



When will the Messiah (& therefore the Kingdom) come?

- Time of tribulation will precede it (Deut. 4)
- International military coalition against Israel (Zech 12)
- God must bring Israel to repentance

Daniel's 70 "year-weeks" (Dan 9:24-27)

- Daniel hoped that the physical restoration would be the spiritual one as well
- "Week-year" comes from Lev. 25:4; one "week-year" is 7 years.
- The 70 weeks start in 444BC when a decree was given to Nehemiah (Neh. 2:1)
- 7 weeks, i.e. 49 years till rebuilding of the temple completed
- 62 more weeks till the Messiah/Prince who comes will be "cut off"
- Jewish/Gregorian calendar
 - Jewish year had 360 days. Gregorian year has 365 days.
 - $69 \times 7 = 483$ (Jewish) years, result into 476 (Gregorian) years
 - $444\text{BC} - 476 = 32 \text{ AD } (+1) = 33\text{AD}$
- Because Israel did not repent, the clock "stopped". The last week will start with a treaty made with Israel.

Jesus first coming (Luke 1:26-33, 67-79, Mark 3:1-12)

- Proclamation to Mary has its focus on ruling (Lk. 1:33)
- Prophecy of Zechariah focuses on the covenants
 - Israel's holiness needed (Lk. 1:75)
 - Forgiveness of sin; results in Israel receiving and being a blessing
- Messianic expectation of the time was that the Messiah would establish his kingdom.
- True repentance leads to obedience (Mark 3:7-10). God is concerned with inward repentance and not outward signs.
- Kingdom is at hand because the judgment is at hand

Discussion Questions

- How does Luke 2:22-38 inform us about the messianic expectation of the people at the time?
- Read Isaiah 4 and compare with Mark 3:11. How does Isaiah inform Mark's use of "spirit" and "fire"?
- One thing we have seen throughout this course is that God is not concerned with outward repentance or acts, he is concerned about the inner attitude of our hearts. What are areas in your life where you are in danger of making it about outward expression as opposed to your heart attitude?

When will the Messiah come?

- Time of tribulation (Deut. 4)
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- God must bring Israel to repentance

Daniel's 70 "week-years" (Dan. 9:24-27)

- 70 years in exile: Daniel hoped that physical restoration would be spiritual restoration
- "Week-years" come from Lev. 25:4. 69 week-years decreed from decree to rebuild Jerusalem to Messiah being "cut off." (69 Jewish week-years end up being 476 years)
- Decree was given in 444 BC—476 years = 32 AD + 1 = 33AD
- Clock "stopped" because Israel did not repent (cf. 9:1) Last 'week' will begin with a treaty between "the prince to come" and Israel.

Goal of Jesus' first coming (Luke 1:26-33, 67-79, Matt. 3:1-12)

- When Jesus' birth was predicted to Mary the emphasis was not on his death/resurrection but on ruling (Luke 1:33).
- Zechariah's prophecy places the emphasis on deliverance from enemies (Luke 1:67-75).
- The holiness of Israel is needed in order for them to be God's tool (Luke 1:75)
- Forgiveness of sins results into Israel being and receiving a blessing.
- The expectation of the time is that the Messiah would fulfill the Davidic, Abrahamic, and Prophetic passages to bring about his kingdom.
- Jesus' and John's call to repentance are in line with OT prophecy. Both of them tell Israel to "convert" and be baptized as a sign for their repentance.
 - Repentance goes hand in hand with obedience (Mat. 3:1-9). God is concerned with inward repentance not mere outward signs.
- Jesus preaches that judgment is at hand because the kingdom is at hand (Mat. 3:10-12)
 - "spirit and fire" refers to Isaiah 4:4, where it is used for judgment.

Discussion Questions

- How does Luke 2:22-38 inform our understanding of the messianic expectation of the people at the time?
- Read Isaiah 4 and discuss how/if this informs the words of Jesus in Mat. 3: 11
- God is not concerned with outward signs (circumcision, baptism, deeds, etc.). Are there any areas in your life where you are too concerned about outward practices vs. the heart?