# The Bible in a Bird's Eye View



The 7 Covenants and the 7 Dispensations

Roger Liebi

#### Introduction

- I. The Structure of the Bible
- II. Are there Dispensations?
- III. Covenants and Dispensations
- IV. The Structure of Dispensations

## I. The Structure of the Bible

#### Old Testament

39 Books

**Promise:** 

Messiah will come

New Testament

27 Books

Fulfillment:

Messiah has come.

1606 - 420 B.C.

32 - 100 A.D.

Old Testament

39 Books

Promise: Messiah will come

New Testament

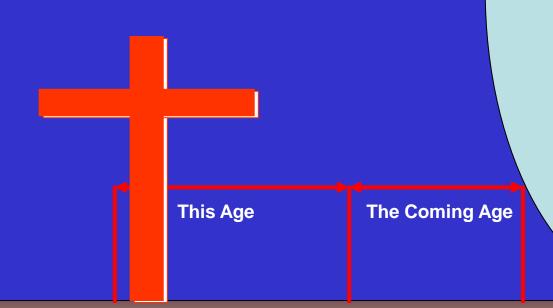
27 Books

Fulfillment: Messiah has come.

# II. Are there Dispensations?

Eph 1: 20 ... He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

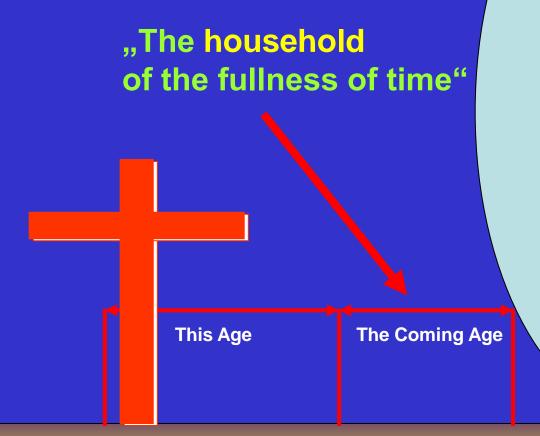
- Cf. Math 12:32; Mark 10:30; Luk 18:30
   aion = age, world, eternity = hebr. 'olam
- → Differentiation between 2 ages.
- → Like in the Rabbinical Literature:
  - ha'olam hazeh: this age
  - ha'olam haba': the coming age (= Messianic Kingdom)



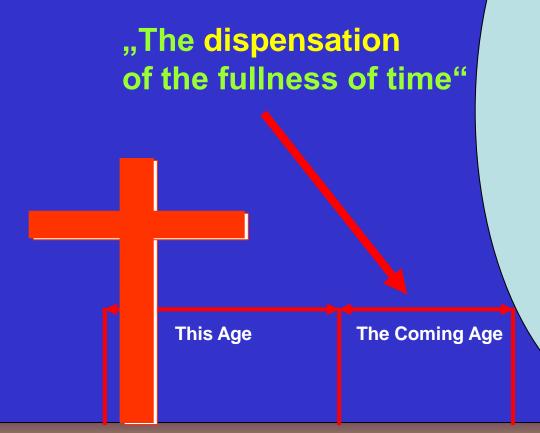
# II. Are there Dispensations?

Eph 1: ... 10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth - in Him.

- Explanatory commentary: During the Millenium Christ will rule over the whole earth. This kimgdom is called here "The dispensation of the fullness of time".
- oikonomia = household, house law, stewardship, dispensation, lat. "dispensatio"
- → "Dispensationalism" = Dividing of the Biblical timeline according to different ages /dispensations







# **II. Are there Dispensations?**

Col 1: ... 26 the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

Cf. Rom 16:25; 1Cor 10:11; 2Tim 1:9; Hebr 9:26

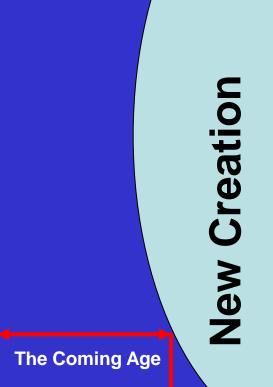
- → These verses speak about ages in the plural.
- → Plural = at least 2!
- → Eph 1:21 and Col 1:26 speak about at least 4 ages!

past age

past age

## From Genesis to Revelation

**This Age** 



## III. Covenants and Dispensations

Jeremiah 31: 31 "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah -- 32 "not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.

- Explanation: The Millennium "the Coming Age" will begin with a new covenant with Israel. This covenant stays in contrast to the covenant at Sinai. → Contrast of 2 covenants and 2 dispensations
- Question: Are there still other covenants of God?

### III. Covenants and Dispensations

#### The seven Covenants of God

- 1. The covenant with Adam (Gen 1-2; Hos 6:7)
- 2. The covenant with Noah (Gen 9)
- 3. The covenant with Abraham (Gen 12-22)
- 4. The covenant with Israel at Sinai (Ex 19)
- 5. The covenant with David (Ps 89:3; 2Sam 7)
- 6. The covenant with Zedekiah (Ez 17)
- 7. The covenant with Israel (Jer 31:31)

