



Quiz

Q1. What progression of greatness did we see in Daniel 8?

Q2. Why is Daniel 8 only showing two animals instead of three?

Q3. Why can't the little horn be Antiochus IV Epiphanes?

Day-Year Principle and the Antichrist

Brief History

1. Prophetic “weeks” as years (1C BC-AD 325)

- Daniel 9: 70 prophetic weeks = 490 literal years.
- Qumran → Tertullian → Hippolytus → Africanus → Eusebius
- Lev 25:8 “And thou shalt number **seven sabbaths of years** unto thee, **seven times seven years**; and the space of the seven sabbaths of years shall be unto thee **forty and nine years.**”
 - 1 week of years = 7 years; 7 weeks of years = 49 years.
- Second Temple Judaism (11Q13): Ten jubilee cycles in the 70 weeks.
 - $10 \times 49 = 490$ years.
- Early Christianity: 70 weeks of years ($70 \times 7 = 490$ years).
 - Dan 9:24’s “seventy weeks” can also mean “seventy sevens.”

Brief History

2. Extension to actual prophetic days (AD 380-550)

- Revelation 11: $3\frac{1}{2}$ days = $3\frac{1}{2}$ years.
- Tyconius → Primasius
 - “This makes Tichonius about the first to apply the year-day principle outside of the seventy weeks ...” (PFF1 471.2)
- Jerome (c. 400) recognized day-year reckoning in Ezekiel 4:6 where 40 days = 40 years.
 - “Attention should be called to an important time principle that of the year-day reckoning-used by Jerome,” (PFF1 449.7)

Brief History

3. Broader Jewish and medieval Christian application (AD 800-1297)

- 1260 / 1290 / 1335 / 2300 days = years.
- Nahawendi → Saadia → Jepheth → Rashi → Bruno → Joachim → Nahmanides → Villanova → Olivi
 - Jewish: “Nahawendi, in the early ninth century, was evidently the first to interpret the 1290 and 2300 days as years. Then Saadia, Jeroham, Hakohen, Jepheth ibn Ali, and Rashi of the tenth century applied it not only to the 70 weeks but also to one or more of the 1290—, 1335—, and 2300-day periods.” (PFF1 713.3)
 - Joachim: “... to day without doubt being accepted for a year and a thousand two hundred and sixty days for the same number of years.” (PFF1 713.2)
 - Villanova: “... two thousand three hundred days’ it must be said that by days he understands years.” (PFF1 750.4)

Brief History

4. Pre-Reformation and Protestant historicist inheritance (AD 1391-)

- Brute → Nigrinus → Napier → Mede → Newton → later historicists → Miller
- Nigrinus (1582) makes day-year principle a Protestant polemical principle against the Jesuit/literal 3½ years: 42 months, 1260 days, and 3½ years are all prophetic years.
- Napier (1593): 42 months = 1260 days = 3½ years
- Mede (17C) systematically synchronizes Daniel and Revelation.
 - The little horn, the beast, , trampling of Jerusalem, etc., all belong to the same 1260-year historical epoch.
- Newton (17-18C) broadens the integrated system: 70 weeks, 1260, 1290, 1335, and 2300 are within one continuous historical framework.

Ten Characteristics of the Little Horn

1. Arises from Rome (vv. 7-8, 19-20).
2. Arises after the division (vv. 7-8, 20) – AD 476.
3. Three horns have been plucked out (vv. 8, 20, 24) – AD 538.
4. Diverse from the others (v. 24) – has eyes and a mouth (vv. 8, 20).
5. More stout (v. 20).
6. Great words against God (v. 25).
7. War with the saints and wears them out (vv. 21, 25).
8. **1,260 days of heyday (v. 25, c.f., Num 14:34, Eze 4:6, Dan 9:24-27).**
9. Think to change times and laws (v. 25).
10. Exists until the time comes... (vv. 22, 26).

Horns = kingdoms (vv. 17, 23, 24)

A time and times and half a time

Dan 7:25 ... Then the saints shall be given into his hand For **a time and times and half a time.**

Dan 12:7 ... that it shall be for **a time, times, and half a time**; and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.

Rev 11:2 ... And they will tread the holy city underfoot for **forty-two months.**

Rev 11:3 ... and they will prophesy **one thousand two hundred and sixty days**, clothed in sackcloth.”

Rev 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, ... **one thousand two hundred and sixty days.**

Rev 12:14 But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, ... for **a time and times and half a time**, ...

