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SERIES: Daniel (Dare To Be God’s Messenger)
TITLE: Program 39 – The Deceiver

THURSDAY

OPEN

There’s nothing worse than finding out that someone you thought was on your side, some one that you thought agreed with you, someone that you thought would help you accomplish what you wanted to accomplish, there’s nothing worse than finding out that they deceived you, that they started off as a friend, they started off saying yes, I go along with that, but you found out that they were only using you. They were only manipulating you. We’re going to talk about that today.

PART ONE

Have you ever wondered my friend why you feel so bad when someone has lied to you, when they have come along and they have deceived you? They pretended to be one thing and they ended up being the other. I think of a friend of mine and she had prayed and she had waited and she had kept herself pure because she loved Jesus Christ and she just wanted a godly
marriage. This man said that he loved the Lord. He said that he was a Christian. They got married and that marriage lasted just a couple weeks. And then he came in and said that he was walking out on her. Why? Because he was a homosexual and he preferred men above a woman. And he walked out. And, and it, it was so crushing, so absolutely crushing. And I’m sure that you can understand. I’m sure that in your lifetime there has been someone, a husband or a wife or a friend, or a politician or someone that came into a business deal with you or a business partner of some sort or a teacher or, or someone that came along and in a sense, wooed you to themselves in one way and then you found out later that they were simply manipulating you. Why does it feel so bad? I know for me it feels so bad because I feel like I got hoodwinked. I got hoodwinked. How stupid I was! How could I do that? How could I believe that? Why didn’t I see it coming? Well God doesn’t want you to be hoodwinked. God wants you to see what is coming. God wants you, as His child, to understand the future. And if you’re listening and you’re not His child, God wants you to become His child. It’s no accident that you’ve come across this program. It’s no accident that you stumbled across Precepts for Life, because what God is telling you is I want to give you My standards, My truths so that you might not be deceived. Because, see, it’s truth that exposes a lie. And the devil is a liar; he’s the father of lies. He’s a destroyer. He’s a murderer. He abides not in the truth. You can see all that description of him in John 8, chapter 44. But what we’re going to do today as we look at this prophecy in Daniel, chapter 9 and now, I want you to know, I admit it. We have moved through this slowly. And we have moved through this slowly because of all the prophecies in Daniel. Probably none is more complicated, nor is there more controversy or varied interpretations over any passage in Daniel more than what you find in Daniel, chapter 9, verse 24 to 27. But we’re moving through the text. We have read it through. We have observed it. Now if, if you cannot remember what we’ve done, then you need to go back and you need to review what
you’ve done in your study booklet. And if you don’t have a study booklet, then I would suggest that you just simply get the series, the recorded series on this in CD and that you listen to it and that you review it. Why? God does not want you to be deceived. God does not want you to be blindsided. And so now he’s telling us in the most awesome of all of Daniel’s prophecies a time line for events so that you and I can spot what is going to happen or so you and I can teach it to the next generation. And then if there’s another generation they can teach it to them. But so they understand. Now I’ve written a book called Israel, My Beloved. And it’s a novel. And it’s a pretty good size novel and it takes you through the whole history of Israel, from 586 B.C. all the way through the coming of Messiah. And of course, you and I know that Messiah is Yeshua, Messiah is Jesus Christ. And when I wrote that book I used all Jewish references and works because I wanted accurate history. So it’s like a true story in novel form, until you get to the end of the book. When you get to the end of the book there’s no history there because it has not happened, but what you see is the scriptures revealed. Now in the book all the way through you find the main character, once she meets Daniel, the main character is Sarah, who is a picture of Israel, who is the wife of God, you find Sarah puzzling over this scripture, puzzling over this scripture because this is the Old Testament scripture that gives us the timing of the One who is absolute truth, the One who is the way, the One who is the truth, the One who is the life, the One who is the Messiah, the Promised One, the Anointed One for which Israel is waiting. And is still waiting because many of them are blinded and they don’t know that He has come. But as we saw in our last lesson He is coming and when He comes and Israel sees Him, then Israel will recognize Him and they will mourn over Him as an only Son because they will realize that they have been blinded. And they have been blinded and blindsided and deceived by the enemy that wants to keep them in darkness. And that enemy is as I said, the serpent of old, the devil, Satan; they’re all one being and he is the one that wants to murder