Abraham M

Srae

From Genesis to Revelation

David

Zedekiah 6

Srae

## IV. The Structure of Dispensations

#### 1 - Beginning

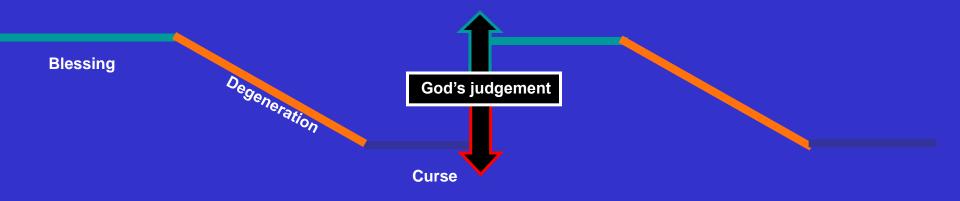
God makes a covenant: Blessing

#### 2 - Development

Man reveals himself to be unfaithful: Degeneration

#### **3 - End**

God intervenes and judges unfaitful man: Curse



### IV. The Structure of Dispensations



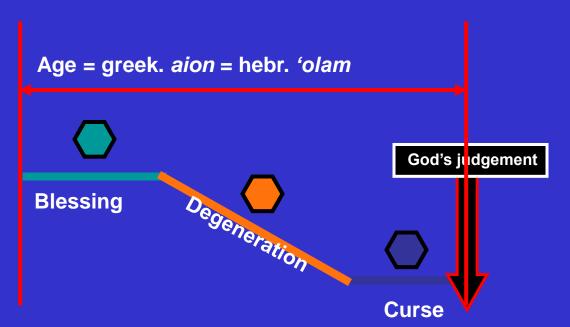
1. A good beginning

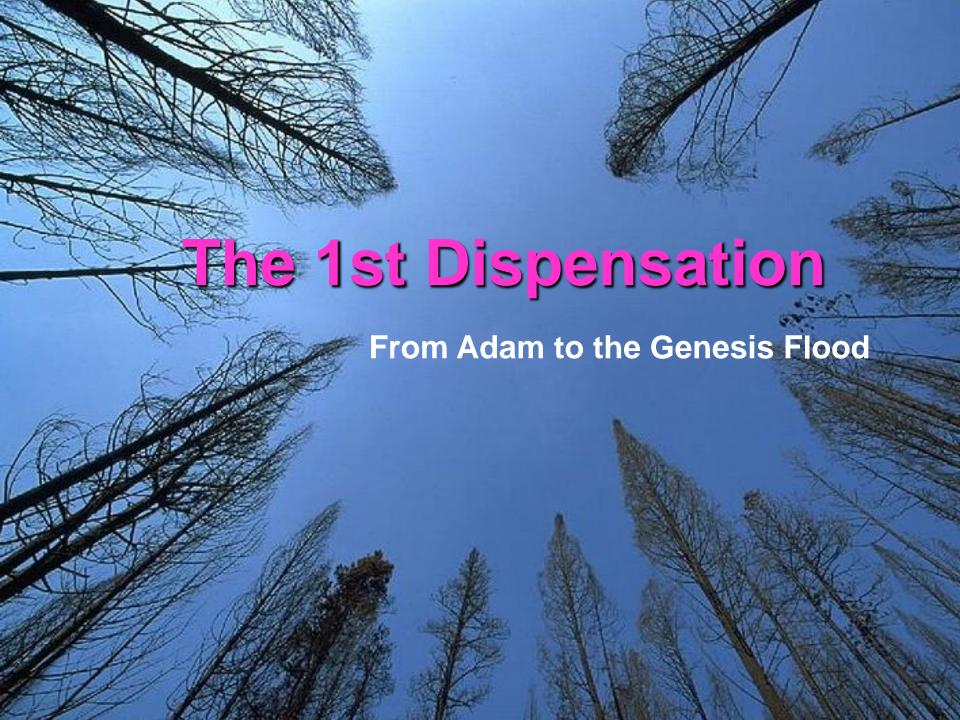


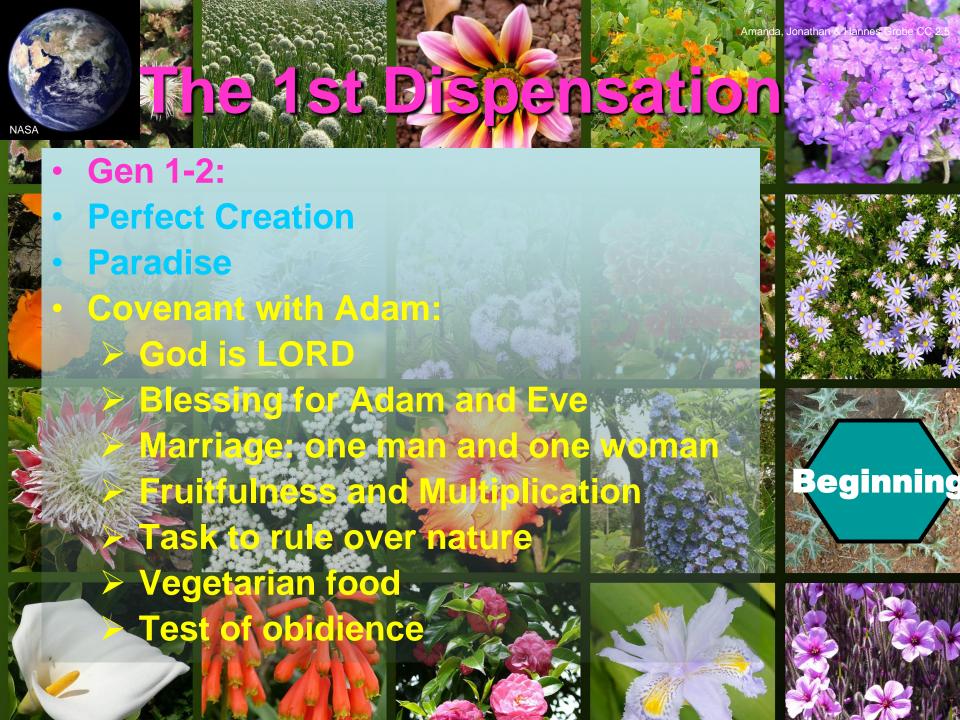
**END** 

2. A sad development

3. An end, that leads to judgement,







Gen 3-6:

The Redeemer Gen 3:15

- Disobedience against God's commandment
- Curse, suffering, death, sin (Rom 5:12)
- Expelling from Paradise
- 1st murder
- Civilisation without God: City of Enoch, polygamy, music, economy, technology, poetry, to fill up the vacuum without God
- Violence, occult perversion

Develop

#### **Gen 5:**

- A testimony for God
- 10 generations from Adam to Noah
- Adam, Seth, Enosch, Cainan, Mahalalel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, Noah
- > 1656 years

8x: "... and he died."



Gen 6-8: The Genesis Flood after 120 years of grace





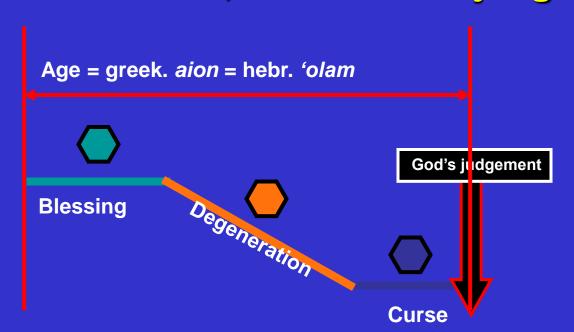
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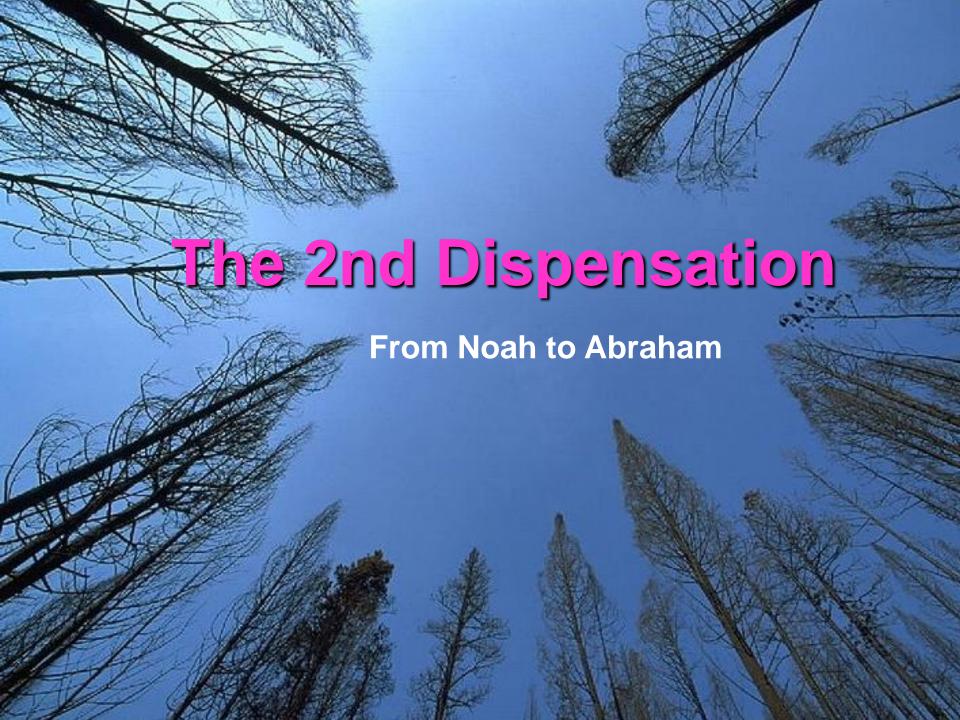


