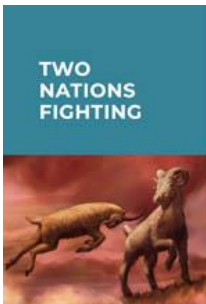
11. But just because some people made an innocent mistake 200 years ago, does that mean we should ignore this prophecy? It's in God's word for a reason. We need to continue to study it, and you will find that the Word of God is very clear and very understandable.



12. So, I want to invite you take your Bibles and turn to the main part of this very interesting prophecy in Daniel 8:14. Before we read the verse, let me tell you what Daniel is seeing in the vision.



13. He sees a picture of two nations fighting against each other. He sees a vision of a ram and a goat in conflict. The goat defeats the ram. Then a little horn comes out of the goat and becomes strong. This little horn causes God's sanctuary to be cast down.



- Ram Is Persia.
- Goat Is Greece.
- Little Horn Is Rome.
- God's Sanctuary is Cast Down.

14. The angel of the vision tells Daniel the ram is Persia, who was the superpower of Daniel's day. The goat is Greece who would rise to defeat Persia and become the next superpower. The little horn who comes out of the goat seems to represent the Roman Empire who would be the next to rise to power. And as a result of Rome's dominance in the world, God's sanctuary would be cast down. Now I don't want to get bogged down in the details of the vision. What I want us to focus on is something the angel says at the end of this vision that got Daniel's attention.



DANIEL 8:14

"And he said to me, 'For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.'"

15. The Bible says, and the angel is speaking: "And he said to me, "For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed."

Isn't that awesome? Isn't that a wonderful prophecy? And you're looking at me thinking, yes, except for one thing. What in the world does it mean? Because so far, two questions come to mind in that sentence that we just can't fathom at this point.



- What are these 2300 days?
- What does it mean that the sanctuary shall be cleansed?

16. Question number one: what are these 2300 days? And question number two: what does it mean that the sanctuary shall be cleansed? What is it talking about? So, what do we do when we see something in the Bible that we don't understand? What do we do when we see a phrase that we don't have the definition of? Instead of guessing or speculating or making something up, we go to another part of the Bible to find the answer. That's the proper way to study God's Word.

WHAT IS IT
TALKING
ABOUT?



- What are these 2300 days?
- What does it mean that the sanctuary shall be cleansed?

17. Go to other portions of the Bible that talk about the same subject and God will begin to make it clearer to you. And the one phrase that we need to focus on is this term that is called 'the cleansing of the sanctuary'.

WHAT IS IT
TALKING
ABOUT?



- What are these 2300 days?
- What does it mean that the sanctuary shall be cleansed?

18. To answer those questions, we need to go to another part of the Bible. Because all the way back in Exodus and Leviticus, there was something that was called the cleansing of the sanctuary. Something that God had instructed Moses and the Israelites to do. If we want to understand what Daniel is talking about here, we've got to see what God was talking about there.

WHAT IS IT
TALKING
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- What are these 2300 days?
- What does it mean that the sanctuary shall be cleansed?

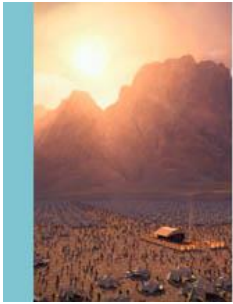
19. So, I'd like you to take your Bibles and we're going to turn to Exodus chapter 25:8-9. You can keep your finger in Daniel 8 because we will be going back there. But right now, we're going to focus on something in the book of Exodus.



EXODUS 25:8-9

"And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. According to all that I show you,

20. The Bible says: *"And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. According to all that I show you,*



EXODUS 25:8-9

that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it."

- 21.** *that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it."*

Clearly, God has just given Moses and the Israelites a command. He said, "I want you to build me a sanctuary where My presence shall dwell." And He says that they need to make it after the specific pattern that He gave them.



EXODUS 25:8-9

that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it."

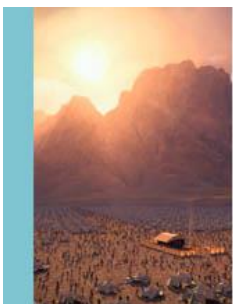
- 22.** If you have ever read Exodus and Leviticus, you will find that God went into excruciating detail as to how that sanctuary should be built. He told them what kind of wood to use and what color the cloth and tapestry should be. He told them what kind of symbols and pictures were to be on that cloth. He went into so much detail that you might say, why? Answer, because everything in the sanctuary was to represent something about the plan of salvation.



EXODUS 25:8-9

that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it."

- 23.** Everything that went on in that sanctuary, all of its sacrifices and of all its animals were to point forward to the time when Jesus would come as the Messiah and shed His blood for the sins of the world. That's why it was so important.



EXODUS 25:8-9

that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it."

- 24.** You'll find that many Christians and churches don't pay much attention to the sanctuary of the Old Testament because they feel it's not relevant to our world today. But the truth is, there are so many lessons about Jesus and salvation in the sanctuary. Let's take a look in a little more detail.



