

Session 14

# The Future Political Signs of the Times Pertaining to Israel

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## **A. Introduction**

1. Israel plays a pivotal role in the grand End-Time narrative of God as she has always been the primary time indicator for God's prophetic calendar.
2. Thus, we will not fully understand the issue of Israel unless we understand the End Times and similarly, we will not fully understand the End Times unless we understand the issue of Israel.
3. There are many events that will unfold in the End Times according to Scripture that have not yet happened, and many of them are political events that will take place pertaining to the nation of Israel.
4. Having a grasp of what Scripture says will bring clarity and understanding to what will eventually take place, where everything is going, and consequently give insight to what is currently happening today.

## **B. Political Sign 1: Jerusalem Increasingly at the Centre of World Controversy**

1. Scripture warns us that at the End of the Age before Jesus returns, Jerusalem will become the central focus of world attention and culminate in the gathering of nations against her (Zech. 12:3; 14:2).
2. In recent years, this is happening before our eyes — Israel has increasingly been at the centre of world political controversy.
3. Recent surveys show an increasing hatred and detest towards the Jewish people, especially amongst the young generation, where more and more youths and young adults are becoming anti-Israel.
4. This antisemitism will reach its fullness at the End of the Age before Jesus returns which will be expressed via military conflict against her and intense persecution of Jewish people across nations.

### **C. Political Sign 2: The Emergence of the Antichrist and Making of a Covenant with Him**

1. Scripture prophesies that there will emerge an international political leader — the Antichrist — who will establish a peace treaty with Israel and the nations in the Middle East in order to bring peace (Dan. 9:27; 1 Thes. 5:2–3).
2. Revelation 13 gives the clearest description and most complete picture of the Antichrist in the New Testament, while Daniel 8:23–26 and Daniel 11:29–45 give us the most complete picture of him in the Old Testament.
3. The Antichrist will be the final world ruler in this age before Jesus returns. He will make war against God by oppressing Israel and the true Church of Jesus Christ (Rev. 11:7; 12:7, 17; 13:4; 17:14; Rev.19:19; Dan. 7:21; 9:26).
4. However, before that, he will arise as someone who would have answers in the midst of crisis and conflict around the world.
  - a. Increasing global crises in the midst of the Matthew 24 birth pangs will set the stage for the Antichrist to be successful as he appears to solve the world's problems.
  - b. During this time, nations will allow the Antichrist to take control in order to “fix” and “solve” their economic, social, and environmental crises and political instability. Many nations around the world will look to him for help and solutions.
  - c. He will be seen as the man who ends this time of international conflict (Matt. 24:7–8; Dan. 8:25; 11:21). Even believers may be deceived into thinking that he is a man sent by God (Matt. 24:24).
5. He will sign a peace treaty with Israel and the Middle Eastern nations. This takes place seven years before Jesus' Second Coming.
  - a. This treaty that he makes will seem to solve the ongoing Middle East crisis that has been ongoing since the early 1900s.
  - b. He will provide a way for Jewish and Arab people to live in harmony and practice their religious beliefs side by side.
  - c. The 70-Week Prophecy found in Daniel 9:24–27 gives us understanding to why it is specifically seven years (refer to the chart below).
6. Scripture calls this peace treaty that is made between Israel's governmental leaders and the Antichrist a “covenant with death” (Isa. 28:15). Through this, Israel will give him authority and power (Isa. 28:14–18; Dan. 9:27; 11:45; Zech. 11:16; Ezek. 38:8–12, 14; 39:26; Jn. 5:43; Lk. 19:11–28; 1 Thes. 5:3).
7. Israel will be able to make political alliances and economic deals with many nations, especially in the Middle East. This treaty and covenant will seem like the way towards

political, economic, and spiritual stability and prosperity, including protection for the nation of Israel.

8. The Antichrist will win the hearts of many political leaders and people, which will lead to Israel being allowed to rebuild the Third Temple.

