

Bereans Bible Institute

Module V. The Redemption of Creation

Lesson 19 – Dating the “Messiah” of Daniel’s Prophecy

I. The Chronological Error of the Secular Chronology

A. The 7 weeks plus 62 weeks (69 weeks) was to start with “*the going forth of the command to restore and to build Jerusalem*” (Dan. 9:24)

1. This command was issued by Cyrus in his 1st year (Ezra 1)

2. According to Isaiah’s prophecy, Cyrus would issue the command to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple: “*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.”’ (44:28), and “‘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.*” (Isa 45:13)

B. 69 weeks equals 492 years: $69 \times 7 + 9 = 492$

C. Messiah was cut off “after” the 69th week ended in September AD 29. Jesus was crucified the following April AD 30.

D. The start of the 70 weeks prophecy was Sept. 464 BC (492 years from AD 30)

A. The END of the exile = start of the “daily sacrifice” was Rosh Hashanah (Ezra 3:1-7).

B. The secular chronology puts the 1st year of Cyrus in 539 BC, a 75-year discrepancy.

E. “Christian” chronologists try to adjust the Bible to fit the secular chronology by linking the start of the 69 weeks to a command of a LATER Persian king (Artaxerxes Longimanus).

A. Nehemiah was given permission by an “Artaxerxes” in his 20th year to finish the walls of Jerusalem.

B. Some Christians claim that this “Artaxerxes” was Artaxerxes Longimanus.

1. Secular history puts his 20th year in 445 BC. But this is 20 years too late (10 years too short if you do not intercalate the 9 Jubilee years).

2. Sir Robert Anderson devised a 360-day calendar to “fix” the problem.

a. 69 “weeks” = 483 years (no Jubilees).

b. 483 years of 360 days each = 173,880 days

c. 173,880 days / a year of 365.25 days = 476 years.

d. 476 years – AD 32 years = 445 BC

3. Anderson’s fabricated 360-day year does not exist. The “weeks” are for allowing the land to rest, and must consist of SOLAR years averaging 365.25

4. The problem is not 20, but 10 years (Anderson did not intercalate Jubilees).

D. The “Ezra Gap” problem: The Artaxerxes of Ezra 7-10 & Nehemiah 1-13 is Darius.

1. The command to Nehemiah was in the 20th year of Darius (Artaxerxes)

a. Ezra 6:13-15 puts completion of the Temple in Darius’ 6th year, by the decree of Cyrus and Darius, even Artaxerxes. (Darius is Artaxerxes)

b. “Artaxerxes” is a title, not a name = “Great King” (emperor)

c. Darius took the title “Artaxerxes” at the beginning of his 7th year, right after he put down the Persian uprisings, and founded the new capitol – Persepolis.

2. The “heads of the fathers’ houses” who returned under Cyrus also signed the covenant of Nehemiah 10, in the 20th year of “Artaxerxes.” If “Artaxerxes” is Longimanus, this was 95 years after they returned under Cyrus. (Cyrus-9, Cambyses-8, Pseudo-Smerdis-1, Darius-36, Xerxes-21, Artaxerxes Longimanus-20 = 95). “heads of the father’s houses” at least 30-50 years old. Add 95, and their ages would have been 125-145 each!

E. The secular chronology is 75 years too long for this period.