you, wants to slay you, wants to deceive you. Well now we see him not in this passage, but when we compare it with Revelation, we see him empowering the one that we’re about to read about. All right, so now, in Daniel, chapter 9, remember, let’s go back to verse 25. He says you are to know and to discern. You know it would be good for you, every time I read this out loud, for you to read it out loud in your study guide, if you’re able to so, because that’s the way you memorize it. So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks. So there will be sixty-nine weeks of the seventy that this prophecy is about. Because in seventy weeks remember, the six things of Daniel, chapter 9, verse 24 are going to be complete. In other words, everlasting righteousness is going to be brought in. The holy place is going to be restored. And we are going to have sin come to an end, all the things that he mentions, those six things that he mentions; I don’t want to take time to read them right now. But sixty-nine weeks has passed now. There’s one more week waiting and then everything of Daniel 9:24 will be fulfilled. All the prophecy will be sealed up. The vision will be sealed up. In other words everything will be complete. All right he says it, Jerusalem will be built again with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. Now Jerusalem was destroyed and this is where I start the book, Israel, My Beloved with the first destruction of Jerusalem and it was in the month of Abid and it was the ninth day. And so it was destroyed then and that was the year 586 B.C. It will be destroyed again in 70 A.D. He is talking about the first destruction. He’s talking about the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem. So Jerusalem will be built again. The plaza and the moat; remember the moat was that thing that held water or was a dry moat so that the enemy had to come down and was at the bottom of the wall so that they could shoot them arrows from the top of the walls, okay. And it says even in times of distress. Then after the sixty-two weeks, which is seven weeks and then sixty-two, so after the sixty-nine weeks, the Messiah
will be cut off and have nothing. That’s the crucifixion. And just look at
your chart and see because we have a chart on this in your study guide. And
the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city, that’s in 70
A.D. and the sanctuary. That’s the temple. Its end will come with a flood,
even to the end there will be wars, desolations are determined. Now
remember we’re in that gap of time. But the gap in the next verse ends and
we move into the seventieth week. Verse 27, listen carefully: And he will
make a firm covenant with the many for one week. So one week is a space
of time, so you mark time. You put a clock over the one week. We know that
one week equals what? You say it out loud. It equals 7 years. So it’s the final
seven years of this 490 years of time in which God is going to accomplish
the six things that He said in Daniel, chapter 9, verse 24. And he will make a
firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he
will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering. Now God has told us so much
just in that part of this final verse of Daniel’s prophecy here in Daniel 9. So
let’s stop and examine it. Now, when you study the scriptures you need to
interrogate the text. You need to get a hold of the text and say okay now,
who, what, when, where, why, how. I have used this illustration as I teach in
Russia, or teach in communist countries where they’ve been interrogated or
in Muslim countries where they’ve been interrogated and they grab them and
they say who are you? What are you doing here? Where have you been?
When did you do this? So this is what you do to the text, only you do it more
gently. So you say, who is the he? It says and he will make a covenant with
the many for one week. He who? Well some people automatically say that’s
Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is going to make a covenant for one week and then
let’s say it is Jesus, in the middle of the week He’s going to put a stop to
sacrifice and grain offering. In other words, God’s going to make a covenant
for seven years and He’s going to break it in the middle and He’s going to
put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering. Oh no, oh no. Don’t tell me that.
God does not break covenants. Who is the he? Well, in any writing and even
in, even in Hebrew you go back, to the last noun and what do you see? The he, who is this he that’s going to make a firm covenant? Well, go back to Daniel 9, verse 26. And I hope that you’re looking at your study guide and I hope that you have a pencil in your hand, cause I want to show you something to do. It says then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing and the people of the prince who is to come, the people of the prince who is to come. What is the last noun there? Prince, and what do you learn about him? We’ll talk about it more right after this break.