- 25.** On the screen you see a diagram of the Old Testament sanctuary. Everything in that sanctuary will tell us something about our Savior and our relationship with Him. The Old Testament sanctuary was basically divided into two compartments. How many did I say? Two compartments. The Holy Place and the Most Holy Place.



- 26.** In the Holy Place, you see three pieces of furniture. You have the lampstand. That's what brought light and shed light into the inner part of the sanctuary. That lampstand was meant to represent Jesus Christ who would be the light of the world.



- 27.** On the other side you see the table of showbread where bread was placed. That also represented Jesus Christ because Jesus Himself said, "I am the bread that came down from Heaven."



- 28.** And then right next to the veil that separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy place, you will see the altar of burnt incense. Incense would be continually burning in the holy place. And when the smoke of that incense would waft up into the air, it would go into the Most Holy Place representing that God actively hears the prayers of His people. It represents how Jesus takes our prayers in to the very presence of the Father.



29. When you go into the Most Holy Place you see a very special piece of furniture. It was known as the ark of the covenant. The ark of the covenant was like a chest overlaid in pure gold. On top of it, on either side, were two golden cherubim or two golden statues of angels. In between those angels dwelt what was called the Shekinah, or the glory of God.



30. Inside the ark of the covenant were three things. Do you know what they were? One was the original Ten Commandments. The second was a pot of manna to remind them how God had constantly delivered them in the wilderness. And the third was Aaron's rod that budded, which showed that Aaron and his family would be of the lineage of the high priests. Now that we see what this sanctuary was made of, here's what would happen every single day. You will notice I have a stuffed lamb that is right here by the podium.



31. Everyday the people of Israel would bring a lamb to the courtyard of the sanctuary. The person would place their hands on the head of a lamb as you see in the picture and confess their sins. Those sins would symbolically be transferred to this innocent little lamb. The lamb would then be slain. Of course, the lamb represented Jesus.



32. Then the priest would take the blood of the lamb into the Holy Place and sprinkle it on the horns of the altar of burnt incense. In this way, a person's sin was transferred to the lamb and, in turn, transferred to the sanctuary, which also represented Jesus. So, I want you to picture this in your mind.



33. Every day people are bringing lambs to the sanctuary. Every day they're confessing their sins on the lamb. The lamb is slain, which represents Jesus on the cross of Calvary. The blood of that lamb is taken into the sanctuary where God accepts the blood of the lamb in place of the blood of the sinner.



34. So sin is being transferred into the holy place of the sanctuary, every single day. But on one day of the year—a day known as the Day of Atonement—something took place called the cleansing of the sanctuary.



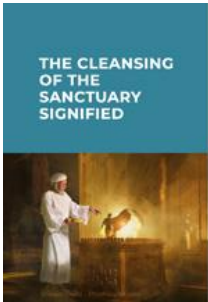
35. It happened like this: in the cleansing of the sanctuary once a year, the high priest, and only the high priest, would bring a goat to the sanctuary. He would lay his hands on that goat and confess all the sins of Israel for that year. The sin would be transferred to the goat which of course represented Jesus. The goat would then be killed.



36. The priest would then take the blood of the goat not into the Holy place this time, but into the Most Holy Place, and sprinkle it before the presence of God at the ark of the covenant. When that happened, God would accept the blood of the goat in place of the blood of the sins of Israel. Israel was now cleansed of their sins for the entire year. The sanctuary was cleansed of all the sin that was building up inside of it every day of the year. You can read more about the Day of Atonement and the cleansing of the sanctuary in Leviticus 16.



37. I want to summarize this again because it's vitally important. Every day the people of Israel would bring a lamb to the sanctuary and confess their sins on it. The blood would be taken into the sanctuary. Sin would be transferred into the sanctuary every single day, and the sanctuary would build up and build up with sin. But on the Day of Atonement, the sanctuary was cleansed. This happened when the high priest took the blood of the goat to the ark of the covenant in the Most Holy Place of the sanctuary, into the very presence of God. Then the entire sanctuary would be cleansed.



THE CLEANSING OF THE SANCTUARY SIGNIFIED

- A serious time of judgment
- People were to examine their lives
- God was preparing to blot out their sins
- A reminder that Messiah was coming"

38. The Day of Atonement and the cleansing of the sanctuary signified a very serious time of judgment. The cleansing of the sanctuary was a time when people were to examine their lives and get right with God because the people knew that God wanted to blot out their sins for that entire year. Ten days before the Day of Atonement, the priests would blow trumpets and that would signify to Israel the Day of Atonement was near. The cleansing of the sanctuary was almost upon them. It would signal to them that they need to be sure they are right with God because He's about to deal with sin. It also reminded them that the Messiah was coming.



39. If that's what the term cleansing of the sanctuary means, then we can go back to the book of Daniel because apparently Daniel is telling us about some time in the future when there is going to be another time of judgment, a time when God is going to blot out the sins of the world forever, and Jesus is going to come.



AFTER 2300 DAYS, THEN THE SANCTUARY SHALL BE CLEANSED.