**END** 

2. A sad development

3. An end, that leads to judgement





# The 2nd Dispensation Beginning



Ararat

#### Gen 9:

- **Covenant with Noah (with** the whole earth, for as long as the earth exists)
- Rain bow (Sign)
- Blessing and task
- **Meat allowed**
- No blood eating (Acts 15:20.29; 16:4; 21:25)
- Government (Rom 13)
- Capital punishment (Rom 13)



- Gen 9-11:
- Noah intoxicated
- Ham despises his father.
- Ham's son Canaan cursed.
- Nimrod ("Let us rebell!") = 1st ruler
- City of Babel / Babylon built up
- Tower of Babel = temple of idolatry
- Babylon labored sorceries from her youth (ls 47:12).
- Rebellion against God's commandment to fill the earth.
- Humanity organized:
   Erech, Accad, Calneh, Niniveh,
   Sodom, Gomorrha





FP

NASA



- 1. Sem
- 2. Arphaxad
- 3. Salah
- 4. Eber
- 5. Peleg
- 6. Reu
- 7. Serug
- 8. Nahor
- 9. Terah
- 10. Abraham

- 100 + 500 = 600
  - 35 + 403 = 438
  - 30 + 403 = 433
  - 34 + 430 = 464
  - 30 + 209 = 239
  - 32 + 207 = 239
  - 30 + 200 = 230
  - 29 + 119 = 148
  - 70 + 135 = 205
- 100 + 75 = 175

**Mount Ararat** 



From the Genesis Flood to the Covenant with Abraham: 427 years



#### Gen 10-11:

- Confusion of tongues
- Dispersion of the tribes
- Continental drift (Gen 10:25)
- God let the tribes and peoples fall into ignorance and immorality.





Rom 1: 24 Therefore Good also dave th unclearness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, 25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.





**END** 

Rom 1: 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, was mem over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; ...



Acts 14: ...16 [God], who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own

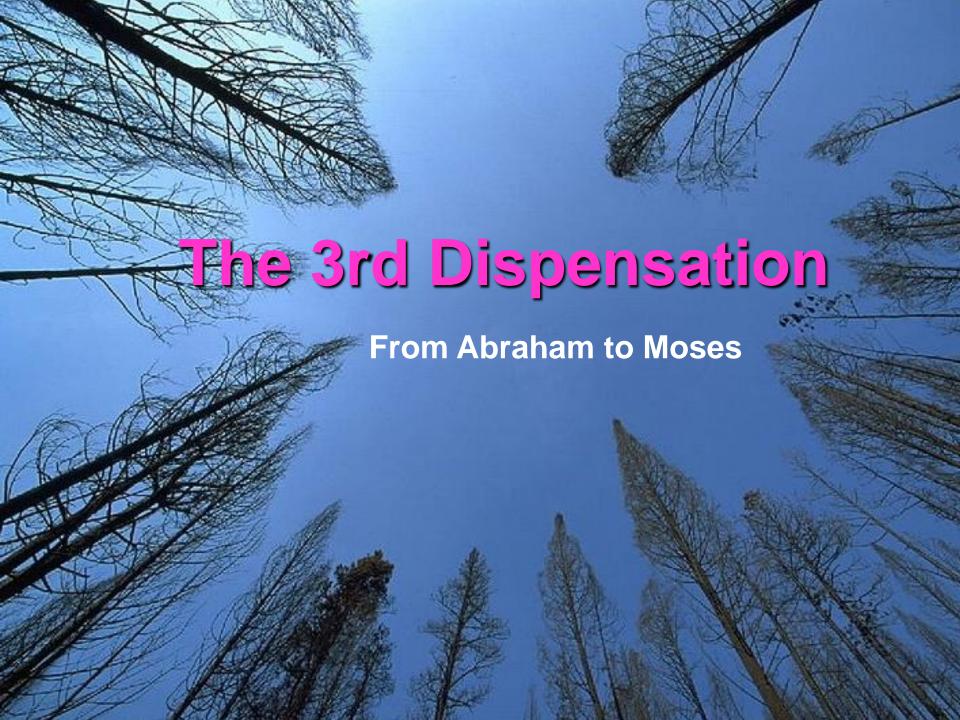
Acts 17: 30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, ...





Josh 24: 2 And Joshua Sail to all the people, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Your ers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other







# The 3rd Dispensation



John 3:16

Zunkir GNU 1.2 or later



Blessing for the whole world

Gen 12: 1 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."



## The 3rd Dispensation

Markov GNU 1.2 or later

Gen 12: 6 Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land. 7 Then the **LORD** appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.



Shichem, todays Nablus

Gal 3: 17 And this I say, that the law, which was 430 years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect.





## The 3rd Dispensation

Markov GNU 1.2 or later

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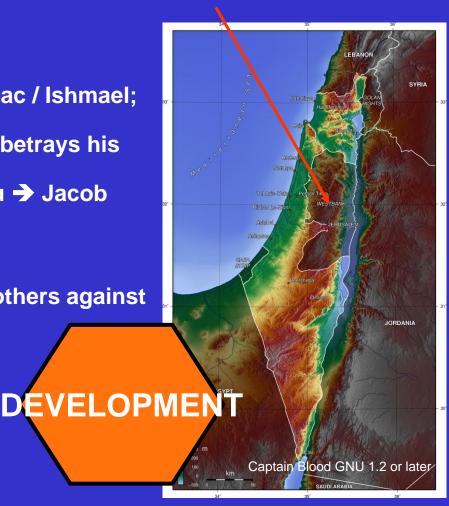


Shichem, todays Nablus

Covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob: Gen 12:6; 13:14-18; 15:1; 17:1 22:16-18; 26:3-5.24; 28:13; 35:9

#### The 3rd Dispensation

- Gen 16-50:
- Abraham's marriage with Hagar
- Problems in the family of Abraham (Isaac / Ishmael; Hagar / Sarah)
- Problems in the family of Isaac: Jacob betrays his father.
- Deadly cnflict between Jacob and Esau → Jacob had to flee.
- Laban betrays Jacob.
- Jacob's marriages with 4 women
- Problems in the family of Jacob: 10 brothers against Joseph
- Strives between the 4 women.
- Dina defiled
- Joseph sold into slavery
- The 10 sons betray their father Jacob.
- Ruben's incest
- Juda'a fall into whoredom with Tamar
- God's discipline: famine
- By God's grace: survival in Egypt



→ Idolatry in Egypt

#### The 3rd Dispensation

- The descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob served the god's of Egypt (Ez 23:3; 20:7-8).
- God's judgement: Israel fell into the hands of the Egyptians → cruel slavery, slaughter of children (Ex 1)