Rev 13:5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for **forty-two months.**

A time and times and half a time

“a time and times and half a time”

=

“forty-two months”

=

“one thousand two hundred and sixty days”

3.5 years = 42 months = 1,260 days

Why is biblical month 30-days?

Gen 7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the **second month**, the **seventeenth day** of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

Gen 8:3 And the waters receded continually from the earth. At the end of the **hundred and fifty days** the waters decreased.

Gen 8:4 Then the ark rested in the **seventh month**, the **seventeenth day** of the month, on the mountains of Ararat.

150-days = 2/17 to 7/17 = 5 months

$150 \div 5 = 30$

A time and times and half a time

“a time and times and half a time”

=

“forty-two months”

=

“one thousand two hundred and sixty days”

3.5 years = 42 months = 1,260 days

The little horn's heyday

3.5 years = 42 months = 1,260 days

- In Bible prophecy, a day is a year.
 - Num 14:34 According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, **for each day** you shall bear your guilt **one year**, namely forty years, and you shall know My rejection.
 - Ezk 4:6 And when you have completed them, lie again on your right side; then you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days. I have laid on you **a day for each year**.
 - 70-week prophecy in Daniel 9:24-27.
- When did the little horn come to exist?

The little horn's heyday

If 3.5 years = 42 months = 1,260 days,

And if a day in prophetic time period is a year:

$$\text{AD } 538 + 1,260 \text{ years} = 1798$$

What significant event happened in 1798?

Daniel 9

Structure of Daniel 9

I. The Messiah of the seventy years (verses 1, 2)

1. Year of the coming of Cyrus
2. Prophecy of Jeremiah

II. Prayer (verses 3-19)

A. Invocation of the Lord (verse 4)

B. We . . . (verses 5, 6)

C. Universal note (verses 7-9)

a. To you (verse 7)

b. To us (verse 7)

c. To all Israel (verse 7)

b'. To us (verse 8)

a'. To you (verse 9)

B'. We . . . (verses 10-14)

A'. Invocation of the Lord (verses 15-19)

III. The Messiah of the seventy weeks (verses 20-27)

70 weeks determined on the people and on Jerusalem
(verse 24)

A. Coming of the Messiah: at the end of 7 and 62 weeks (verse 25a)

B. Construction of the city (hrs)

A' Death of the Messiah: after the 62 weeks (verse 26a)

B' Destruction of the city (hrs)

A'' Covenant: middle of the week (verse 27a)

B'' Destruction of destructor (hrs)

What is happening

- Cyrus has just conquered Babylon:

Isa 45:1 “Thus says the Lord **to His anointed, To Cyrus**, whose right hand I have held— **To subdue nations** before him And loose the armor of kings, **To open** before him **the double doors**, So that **the gates will not be shut**:

Isa 45:2 ‘I will go before you And make the crooked places straight; I will **break in pieces the gates of bronze** And **cut the bars of iron**.

Isa 45:3 ... **That you may know that I, the Lord, Who call you by your name, Am the God of Israel**.

Isa 45:4 For Jacob My servant’s sake, And Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.

What is happening

- Cyrus was to free God's people and allow the temple to be rebuilt:

Isa 44:28 Who says of **Cyrus**, ' **He is My shepherd**, And he shall perform all My pleasure, **Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built,"** And **to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid."** '

...

Isa 45:13 I have raised him up in righteousness, And I will direct all his ways; He shall **build My city** And **let My exiles go free**, Not for price nor reward," Says the Lord of hosts.

⇒ This later Cyrus did...

What is happening

- According to the record:

2Ch 36:22 Now **in the first year of Cyrus** king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah **might be fulfilled**, the Lord **stirred up the spirit of Cyrus** king of Persia, so that **he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom**, and also put it in writing, saying,

2Ch 36:23 Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: **All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord God of heaven has given me**. And He has commanded me **to build Him a house at Jerusalem** which is in Judah. Who is among you of all His people? **May the Lord his God be with him, and let him go up!**

⇒Cyrus freed the captives and decreed the temple to be built.

What is happening

- So... Daniel is praying before all this happened.

Dan 9:2 in the first year of his [Cyrus'] reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the Lord through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

Dan 9:3 Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.

⇒ Daniel is praying for the prophecy to be fulfilled.

