

Okay, but what IS the Gospel?

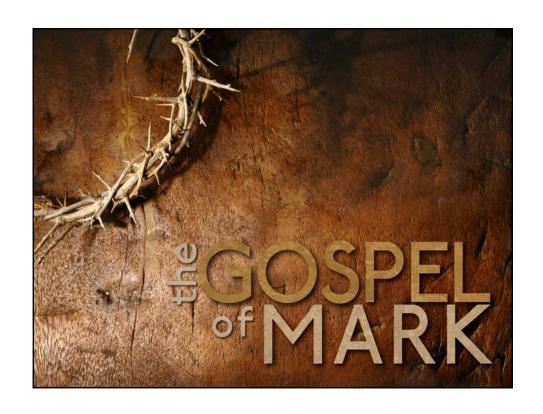
- ¹ Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;
- ² By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.
- ³ For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;
- ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

"The gospel is neither a discussion nor a debate.

"It is an announcement!"

Dr. Paul S. Rees



Key Verse in the book of Mark

"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."

Mark 10:45

The Seventy Weeks of Daniel

¹⁴ "So when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not" (let the reader understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. (Mark 13:14)

The Scope ______Daniel 9:24
The 69 Weeks _____ Daniel 9:25
(The Interval) ____ Daniel 9:26
The 70th Week ____ Daniel 9:27

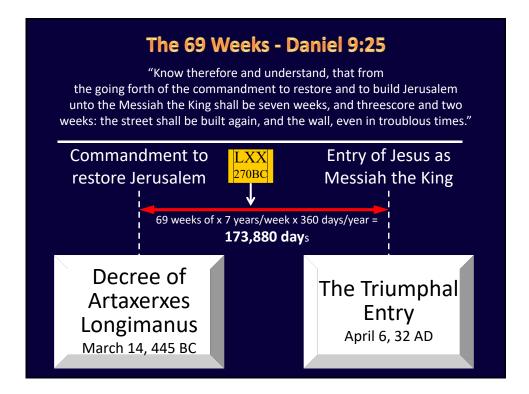
The Scope of Daniel's Prophecy Daniel 9:24

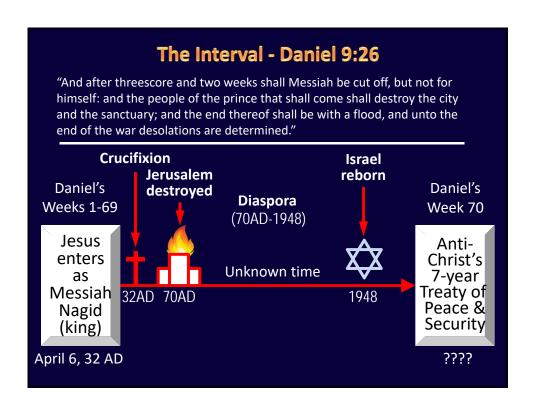
"Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy Place."

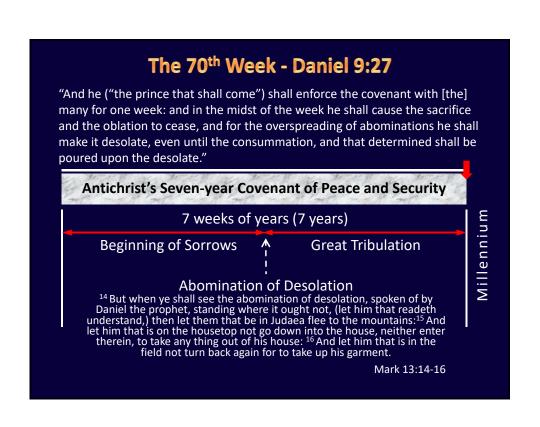
Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people (<u>Israel</u>) and upon thy holy city (<u>Jerusalem</u>):-

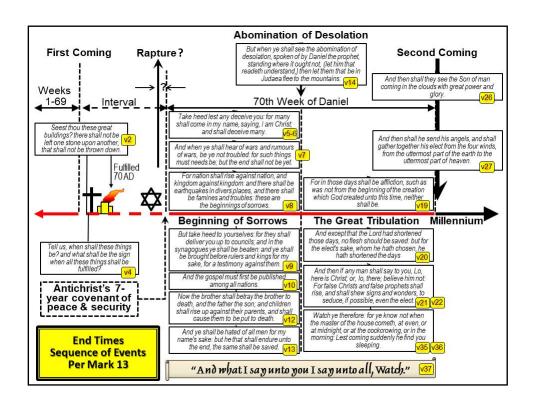
- to finish the transgression,
- to make an end of sins,
- to make reconciliation for iniquity,
- to bring in everlasting righteousness, done yet?
- to seal up the vision and prophecy, and
- to anoint the most Holy Place

Have these things been done yet?











For every prophecy of His First Coming... There are at least 7 of His Second Coming!

