

Great Controversy Series
Judgment Time Is Here and Almost OVER!
Chapter 23 - What is the Sanctuary?
 Bible Sermon Study Notes: Cary Rodgers, Jr., pastor

“The scripture which above all others had been both the foundation and the central pillar of the advent faith was the declaration: ‘Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.’ Daniel 8:14.”
 - GC 409

What is a pillar? An upright shaft or structure, of stone, brick, or other material, relatively slender in proportion to its height, and of any shape in section, **used as a building support**, or standing alone, as for a monument

2300 day prophecy of Daniel 8:14 gives us clarity of the prophecies and fulfillment of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ and the urgency of the soon return of Jesus Christ. This message of the 2300 day prophecy of Daniel 8:14 is extremely critical for God’s last day people to understand. If you ignore, reject, and fail take heed to its message you will be easily swept away in the Mark of the Beast crisis. It is the central pillar that gives structure and helps support the other pillars our faith such as:

1. Righteousness by Faith
2. The Law of God [Remembering God's Seventh-day Sabbath]
3. The Health Message
4. Sanctuary Message (Daniel 8:14 – Central PILLAR)
5. State of the Dead
6. The Second Advent of Jesus Christ
7. Spirit of Prophecy

These seven pillars with the sanctuary message of Daniel 8:14 as the central pillar is the heart and soul of the true Seventh-day Adventist movement.

These seven pillars are not only the main support in which we build our faith on but it is also a memorial to the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ. If any of these pillars are broken or removed the building of your faith will come crumbing down with it.

Let’s briefly review Daniel 8:14

Where in Daniel is the interpretation and confirmation dates for 2300 year prophecy of Daniel 8:14 that not only reveals the cleansing of the sanctuary but also prophesied the exact day Jesus would be baptized, when He would be crucified, and the end of the probation of the Jewish nation? Daniel 9:24 – 27

When does the 2300 year timeline begin?

Daniel 9:25 Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

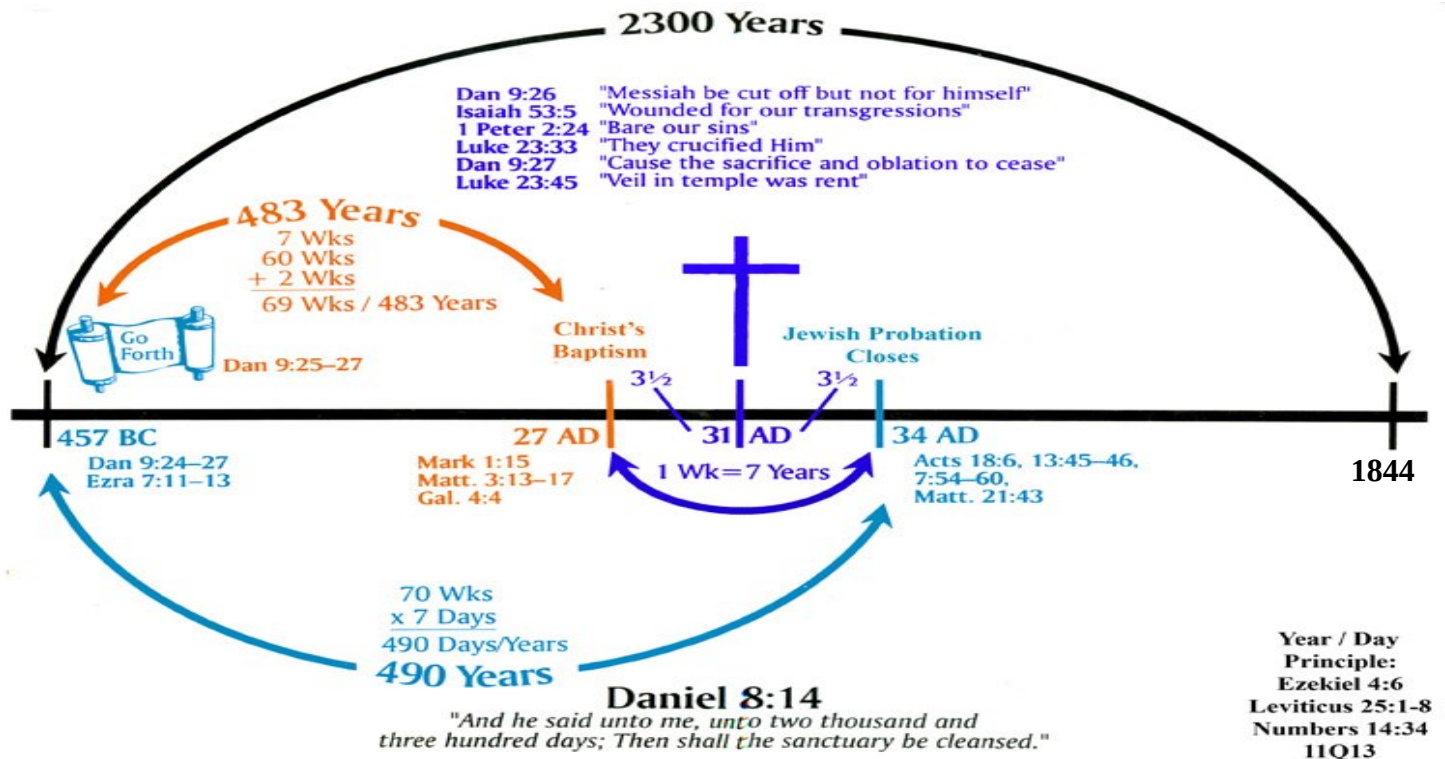
Prophecy: Decree to rebuild Jerusalem Fulfilled: Autumn of 457 B.C. by King Artaxerxes

