

末世預言進階課程 Prophecy Course Level 2

第一課：神為以色列所訂的計劃 Lesson 1: God's Plan for Israel

課前預備 Lesson Preparation

經文：但以理書 9 章 (焦點經文: 9:24-27)

Passage: Daniel 9 (passage to focus: 9:24-27)

參考經文：耶利米書 25:8-12

Reference: Jeremiah 25:8-12

怎樣預備 How to study

1. 研讀上述經文，嘗試了解關於但以理書 9:24-27 的重點，亦留意它的背景 (但 9:1-23 及耶 25:8-12)。不要放過任何你認為有趣或不解的細節。寫下所有你發現的問題。
Study the above passages. Try to figure out the main points concerning Dan 9:24-27. Also try to understand its context i.e. Dan 9:1-23 and Jer 25:8-12. Don't let go any details you find interesting or confusing. Write down all the questions you have.
2. 閱讀並思想「一頁聖經研究」，看看它有否解答你寫下的問題。閱讀後，你可能有更多的問題，也把它們寫下來。
Read the One Page Bible Summary and ponder on it. See if it answers your questions written. Write down any additional questions you have after your reading.
3. 找出在下面「思考問題」的答案。若你認為有些問題太過困難，可以跳過不答。
Answer the Questions to Ponder below. If you find some of them too difficult, you can skip them.
4. 若你發現這段經文不易理解，或是下面的問題不容易回答，不要沮喪。你可以把你的問題帶到課堂時詢問，你也可以在課堂之前，以電郵詢問你的問題。
If you find that the passage/ questions are not easy, don't feel frustrated. You can ask your questions/ what you do not understanding during the lesson. You can also ask your questions via email before the lesson if you wish.

思考問題 Questions to Ponder

1. 為什麼但以理情詞懇切地向神禱告 (但 9:1-3，參考耶 25:8-12)? 神怎樣回應他的禱告?
Why did Daniel pray earnestly as mentioned in Dan 9:1-3 (see also Jeremiah 25:8-12)?
How did God respond to his prayer?

Because God promised to let the Jews return to Jerusalem in Jeremiah's prophecy, but he only saw the fall of Babylon; the Jews had not yet return to Jerusalem. Hence he prayed eagerly for this.

God sent Gabriel to tell Daniel God's plan for Israel, not only the near future, but also the plan to the end times.

2. 但 9:24-27 所說的計劃是神為哪些人而定的? 請引用相關聖經來支持你的答案。
For whom did God's plan in Dan 9:24-27 intend? Support your answer with the Scripture.

Israel, because

- Daniel's prayer was for Israel, and hence God's reply must be for Israel also (v19)
- the seventy sevens were decreed for Daniel's people (v24)

3. (a) 七十個七該有多久?
How long should the seventy sevens last?

490 prophetic years – a year of 360 days (cf. compare Dan 7:25 and Rev 12:6, 14)

- (b) 神定下這七十個七有什麼目的?
What are God's purposes in bringing in the seventy sevens?

To accomplish the following for Israel and Jerusalem:

- to finish the transgression
- to make an end of sin
- to make atonement for iniquity
- to bring in everlasting righteousness
- to seal up vision and prophecy
- to anoint the most holy place

- (c) 在以下的時段結束時，會發生什麼事?
(i) 第一階段：七個七
(ii) 第二階段：六十七個七 (誰是受膏者? 「必有一王的民來毀滅這城和聖所」所指的是什麼事?)

What will happen at the end of

- (i) Phase 1 i.e. the seven sevens?
(ii) Phase 2 i.e. the sixty-nine sevens? (Who is the Anointed One? And to which event does "the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary" refer?)

- (i) Jerusalem would be rebuilt with plaza and moat.
(ii) Jesus, the Messiah, was crucified, and Jerusalem would be destroyed.
(Anointed One = Jesus Christ; the event is Titus' siege of Jerusalem and destruction of the Temple)

4. (a) 但 9:27 所提及的最後一個七，在時間上是否緊接著之前的六十九個七? 為什麼?

Is the last seven mentioned in Dan 9:27 a period immediately after the sixty-nine sevens? Why?

No, because

- the 69 sevens and the last seven were treated as two groups, which may not be continuous in time;
- Titus' siege of Jerusalem occurred long after the 69 sevens, indicating that there exists a gap between the 69 sevens and the last seven.

[The rejection of Jesus as Messiah caused the salvation to come to the Gentiles (the Church Age), of which the "clock" for Israel temporarily stopped. After the rapture of the Church, the "clock" will resume and the last seven will start.]

(b) 最後一個七所指的是哪一個時期? 那與許多人堅定盟約的「他」是誰? 為什麼? (參考太 24:15)

To which time period does the last seven refer? And who is the one who make a firm covenant with many? Why? (See Mt 24:15)

The last seven must be the Tribulation, because our Lord said so (Mt 24:15). The one "who make a firm covenant with many" is the Antichrist, because

- he is described as "on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate", which is the same as the one who is "the abomination of desolation" in Mt 24:15;
- he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering, which matches with the one who "takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God" in 2 Th 2:4.

(c) 最後一個七會發生什麼事?

What will happen in the last seven?

The Antichrist will make a firm covenant (probably a peace treaty) with Israel at the beginning of the last seven years. However, after 3½ years he will break the covenant, and will stop the sacrifice in the Temple (and exalt himself as god). Finally he will be completely destroyed.

5. 今次查考預言，你對神和祂的計劃多了什麼認識? 這對你今天的生活有什麼影響? 寫下兩個你在今次查經想到的應用。

What do you know more about God and His Plan in this study? How would this affect your life? Write two applications of your Bible Study.

- any applications in line with the prophecy

Questions for further discussion

1. What can you learn from Daniel's prayer?

- We can pray according to God's promises and expect His fulfillment. (Caution: should be with right motive, not try to force God to do what we want)
 - God responds to man's earnest prayer and gives man even greater and better things.
2. How did God fulfill His prophecies? How does this help your faith in Him?
[His prophecy was fulfilled exactly as what He said – prophecy about the fall of Babylon, the restoration of Jerusalem, the crucifixion of Christ, the siege of Jerusalem by Titus etc. Hence, He will fulfil His future prophecy as He said literally. We should have faith that He is a faithful God and will surely keep His promise.]
 3. According to Dan 9:26-27, what will probably occur BEFORE the last seven begins? So what should you look for at present?
[Events before the last seven: war (9:26), the restoration of Israel as a nation (covenant with many), the construction of the Temple (for sacrifice). Looking for the signs of these events will cause us to be alert of our Lord's coming.]

[Please note that all of the above answers will be covered in the lesson, but you can have deeper discussions on the application in each question.]