

. The Description of the Seventy Sevens

A. The Nature of the Seventy Sevens

1. They are time segments. Allis holds that they are weeks of years. Young is indefinite and holds that they are segments of time.
2. They are Messianic. Reference is to bringing in of Messiah and accomplishment of His redemptive purposes.
3. They concern the true people of God.

B. The Accomplishments of the Seventy Sevens

1. Restrain the transgression--putting away sin by death of Christ.
2. Complete sin--Christ will make an end of sin.
3. Cover iniquity--Christ's work on the cross.
4. Bring in everlasting righteousness--Not an era, but something done in the heart.
5. Seal vision and prophet--ending the function of O.T. prophecy by coming of Christ.
6. Anoint holy of holies--anointing of Christ or communication of Spirit to Christ.

C. The Termini of the Seventy Sevens

1. Terminus a quo. Edict of Cyrus (538-7 B.C.).
2. Terminus ad quem. The only one given is for the end of the 69 weeks; thus the end of the 70th is unimportant.

II. The Divisions of the Seventy Sevens

A. The Seven Sevens

Begins with edict of Cyrus and continues until completion of city and temple--the end of the period of Ezra and Nehemiah.

B. The Sixty-two Sevens

Ends with anointed one, i.e., Christ. After 69 weeks two things happen:

1. Death of Messiah
2. Destruction of Jerusalem (A.D. 70). (People in v. 26 are Romans and the prince is Titus).

C. The One Seven

V.27 is Messianic in nature because "prince" in v.26 is in a subordinate position and therefore not the antecedent of "he".

1. He shall cause the Abrahamic covenant to prevail.
2. In the midst (not middle) sacrifices in the temple will cease because of the once-for-all death of Messiah.
3. All temple worship that continues after death of Christ is as idolatry.

Notes: the parenthesis or gap idea is rejected by Young for these reasons:

1. The events of v.27 are not said to occur after those of v.26.
2. Since v.26 declares that Messiah is cut off, He must cause the covenant to prevail before He dies.
3. The premillennial interpretation does not fit the "restraining of transgression" since premillennialists teach that evil will be present in the millennium.
4. The 70 must be a unit since all other prophecies of years are in consecutive order (cp. Gen 15:13; 45:6; Numb. 14:34; the 3 days Christ was in the tomb).
5. There are no other gaps in prophecy in the O.T. He states that Isa. 9:6; Zech. 9:9-10 Isa. 61:1-2 do not contain gaps.