457 BC is the start date of the 2300 year prophecy timeline.

What are the three key events on the 2300 year timeline that MUST happen on the exact date prophesied that confirms the accuracy of the start date 457 BC?

- 1) End of Jewish nation's probation
- 2) Baptism of Jesus
- 3) The crucifixion of Jesus

Review 2300 year chart



October 22, 1844

We learned from our previous studies that the time prophecy of Daniel 8:14, 2300 days the “sanctuary shall be cleansed” and Revelation 14:7 is referring to the investigative phase of judgment. William Miller and many others thought that the cleansing of the sanctuary and the hour of judgment was pointing to the executive phase of judgment in which they concluded was the end of the world and cleansing by fire. Based on the interpretation of Daniel 8:14 in Daniel 9:24 – 27, they believed that the coming of Jesus was going to take place on October 22, 1844. It was not until October 22, 1844 came and went did faithful realize their mistake that they got the right date but the wrong phase of judgment.

Cleansing of the Sanctuary

There is no denying of the accuracy of the dates and the prophetic fulfillment on the 2300 year timeline. Everything fits perfectly like a hand in glove. The few who persevered through the disappointment after October 22, 1844 had no doubt that God was leading them. Through earnest prayer they dug deeper in God’s word to see where they made a mistake. They checked and rechecked the dates on the 2300 timeline of Daniel 8:14. Every thing line up perfectly. Then they focused more on the meaning of “then shall the sanctuary be cleansed”. They looked at the popular belief that the sanctuary represented the earth. They discovered that the Bible did not support that assumption. They could not find one Bible text that pointed to the earth as being the sanctuary.

Earth and Heavenly Sanctuary

“In their investigation they learned that there is no Scripture evidence sustaining the popular view that the earth is the sanctuary; but they found in the Bible a full explanation of the subject of the sanctuary, its nature, location, and services; the testimony of the sacred writers being so clear and ample as to place the matter beyond all question. The apostle Paul, in the Epistle to the Hebrews, says: ‘Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary. And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the holiest of all; which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron’s rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; and over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercy seat.’ Hebrews 9:1-5.” GC 411

They discovered the purpose and lessons of the sanctuary. They also learned of its prophetic significance as it relates to the ministry of Jesus Christ. The lesson of the sanctuary on earth was a full scale model with services that illustrates the plan of salvation and how Jesus cleanses us from sin. They also discovered that the earthly sanctuary was a miniature model of the Heavenly sanctuary. Let’s learn more about this powerful sanctuary message that is especially needed for those living in the last days.

