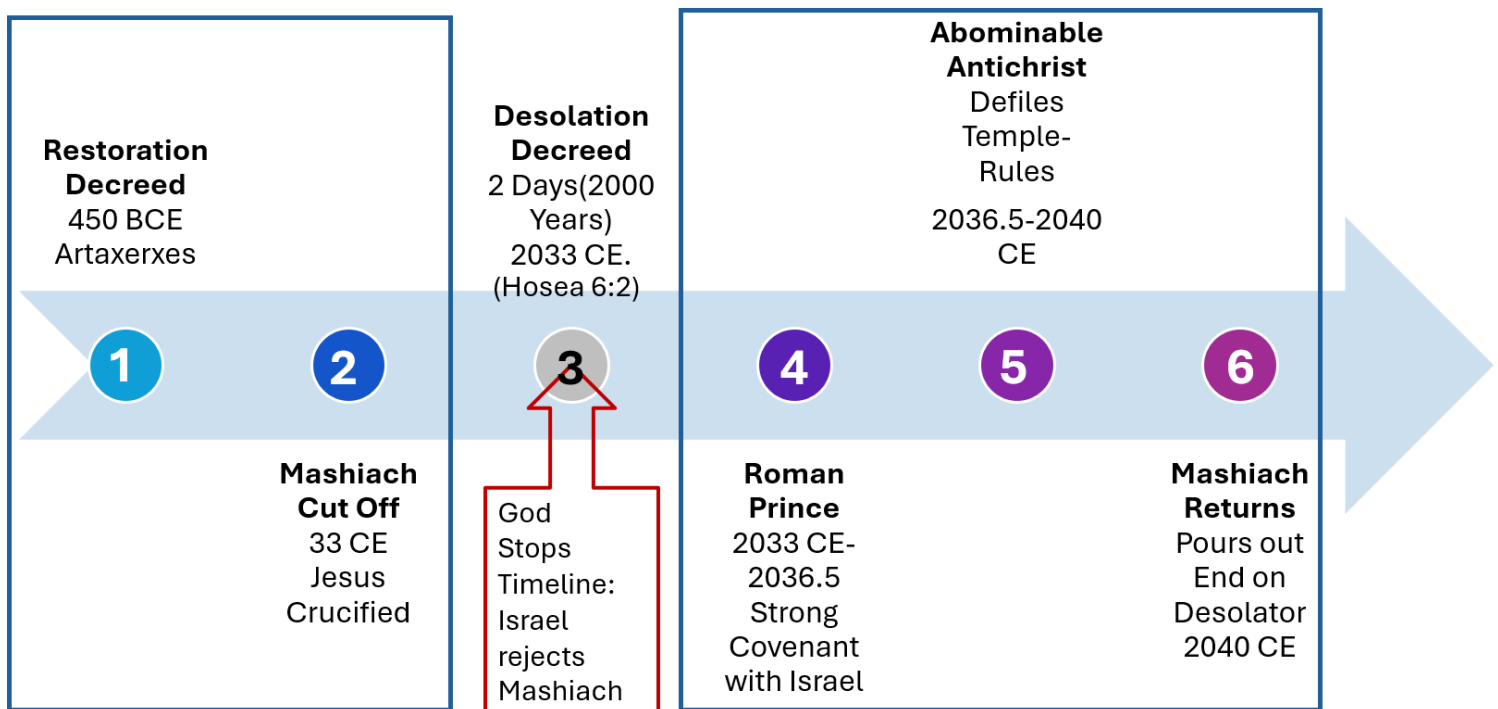


9. Daniel 9:24. Why is Mashiach Cut Off?

²⁴ “**Seventy weeks** are decreed about your people and your holy city, to **finish the transgression, to put an end to sin**, and to **atone for iniquity**, to bring in **everlasting righteousness**, to seal both vision and prophet, and to **anoint a most holy place**.²⁵ Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. And for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again^[e] with squares and moat, but in a troubled time. ²⁶ And **after the sixty-two weeks**, an **anointed one shall be cut off** and shall have nothing. And the people of the **prince** who is to come shall **destroy the city and the sanctuary**. Its^[f] end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. ²⁷ And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week,^[g] and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.”



