

## Daniel 9:27

"He will **confirm a covenant** with many for one 'seven.' In the **middle of the 'seven'** he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an **abomination that causes desolation**, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

### Introduction:

In a nutshell, the 70th Seven is important because it's the only verse in the Bible that contains a time reference 'before' the "abomination that causes desolation". The abomination is important because that's the event that Jesus specifically pointed to in Matthew 24:15-31, as happening in conjunction with the rapture. (see [Matthew 24 page](#)) Of course, the exact timing of the rapture is God's well-kept secret but He has provided clues in the Bible so people can watch the signs and know that the time is near. Jesus said, "It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them." (Luke 12:37) As you can see, there's a special reward for servants who are watching, when Jesus comes, so there must be specific clues or 'signs' in the Bible to indicate the general time to watch. Yet, God never said the signs would be easy to decipher. Solomon said, "It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings." (Proverbs 25:2)

I've always said that it's more important to watch the 'signs' (or verses) from Daniel 11 that lead to the abomination, as Jesus said to do, than to watch for a specific date. Nevertheless, God included Daniel 9:27 as a clue, which includes the abomination, so it shouldn't be ignored. From the basic wording, the abomination happens in the 'middle of the 70<sup>th</sup> Seven', so the "confirmation of a covenant" must happen approximately 3.5 years *before* the abomination. (chart left) Unfortunately, that confirmation is rather vague, because a 'covenant' is just an agreement or promise. If a person could figure out the correct agreement, then they could add 3.5 years and have an approximate time for the rapture, but identifying the agreement or starting point is difficult to do.

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### Background: What is a Seven?

Before I go any farther, let me show that a "seven" is 7-years, rather than something else. In case you're not familiar, this verse is called the "70th seven" because there are sixty-nine other sevens that precede it. The others are not connected chronologically, but they are useful in proving the measure of time. Daniel 9:25 says, "Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens' and sixty-two 'sevens'." The decree to rebuild Jerusalem (not the temple) was issued by King Artaxerxes of Persia, in the seventh year of his reign, which was 458 BC (according to the NIV study notes for Ezra 7). It is not apparent to me why God separates the sevens, but the total is 483 years (69 times 7). That puts the 483d year around 25AD, which is very close to when Jesus started his ministry (the Anointed One) because He was not born in year 'zero'. He was born in the time of King Herod (Matt. 2:1) and Herod died in 4 BC. Plus, before Herod died, he ordered all Hebrew males, two years old and younger to be killed, so Jesus was probably about one. Since He started His ministry at age 30 (Luke 3:23), it would have been around 25AD or the 483rd year. The dates may not be exact, but the illustration is sufficient to show that a "seven" is "7-years" rather than something else.

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### "Confirmation of a covenant"

In the past, most people have interpreted Daniel 9:27 to be a peace treaty between the antichrist and Israel but that's not necessarily the case. Indeed, the first party, "he", could pertain somewhat to the antichrist because "the end that is decreed is poured out on him." Yet, I've found that the same pronoun in Daniel 11 often refers to empires, not specific people. Thus, it could be a group associated with the *empire* of the antichrist, which is being led by Iran ([starting in Daniel 11:21](#)), so there could be several groups who qualify. The second party, referred to as "many", could be Israel or it could be someone else. One guess is about as good as another. As such, there are several possibilities for the two parties that make the agreement, which is what makes the 'confirmation of a covenant' very vague.



## The Abomination and Rapture

As I said, I never wanted to pick a certain date for the rapture because Jesus directed people to watch for the abomination, which involves signs, not a date. Nevertheless, I've been drawn back to Daniel 9:27, over-and-over, because my desire is to show that all end time prophecies fit together and make sense. In other words, since all the verses of Daniel 11 have arguably taken place, and the abomination is next, then the agreement in Daniel 9:27 must have taken place approximately 3.5 years ago. I say "approximately" because I don't expect the middle of a 7-year period to be restricted to just one day. It could be anything from one day to a range of several months. Therefore, in my quest to figure out the agreement that started the 70<sup>th</sup> Seven, I'm still not picking the exact day. Having said that, I'm providing two possibilities, below, for the start of the 70<sup>th</sup> Seven, which fit the present timeframe. Obviously, since there are two, there's a degree of uncertainty.

