



BIG QUESTION

Did God say when the Messiah would come?



In Babylon, the angel Gabriel gave Daniel a countdown: from the word to rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, seven “sevens” and sixty-two “sevens.” A “seven” is seven years. Then the Anointed One would be put to death, and the city and the Temple destroyed. Rome burned the Temple in AD 70.

King Artaxerxes sent Ezra back to Jerusalem in 458 or 457 BC. Count 483 years from there, and you reach AD 26 or 27, about when Jesus was baptized and began to preach. Even if Daniel was written as late as 165 BC, as many scholars say, it came two centuries before the cross. The oldest Dead Sea copy was made around 125 BC.



Run Daniel's clock

Work it out step by step (Daniel 9:25–26). There is no year 0: the year after 1 BC is AD 1.

1. 7 “sevens” + 62 “sevens” = _____ “sevens”
2. 69 “sevens” × 7 years = _____ years
3. Start in 457 BC. It takes 457 years to reach AD 1. $483 - 457 =$ _____ more years
4. So the countdown ends in AD _____
5. Rome burned the Temple in AD 70. Did the Anointed One come before it fell?

Memory verse

“For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ.”

2 Corinthians 1:20

Fill it in: “For no matter how many _____ God has made, they are “Yes” in _____.” 2

Corinthians 1:20

I can say it! ☆ ☆ ☆ Color a star each time you say it.

Talk about it

1. Why doesn't Daniel's order (the Messiah dies, then the Temple falls) need any arithmetic?
2. People expected a ruler right then. What did they miss?
3. Jesus wept: “If you, even you, had only known.” How could you make sure not to miss him?



Watch the video