What is happening

- Dan 9:16 “O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away **from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; ...**
- Dan 9:17 ... cause Your face to shine **on Your sanctuary, which is desolate.**
- Dan 9:18 O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see **our desolations, and the city** which is called by Your name; ...
- Dan 9:19 O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, **for Your city and Your people** are called by Your name.”

What is happening

- Then as a response, angel Gabriel is sent to him to give him the understanding:

Dan 9:24 “**Seventy weeks are determined** For your people and for your holy city, [1] To finish the transgression, [2] To make an end of sins, [3] To make reconciliation for iniquity, [4] To bring in everlasting righteousness, [5] To seal up vision and prophecy, And [6] to anoint the Most Holy.

⇒ Six things mentioned here. What do they mean?

What is happening

[1] To finish the **transgression [pesha]**,

[2] To make an end of **sins [hatta]**,

[3] To make reconciliation for **iniquity [aon]**,

⇒What Christ dealt with His atoning sacrifice on the Cross.

[4] To bring in everlasting righteousness,

[5] To seal up vision and prophecy,

[6] to anoint the Most Holy.

⇒The result of Christ' first coming.

Structure of the 70-weeks Prophecy

Dan 9:25 Know therefore and understand that

- A.** from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of **an anointed one (Messiah)**, a prince, there shall be 7 weeks and for 62 weeks
- B.** it shall be built again with squares and **moat (חרץ)**, but in a troubled time.

Dan 9:26

- A'.** And after the 62 weeks, **an anointed one (Messiah)** shall be cut off and no one will be for him.
- B'.** And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are **decreed (חרץ)**.

Dan 9:27

- A''.** And **he (Messiah implied)** shall confirm the covenant with many for 1 week, and for half of the week he shall cause sacrifice and offering to cease forever.
- B''.** And on the wing of abominations shall come the one (the desolator) who makes desolate, until the **decreed (חרץ)** end is poured out on the desolator."

Deciphering the 70-weeks Prophecy

Dan 9:25 Know therefore and understand that

- A.** from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of **an anointed one (Messiah)**, a prince, there shall be 7 weeks and for 62 weeks
- B.** it shall be built again with squares and **moat (חרץ)**, but in a troubled time.

From the decree to rebuild Jerusalem to when the Messiah will come will be 69 weeks. The city will be built in a troubled time.

Deciphering the 70-weeks Prophecy

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After the 62 weeks, the Messiah will die sacrificially alone. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The desolation decreed will sweep away everything like a flood and there will be war.

Deciphering the 70-weeks Prophecy

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The Messiah will confirm the covenant with many for 1 week, and in the midst of the week, he will cause sacrifice and offering to cease forever. First the abominations will come, and the desolator will come until what was decreed for his end is carried out on him.

Deciphering the 70-weeks Prophecy

From the decree to rebuild Jerusalem to when the Messiah will come will be 7+62 weeks. The city will be built in a troubled time.

After the **[+7 implied since Messiah has to come first]** 62 weeks, the Messiah will die sacrificially alone. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The desolation decreed will sweep away everything like a flood and there will be war.

The Messiah will **confirm the covenant with many** for 1 week **[the last week]**, and in the midst of the week, **he will cause sacrifice and offering to cease forever.** First the abominations will come, and the desolator will come until what was decreed for his end is carried out on him.

When was the decree made to rebuild?

538 BC – Cyrus's decree to return to Judah and rebuild the Temple, but not the city.

520 BC – Darius I re-decreed the first – again not the city. Temple restored in 516 BC.

457 BC – Artaxerxes I gave political autonomy to rule according to God's law.

444 BC – other scholars view this permission from Artaxerxes I as a decree.

444 BC vs. 457 BC

- 444 BC proponents like to use Nehemiah 2 even though the resulting time of Jesus' baptism becoming AD 40, because it is the most explicit description of the permission to rebuild Jerusalem (vv. 8, 17-18).
 - They argue Ezra 7 has no explicit mention of the permission to rebuild.
 - But... to get around AD 40 issue... the awkward mathematics is needed:
 $483 \times 360 = 173,880$ days
 $173,880 / 365 = 476.4055$ years
 $444 \text{ BC} + 476 = \text{AD } 33$... well sort of...

Why convert to days only to convert back to solar years to shave 7 years off?
There is no explicit biblical precedent for this.

