MMBS Study: Daniel 9:20-27
Luke McNeely | 11/19/25

Goal of the morning: Help us see why Daniel 9:24–27 is so important, and challenge us to live ready for Christ's return, whatever the timeline.

Background:

These verses have been called the backbone and Mount Rushmore of Bible Prophecy.

"These are the four most controversial verses in the Bible." Stephen Miller – author of *The Complete Guide to Bible Prophecy*

1 Corinthians 14:33: Since God is not a God of disorder but of peace.

"These verses, and the timeline of how they play out, are a secondary issue. The primary issue is that Christ comes back."

Quick look at 9:20–23: Daniel's example

1. **You do not retire from kingdom business.**
    - Estimates are that Daniel is in his early 80s. He has not arrived. He is still confessing sin, still engaging in the spiritual battle, still asking God to move.

2. **God hears prayer.**
    - Proverbs 15:29: The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous.

3. **God responds.**
    - Daniel 9:23 At the beginning of your petitions an answer went out, and I have come to give it, for you are treasured by God.

Four Views of Interpretation

- **Postmillennial**
  Figurative timeline. Tribulation largely in the past (AD 70). Christ returns after a long "golden age" of gospel influence.
- **Amillennial**
  Figurative thousand years. Tribulation mainly fulfilled already (especially in AD 70). Christ returns, then final judgment.
- **Historic premillennial**
  Literal reading. Future tribulation. Christians endure suffering, then Christ returns and reigns.
- **Dispensational premillennial**
  Literal reading. Future seven-year tribulation. Church raptured before, Christ returns at the end of the 70th week.

MMBS Study: Daniel 9:20-27
Luke McNeely | 11/19/25

Verse 24: The Eventual Outcome of the Seventy Weeks

70 Weeks = 70 x 7 sets of years.
Your People = Israelites
Your holy city = Jerusalem

● Bring the rebellion to an end,	Already Done	Not Yet Complete
● Put a stop to sin	Already Done	Not Yet Complete
● Atone for iniquity	Already Done	Not Yet Complete
● Bring an everlasting righteousness	Already Done	Not Yet Complete
● Seal up vision and prophecy	Already Done	Not Yet Complete
● Anoint the most holy place	Already Done	Not Yet Complete

Verses 25–27: Christ and the Anti-Christ

Likely Decrees Referenced:

- Ezra 7:12-26 – 457 BC - Cyrus decrees to rebuild the temple.
- Nehemiah 2:5-8 – 445 BC - Artaxerxes gives permission to rebuild the temple.

However you view the calendar, the end of the sixty-nine weeks points to one person in history – Jesus.

Daniel 9:26 After those sixty-two weeks the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the coming ruler will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come with a flood, and until the end there will be war; desolations are decreed.

Final Thoughts:

Which Mentality? A stopwatch measures time. A compass give direction.

The point of prophecy is to build our confidence that God will do what he promises to do.

Discussion Questions:

1. What stood out to you from Daniel 9:20–27 today?
2. When you hear that faithful Bible teachers disagree on how the timeline works, does that make you more anxious or more at peace? Why?
3. Look at the list in verse 24. Which part of that list feels most “unfinished” to you right now, and how does that stir up hope for Christ’s return?
4. How can the men around you help you, like Daniel “live ready, live faithful, live with courage” this week?