Why did God have Moses build a “sanctuary” in the wilderness?

Exodus 25:8-9

8 And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may **dwell** among them.

9 According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

Sanctuary = a sacred and holy place in which Christ wants to abide with His faithful children.

The earthly sanctuary was a miniature model of the heavenly sanctuary. How does Paul explain this relationship?

Hebrews 8:5

5 Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

Hebrews 9:9, 23, 24

9 Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;

23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

The sanctuary message teaches about way of salvation and how to have total victory over sin!

Psalms 77:13 Thy way, O God, *is* in the sanctuary: who *is so* great a God as *our* God?

“Way” - Hebrew (derek) : a *road* (as *trodden*); figuratively a course of life or mode of action,

Who is the Way?

John 14:6

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

All through out the sanctuary you learn about the full ministry of Jesus Christ and His plan of salvation. You also learn about how Jesus fulfilled prophecy revealed in the sanctuary, what He is currently doing in the Heavenly sanctuary as our High Priest and what He will do in the very near future.

What are the three main sections of the sanctuary and its meaning?

Three Main sections of the sanctuary	Its significance
1 – Courtyard	Teaches us about the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ and justification
2 – Holy Place	Teaches us about the heavenly ministry of Jesus Christ and sanctification
3 – Most Holy Place	Teaches us about what Jesus is currently doing in the heavenly sanctuary and the investigative judgment

Briefly go through the sanctuary and it’s meanings [show pictures] – How to have victory over sin!

	Sanctuary Item	Description	Meaning
J u s t i f i c a t i o n	Entrance Gate	Four Pillars White Fine twine linen Red, Purple, and Blue	Four Gospels Only one way to salvation through Jesus.. White = righteousness of Jesus Red = His atoning blood Blue = 10 commandments of God
	Altar of sacrifice / Brazen Altar	Square box overlaid with bronze with four horns on each corner. Daily sacrifices where place here	Jesus Christ our sacrifice The blood
	Laver	Polished bronze mirror like bowl with – like a mirror	Jesus is the everlasting water. Cleanse by the blood (cross of Christ) & water (baptism)
S a n c	Holy Place Entrance	Five Pillars with linen	Names of Christ: Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace (Isa 9:6)
	Table of Shewbread (In the holy place)	Table of wood overlaid with gold with and a crown molding on top. 2 columns of six flat cakes baked bread on top.	Humanity and divinity of Christ. King of king who uphold the church of God. Christ is also the bread of life. We must eat it daily in order to be holy in the holy place.

t i f i C a t i O n	Golden Candlesticks (In the holy place)	Seven lamps overlaid with gold to give light in the holy place daily supplied with olive oil	Jesus is the light of the world. As his messengers we should also be a light to the world. The holy spirit is the olive oil that supplies the light
	Altar of Incense (In the holy place)	Overlaid with pure gold with sweet incense before the veil that separated the holy from the most holy place. The incense fill the both place with a sweet aroma.	Incense represents the prayers and holy life of the saints
	Ark of the covenant (In the Most holy place)	Over laid with gold with two cherub on each end with its wing arcing over the mercy throne of God. Inside was Aaron rod budded, pot of manna, and 2 table of stone of the 10 commandments that God spoke and wrote with his own finger	Throne of God mixed with Judgment and mercy. We are judged from the commandments

“In the temple in heaven, the dwelling place of God, His throne is established in righteousness and judgment. In the most holy place is His law, the great rule of right by which all mankind are tested. The ark that enshrines the tables of the law is covered with the mercy seat, before which Christ pleads His blood in the sinner's behalf. Thus is represented the union of justice and mercy in the plan of human redemption.” GC 415

What are the main lessons that the sanctuary message teach us?

10 Main lessons that the sanctuary message teach us:

1. Practical teaching tool of God's plan of salvation and how he deals with the sin problem
2. The prophecies of Jesus and how he fulfilled each one of those prophecies
3. Sacrifice of Jesus and his mission
4. What Jesus is currently doing in heaven
5. God's character
6. How to have total VICTORY over sin
7. True holiness
8. Character, health, and dress reformation
9. Justification, sanctification, and glorification
10. When the investigative judgment will take place

How does the blood relate to our salvation and cleansing from sin?