444 BC vs. 457 BC

- 457 BC naturally ends on AD 27 for Jesus' baptism.
 - Although Ezra 7 does not explicitly mention the rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls,
 - Ezra is given authority to appoint magistrates, establish judicial administration, and enforce the law – political and administrative restoration of Jerusalem.
 - In Ezra 4:12, people are already rebuilding the city: “finishing its walls and repairing the foundations.”
 - Nehemiah 1:3 already reports that the wall was broken down and the gates burned – this would not have been devastating to Nehemiah if it wasn't newly built defenses of the city.
 - Not just Adventist position, but also The Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges argue for the same.

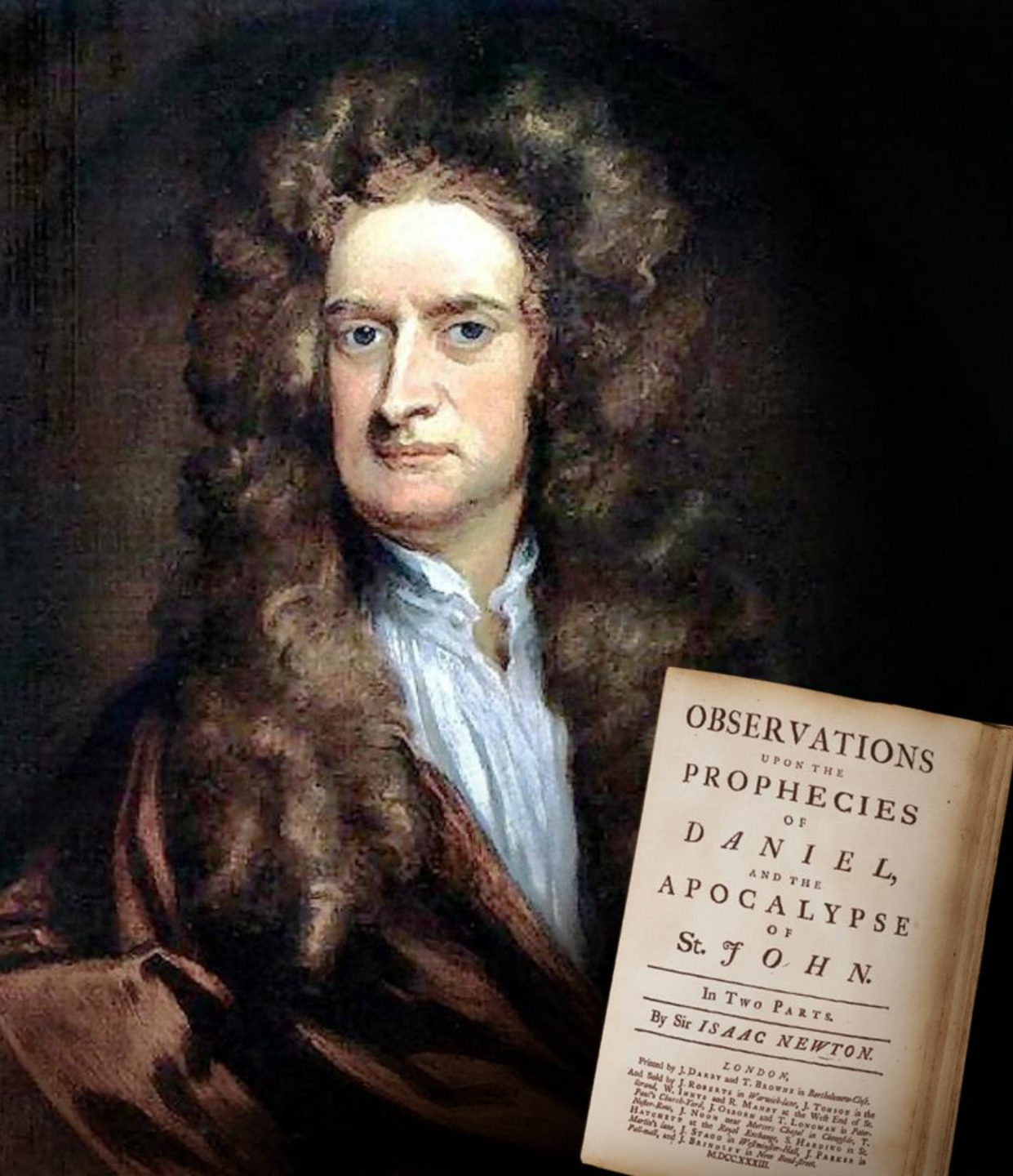
444 BC vs. 457 BC

Summary:

- There is great difficulty in trying to make 444 BC work.
 - What about the evidence of prior restoration work?
 - The awkward mathematical conversion to days and back to solar years, which there is no biblical precedent.
 - There is no evidence that this was the first initiation of the restoration of Jerusalem.
- There is no explicit evidence that the 457 BC's decree included rebuilding of the city and its walls.
 - The mathematics with 457 BC is exegetically sound.
 - But biblical evidence in Ezra 4 and Nehemiah 1 suggests that rebuilding had been taking place already before 444 BC's decree.