#### **D. Political Sign 3: A Jewish Temple Will Be Rebuilt in Jerusalem**

1. With the peace treaty in place, the way will be made for the Third Jewish Temple (also known as the Tribulation Temple) to be built in Jerusalem.
2. One of the implications of the peace treaty is that Israel will be allowed to rebuild a Jewish temple and re-institute the offering of animal sacrifices (according to Mosaic law) in this Third Temple.
3. At present, plans to rebuild a Jewish temple on Temple Mount in Jerusalem have already been underway for many years. The relevant organisations are reporting that almost everything is ready for the Third Temple to be built, including the altars, vessels, and spotless red heifers that are required for the Mosaic sacrificial system to be put back in place.
4. Without the rebuilding of a temple in Jerusalem, the fourth political sign — the Abomination of Desolation, as prophesied by Scripture — cannot occur (Matt. 24:15; Mk. 13:14; 2 Thes. 2:4; Rev. 11:1–2; 13:12–18; Dan. 9:26, 27; 11:31; 12:11).

#### **E. Political Sign 4: The Abomination of Desolation**

1. The Abomination of Desolation is a significant and primary sign event in the End Times that is mentioned multiple times in Scripture.
2. There are three main events in the Abomination of Desolation which occurs at the three-and-a-half-year mark of the peace treaty:
  - a. Firstly, the Antichrist will break the peace treaty and terminate Israel's religious activities in the Third Temple (1 Thes. 5:3).
    - i. Scripture prophesies that he will stop the grain offerings and sacrifices (Dan. 9:27);
    - ii. He will declare himself to be God and demand all nations and people to worship him (Dan. 11:36–37).
  - b. Secondly, the False Prophet (Rev. 13:11–15) will be granted power to give breath to the “image of the Beast”, which is the Antichrist's image.
    - i. The “image of the Beast” is likely a statue (idol) that is demonically and supernaturally empowered to think, talk, breathe, and make laws (Rev. 13:14–16).

- ii. This statue will be placed in the Third Temple and is the “abomination” that Scripture refers to (Rev. 13:14, 15; 14:9, 11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4).
  - c. Lastly, the False Prophet will cause all nations to worship the Antichrist and will institute the Mark-of-the-beast economic system (Rev. 13:17).
3. Many people will worship the Antichrist out of deception and fear. This three-and-a-half-year mark begins the Great Tribulation where the Antichrist will seek to aggressively eliminate the Jewish people and the true Church of Jesus Christ that will resist Him.
4. For more details, please refer to Session 12 of our Introductory Series on the End Times [here](#).