Hebrews 9:22-23

22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

Remission (Greek) = Thayer Definition:

- 1) release from bondage or imprisonment
- 2) forgiveness or pardon, of sins

Blood = Cleansing = Freedom FROM SIN! Victory!

No Blood = No Cleansing = No Freedom From Sin

What does the blood represent?

Leviticus 17:11

11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

Life is in the BLOOD! The spilled blood represents death.

“The cleansing, both in the typical and in the real service, must be accomplished with blood: in the former, with the blood of animals; in the latter, with the blood of Christ. Paul states, as the reason why this cleansing must be performed with blood, that without shedding of blood is no remission. Remission, or putting away of sin, is the work to be accomplished. But how could there be sin connected with the sanctuary, either in heaven or upon the earth? This may be learned by reference to the symbolic service; for the priests who officiated on earth, served "unto the example and shadow of heavenly things." Hebrews 8:5. GC 417

What were the two main services associated with the earthly sanctuary?

1) Daily Service 2) Yearly Service

Daily Service Actions

- 1) Sinner brings in sacrifice through the gate at the altar
- 2) Lays hands on the sacrifice symbolically transferring his sins to the sacrifice
- 2) Sinner takes a knife and kills the sacrifice
- 3) The priest catches the blood in a bowl
- 4) The sinner sin is then symbolically transferred to the holy place in the temple. The priest either sprinkled the blood before the veil that separates holy from the most holy place or eat some the flesh of the sacrifice in the holy place

Holy Place = Record Room of Sin

When the sins were symbolically transferred to the holy place it was a record of the sinner's sins. Daily the sins of the people were placed and recorded in the holy place.

“Such was the work that went on, day by day, throughout the year. The sins of Israel were thus transferred to the sanctuary, and a special work became necessary for their removal. God commanded that an atonement be made for each of the sacred apartments.” - GC 418

Having a record of your confessed sin is not enough. What does Jesus promise to do will our sins if we confess and forsake sin?

1 John 1:9

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

What is the cleansing of the sanctuary? (type)**Year Service Actions = Day of Atonement , the cleansing of the sanctuary****Leviticus 16:16**

16 And he shall make an atonement for the holy place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions in all their sins: and so shall he do for the tabernacle of the congregation, that remaineth among them in the midst of their uncleanness.

An atonement was also to be made for the altar, to "cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel." (Leviticus 16:19.)

The yearly service illustrates how Jesus totally cleanses us from sin. It also teaches us where all confessed sins will ultimately go and who has to bare them and receive the punishment for them.

- 1) Only the high priest can perform this service one a year
- 2) Chooses two goats – one to be sacrificed for the Lord, the other will be the scapegoat (cast lots)
- 3) High Priest takes the blood of the Lord's goat and goes into the most Holy place before the ark of the covenant
- 4) High Priest sprinkles the blood upon the mercy seat of God seven times
- 5) Places hand on the scapegoat at the courtyard entrance symbolically transferring all the sins that were recorded in the holy place unto the scapegoat
- 6) A fit man runs the scapegoat into secluded wilderness never to return to the camp

Day of Investigative Judgment

The day of atonement was a very serious day for the people of God. Each record that was recorded in the Holy place. It was a day of the investigative judgment. Each confessed sin that was symbolically transferred and recorded in the holy place was examined. Did the sinner who confessed his/her sin have total victory over the sin that they confessed? What does the record now show? Repent or repeat. Covered by the blood or Uncovered. Not Guilty or Guilty. Victory or still in bondage.

When was the literal fulfillment of the cleansing of the sanctuary?

Remember the sanctuary was a miniature model of the heavenly sanctuary. Its items and services were types and symbols that was fulfilled in the ministry of Jesus Christ. The daily and yearly service were shadows of the ministry of Jesus Christ and how He cleanse us from sin.

