

# *The Gap Between the Rapture & the Tribulation*

## **I. Introduction:**

- This study addresses a **future prophetic gap**:
  - **Between the Rapture of the Body of Christ**
  - **And the beginning of Daniel's 70th Week (Tribulation)**

### **Why This Matters Practically**

- Affects how believers:
  - Interpret world events
  - Understand prophecy vs. mystery

## **II. The Foundation: Daniel's Seventy Weeks**

### **A. The Scope of the Prophecy (Daniel 9:24)**

- The 70 weeks are:
  - **Determined upon Daniel's people (Israel)**
  - **And Daniel's holy city (Jerusalem)**
- The goal:
  - End of sins & bring in everlasting righteousness – can **only** happen with the Kingdom
  - Kingdom establishment
- This is **Israel's prophetic timetable**, not the Church

### **B. Understanding "Weeks" as Weeks of Years**

- Hebrew idiom: **a week = seven years (1 day = 1 year)**
- Total duration: **490 years** – 70w x 7y. This is 70w till the **Kingdom**. Tribulation is the 70<sup>th</sup> week.
- Supported by:
  - Leviticus 25:8 – Jubilee year – 7x7y=49
  - Numbers 14:34 – wandering 40y – 1y for **each day** they spied out the land
  - Ezekiel 4:5-6 – years of iniquity placed on Israel/Judea according to days: 1 day = 1y

### **C. The First 69 Weeks (Daniel 9:25)**

- 7 weeks (49 years): rebuilding Jerusalem
- 62 weeks (434 years): leading to Messiah
- Ends with **Christ's Triumphant Entry** – (483 of 490 completed)

### III. The Prophetic Gap: Messiah Cut Off

#### A. Messiah Cut Off After the 69th Week (Daniel 9:26)

- Christ is *cut off* (killed) Isa 53:8:
  - **After** the 69th week (after the 7w, after the 62w =483y)
  - **Before** the 70th week
- The Cross occurs **in a gap** in the 70-week timeline (no small detail, see later)

#### B. Key Clarification

- The Cross was **prophesied**
- But it occurred **outside the measured weeks**
- This establishes the biblical precedent for a **prophetic gap**

### IV. Prophetic Gaps Illustrated Elsewhere

#### A. Israel's Feast Calendar (Leviticus 23) – a shadow of things to come (Col. 2:16,17)

- First four feasts fulfilled:
  - Passover (Lev 23:5) → Christ's death (1 Cor. 5:7)
  - Unleavened Bread (vv. 6-8) → Sinless sacrifice “lamb without blemish” (1 Pet. 1:19)
  - Firstfruits (vv. 10-14) → Resurrection of Christ (1 Cor. 15:20,23)
  - Pentecost (vv. 15-22) → Acts 2:1 The day of Pentecost was fully come.”
- All fulfilled & each begins the 1<sup>st</sup> month of Israel's calendar (Lev 23:4-5) and conclude 50 days later

#### B. The Feast Gap

- Gap of months before final three feasts:
  - Trumpets (vv. 24-25) - the gathering of redeemed Israel to enter the kingdom (Matt. 24:31)
  - Day of Atonement (vv. 27-32) Israel cleansed of sins nationally (Lev. 16:16,19,21,29-30)
    - foreshadowing the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ, when God takes away their sins nationally (Rom. 11:26,27)
  - Tabernacles (vv. 33-44) – *Gathered and atoned now* ready for the Kingdom
  - All begin in month 7 (v. 24)
- Illustrates:
  - Fulfillment is **not continuous**
  - God intentionally works with **gaps in prophecy**

### V. Critical Distinction: Not the Mystery

#### A. The Prophesied Gap vs. the Dispensation of Grace

- The gap in Daniel 9 is **prophesied**

- The Dispensation of Grace:
  - **Unprophesied**
  - Revealed later to Paul
- Grace is a “**gap within a gap**” – a “bracket”

## **B. Why This Matters**

- This prophesied gap between weeks 69 and 70:
  - Allowed God to seamlessly insert the present dispensation
- The prophetic gap:
  - Preserves God’s integrity
  - Makes room for the mystery program
  - Allowed for a time between rejecting/killing Messiah & wrath – **Psa 2:1-5**

## **VI. Israel’s One-Year Extension & Acts 1–7**

### **A. The Fig Tree Parable (Luke 13:6–9)**

- Three years: Christ’s earthly ministry
- One extra year granted:
  - Christ’s intercession: “Father, forgive them” (Luke 23:34)
- That year corresponds to **Acts 1–7**

### **B. Israel’s Final Rejection**

- Stoning of Stephen
- Israel’s leadership resists the Holy Ghost
- Nation is set aside
- Paul is saved (Acts 9)

## **VII. The Future Gap After the Rapture**

### **A. Why a Post-Rapture Gap Is Expected**

- Matthew 16:28 / Luke 9:27:
  - “Some standing here...shall see the kingdom”
- Matthew 24:34:
  - “This **generation** shall not pass...”
- These statements require:
  - **A paused prophetic clock**
  - Time remaining for that generation

## B. Conclusion

- Only **one year** of that generation passed before prophecy stopped
- Therefore:
  - **Up to a generation may remain after the Rapture**
  - Before the 70th week begins

## C. Defining a “generation”

- **Num 32:13** - And the LORD'S anger was kindled against Israel, and he made them wander in the wilderness **forty years**, until all the **generation**, that had done evil in the sight of the LORD, was consumed.