Prophetic Scriptures

- 8,362 predictive verses out of 31,124 verses = 27%, consisting of 1,817 predictions on 737 separate matters. (J. Barton Payne, Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy)
- OT references to the First Coming: >300
- OT references to the Second Coming 1,845
- NT references to the Second Coming 318

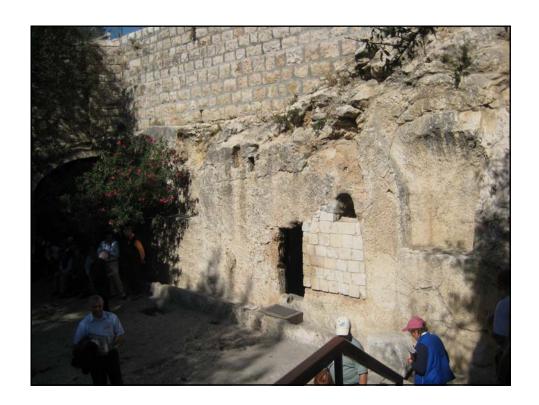
 Total references to the Second Coming 2,163

 Ratio of $2^{nd}/1^{st} = 2,163 \div 300 = >7:1$

So when will Jesus return?

"I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me earnestly."

Hosea 5:15



Mark 16

- ¹ Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. ² Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.
- ³ And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" ⁴ But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away-for it was very large.
- ⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. ⁷ But go, tell His disciples-and Peter-that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."
- ⁸ So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid of....





- ⁹ Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. ¹⁰ She went and told those who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept.
- ¹¹ And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe.
- ¹² After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country.
- ¹³ And they went and told it to the rest, but they did not believe them either.
- ¹⁴ Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen.
- ¹⁵ And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

- ¹⁷ And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."
- ¹⁹ So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.
- ²⁰ And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

Many bibles omit Mark 16:9-20 or have a footnote that they were not in the original or were added later.

Were they added later?

or

Were they in the original but expurgated later?

What ARE the "original texts"?

- In 1881, B.F. Westcott and F.J.A. Hort released their New Testament in the Original Greek. It relied upon two of the oldest extant NT texts known at the time:
 - Codex Vaticanus first noted in the Vatican Library (founded 1448) in 1475. Known to and consulted by Erasmus for the Textus Receptus. Provenance unknown.
 - Codex Sinaiticus allegedly "discovered" by scholar Constantin Tischendorf at St. Catherine's Monastery on the Sinai Peninsula in 1844. Provenance unknown.

Both were thought to *possibly* be among the fifty bibles commissioned by Constantine I through Eusebius from Alexandra circa 325 AD (TC Skeat).

It is these two texts that are primarily referred to as "the oldest known New Testament manuscripts."

Some arguments for verses 9-20.

The *primary* argument against inclusion is omission from the Codex Vaticanus and Codex Sinaiticus.

Among the arguments for inclusion are these four:

- 1. Quoted in early documents and commentaries.
- 2. Quoted by early Church Fathers.
- 3. Space left in the Codex Vaticanus (the only space left in the codex).
- 4. Contain same underlying heptadic structure as rest of the book of Mark.

Quoted in early documents

- The verses are quoted from in Irenaeus' commentary (150 AD) and Hypolatus commentary (2nd century).
- The Syriac Peshitto (2nd century) and Curetonian Syriac (3rd century) both contain these 12 verses.
- Jerome (AD 382), who had access to Greek versions no longer available, includes these 12 verses. His *Vulgate* was a revision of the *Vetus Itala* (2nd century) and contains these 12 verses.
- The Gothic Version (AD 350) contains them.
- The Egyptian Memphitic (Coptic) NT of the 4th or 5th century, and the 3rd century Thebaic (AKA Sahidic) NT include them.
- The Armenian (5th century), Ethiopic (4th-7th century), and Georgian (6th century) NT contains them.

Church Father's quotations

- Papias (~AD 100), v.18, Eusebius, *Hist. Ecc.* iii, 39.
- Justin Martyr (AD 151), v. 20, Apol. I.c.45.
- Irenaeus (AD 180), v.19, Adv. Hoer. Lib.iii.c.x.
- Hippolytus (AD 190-227) vv.17-19, Lagarde's ed., 1858, p.74.
- Vincentius (AD 256), at Seventh Council of Carthage, held under Cyprian.
- Acta Pilati (2nd century), quotes vv.15-18, Tischendorf's ed., 1853, pp.242, 351.
- Apostololical Constitutions (3rd or 4th century) quotes vv.16-18.
- Eusebius (AD 325) discusses these verses, quoted by Marinus from a lost part of his History.
- Aphraates (AD 337) a Syrian bishop, quoted vv.16-18 in his first Homily, Dr. Wright's ed., 1869, i, 21.

- Ambrose (AD 374-397), Archbishop of Milan, freely quotes vv.15 four times, vv. 16, 17, 18 three times, and v.20 once.
- Chrysostom (AD 400) refers to v.9; states that vv.19, 20 are "the end of the Gospel."
- Jerome (b.331, d.420) includes these 12 verses in his Latin translation, besides quoting vv.9 and 14 in his other writings.
- Augustine (AD 395-430) attributes them to Mark, and indicates that they are freely read in the churches.
- Nestorius (4th or 5th century) quotes v.20; and Cyril of Alexandria (AD 430) accepts the quotation.
- Victor of Antioch (AD 425) confirms the opinion of Eusebius by referring personally to the very many MSS which he has seen with the 12 verses in them.