40. So, back in Daniel 8:14, Daniel said after 2300 days, then the sanctuary shall be cleansed. If you were here last night, we learned a prophetic principle of interpretation that was known as the day-for-a-year principle. How many remember that? Scholars of many denominations acknowledge the day-for-a-year principle.



41. So, the angel was saying, “Daniel, after 2300 years the sanctuary will be cleansed, and it’s going to be a time of judgment. A time when God will blot out sin forever. A time to prepare for the coming of Jesus the second time.” So, the angel is speaking about 2300 years far into the future. Now that leads us to a couple of questions.



- When is this serious time in earth's history?
- What sanctuary is supposed to be cleansed?

42. Number one, when is this serious time in earth’s history? And number two, what sanctuary is supposed to be cleansed? Does this mean some sanctuary in Jerusalem will be rebuilt, or does it mean something else?



- When is this serious time in earth's history?
- What sanctuary is supposed to be cleansed?

43. The Bible gives us the answer. We’re going to see that the Bible talks about a heavenly sanctuary. Did you know that? Remember, God told Moses, “I want you to build Me a sanctuary after the pattern I give you.” Israel’s earthly sanctuary was patterned after God’s heavenly sanctuary.

In the book of Revelation, John in vision sees a picture of God’s heavenly sanctuary.



44. In Revelation 11:19, the Bible says: “Then the temple of God was opened... “ where? “. . in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple.”

So very clearly, John in vision is telling us that there is a heavenly sanctuary. Now before we go farther, I want to share a beautiful truth with you that is not always well known. Do you know that when Jesus ascended back to Heaven, He ascended into the heavenly sanctuary to be in the presence of the Father?

REVELATION 11:19

"Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple."



- 45.** Before we go back to Daniel, I want to show you a couple of verses in the book of Hebrews that are just marvelous. It gives us a picture of Jesus that perhaps we have never seen before.

Take your Bibles and go to Hebrews 9:24. If you listen to this verse very clearly, you will hear Paul talking about a heavenly sanctuary. Hebrews chapter 9:24, the Bible says:



HEBREWS 9:24

"For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true,

- 46.** "For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true,



HEBREWS 9:24

but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."

- 47.** *but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."*

Did you catch what Paul wrote there? He said that Jesus Christ has ascended into heaven itself to appear in the presence of God. That means that right now Jesus is not sitting somewhere on a cloud twiddling His thumbs, waiting for the Father to tell Him when He can go back and rescue His people.



HEBREWS 9:24

but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."

- 48.** The Bible says Jesus Christ is actively interceding for you and me today in the presence of the Father in what is called the heavenly sanctuary. What a precious picture this is! We ought to say, Amen to that!
Do you realize what that means? I have a living Savior who brings all my needs, all my requests into the very presence of God! We may ask the question, "What does it mean, He's interceding for me?" Since we're already in Hebrews, let's go back one chapter and read chapter eight verses one and two. Notice what the Bible says here:



HEBREWS 8:1-2

"Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne

- 49.** *"Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne*



HEBREWS 8:1-2

of the Majesty in the heaven a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man."

- 50.** *of the Majesty in the heaven a Minister of the..." what? ". . . . sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man."*

Now, let me ask you, when it says we have such a High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary, not the one that was erected in Jerusalem, the one that God built, who is this high priest? It is Jesus Christ.



HEBREWS 8:1-2

of the Majesty in the heaven a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man."

- 51.** Now, I really want you to think about this. That means when you pray, when you're on your knees beside your bed or maybe silently praying in the car, or wherever you might be, Jesus Christ takes your prayers into the throne room of the heavenly sanctuary. That means Jesus knows what I need. He intercedes for me in the presence of the Father. He opens up all the resources of heaven for His people and for His church when they need it.

**JESUS
INTERCEDES
FOR ME**




- 52.** The passage also tells me something else. It's telling me that I don't need to go to an earthly religious leader to confess my sins. I can go directly to Jesus, to the One who laid down His life on Calvary, to the One who shed His blood for me. Because when I pray, Jesus Christ hears! I don't have to worry that my prayers don't go farther than the ceiling. I don't have to worry that God doesn't hear. I don't have to worry that I'm not using the right words or that I don't sound eloquent enough. Jesus intercedes for Me.



JESUS
INTERCEDES
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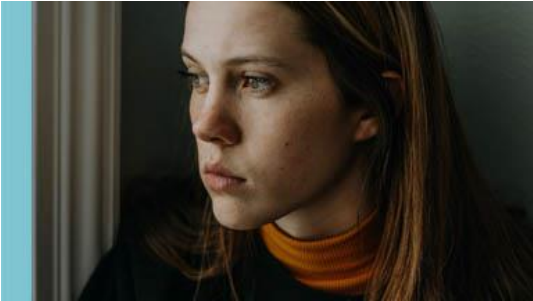
53. He takes my prayers into the throne room and He represents me. Isn't that an immensely encouraging thought!

You might be thinking, "But Pastor, I don't feel close to God when I pray. I don't feel like He hears me." I think we all struggle with that feeling sometimes, but that's the enemy trying to discourage us.