I must say, many people have predicted a date for the rapture, in the past, and were wrong, but they didn't do so by tracking the events leading to the abomination, like Jesus said to do. In fact, there have only been two [previous interpretations](#) of Daniel 11 (that I know of) and both put the abomination in the past. Yet, it obviously hasn't happened yet because Jesus hasn't returned. My interpretation of Daniel 11 not only puts the abomination in the future, where it belongs, but illustrates a continuous timeline of events that lead to the present time. People in the past used astronomy, numerology, and pagan calendars to predict the end of days, but they were obviously going to be wrong because that's not what Jesus said to do. Moses said that the only way to tell if a message was from God or not was to wait and see if it came true. (Deut. 18:22) Well, only time will tell if my interpretation of Daniel 11 is correct, and the abomination happens as expected, but at least I'm presenting my estimate using the Biblical event that Jesus said to watch.

That being said, since the abomination in Daniel 11:31 is due 'next' and the middle of Daniel 9:27 could be a 'range', the rapture could literally happen any day, without notice. Therefore, it's important to have a sincere relationship with Jesus and the Father. No one wants to be like the foolish virgins, who weren't ready and didn't really know Jesus, who got left behind. (Matthew 25:1-12) I hate to be a gloomy-gus, like that, but it's in the Bible. God is gracious, loving, faithful, and forgiving, but He does not let the guilty go unpunished. (Exodus 34:7) He's patient and wants everyone to come to repentance, but eventually; that patience will expire. (2 Peter 3:9) All signs in the Bible indicate that the time is very close.

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### First Possibility for the Start of the 70<sup>th</sup> Seven

The 3.5-year anniversary of the first possibility has already past but I still think it's a viable option because the middle of a 7-year period is not necessarily an exact day. The first option is the [historic signing](#) of the interim nuclear agreement, November 24, 2013, between Iran and the P5+1 (many). The agreement [definitely fulfilled Daniel 11:23](#) but it could have also started the 70<sup>th</sup> Seven because that would actually connect the two chapters, besides the fact that both chapters contain the abomination.

**Thus: November 24, 2013 + 3.5 years = May 24, 2017**

Of course, like I said, May 24, 2017 has already past but it was interesting that it was the [same day](#) that Israel celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 6-Day War (unification of Jerusalem). Note: The unification was June 7<sup>th</sup>, on a solar calendar, but Israel uses a lunar calendar, so the anniversary fell on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Of course, that was almost 6-months ago but 6-months could still qualify as the middle of a 7-year period.

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## Second Possibility for the Start of the 70<sup>th</sup> Seven

I recently discovered another possibility that *might* satisfy the verse, but it could also be more of a long-shot. It's no secret that Iran has ties to Hamas, the Palestinian party that controls Gaza. So, what if the agreement was between them and Fatah, the Palestinian party that controls the West Bank? I'm not talking about the current negotiations but they could be related. By coincidence, Fatah and Hamas made *another* reconciliation, 3.5 years ago, which indirectly led to the Gaza War of 2014 (explained below). Therefore, it would be both symmetrical and poetic for the current unification to somehow lead to the abomination.

The [Palestinian Unity Government of 2014](#) was inaugurated on **June 2, 2014**. Less than two weeks later, on June 12, 2014, three Israeli teenagers were abducted in the West Bank. Two days after that, on June 14, 2014, Israel began major raids in the West Bank, called Operation Brother's Keeper, to look for the teenagers. Those raids lasted for weeks, which prompted Hamas to start firing rockets into Israel. On June 30, 2014, the three teenagers were found dead. Netanyahu said that he had "unequivocal proof" that Hamas was involved. The Palestinian Authority, in the West Bank, blamed the abductions on the [Qawasameh clan](#), who was notorious for sabotaging any attempts for Hamas to grow friendlier to Israel. Regardless, the situation escalated until Israel launched [Operation Protective Edge](#), on July 8, which was an unprecedented military operation into Gaza. A ground invasion was launched to destroy numerous tunnels that were discovered. Israel pulled out on August 5, and announced a cease-fire on August 26. The Palestinian Unity Government convened in October-2014, to discuss re-construction of Gaza, but work wasn't being done fast enough, so Hamas delivered a no confidence vote, after a November deadline expired. The unity government was officially finished 6-months later, on June 17, 2015. For my purposes, the inauguration was the important part, but I just wanted to be complete.