Ending of Mark in Codex Vaticanus

• The end of Mark in Vaticanus contains an empty column after Verse 16:8, possibly suggesting that the scribe was aware of the missing ending. It is the only empty New Testament column in the Codex



Heptadic (7) structure of the Bible

- Mathematician Dr. Ivan Panin (1855-1942) discovered the underlying heptadic structure in 1890 and studied it for fifty years.
- Sevens in the Bible occur in hundreds of passages some overt, some structural, some hidden: e.g.,

The Last 12 Verses of Mark

- 1. Words, 175 (7 x 25)
- 2. Vocabulary, 98 (7 x 7 x 2) -
- 3. Letters, 553 (7 x 79)
- 4. Vowels, 294 (7 x 42)
- 5. Consonants, 259 (7 x 37)
- 6. Found before in Mark, 84 (7 x 12)
- 7. Only here, 14 (7 x 2)
- 8. Used in Lord's address, 42 (7 x 6)
- 9. Not part of His vocabulary, 56 (7 x 8)

Chances of multiples of 7 For 1 7 to occur $7^1 = (7 \times 1)$ 7 $7^2 = (7 \times 7)$ For 2 49 $7^3 = (7 \times 7 \times 7)$ For 3 343 $7^4 = (7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7)$ For 4 2,401 $7^5 = (7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7)$ For 5 16,807 $7^6 = (7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7)$ For 6 117,649 7^7 For 7 823,543 78 For 8 5,764,901 Chance of winning Oz **7**9 For 9 40,353,607 Lotto 1 in 45,360,620

But those aren't the only sevens

Words:

- 1. Total Words, 175 (7 x 25)
- 10. Address of the Lord, 56 (7 x 8)
- 11. Rest of the passage, 119 (7 x 17)
- 12. vv.9-11, 35 (7 x 5)
- 13. vv.12-18, 105 (7 x 15)
- 14. v.12, 14 (7 x 2)
- 15. vv.13-15, 35 (7 x 5)
- 16. vv.16-18, 56 (7 x 8)
- 17. vv.19-20, 35 (7 x 5)

Vocabulary:

- 2. Total vocabulary, 98 (7 x 14)
- 18. Not before in Mark, 14 (7 x 2)
- 19. Found later in NT, 7 (7 x 1)
- 20. Occurrences, 35 (7 x 5)
- 21. Numeric value, 8,246 (7 x 1,178)
- 22. v.20 vocabulary, 14 (7 x 2)
- 23. found previously, 7 (7 x 1)
- 24. found only here, 7 (7 x 1)

Greek Alphanumerics

- ϵ 5 ν 50 ϵ 6 ϵ 60
- ζ 7 ο 70 η 8 π 80
- θ 9 φ^* 90

- ρ 100
- σς 200
- τ 300
- υ 400
- φ 500 χ 600
- ψ 700
- ω 800°
- §* 900

*Vau (6), koppa (90), and samsi (900), later became extinct.

Numerical (Gematrical) values of letters		
Words: Ge	ematrical Value	Divisible by 7
25. All words in vv. 9-20	103,663	(7 x 14,809)
26. vv.9-11,	17,213	(7 x 2,459)
27. v.9,	11,795	(7 x 1,685)
28. v.10,	5,418	(7 x 774)
29. 1st word,	98	(7 x 14)
30. Middle,	4,529	(7 x 647)
31. Last word,	791	(7 x 113)
32. v.11,	11,795	(7 x 1,685)
33. vv.12-20,	86,450	(7 x 12,350)

Factoid 34 – unique word in Mark 16:9-20

There is only one word in Mark 16:9-20 that is not found elsewhere in the New Testament:

θανασιμος, deadly

9+1+50+1+200+10+40+70+200= 581 (7 x 83)

It is preceded in the vocabulary by 42 (7 x 6) words and in the passage itself by 126 (7 x 18) words.

Dr Ivan Panin found strong statistical evidence that Mark 16:9-20 was intentionally designed using a heptadic structure. But how does that affect its place (or not) in the book of Mark?

- 1. The heptadic structure is typical of the book of Mark, e.g.:
 - a. Forty-two (7x6) words are unique to Mark.
 - b. They have 126 (7x18) letters.
- 2. The heptadic structure is typical of the New Testament, e.g.:
 - a. The first and last words of the 27 NT books comprise 28 (7x4) discrete words. The gospels begin and end with 7 of those words having gematria of 46,949 (7x6707).
 - b. The value of the shortest word, o', is 70 (7x10)
 - c. The longest word, αποκαλυψις, value is 1,512 (7x18)

There is **no human explanation** for this incredible and precise structure. It has all been **supernaturally designed**. We simply gasp, sit back, and behold the **skilful handiwork**.

Dr. Chuck Missler, Cosmic Codes, Coeur d'Alene, ID: Koinonia House, 1999.