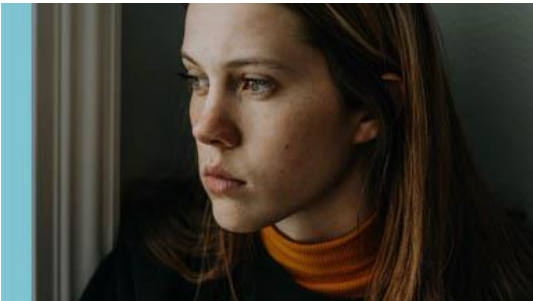


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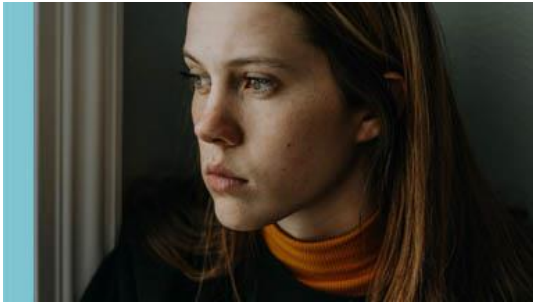
54. But praise God, it's not about feelings, it's about faith. It's based on the promise that Hebrews says, Jesus is my High Priest. He's in a heavenly sanctuary. He's talks to me about the Father and He talks to the Father about me! I don't have to be unsure about my salvation. I don't have to doubt whether I'm truly forgiven. I have a living Savior who shed His blood, and He says I am forgiven.



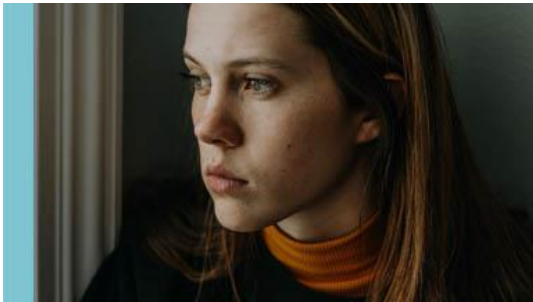
55. I want to tell you a true story of a woman who experienced this promise in a very real way. She was attending a seminar on Bible prophecy very much like this one. During the seminar, the pastor had the opportunity to visit her and hear her story. As he sat in her home, she opened up her heart. She told him she had done something awful many years ago, and even though she was older now, she was still wracked by guilt and shame.



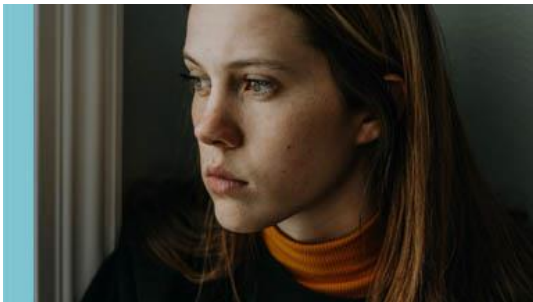
56. Even though she had confessed it to her priest many times, she was still burdened with a heavy load of guilt and never felt forgiven. So, the pastor asked her if she had ever talked to God about it. She told him she hadn't. She wasn't used to talking to God as a friend. Many people struggle with that because they are used to repeating printed prayers.



57. So, the pastor wanted to help her understand that Jesus is her high priest in Heaven, and she can talk to Him about it. So, he said, “Betty, I’d like to invite you to do something special. In the next couple of days, I want you to set aside some time and go talk to Jesus about it. Go to your bedroom, or somewhere private. Close the door. Get on your knees or sit on your chair and pour out your heart to Jesus. Tell Him about it. Just speak from your heart. If you have to cry, then cry. It’s OK. Confess it to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you and give you peace.”



58. A few days later the pastor saw her at the seminar one night and asked her, “Did you do it? Did you talk to Jesus about it?” With the biggest smile on her face, she said, “Yes, pastor, I did.” The pastor asked her, “Do you sense anything different?” She said, “Yes, I do. I finally sense that I’m forgiven. I finally feel at peace. The shame and guilt are gone.”



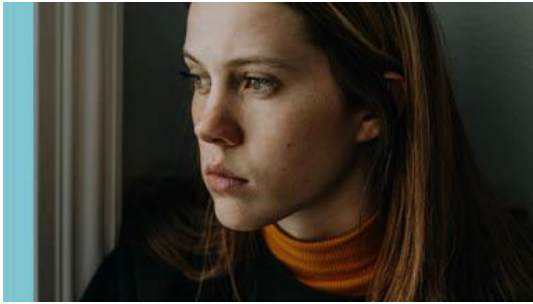
59. Betty had probably heard the pastor talk about these very verses describing Jesus as being our High priest and interceding for us in the Heavenly sanctuary. But now it became real to her. It wasn’t just a theological concept. She experienced it. She experienced Jesus as HER high priest. She experienced Jesus as HER Savior.

MY CHAINS ARE GONE

My chains are gone.
I’ve been set free.
My God, My Savior has
ransomed me.
And like a flood His
mercy reigns, unending
love, amazing grace.