457 BC

- Johan Funck (1564) – a prominent Reformation theologian and chronologist whose work is among the most frequently cited historical chronological reference works of the 16C.
- Jacques Cappel (1616) a respected French Reformed scholar and professor of Hebrew and theology.
- Isaac Newton (1713) – acknowledges Funck's work and agreed with it.
- William Cuninghame (1826) – a prolific writer and participant in the 1826 Albury Park Prophetic Conference.



“The years of Artaxerxes reign are among the most easily established dates of history. The Canon of Ptolemy . . . the Greek Olympiads, and allusions in Greek history to Persian affairs all combine to place the seventh year of Artaxerxes at 457BC. . . . See Sir Isaac Newton, Observations upon the prophecies of the Bible, pp 154-157.” D&R Ch. 9 Editorial Notes.

Ezra 6:14, 7:7 Records the command

Deciphering the 70-weeks Prophecy

- The city will be rebuilt in troubled time.
- The Messiah will come 69 weeks from the decree to rebuild Jerusalem, which was given in 457 BC.
- Sometime after He comes, He will die sacrificially alone.
- He confirms the covenant with many during the last week.
- **In the midst of the week,** He causes sacrifice and offering to cease forever.
- Then the abomination will come, and the people of the prince who comes to destroy the city and the sanctuary will come.
- There will be war and desolation comes like a flood.
- However, the desolator himself will not go unpunished.

What really happened?

- A day is a year in Bible prophecy (Num 14:34, Ezk 4:6).
- 7 weeks = 49 years.
- 62 weeks = 434 years.
- A half week = 3.5 years.
- The decree to rebuild Jerusalem was decreed at BC 457.
- Jesus came on time, was anointed, and died on time.



Evidence from Paul's conversion

- Paul was converted not long after Stephen was stoned to death.
- He visits Jerusalem for the first time 3 years after his conversion (Gal 1:18).
- His second visit to Jerusalem occurred 14 years after the first (Gal 2:1).
- Shortly after that, he went on missionary journey and got to Corinth (Acts 18).
- While at Corinth, he appeared before the proconsul Gallio (Acts 18:12).
- **So, Paul stood before Gallio 17 years after his conversion.**

Evidence from Paul's conversion

- An inscription was found in Corinth recording Gallio's first year of his proconsulship in Corinth. And the date recorded there is AD 51.
- Since Paul stood before Gallio 17 years after his conversion:
 $51 - 17 = \text{AD } 34$
- AD 34 is a possible date that some New Testament scholars favor for Stephen's death and Paul's conversion.

What about Stephen's death?

What really happened?

- Before Stephen's, he functioned as God's prophet rebuking Sanhedrin for rejecting the Messiah.
 - It was a covenant lawsuit.
- After Stephen's death:

Acts 8:2-4 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, ... As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, ... Therefore those who were **scattered went everywhere preaching the word.**



Indirect evidence of when Jerusalem was rebuilt

- 444 BC Nehemiah goes to help finish the work. Finishes rebuilding the walls in 52 days (Neh 6:15).
- He was in Jerusalem for 12 years, then he went back to Babylon (Neh 13:6).
- Later he comes back to perform the last act of reformation recorded in chapter 13.
- Change of governorship occur in 407 BC – possible evidence that all work of rebuilding was done before this date (408 BC).

Conclusion

We have sufficient evidence that:

- Jerusalem was rebuilt on time.
- Christ came on time, baptized on time, died the atoning death on time (the Passover), resurrected on time (Wave-Sheaf Offering), and started His heavenly ministry on time (The Feast of Weeks/Pentecost – 50th day from Wave-sheaf day).
- Jerusalem was destroyed as prophesied.
- Romans eventually received the judgment as prophesied.
- Prophecy in Daniel 9 tell us exactly that God is faithful.