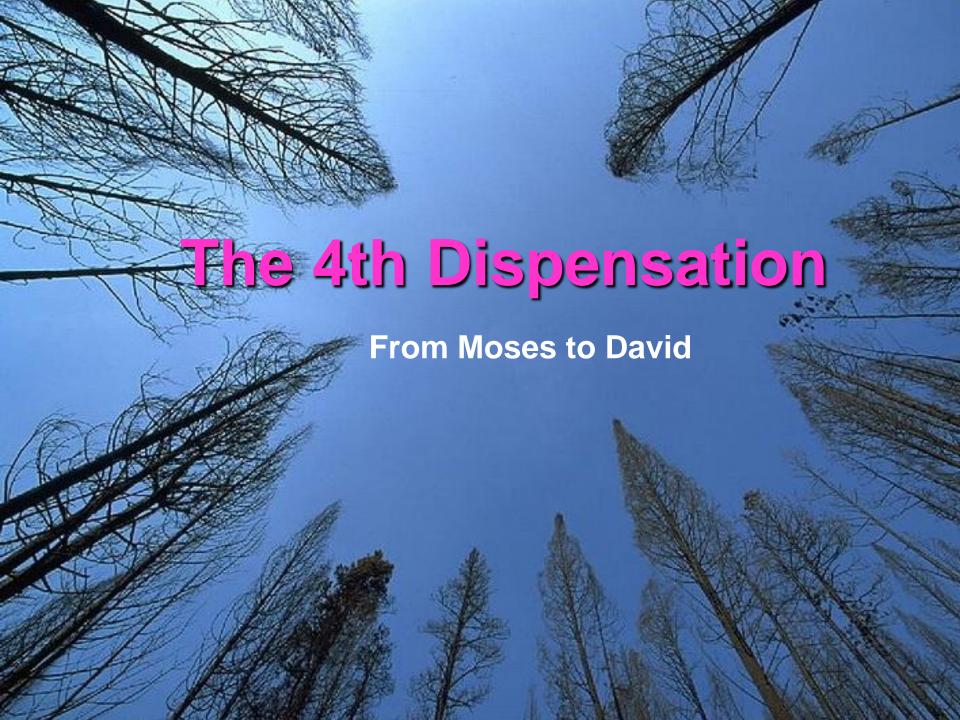


Goshen



Beginning: Abraham leaves idolatry.

End: Abraham's descendants fell into idolatry.



#### Ex - Josh:

- God's judgement of Eypt by the 10 plagues (cf. Gen 12:3).
- God's redemption of Israel
- God's call for Moses
- Israel delivered
- At Sinai: covenant with Israel
- Building of the Tabernacle
- Israel' blessing (Ex 39:43)
- Journey through the desert, conquest of the promised land
- Blessing in the land (Josh 21:43-45)

Joav Rosenberg GNU 1.2 or later





#### **EX – 1Sam:**

- Golden Calf
- Disobedience in the desert
- 7 apostasies in the time of the Judges (450 years, Acts 13:20)
- "Everyone did what was right in his own eyes." (Judges 17:6; 18:1; 19:1; 21:25)
- Israel's rejection of God as their King (1Sam 8)





#### **Ex – 1Sam:**

1Sam 8: 7 And the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.





1Sam 8-30:

Hos 13:

11 I gave you a king in My anger, And took him away in My wrath.

God judged Israel, giving them a king, that should bring the people into a military catastrophy.



- 1Sam 8-30:
- Hos 13:
- 11 I gave you a king in My anger,
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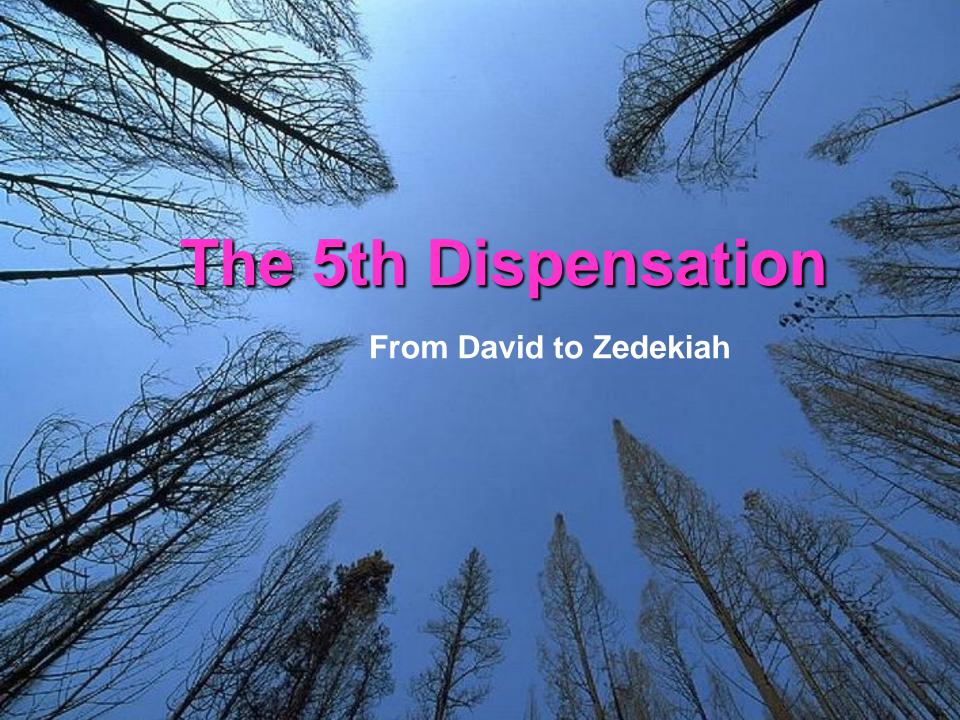


Beth Sche'an

 God judged Israel, giving them a king, that should bring the people into a military catastrophy.



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#### **1/2Sam – 2King/2Chr:**

- God chose David as king and forefather of Messiah, the ruler of the world.
- God chose Jerusalem as His city and as city of the Temple.
- 1Sam 13: 14 ... The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, ...



Jerusalem



FΡ

#### 1/2Sam - 2King/2Chr:

- God chose David as king and forefather of Messiah, the ruler of the world.
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- 1Sam 16: 1 ... Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons."



BEGINNING

David's Millo

Covenant with David: 2Sam 7; Ps 89; 132; Jer 33

RI

#### **1/2Sam – 2King/2Chr:**

- God chose David as king and forefather of Messiah, the ruler of the world.
- God chose Jerusalem as His city and as city of the Temple.
- 2Chr 6: 6 'Yet I have chosen Jerusalem, that My name may be there; and I have chosen David to be over My people Israel.'



Ruins of David's palace



- God chose David as king and forefather of Messiah, the ruler of the world.
- God chose Jerusalem as His city and as city of the Temple.
- Ps 89: 3 "I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn to My servant David: 4 'Your seed I will establish forever, And build up your throne to all generations.' "



Kidron Vally and City of David



DI

- Salomon's fall into idolatry.
- Israel divided into 2 nations
- Israels fall into idolatry
- Northern Kingdom: only godless kings
- Southern Kingdom: most kings were godless
- Refrain: "And he did evil in the sight of the LORD."



King Graves in the City of David



RI

975 – 954
954 – 953
953 – 930
930 – 929
929
929 – 918
918 – 897
898 – 897
897 – 886
886 – 858
857 – 841

 13. Jerobeam II.
 825 – 785

 Interreign
 784 – 773

840 - 825

731 - 722/721

14. Zekariah 77315. Shallum 772

12. Joash

19. Hosea

16. Menachem772 - 76217. Pekahia761 - 76018. Pekah759 - 740Interreign739 - 731



Jeroboam's High Place at Dan



RL

1. Rehabeam 976 - 9592. Abijam 958 - 9563. Asa 956 - 9154. Jehoshaphat 915 - 8905. Joram 889 - 8876. Ahazia 886 7. Athaliah 885 - 8798. Joash 879 - 8409. Amazia 839 - 81110. Uzziah 810 - 75911. Jotham 758 - 74312. Ahaz 742 - 727