60. It reminds of the song, “My chains are gone. I’ve been set free. My God, My Savior has ransomed me. And like a flood His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.”



- 61.** My friends, you can experience Jesus that way too. Maybe you too are wracked by guilt and shame from things of the past, or maybe things you're struggling with right now. But like, Betty, you can go into the bedroom, close the door, and take it to Jesus. You can experience His forgiveness and His amazing grace.

You say, "Pastor, I don't know how to go to Jesus. I don't know how to talk to Him."



- 62.** One Christian writer put it like this, "Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend."

Jesus is your friend. You don't need fancy words. You don't need eloquent speech. If you don't know how to go to Jesus as a friend, or how to confess your sins to Him, please come see me after the meeting tonight, and we can go to Him together. I sincerely mean that. Please come see me after the meeting and we'll talk to Jesus together.

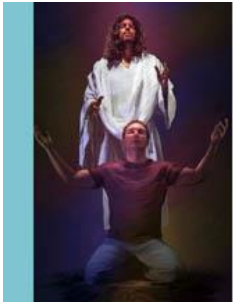


- 63.** By the way, let me ask a question. Many people don't know how to pray to God as a friend. If I were to hold a special class here one night about how to pray, how to connect with God in a meaningful way, how many would be interested in that? Can I see your hands? If there are enough people interested, we might be able to have a special 20-minute class early one night or on the weekend.



- 64.** If you would like to see us hold a class like that one night, could I see your hands again. We'll see if we can make that happen.

Let's go to one more promise. This one is so good we should underline it in our Bibles. Go back one chapter to Hebrews 7:25.

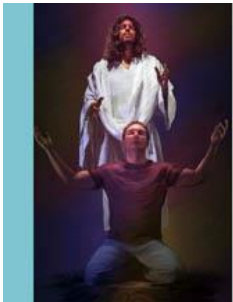


HEBREWS 7:25

"Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."

65. The Bible says in Hebrews 7:25: "Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."

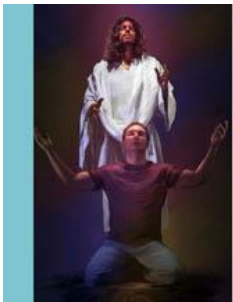
What a beautiful promise! You see, in the Middle Ages, it was taught that a person must confess to earthly priests in order to find forgiveness.



HEBREWS 7:25

"Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."

66. It was believed that human religious leaders could be our mediator between God and man. During that time, it was forgotten that we can go to Jesus directly. It was lost sight of that He is our only Mediator. It was Rome that taught people to confess to earthly leaders. And, as a result, the intercession of Jesus as our High Priest was lost sight of. That's what Daniel means when it says God's sanctuary was cast down. People forgot what Jesus is doing in the Heavenly Sanctuary. The 2300-day prophecy points us back to Jesus as our Heavenly High Priest.



HEBREWS 7:25

"Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."

67. When Jesus stands before the presence of the Father and the Father sees the nail prints in His hands and in His feet, the wound in His side, the Father accepts the blood of Jesus in place of the blood of the sinner, in place of you and I. He says that Jesus' sacrifice is perfect, that Jesus' sacrifice paid the price, and because He is our High Priest, you and I have the opportunity to be saved. If you leave here tonight not understanding anything except the fact that Jesus is your High Priest, then it was worth your while being here tonight.

68. Let's go back to the 2300-day prophecy and put it all together. Here's what we learned so far about the cleansing of the sanctuary. Follow me now. The Bible told us there was an earthly sanctuary in Moses' time. We learned that when that sanctuary was cleansed, it represented a time of judgment for the people of Israel. It was called the Day of Atonement. We understood this meant that they should examine their lives to get right with God because God was preparing to blot out their sins and the Messiah was going to come.

CLEANSING OF THE SANCTUARY

EARTHLY SANCTUARY

- A Time of Judgment
- A Time To Examine Their Lives
- A Time for God To Blot Out Sin
- A Time To Prepare for the Messiah (the First Time)

HEAVENLY SANCTUARY

- A Time of Judgment
- A Time To Examine Our Lives
- A Time for God To Blot Out Sin Forever
- A Time To Prepare for the Messiah (the Second Time)

CLEANSING OF THE SANCTUARY

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- A Time for God To Blot Out Sin Forever
- A Time To Prepare for the Messiah (the Second Time)

69. So, if Daniel is talking about a cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary that will be far in the future at the end of time, that must mean that there's going to be another time of judgment for this world just before Jesus comes. A time when people should examine their lives and get right with God. A time when God is preparing to blot out the sins of the world forever. A time when people need to prepare for Jesus to come the second time.

CLEANSING OF THE SANCTUARY

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HEAVENLY SANCTUARY

- A Time of Judgment
- A Time To Examine Our Lives
- A Time for God To Blot Out Sin Forever
- A Time To Prepare for the Messiah (the Second Time)

70. And so, the question is, when is the heavenly sanctuary cleansed? When is this time of judgment for the world? When is this time when we should examine our lives and God is getting ready to blot out sin because Jesus is going to come?

