Outline 20

The Spectacular Prophecy that Nostradamus Missed!

I. There is a heightened interest in prophecy as we near the year 2000.
   A. One reason for Bible prophecy is to provide _____ upon which to base a faith in God and Jesus when the prophecy is fulfilled. **JOHN 14:29 (1043)**
   B. God alone can consistently and accurately declare "things that are not yet _____ ." **ISAIAH 46:9, 10 (703)**

II. Some commentators have called the prophecy of **Daniel 9:24-27 (828)** "the crown jewel of the Old Testament" and Sir Isaac Newton called it "the foundation stone of the Christian religion."
   A. Historical background
      1. Israel apostatized, worshiped false gods, and rejected God's appeal to return to Him.
      2. When God honored their choice and withdrew His protection, Jerusalem was destroyed and thousands were taken captive to Babylon in 586 B.C. (Daniel had been taken captive in an earlier siege in 605 B.C.)
      3. Nearly 70 years later Daniel was studying Jeremiah's prophecy that the Jews would remain in captivity for only 70 years. **DANIEL 9:1, 2 (867); JEREMIAH 29:1, 10 (759, 760)**
         a. Daniel prayed for the deliverance of His people as Jeremiah had prophesied. **DANIEL 9:18, 19 (868)**
         b. In response, God sent the angel Gabriel to give Daniel a great _____ . **DANIEL 9:20-23 (868)**
   B. The prophecy is summarized—**DANIEL 9:24 (868)**
      1. The Jews will be allowed to return to their homeland, but they will be "on divine probation" to see how they will respond to God's plan for them.
      2. During this probationary period, God would act on behalf of the two great hopes of Israel: the Holy _____ (the Messiah), and the Holy _____ (Jerusalem)
      3. The probationary time allotted them would be " _____ weeks."
         a. Based on the "day for a year" principle of prophetic interpretation, the Greek Septuagint and the Revised Standard Version of the English Bible translate this as "seventy weeks of years."
         b. Many Bible expositors through the centuries have understood this to be 490 years.
   C. Predictions in **DANIEL 9 (867)** regarding the two great hopes of Israel:

MESSIAH Statements	JERUSALEM Statements
V. 25 would _____	would be rebuilt
V. 26 will be _____ off	will be destroyed
V. 27 will bring an _____ to sacrifices	will be desolated

   D. The prophecy begins with the final decree to rebuild Jerusalem in the seventh year of Artaxerxes, king of Persia, which occurred in _____ B.C. **DANIEL 9:25 (868); EZRA 7:8, 13-26 (449, 450)**

III. The fulfillment of this great prophecy
   A. Jesus exactly fulfilled the first part of the prophecy in 27 A.D. (483 years after 457 B.C.)
      1. That year Jesus was baptized and _____ with the Holy Spirit for His mission, for "Messiah" in Hebrew and "Christ" in Greek means "_____ ." **LUKE 3:1, 21, 22b (993); ACTS 10:38 (1063)**
      2. Jesus acknowledged the fulfillment: "The _____ is fulfilled." **MARK 1:15 (968)**
      3. This is powerful _____ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, the Saviour of the world.
   B. Jesus was "cut off" (crucified), bringing an "end" to the sacrificial system and ushering in everlasting righteousness, in the "_____" of the 70th week. This occurred in the spring of 31 A.D., exactly 3½ years after His baptism, just as prophesied. **DANIEL 9:26, 27 (868); MATTHEW 27:50, 51 (966); HEBREWS 9:26, 28 (1153); MATTHEW 26:26-28 (963); ROMANS 5:8 (1088); JOHN 3:16 (1027)**
   C. With the stoning of Stephen at the end of the 490-year probationary period, God accepted the Jewish national rejection of both Jesus and His offer to restore them as His missionary people, and created the Christian church primarily from the Gentiles as His missionary people. **ACTS 7 (1057)**
      1. Twenty-six years later (AD 70) Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed by the Romans.
      2. Now the only temple is in _____ and Jesus is the High Priest. **HEBREWS 8:1, 2 (1152)**

IV. The wider prophecy of which Daniel 9:24-27 was only a part involves the cleansing of the sanctuary and the announcement of the time of the final judgment of the world. **DANIEL 8:14 (866)**
   A. "For 2300 days (years); then the sanctuary shall be _____ ."
      1. The Day of Atonement was set aside one day each year in Israel to represent the solemnity of God's Judgment and corporate cleansing. **LEVITICUS 16 (108)**
         a. It was a day for individual heart searching and appeal for God's forgiveness.
         b. It was a day of corporate _____ , the sins of the community being symbolically washed away.
      2. The 2300 days (years) ended in 1844 A.D. and signaled the beginning of God's final judgment. **DANIEL 7:9, 10 (864); 8:14, 27 (866, 867); 9:24 (868)**
   B. We are NOW living in the hour of God's judgment; all that's left is the _____ of Christ. **REVELATION 14:6, 7 (1183)**

***ANSWERS: (I** A: evidence; B: done) **(II** A-3-b: prophecy; B-2: One, City; B-3: seventy; C: come, cut, end; D: 457) **(III** A1: anointed, anointed; A2: time; A-3: evidence; B: midst; C-2: heaven) **(IV** A: cleansed; A1b: cleansing; B: return)*

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