727 - 69814. Manasseh 697 - 64315. Amon 642 - 64116. Josiah 641 - 610

13. Hezekiah

20. Zedekiah

17. Jehoahaz 609 18. Jehoakim 609 - 598 19. Jehoakin 598/597

597 - 586

Jeroboam's High Place at Dan

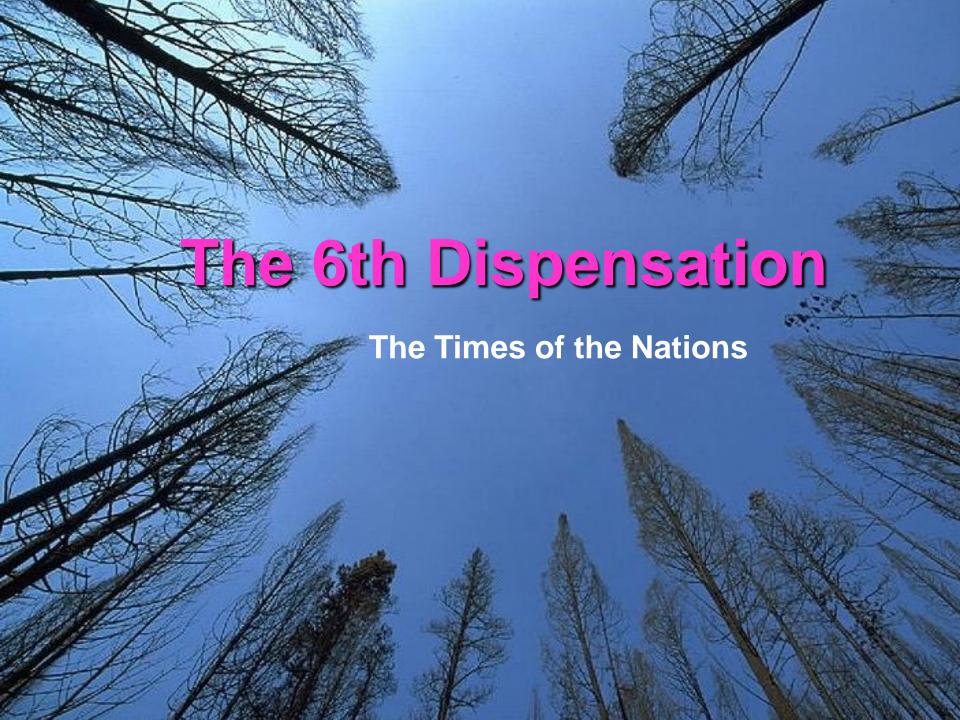


RL

- 722: Fall of the Northern Kingdom, Assyrian deportation
- 606-582: Fall of the Southern Kingdom, Babylonian deportation
- End of the Davidic Kingdom
- 586: Destruction of Jerusaelm and the Temple







Dan 1: 1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, ...

 606: Juda becomes a satellite state / vassal state of Babylonia.



 2Chr 36: 13 And he also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear an oath by God; ...



- 606: Judah becomes a satellite state / vassal state of Babylonia.
- 597: Nebuchadnezzar makes a covenant with Zedekiah, which God calls "my covenant (Ez 17; 2Kings 24:14-16; 2Chr 36:10-13). → Judah accepts Babylon's power.

**→** Beginning of The "Times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21,24)

Ez 17: 12 ... Indeed the king of Babylon went to Jerusalem and took its king and princes, and led them with him to Babylon. 13 'And he took the king's offspring [Zedekiah], made a covenant with him, and put him under oath. He also took away the mighty of the land, 14 'that the kingdom might be brought low and not lift itself up, but that by keeping his covenant it might stand. 15 'But he rebelled against him by sending his ambassadors to Egypt, that they might give him horses and many people. Will he prosper? Will he who does such things escape? Can he break a covenant and still be delivered? 16 'As I live,' says the Lord GOD, 'surely in the place where the king dwells who made him king, whose oath he despised and whose covenant he broke -- with him in the midst of Babylon he shall die.

Ez 17: 17 'Nor will Pharaoh with his mighty army and great company do anything in the war, when they heap up a siege mound and build a wall to cut off many persons. 18 'Since he despised the oath by breaking the covenant, and in fact gave his hand and still did all these things, he shall not escape.' " 19 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "As I live, surely My oath which he despised, and My covenant which he broke, I will recompense on his own head. 20 "I will spread My net over him, and he shall be taken in My snare. I will bring him to Babylon and try him there for the treason which he committed against Me. 21 "All his fugitives with all his troops shall fall by the sword, and those who remain shall be scattered to every wind; and you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken."

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream (603 B.C.

### The 6th Dispensation

Radomol GNU 1.2 or later

Dan 2: 37 "You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; 38 "and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all -- you are this head of gold.



City walls of Babylon

→ "The Times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21:24)

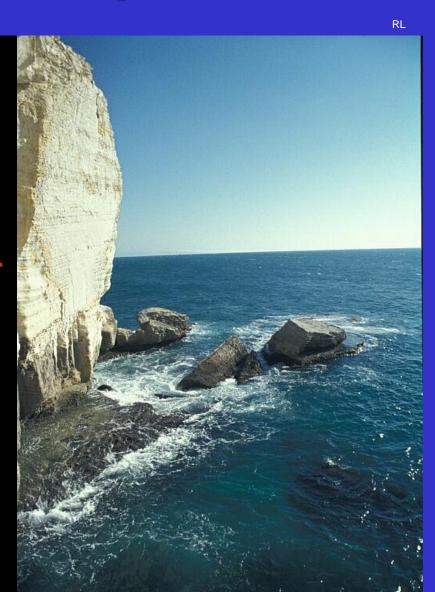




Daniel's dream (549 B.C.)

#### The 6th Dispensation

- Dan 7 (549 B.C.):
- 1. Lion with eagle's wings= Babylon
- 2. Geary Bear
- = Medopersia
- 3. Leopard with 4 wings and 4 heads
- = Greece
- 4. Terrible beast with 10 horns
- = Rom
- The: The Son of Man on the clouds of heaven
   = The Kingdom of God





Babylonia

2 Medopersia

Greece

4 ROM

God's Kingdon

"The Times of the Gentiles"



Babylonia

2 Medopersia

Greece

4 Rom

"The Times of the Gentiles"

1st Coming

Rev 17:8:

"The beast that you saw [a] was, and [b] is not, and [c] will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition.

**2nd Coming** 

Rom

[a] was [b] is not [c] will ascend

Dan 9: 23 ... therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision: 24 Seventy weeks [of years] are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

1 week of years = 7 years → 70 weeks of years = 490 years

Daniel's Prophecy concerning the 70 Weeks of Years

## The 6th Dispensation

**Dan 9: 25 Know** therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks [of years] and sixty-two weeks [of years]; ...





#### Daniel's 69 Weeks of Years

Command to rebuild

Messiah the Prince

7 weeks of years

62 weeks of years

"The Times of the Gentiles"

69 x 7 x 360 days

1 week of years (hebr. shavua') = 7 years of 360 days

62 + 7 weeks of years = 69 weeks of years

 $69 \times 7 \times 360 \text{ days} = 173'880 \text{ days}$ 

#### Daniel's 69 Weeks of Years

445 B.C. 32 A.D.

7 weeks of years

62 weeks of years

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Daniel's prophecy about the 70 weeks of years

## The 6th Dispensation

Dan 9: 25 ... the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times.

 Permanent military pressure by Israel's ennemies (Neh 2-6).





#### Daniel's 69 Weeks of Years

Command to rebuild

Pression by the ennemies (Neh 2-5).

Messiah the Prince

7 weeks of years

years

62 weeks of years

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## The 6th Dispensation

Dan 9 (Darby): 26 And after the sixty-two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, and shall have nothing; ...

