

**Welcome to the  
Common Ground Café!**



**Sunday, March 11, 2018**

**Finding the 'You Are Here' Dot on God's Map  
A Study of Daniel 9**

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What is the most confusing building or campus you've ever walked through? What do organizations do to make it easier for people to understand their facility? (Example: Colored lines on the hallway floor you follow to your destination. Now name 2-3 more.)

What is a "you are here" dot on a map? How does it help you?

In Daniel 9, God reveals history's timeline to Daniel. It's important for you to find the "you are here" dot on that timeline. Use your sermon notes to fill in the blanks as you come to them below.

**First: God reveals his timeline  
to those he e\_\_\_\_\_**

Read Daniel 9:1-3.

Daniel said he was reading Jeremiah's prophecy. He would have been in Jeremiah 25:11-12 and 29:10. Read those verses.

The events of Daniel 9 took place in the first year of King Darius, which would have been 539 BC. Daniel was carried into exile in 605 BC. How many years was he in exile? If he was a teenager when he was carried off to Babylon, approximately how old was he during the events recorded in Daniel 9?

Read Daniel's beautiful prayer in 9:4-19.

As we've seen in verses 1-3, it was as Daniel read Scripture that he began to pray in verses 4-19. Below are some ways Scripture can help us pray. Discuss how these have been true for you.

- ❖ Scripture reminds me that I need to pray more
- ❖ Scripture reminds me of the things I should be praying for
- ❖ Scripture reminds me of the kind of God I'm praying to
- ❖ Scripture reminds me of what my prayers can accomplish

Read Daniel 9:20-23.

In verse 21, what time did Daniel say Gabriel appeared to him?

Daniel had not participated in evening sacrifices at the Jerusalem temple for many decades. In fact, the temple had been destroyed not long after he was taken to Babylon. Why do you think Daniel was still marking his days in this way? What does this say about him?

In verse 23, why did Gabriel say he had come to reveal God's plan to Daniel? (Hint: "for you are highly \_\_\_\_\_.")

Pick one statement below to complete this sentence (and explain your answer): "Like Daniel, I am esteemed by God because of..."

- ...how good I am."
- ...how merciful God is."
- Both statements, but the first is more important.
- Both statements, but the second is more important.

In verse 22, Gabriel said, "I have now come to give you insight and understanding." In verse 23, Gabriel commanded, "consider the word and understand the vision." Answer the following questions:

- ❖ What did Gabriel say he would *provide* in verse 22, and what was Daniel commanded to *do* in verse 23?
- ❖ Read 2 Timothy 2:7. When it comes to understanding God's word, how is this similar to Daniel 9:22-23 in terms of what God provides and what we must do?
- ❖ In order to understand God and his will, we have to trust him to *give* us insight and we have to study his word to *find* insight. If we just do one and not the other, what problems result?

God reveals his timeline to those he esteems. The timeline of history has been revealed to you in Daniel 9 because God is fond of you! The next point tells us what to do in light of that.

**Second: Find the " \_\_\_\_\_ "**  
**dot on God's timeline**

From Daniel 9:24, list the six things God plans to accomplish during the seventy "sevens."

Pastor Tom proposed that the first seven “sevens” were completed at the rebuilding of Jerusalem and the rededication of the Temple 49 years after Daniel in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah. If so, which of God’s six goals in verse 24 may have been accomplished by the end of the first seven “sevens?”

Pastor Tom proposed that the next 62 “sevens” were completed when Jesus came as the long-awaited Anointed One. This would have been either at Jesus’ baptism at the start of his ministry or at his Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem the week before his crucifixion. Answer the following questions:

- ❖ What does the first half of verse 26 say happened to the Anointed One? How might that be a prophecy of Jesus’ crucifixion?
- ❖ Which of God’s six goals in verse 24 was or were accomplished by Jesus’ death?

If some of God’s six goals in verse 24 have been fulfilled after the first seven “sevens” and after the next sixty-two “sevens,” which of God’s six goals in verse 24 still remain to be completely fulfilled?

Verse 27 describes the last of the seventy “sevens.” Pastor Tom proposed that this last “seven” is still to come. If this is so, who is being described in verse 27? What will happen to him at the end of all things?

If we’re living at the close of the sixty-ninth week and yet before the seventieth week in God’s timeline, what do the following verses tell us we should be doing?

- ❖ 2 Peter 3:10-11
- ❖ Acts 1:6-9 (see also the words of Jesus in Matthew 24:14)
- ❖ Matthew 6:9-10
- ❖ Matthew 24:42-46



Close with praise reports and prayer requests