PART TWO

I know that that was a quick break and what I want you to know is that was quick. We’re used to quick things, but when you study the Bible, beloved, you don’t do it quickly. You do it carefully. You do it accurately. You pause. You slow down. You ask the text questions and you don’t put in your theology. Rather you let the text interpret the text and explain the text. So when we come to verse 27 and it says and he will make a firm covenant with the many, you have to know who the he is. The closest noun is in the former verse and it is the prince who is to come. So this prince who is to come is now on the scene. When he comes on the scene what does he do? He will make a firm covenant. And notice it says firm covenant, with the many, for one week. Well, what’s this prophecy about? And who would the many be? Well keep reading. It says but in the middle of the week, contrast. He makes a firm covenant with the many, but in the middle of the week he puts a stop to sacrifice and grain offering. Now remember this is a prophecy that Daniel 9:24 tells us deals with Daniel’s people, the Jews, not Daniel, and their holy city Jerusalem. You take that; you put it together. You begin to add things. You begin to make a list of the things that you see. So what’s in Jerusalem that makes it distinctive to the Jews? It’s the temple. So where do Jews make sacrifices? They will only make sacrifices one place and that’s in
the temple because they have learned that lesson. They have learned that God doesn’t want them making sacrifices any place else. And God doesn’t want them worshipping anyone else and so what you see is this is the prince who is to come. He makes a covenant for seven years. In the middle of the seven years he breaks the covenant. What’s the middle of the seven years and you know the answer? What is the middle of seven? It’s three and one half years. Now the minute we say three and one half years, you ought to me going oh, oh, I understand. That’s it. I’ve seen those three and half years before. Oh, where did you see them? That’s right, you saw it in Daniel, chapter 7. Now you didn’t see the word three and a half years, but you saw the terminology that equals three and half years. So let’s go back to Daniel, chapter 7. Now watch what we read. He wants to know about the fourth beast in Daniel, chapter 7. He wants the interpretation of this vision of these four beasts that have come out of the sea. He wants to know about this fourth beast. So he is getting the explanation from heaven about the meaning of this beast with ten horns and a little horn that comes up afterwards that subdues three of those horns that has eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great boasts. And now we come to Daniel, chapter 7, verse 23. Thus he said the fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from the other kingdoms and it, this fourth beast will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it. As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom, out of this fourth kingdom, ten kings will arise and another will arise after them. You’ve got it. That’s that little horn. And he, that little horn will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings. And he, now catch this; will speak out against the Most High. So he’s going to speak against God. And wear down the saints of the Highest One. Those are the followers, those set apart by God. And he, this little horn, this prince who is to come will intend to make alteration in times and in law and they will be given into his hand. They whom? Well you go back to the first plural noun. They, the saints will be given into his hand for a time, times and
half a time. For three and one half years they’re going to be given into the hands of this one who has greatly deceived them. Now take that, put it back with Daniel, chapter 9 and verse 27: He will make a firm covenant with the many. In other words, not every Jew is going to enter into this covenant with the prince who is to come. It’s the little horn. He will make a covenant with the many. Now, who would he make a covenant with if he goes to Israel today? If he’s going to Israel today he’s going to make a covenant and the ones that are going to support that in the Knesset would be the religious Jews. The Jews that want their temple, but these religious Jews want their temple more than anything else. They want to go to their temple and they want to sacrifice in their temple. They want to worship God as is laid down in the Torah in the first five books of the Bible. That’s how they want to worship God. So they think that by keeping the law and by making the sacrifices then they can have legitimate Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur. So they make this covenant with him and it’s for a seven years. He says okay, I’m making a deal with you and for the next seven years I will let you have your temple and I will let you worship. Listen, they will be so happy because that’s what they want more than anything else. Whatever’s going on around them, they really don’t care. I mean if you get in the, the orthodox community in Israel, especially the ultra-orthodox community, they don’t care about anything else except their religious observances. Some that are biblical, some that they have devised themselves from the different places that they have come. But they don’t want anything else. They’re perfectly content. So it says he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering. Now when they have a temple they’re going to have a morning sacrifice and they’re going to have an evening sacrifice. And when they make that sacrifice, that morning and evening, they have a grain offering along with it. And so he’s going to walk in after three and a half years, in the middle of that covenant time, and he’s going to say, that’s it stop. And he’s going to in essence, declare that there is no other god besides him and that you will
worship him. And we’re going to see in our next program how hell breaks out on this earth. But what I want you to see is this: That he has deceived them. Here they thought that they at last had their temple. Here they thought that they at last had the freedom to worship their God. He had given them seven years, seven years is the number of completion. In six days God created the heavens and the earth and on the seventh day He rested. It’s like a Shabbat. It’s like a Sabbath. So it is a very, very precious number to them. And they think now, we’re going to get to do this. This world ruler, he’s not so bad. He’s not so bad, this one that has risen out of this kingdom that has come back on the face of this earth. He’s not so bad. This is pretty good. We get to worship our God. That’s all we care about. That’s all we think about. And then all of a sudden there is one fatal moment and everything is shattered and they feel incredibly and horribly deceived. But not only that, but there is a great, great tribulation that comes upon them and comes upon the whole world. And what will that be like? We’re going to look at in our next program.