#### **F. Political Sign 5: The Fullness of Antisemitism unto another Holocaust**

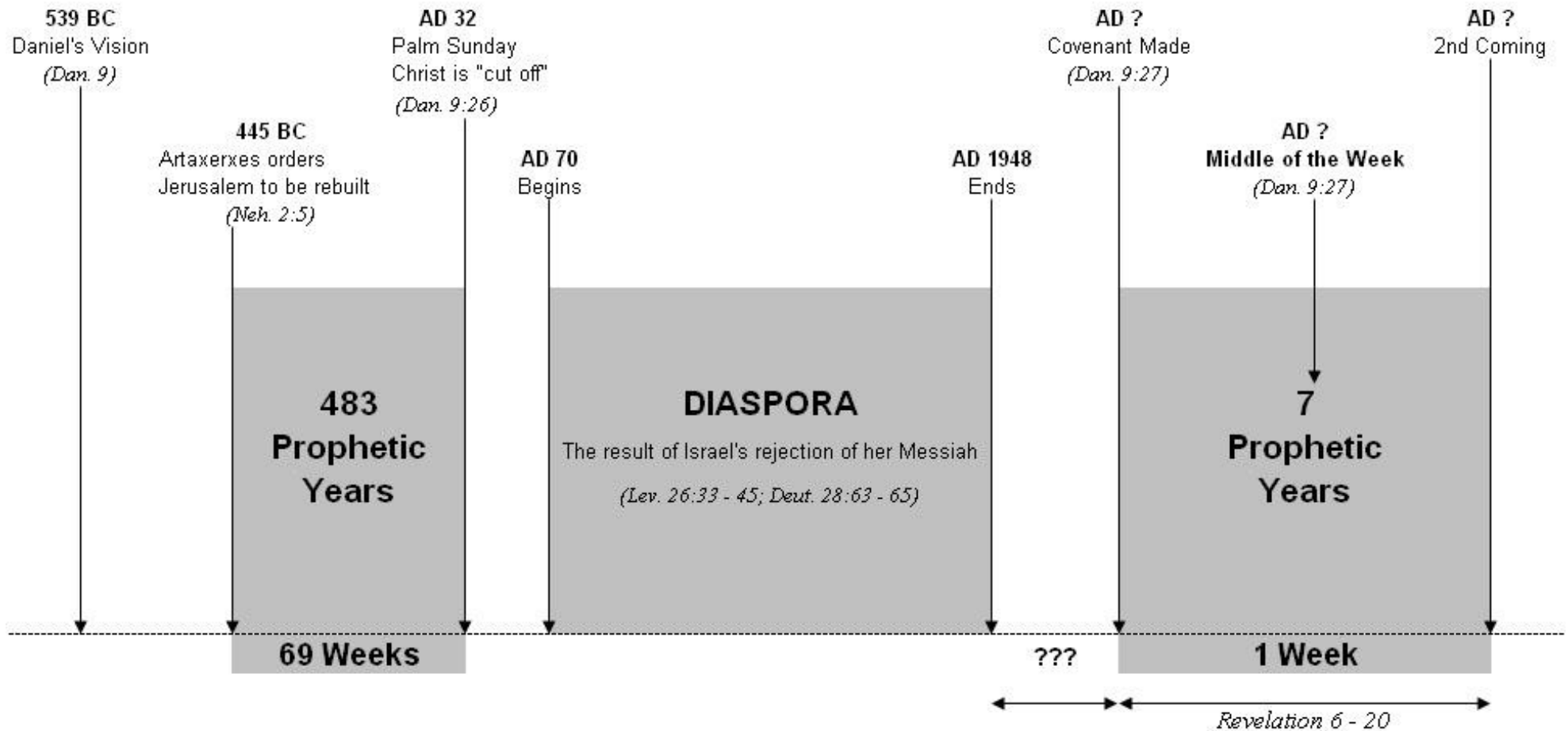
1. Zechariah 12 – 14 makes it clear that at the End of the Age before Jesus returns, there will be another Holocaust where two-thirds of Jewish people (likely in the land of Israel) will die as a result of nations coming against her.
2. Revelation 17:12–13 prophesies that there will be a 10-nation confederation that will arise and align with the Antichrist. This will lead to politically organised antisemitism and persecution of Israel once Antichrist breaks the peace treaty.
3. Today, we are already witnessing a rise of antisemitism and Jewish hatred all across the globe. Indeed, Satan is stirring up antisemitic sentiments all across the nations as he wants to exterminate the Jewish people so that a believing remnant cannot invite Jesus back to rule Israel as their Messiah (Rev. 12:13–17).
4. This antisemitism will increase and reach its fullness in the final three and a half years of human history before the return of Jesus.

#### **G. Conclusion**

1. The Bible is clear that there are political signs pertaining to Israel that will take place before Jesus returns.
2. It is vital for us to gain understanding, depth, and clarity of His heart for Israel as shown in His word, so that we will not be confused or deceived when the time comes.
3. While Israel’s time of greatest trouble is coming, it is through this process that God will refine her so that she arises to what He has in store for her.
4. As we see these events unfolding in our time, this is the hour for the Gentile church to pay attention, align with His heart for her, and pray for her.

**THE 70 WEEKS OF DANIEL**

Daniel 9:24 - 27 --- A broad Outline of God's Prophetic Timetable



\**Note*: 1 Prophetic year is 360 days each.