**Thus: June 2, 2014 + 3.5 years = December 2, 2017**

As I said, I'm not trying to pick an exact date for the rapture, but there are some interesting coincidences with the current efforts to reunite Fatah and Hamas. The two sides [signed a reconciliation agreement](#) on October 12, 2017, which exchanged some border crossings for reduced sanctions. However, they failed to discuss the military wing of Hamas, and the fact that Hamas doesn't recognize Israel, two factors that Israel insists must be reconciled before they will deal with the new government. In response, Hamas said that they will never give up their military. There are supposed to be further negotiations, but a date has already been set for the unity government to start in Gaza, which is **December 1, 2017**. Notice that the date is almost exactly 3.5 years from the inauguration of the *first* unity government. That could be a coincidence, but it could also be a sign.

By the way, December 2/3, 2017, is the last full moon before winter, so even though I'm not picking a date, I can still hope. Then again, I'm always hoping.



## 2017 – The Pentecost of Years

By now, most people know that 2017 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 6-day war, in 1967, where Israel took control of the West Bank and East Jerusalem including the Western Wall. People are calling 2017 a "Jubilee Year", even though the Israelites don't actually practice Jubilee principles. (Lev 25) Just the same, 2017 could also be significant in Christian terms.

There are two important *Christian* holidays that are based on original Jewish holidays, Easter and Pentecost, which are defined as being 50 days apart. (text below) The resurrection of Jesus took place on the *day after* the Sabbath (Sunday), during Passover week, which God originally called First fruits. The Holy Spirit arrived on Pentecost, 50 days later, which God originally called the Feast of Weeks. In other words, long before the Israelites ever took the Promised Land, God defined two special days to commemorate the arrival of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Strangely enough, the Jews have been celebrating *Christian* holidays, from the very beginning. It's the symbolism of these holidays that makes the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary significant.

### Leviticus 23:5-6 [*Passover and the 7-day Feast of Unleavened Bread*]

5 The LORD's Passover begins at twilight on the fourteenth day of the **first month**.  
6 On the fifteenth day of that month the LORD's Feast of Unleavened Bread begins; for seven days you must eat bread made without yeast.

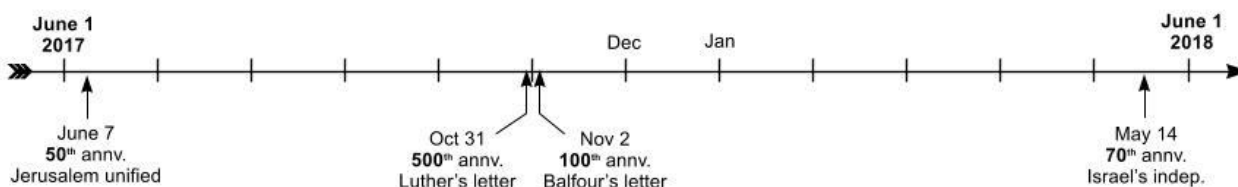
### Leviticus 23:10-12 [*First fruits –during Passover week (Easter Sunday)*]

... bring to the priest a sheaf of the first grain you harvest. 11 He is to wave the sheaf before the LORD so it will be accepted on your behalf; the priest is to wave it on the **day after the Sabbath**. 12 On the day you wave the sheaf, you must sacrifice as a burnt offering to the LORD a lamb a year old without defect.