God's Timeline for Israel:

- "**Seventy weeks** are decreed about your people and your holy city"

While still in Babylon, the Lord God sends the angel Gabriel in response to Daniel's prayer of intercession. Confessing the sin of his people, Daniel admits their powerlessness and need for redemption. God then gives Israel, through Daniel, a 490 year (70 weeks of 7 year units) timeline of what is to come. (Note that between periods #2 and #4, there is a time decreed for "desolation" when this timeline is stopped at 483 years, with the remaining week (7 years) to commence with the actions of the Roman Prince, the Abominable Antichrist.

- ²⁶ And **after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off**

That is, 7 + 62 week will have elapsed since the decree of Artaxerxes to restore Jerusalem (483 years) when the Mashich will be cut off, so the year 33 CE.

Why was the Mashiach cut off? And, what happened in the year 33 CE?

- **Daniel's Concerns for Israel:**

When Daniel intercedes for Israel, he admits that he and the people "

¹ All Israel has **transgressed** your law and turned aside, **refusing** to **obey** your voice. And the **curse** and oath that are written in the Law of Moses the servant of God have been **poured out** upon us, because we have **sinned against him**. Daniel 9:11.

Daniel pleads entirely for God's mercy and unmerited forgiveness, admitting that God delivered from "Egypt" (v.15). He does not promise nor claim any "righteousness" coming from Israel. Rather, he entirely entrusts himself and the nation to God's "mercy" (v.18), and appeals for the Lord to act simply for his own Name's sake, for his people are called by his name (v.19).

In other words, Daniel recalls that the Lord delivered Israel once, now he needs to deliver Israel again. For, the sin which caused Israel's desolation in the first place is still very near to Israel. So, Daniel cannot promise that Israel will never sin, nor does he promise a "Righteousness" based on better Torah observance.

So, in response to Daniel's admission that Israel has sinned, and it will continue to sin unless the Lord shows his great mercy to Israel.

- **What the Lord God promises Israel through Daniel.**

The Lord God hears Daniel's heart, so his future promise shows Daniel (and Israel) that the Lord will deal with Israel's inevitable transgressions, because it is these transgressions that will continually and inevitably bring Israel into judgment.

So, the Lord promises that by 33 CE (69 weeks after the decree of Artaxerxes to restore Jerusalem), the Lord will "put an end to sin"—that is, break its terrible power over his people. He will break sin's power—that is, the Serpent's ancient means of enslaving humanity, by "crushing" the Serpent's head (Genesis 3:15). He will do this by achieving a Redemption as the Mashiach is "cut off"—as God had promised to David, Mashiach would be "disciplined for iniquity" by taking it onto himself (2 Samuel 7:14), for "the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6). This redemption would accomplish two things: it would "atone for iniquity" and would bring an "everlasting righteousness" for his people.

That is, when the people of Israel clothed themselves with the same attitude as Daniel, to plead for the Lord's mercy, he would give them an "everlasting righteousness," for the "Lord" would be their righteousness (Jeremiah 23:6). They would not achieve righteousness by *standing far off, apart from God*, as the Serpent had advised, to be "like God" to seize the right to determine their own morality and their own Self-Righteousness. Rather, they would humble themselves under Mashiach as Lord and be given his righteousness, fulfilling God's Commands by being *dependent of his Lordship* (Exodus 20:2) and not seeking to be independent and trusting in themselves as their own Lords.

- **The Time of Desolation: Rejecting Jesus Mashiach as Redeemer.**

Notice how the "desolation decreed" for Israel happens in response to Israel's rejection of its Mashiach as its Redeemer.

For, as the Lord God had promised, Mashiach indeed was cut off in the year 33 CE. What happened? In the year 33 CE, Jesus Mashiach was crucified, just as the Lord had foretold, to "atone for iniquity" and rising,

to bring an “everlasting righteousness.” But, Israel would have none of it, rejecting Jesus.

To answer their rebellion, the Lord God destroyed the Temple and Jerusalem, sending the Jews into exile once more.

But, surprisingly, the Lord God stopped the 70 week timeline at week 69, pausing the time for the Jewish people to suffer through a time of desolation and barrenness. However, the “dry bones” of Israel would be raised up again in Israel, awaiting the infilling of the Spirit when Mashiach saves Israel (Zechariah 12:10).

For, once Israel returns to Jesus Mashiach as the Firstborn Son of the nation, all Israel be anointed by the Spirit to proclaim the coming Kingdom of Jesus Mashiach to the World. Then, after 3.5 years, the Antichrist will defile the temple, and thus Israel’s timeline will be completed with the Lord Jesus returns to bring the “Desolator” to his end.