This is where we now need to go back to the prophecy in Daniel 8:14, and we will begin to understand. We've got all the necessary information we need to start putting the pieces of the puzzle together.

CLEANSING OF THE SANCTUARY

EARTHLY SANCTUARY

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- A Time To Prepare for the Messiah (the Second Time)

71. Do you see how we went from one part of the Bible to the other? We didn't understand the term 'cleansing of the sanctuary,' found in Daniel. So, we went back to Exodus and other parts of the Old Testament and began to fill in the blanks. We saw that it represents a time of judgment.



DANIEL 8:14

"And he said to me, 'For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.'"

72. Now we can go back to Daniel 8:14. The Bible says: *"And he said to me, 'For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.'"*



DANIEL 8:14

"And he said to me, 'For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.'"

- 73.** If we apply the day-for-a-year principle, that means after 2300 years, the sanctuary would be cleansed and there would be a time of judgment. Daniel didn't understand what that meant. In his mind, he's thinking, about the sanctuary that he knows. The sanctuary in Jerusalem—with its walls broken down. Daniel doesn't understand what the angel is trying to say. So, let's pick up the story in the next verse, because the angel will explain it even more.



DANIEL 8:15, 17

"Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance

- 74.** From verse 15, the Bible says: *"Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance. . .*



DANIEL 8:15, 17

of a man. And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, 'Gabriel, make this man understand the vision'. So he came near where

- 75.** *of a man. And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision."*

Then verse 17:
"So he came near where



DANIEL 8:15, 17

I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, 'Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end.'

- 76.** *I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end."*



DANIEL 8:15, 17

I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, 'Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to **the time of the end.**'"

77. Let's stop right here. Daniel is wondering what these 2300 days are all about. And the angel Gabriel is sent to him. Understandably, Daniel's a little bit afraid. Now, I've never seen an angel, but I imagine if you saw the glory of an angel, you'd probably be just a bit afraid, too.



DANIEL 8:15, 17

I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, 'Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to **the time of the end.**'"

78. And the angel tells Daniel this vision refers not to his time, but to what? The time of the end. Notice, this is not my opinion. This is not a commentary's interpretation. The Bible itself tells us that the end of the 2300 days, the end of the 2300 years, would not be in Daniel's day. It would be in the future, in the time of the end. If that's clear, can you amen?

DANIEL 8:27

"And I, Daniel fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it."



79. Daniel was astonished. He was overwhelmed. The Bible says he actually faints. Look at verse 27:

"And I, Daniel fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it."

DANIEL 8:27

"And I, Daniel fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it."



80. Chapter eight then ends because, obviously, when Daniel faints, the vision is over. The angel goes away, but the angel hadn't explained everything yet.

Chapter nine opens up with Daniel praying a very sincere prayer. This is where we began last night. He begins by praying for his people, Israel. But in verse 21 of chapter nine the same angel Gabriel comes back and begins to explain what this vision means.



DANIEL 9:21-23

" . . . yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly,

- 81.** Let's read Daniel 9:21-23. The Bible says—and this is Daniel speaking, " . . . yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly,



DANIEL 9:21-23

reached me about the time of the evening offering. And he informed me, and he talked with me, and said, 'Oh Daniel, I have

- 82.** *reached me about the time of the evening offering. And he informed me, and he talked with me, and said, "Oh Daniel, I have*



DANIEL 9:21-23

now come forth to give you skill to understand. At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come

- 83.** *now come forth to give you skill to understand. At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come*



DANIEL 9:21-23

to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision."

- 84.** *to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision."*

Let's pause for a second. Notice which angel came to Daniel in chapter nine. Who is Gabriel? He was the same angel that led Daniel through the vision at the beginning all the way back in chapter eight when it talked about the 2300 days. So clearly chapter nine and chapter eight are intricately linked together. And then the angel goes on to explain things.

2300 DAY PROPHECY



- 85.** The whole prophecy is 2300 days, but the angel knows that the 2300 days are not relevant for Daniel's day. So, he breaks this prophecy into two, and in verses 24 to 27 he explains to Daniel the first 70 weeks of the prophecy, because these are relevant to Daniel and the Jewish people and the city of Jerusalem.

2300 DAY PROPHECY



- 86.** That's the prophecy we studied last night. The first part of the prophecy, the 70 weeks, deals with the past. The second part of the prophecy, the 2300 days, deals with the end of time. The whole 2300-day prophecy applies to the people living near the time of the end.

Now verses 24 to 27 talk about the 70-week prophecy. If you weren't here last night, I'm going to review it very quickly- in about 5 minutes. So if you weren't here for that topic, make sure you get the handout at the registration table. Let's start with verse 24.



DANIEL 9:24

"Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins..."

- 87.** The Bible says, "Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins. . ."