### Leviticus 23:15-16; 18,19 [*Feast of Weeks– 50 days after Easter (Pentecost)*]

15 "From the day after the Sabbath, the day you brought the sheaf of the wave offering, count off seven full weeks. 16 **Count off fifty days** up to the day after the seventh Sabbath, and then present an offering of new grain to the LORD. ...  
18 Present with this bread **seven male lambs**, each a year old and without defect, **one young bull and two rams**. They will be a burnt offering to the LORD ...  
19 Then sacrifice **one male goat** for a sin offering and **two lambs**, each a year old, for a fellowship offering.

The above passages just illustrate that the 50<sup>th</sup> day was a huge day for sacrificing, far more than any day during Passover. Likewise, the Jubilee Year (50<sup>th</sup> year) was far bigger than any normal Sabbath Year. (Lev 25) Therefore, God puts a major significance on the 50<sup>th</sup> day, as well as the 50<sup>th</sup> year, which is where we are now.



### Details of above Timeline:

1. June 7<sup>th</sup> was the **50<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of **Israel's re-capture** of the Old City Jerusalem, including the Western Wall and Temple Mount. It was Biblical because current disputes, which are leading to the **abomination** (Matt. 24:15, Daniel 11:31, etc) are centered around Israel's possession of East Jerusalem and the West Bank, which was captured during the **6-day war**, June 5-10, 1967.
2. October 31<sup>st</sup> is the **500<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of **Martin Luther's letter** (or thesis) that he nailed to the door of the Catholic University at Wittenberg. It was Biblical because it was the beginning of the 5<sup>th</sup> Church (Church in Sardis - Rev. 3:1) of Revelation's **Seven Churches**.
3. November 2<sup>nd</sup> is the **100<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of the **Balfour Declaration**, which was a letter from British Foreign Secretary Balfour to Baron Rothschild, expressing Britain's support for a Jewish homeland in Palestine. (It was published in the paper on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>.) It was Biblical because God promised the Jews that they would be 'restored to the land of their forefathers'. (Jeremiah 16:15) **Note:** Three days before, on the *same day* that the **letter was approved** by Britain's government, October 31<sup>st</sup>, the Battle of Beersheba was won by Australian, New Zealand, and British troops. It was the **first and most crucial victory** for British troops in Palestine, during WWI.
4. May 14<sup>th</sup> is the **70<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of **Israel's independence**, which was also Biblical because of God's prophecy in Jeremiah 16:15. It was also 70-years from Israel's first modern settlement in Palestine, which began in 1878, called **Petah Tikva**, which links the **3rd and 4th Seals** in Rev. 6.

### **Parable of the Ten Virgins** (full text - [Matthew 25:1-12](#))

I've been asked about the *Parable of the Ten Virgins*, in a couple of different ways. Of course, parables can be *lessons*, but they can also be *prophecies*. One person thought that a "long time in coming" meant that Jesus was *delayed* because humans weren't ready, but that *can't be the case*. Jesus will come at the *appointed time*; nothing on earth can delay Him. The people in the parable just went out too early. That could be due to many things, in the past, but since it was in the parable, it was bound to happen. People shouldn't be discouraged because someone was wrong in the past; Jesus will eventually come. When you think about it, someone must figure out the *real* signs, from the Bible, because regardless of being too early, the ten virgins weren't that far off. The 'second alert' was accurate and the Bridegroom arrived.

#### **So who do the Ten Virgins represent?**

Personally, I think the term '*virgins*' could represent '*new believers*', such as in the *Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard* ([Matthew 20: 1-16](#)), who are called in the *eleventh hour*. Those who accept the call received the same reward as everyone else. The foolish virgins could actually be anyone who is watching the signs, out of curiosity, but doesn't really believe in their heart that Jesus could return because they don't really know Jesus, as the parable says. The foolish virgins could also be compared to the 'seeds that fell on rock', in the *Parable of the Seeds*, which withered because they had no root. **"They believed for a while, but in times of testing [or waiting], they fell away."** ([Luke 8:13](#)) [For more about the '*seed parable*', see '[salvation to maturity](#)'.] Yet, don't let that happen to you. There's plenty of evidence to show that the Bible is real, so don't wait until the last minute to accept Jesus.

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*"It will be **good** for those servants whose master finds them **watching when he comes**. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them."* ([Luke 12:37](#))