- Jerusalem rebuilt: during 7 weeks of years (49 years)
- Then: the 62 weeks
- At the End of the 7 + 62 weks of years: Messiah, the Prince
- 5 days later: crucifixion

Holyland Corp. Jerusalem / RL



Calvary, outside the city



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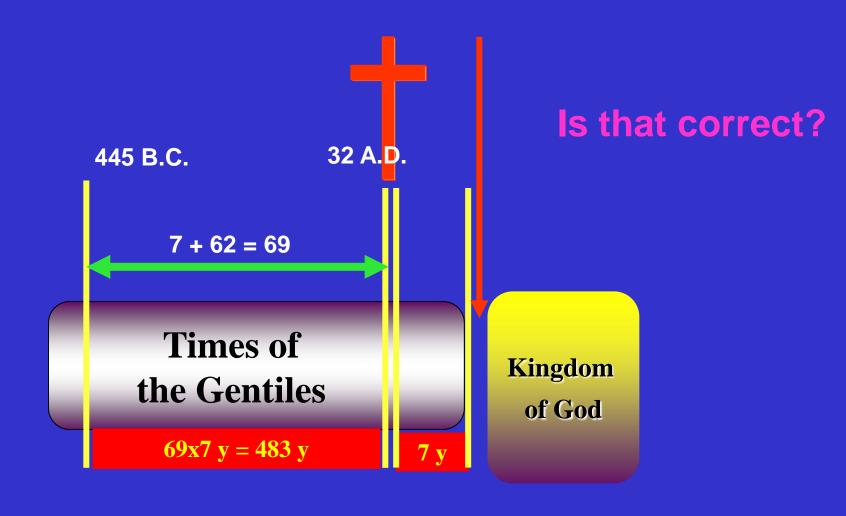
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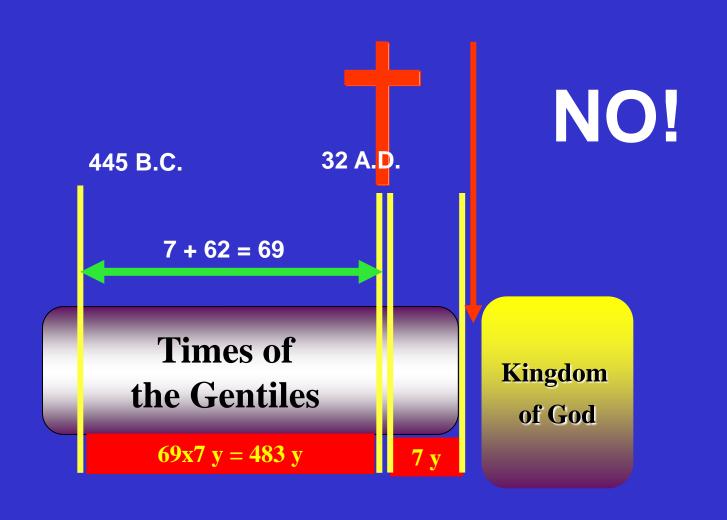
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march/april 445 B.C. – march/april 32 A.D.

#### Daniel's 70 Weeks of Years



#### Daniel's 70 Weeks of Years



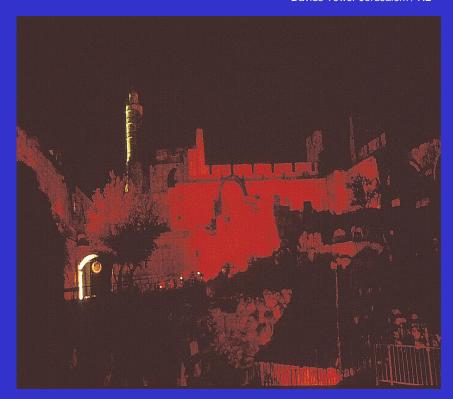


Davids Tower Jerusalem / RL

#### **Dan 9:**

26 ... and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. ...

 70 A.D.: Roman destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple



#### Daniel's 69 Weeks of Years

445 B.C. 32 A.D.

7 weeks of years

62 weeks of years

70 n. Chr

"The Times of the Gentiles"

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march/april 445 B.C. – march/april 32 A.D.



RL

**Luk 21: 24 "And they** will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.



#### **Daniel's 69 Weeks of Years**

445 B.C. 32 A.D.

7 weeks of years

62 weeks of years

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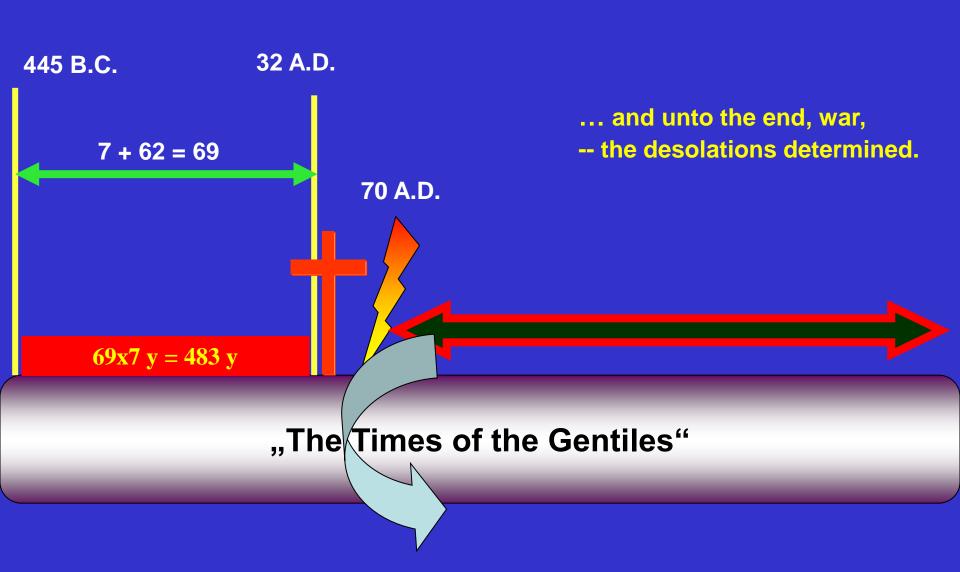
march/april 445 B.C. – march/april 32 A.D.



RL

Dan 9 (Darby): 26 ... and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with an overflow, and unto the end, war, -- the desolations determined.







Dan 9: 26 ... ... and unto the end, war, -- the desolations determined.

- 70 Destruction of Jerusalem (> 1 million dead)
- 135 Destruction of Jerusalem (> 1 million dead)
- 614 Destruction by the Persians
- 629 Conquest by the Byzantines
- 638 Arab Muslim Conquest

- 1071 Conquest by the Turks
- 1099 Conquest by the Crusaders
- 1187 Conquest by Sultan Saladin
- 1244 Conquest by the Tatars
- 1517 Conquest by the Osman Empire
- 1917 Conquest by England
- 1948 Destrutions in Estern Jerusalem by Jordan
- 1967 Conquest of Eastern Jerusalem in the Six-Day-War

- ... and unto the end, war,
- -- the desolations determined.