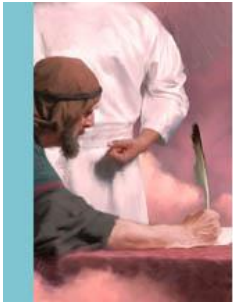
The Jewish nation has been living in apostasy and unfaithfulness to God. So, God is telling Daniel that the Jewish nation has 70 weeks to come back to Him and put an end to their sins and transgressions. Because during those 70 weeks the Messiah is going to come, and they need to be ready to receive Him.

$$70 \times 7 = 490 \text{ DAYS/YEARS}$$

- 88.** How long is 70 weeks? Here we have to apply the day-for-a-year principle we learned last night. So, how many days are in 70 weeks? We have to multiply 70×7 which equals 490 days. If we apply the day-for-a-year principle that's 490 years.

In other words, the Jewish nation has 490 years to come back to God.

Well, what's the beginning date of this prophecy? We have to go to verse 25.



DANIEL 9:25

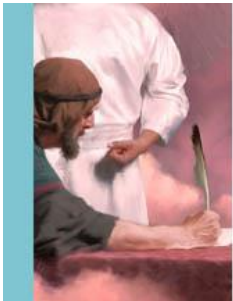
"Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah, the Prince..."

- 89.** The Bible says, "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until the Messiah the Prince. . ."

70-WEEKS PROPHECY



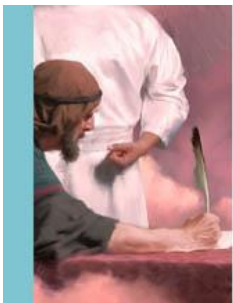
- 90.** The prophecy says when a command goes forth that allows the Jews to go back and rebuild Jerusalem is when this 70 weeks would begin. The Persian king Artaxerxes issued that decree in 457 B.C. So, 457 B.C. is the beginning date of this prophecy. If we add 490 years to 457 B.C., we come to 34 A.D. The Jewish nation has until 34 A.D. to accept the Messiah.



DANIEL 9:25

"Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah, the Prince,

- 91.** Now let's go back to verse 25. The Bible says, "*Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince,*



DANIEL 9:25

there shall be seven weeks and 62 weeks..."

- 92.** *there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks. . ."*

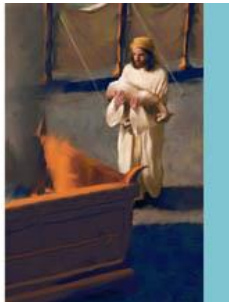
70-WEEKS PROPHECY



- 93.** In other words, the prophecy is saying that in 69 weeks the Messiah will come. Now, how many days are in 69 weeks? We have to multiply 69×7 which equals 483 days. If we apply the day-for-a-year principle, it's telling us in 483 years the Messiah will come. If we add 483 years to our beginning date of 457 B.C., we come to 27 A.D. That is exactly when Jesus began His earthly ministry as the Messiah. Jesus came right on time according to prophecy.

DANIEL 9:27

"Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week, he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering..."



- 94.** Now skip to verse 27 because it tells us something important that the Messiah will do. The Bible says, "Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. . ."

70-WEEKS PROPHECY



- 95.** How many days are in one week? Seven. So, this is referring to a seven-year period from 27 to 34 A.D. Do you know what happened in the middle of that seven-year period? Jesus died on the cross around 31 A.D. which put an end to the Old Testament sacrificial system. Jesus died right on time according to prophecy. This is the 70-week prophecy in a nutshell. It's all about Jesus!

70-WEEKS PROPHECY



- 96.** But now, let's go back to the full 2300-day prophecy. Remember, the end of the 2300-day prophecy refers to the time of the end, to a time of judgment, to a time when Jesus is getting ready to come the second time.

2300 DAY PROPHECY



97. The beginning date of the 70-week prophecy is the same beginning date of the 2300-day prophecy. So, if we add 2300 years to 457 B.C., what year do we come to? We come to 1844.

2300 DAY PROPHECY



98. Now I really want to let this sink in, so we understand what this prophecy is saying. You see, 200 years ago there was a group of people who studied this prophecy. They thought 1844 referred to when Jesus will come the second time. So they started preaching that Jesus would come in 1844, and of course they were greatly disappointed. Because that's not what the prophecy is saying.

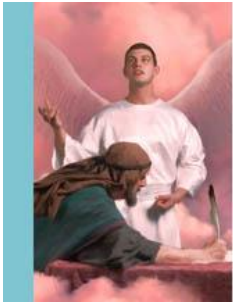
2300 DAY PROPHECY



99. What the prophecy is speaking about is the time when the heavenly sanctuary would be cleansed. This prophecy is telling us since 1844 we have been living in a time of judgement.

THE TIME OF THE END

100. Since 1844 we have been living in a period which prophecy calls the time of the end. It's telling us that Jesus is getting ready to blot out sin forever. It's telling us that Jesus is getting ready to come back a second time. It's telling us that it's time get our eyes off the world and turn our eyes upon Jesus! And it's interesting to note, that ever since 1844 we have seen many of the end time signs being fulfilled. But you may be tempted to wonder if this prophecy—the longest prophecy in the Bible—could really be true. Even Daniel who received the vision wondered if it was true.



DANIEL 8:26

"And the vision of the evenings and mornings which was told is true. Therefore seal up the vision, for it refers to many days in the future."

101. So, as if Gabriel is able to read Daniel's mind, Gabriel comes to Daniel and says, "And the vision of the evenings and mornings which was told is true."

It's true, Daniel. It's really true! It is going to happen! And Gabriel ends with this: "Therefore seal up the vision, for it refers to many days in the future."



DANIEL 8:26

"And the vision of the evenings and mornings which was told is true. Therefore seal up the vision, for it refers to many days in the future."

102. That future is here. That future is now. This prophecy is saying, it's time for us to wake up. It's time for us to realize the coming of Jesus is closer than we think. It's time to turn our eyes upon Jesus.



103. I want to end with this story. There was a woman who got off work rather late one night. She got into her car and started driving down the highway. When she looked into her rearview mirror, she noticed there was a large truck far in the distance. She didn't think much of it because truckers drove a lot during the night on the interstate. But this trucker seemed to be going rather fast and, after a few minutes, he came up right behind her.



104. He was within inches of her bumper when all of a sudden, he started to honk his horn. He started flashing his lights. He began waving his hands.

The woman wondered, "What in the world is he doing?" At first, she thought, "Maybe I'm not going fast enough for him." So, she sped up. But when she sped up, he sped up, remaining inches behind her bumper, honking his horn, flashing his lights, and waving his hands.



105. The woman, thought, “Maybe I’ll slow down so he can pass me.” When she slowed down, he slowed down. He continued to honk his horn, flash his lights, and wave his hands.

The woman thought, “Let me get over to the left lane so he can pass me on the right.” When she switched to the left lane, he switched to the left. When she went back in the right lane, he went back to the right lane. He continued inches behind her bumper, honking his horn, flashing his lights, and waving his hands.



106. Finally, the woman was terrified. Convinced that he was about to run her off the road, she put the pedal to the metal, sped down the highway, and got off at the very first exit. She careened around the corner, turned onto a local road, turned left, and came to a screeching halt at a gas station. She opened her car door and ran inside the station yelling for help.



107. The trucker got off at the same exit. He careened around the same corner and came to a screeching halt in the parking lot of the gas station.

The trucker jumped out of his cab, ran to the back door of the woman’s car, and pulled it open. There, on the back seat, he grabbed a man with a knife in his hand.



108. The trucker—from his high vantage point—was able to look down into the woman’s car window. The trucker— from his high vantage point-- could see an enemy in the back seat. The woman was in danger and she didn’t even know it. It turned out she was running from the wrong person. She was running from the only one who could save her.

I know a Trucker like that, what about you? From His high vantage point, Jesus looks down into our lives.



109. He sees the temptations that Satan bombards us with. He sees the deceptions that confront us. He sees the trials and the sufferings that we go through. But because of His unconditional love, Jesus relentlessly pursues us. When we speed up, Jesus speeds up. When we slow down, Jesus slows down. When we switch lanes and we try to lose Him, Jesus switches lanes with us. He won't let us go. But at some point in our lives, we have got to realize, it's time to stop running from the wrong person. It's time to stop running from the only One who can save us.



REVELATION 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..."

110. That's why Revelation 3:20 says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him."

Revelation says Jesus is waiting to enter our life. It pictures Him as standing outside the door of our hearts. We have two choices. I can choose to open the door and let Him in. Or I can keep the door closed and continue running. I can keep running from the wrong person.



REVELATION 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..."

111. The Bible's question to you tonight is this: when will you open the door? When will you stop running? When will you stop making excuses? When will we choose to turn our eyes upon Jesus and follow Him with all of our hearts, all of our minds, and all of our souls? Are you willing to open the door and make that choice tonight?

At this time, I want to ask you to stand with me as we pray. I want to make an appeal through the prayer that we would open that door. Would you stand with me?



REVELATION 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..."

112. Heavenly Father, here in Your Word is a straightforward prophecy. Lord, You have given it to us because you love us in such a powerful way. God, we surrender our hearts to You tonight. I'm not perfect, Lord. I have issues in my life. Everyone standing here has issues that they're dealing with. But tonight, Lord, we want to give ourselves to You. We want to give You permission to help us to love You with all of our hearts.



REVELATION 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..."

113. Tonight—with every head bowed and every eye closed—if you would just like to say deep in your heart, “Lord Jesus, I’m going to stop running. I choose to follow You with all my heart and all my soul.” Would you just raise your hand tonight? Every head is bowed, every eye is closed.



REVELATION 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..."

114. You know what the struggles are in your life. No one else needs to know. You simply want to say, “Lord, I’m not going to run away from You anymore. I give You my heart. I give you my mind. I give you everything I have. So, Lord, I ask You to please save me. I am opening my heart to you.”



REVELATION 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him..."

115. If that’s your desire now, just keep your hand raised high. Lord, You see any hands that are raised tonight. Whatever circumstances are represented, we ask You to bless that person, to bless their family, and enable them to make the choices they need to make. And may they be filled tonight with the joy of the Lord and rejoice in Your salvation. This we ask and pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.



116.