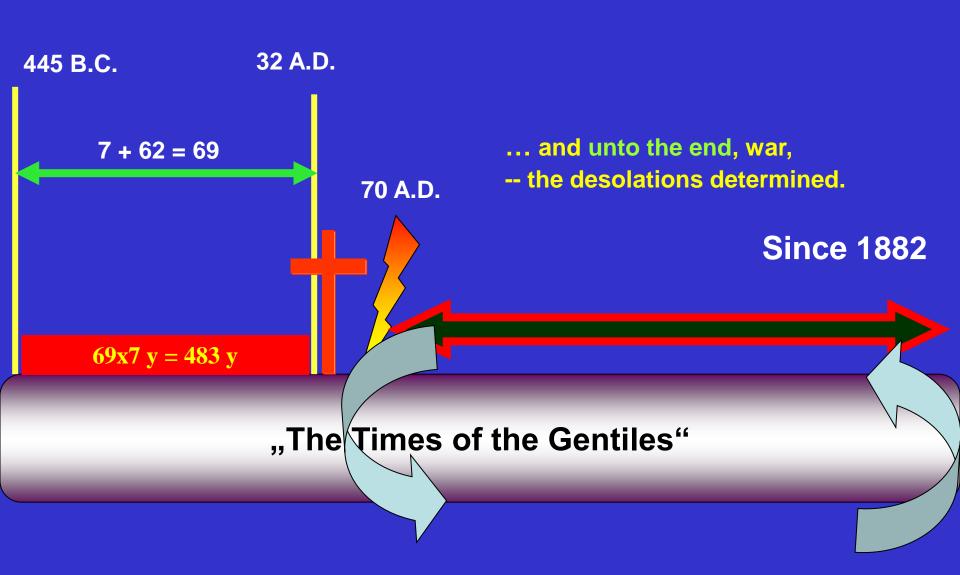
#### End / End Times

 End Times = the period, in which the Jewish people returns from the worldwide dispersion to the land of the forefather



Hes 38: 8 ... in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations,





Dan 9 (Darby): 27 And he [i.e. the coming Roman Prince] shall confirm a covenant with the many for one week; ...

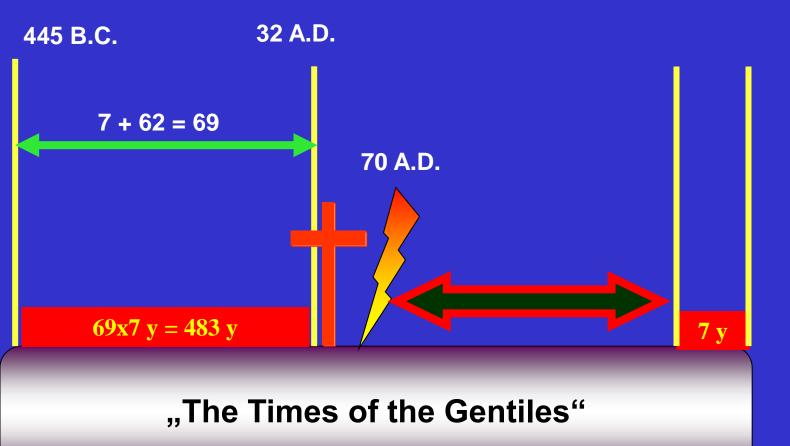




"the many" = the mass of the Jewish people (Dan 9:27; 11:33.39; 12:3)

D. Dubs





Dan 9 (Darby): 27 And he [i.e. the coming Roman Prince] shall confirm a covenant with the many for one week; and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, ...

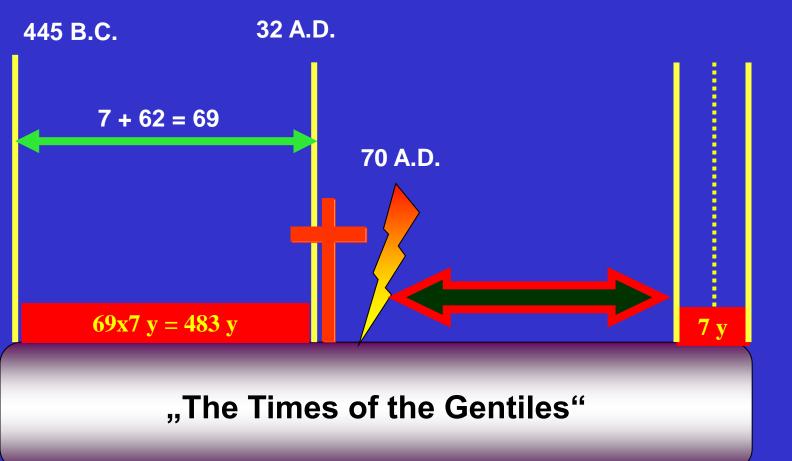
D. Dubs

"the many" = the mass of the Jewish people (Dan 9:27; 11:33.39; 12:3)



D. Dubs







D. Dubs

Dan 9 (Darby): 27 ... and because of the protection of abominations there shall be a desolator, even until that the consumption and what is determined shall be poured out upon the desolate.

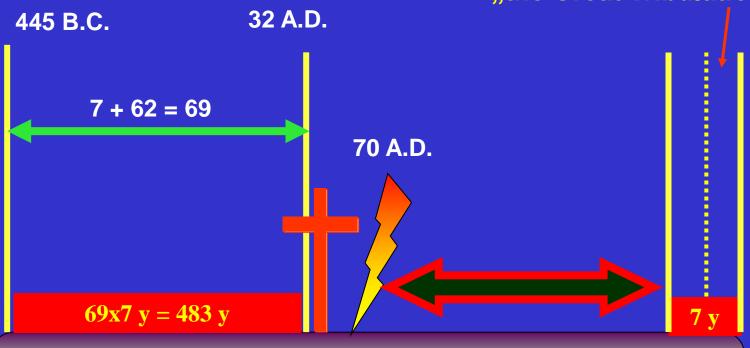
"Desolator" = "the King of the North"; "the Assyrian" (Dan 11:40-45; Joel 1-2; Is 28-29; Micah 5; Zec 12-14 etc.)



"the many" = the mass of the Jewish people (Dan 9:27; 11:33.39; 12:3)



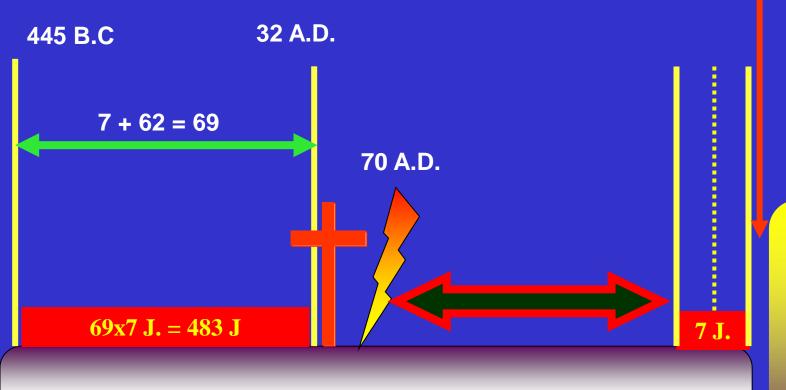
"the Great Tribulation" (Mat 24:20)



"The Times of the Gentiles"

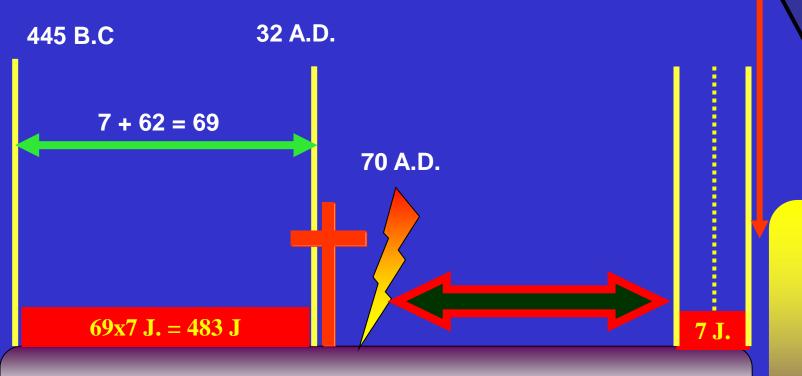


# Beginning The 7th Dispensation



"The Times of the Gentiles"

Kingom of God

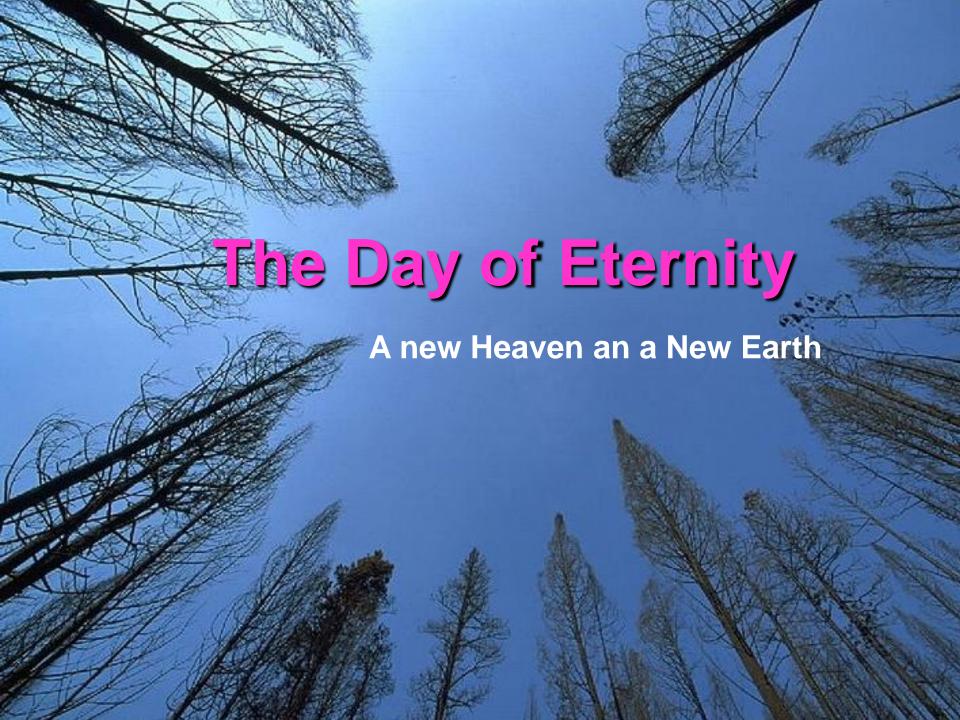


"The Times of the Gentiles"

END

Kingom of God

**Rev 20** 



Adam

#### From Genesis to Revelation

**New Creation** 

Noah

2

Abraham 67)

3

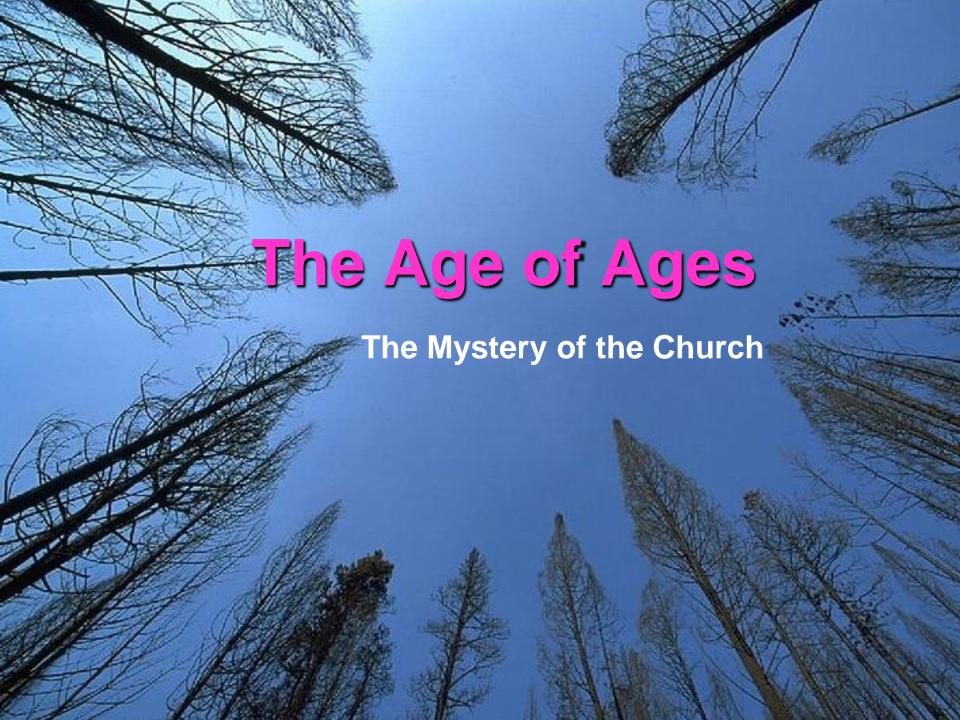
Srae

David

5

Zedekiah 6

Srae



### "The Ages of Ages"



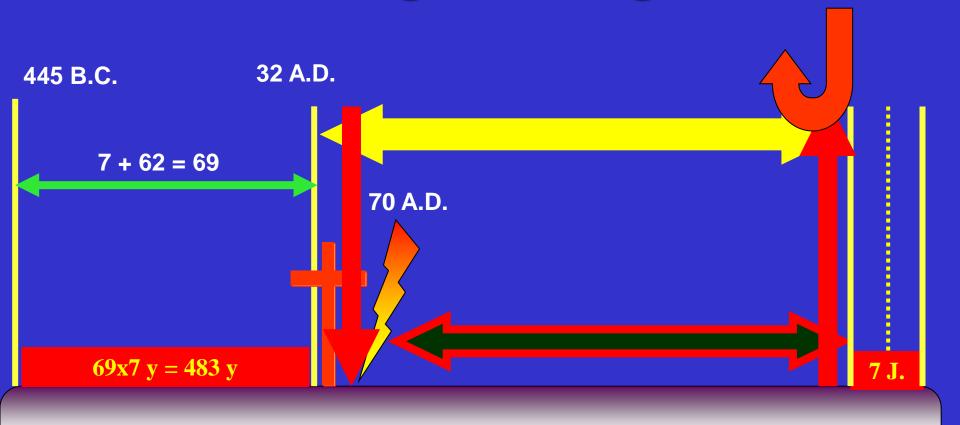
"The Times of the Gentiles"

#### "The Mystery of God"

The Myteries in Paul's letters 1. The Mystery 3. Body of Christ (Eph 3:4-6) stery Christ's wife (Eph 5,32) 6. The Mystery Christ in you (Col 1:25-26) 7. The Mystery of piety (1Tim 3:16)

8. The Mystery of lawlessness (2Thess 2:7)

#### "The Ages of Ages"



"The Times of the Gentiles"

# The Bible in a Bird's Eye View



The 7 Covenants and the 7 Dispensations

Roger Liebi

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FP = Free Picture (public domain)

RL = Roger Liebi

#### **Bible Quotations:**

- New King James Version
- Darby = New Translation by J.N. Darby