“Such was the service performed ‘unto the example and shadow of heavenly things.’ And what was done in type in the ministration of the earthly sanctuary is done in reality in the ministration of the heavenly sanctuary. After His ascension our Saviour began His work as our high priest. Says Paul: ‘Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.’” Hebrews 9:24. GC 420

Was Jesus plan of salvation finished at the cross? Did Jesus go back to Heaven to retire and wait until we are ready from Him to come back?

Where did Jesus our High Priest go in the heavenly sanctuary to minister when He returned from His ministry on this earth? [VERY IMPORTANT]

Hebrews 9:12

12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the **holy place**, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Notice Jesus entered the Holy Place in the literal heavenly sanctuary as our High Priest in 31 AD. He did not enter into the MOST Holy Place at that time. Jesus ministry was not DONE or finished at the cross. **You can see that from the daily service, if it ended there we would not be cleansed from our sins. This is extremely important because it gives you better understanding of Daniel 8:14, the cleansing of the sanctuary, that points to the literal time of investigative judgment.**

In some Bible translation version such as the NIV or NKJV they added that Jesus went into the “most holy place.” They added the word “most” holy place to imply that there was no cleansing of the sanctuary that took place and that Jesus’ work of redemption all ended at the cross. This is a deception by Satan. This is the reason why God’s people should not use a Bible translation like the NIV and the NKJV, this major addition destroys the central pillar of the SDA movement. How can any SDA pastor or church promote or use versions like these in any way. The NIV and NKJV in this insistence added to God’s Word!

“For eighteen centuries this work of ministration continued in the first apartment of the sanctuary. The blood of Christ, pleaded in behalf of penitent believers, secured their pardon and acceptance with the Father, yet their sins still remained upon the books of record. As in the typical service there was a work of atonement at the close of the year, so before Christ's work for the redemption of men is completed there is a work of atonement for the removal of sin from the sanctuary.” GC 421

Day of Atonement = Cleansing of the Sanctuary = Investigative Judgment

Remember, Daniel saw the beginning of the investigative judgment date set in Daniel 7:10

Daniel 7:10

10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the **judgment was set**, and the books were opened.

Paul also talked about investigate judgment appointed time

Acts 17:31 Because he hath **appointed a day**, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Daniel 8:14 gives the time when the investigate judgment will be begin.

Daniel 8:14

14 And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

This prophecy was not referring to the sanctuary on earth because the sanctuary in Jerusalem at the time of Daniel was in ruins and hundreds years later in 70 AD burned down again. It has never been rebuilt even until this day. The sanctuary that the prophecy is referring to is the heavenly sanctuary.

Every timeline starts with a decree and speaking voice. As we already studied the 2300 day timeline starts at the decree of Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem was the autumn 457 BC (Daniel 9:25). Remember the anchor points that confirm that date is the baptism of Jesus Christ, His death on the cross, and the stoning of Stephen.

When did the investigative judgment, cleansing of the sanctuary, begin in heaven? October 22, 1844

Revelation 14:7 confirms that we are living in the time of investigative judgment

Revelation 14:7

7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

We are almost at the end of the investigative judgment! Probation is soon to close.

“And as the typical cleansing of the earthly was accomplished by the removal of the sins by which it had been polluted, so the actual cleansing of the heavenly is to be accomplished by the removal, or blotting out, of the sins which are there recorded. But before this can be accomplished, there must be an examination of the books of record to determine who, through repentance of sin and faith in Christ, are entitled to the benefits of His atonement. The cleansing of the sanctuary therefore involves a work of investigation--a work of judgment. This work must be performed prior to the coming of Christ to redeem His people; for when He comes, His reward is with Him to give to every man according to his works. Revelation 22:12.” {GC 421.3}

The day of atonement service gives a prophecy that the scapegoat represents Satan. At the end of time all confessed sins that are cleansed out of the sanctuary will be placed on Satan. He will be punished for ALL confessed sins of the saints of God. Those who want to hold on to sin will be punish for their own sins.

2300 Year, Cleansing of the Sanctuary understood

“Thus those who followed in the light of the prophetic word saw that, instead of coming to the earth at the termination of the 2300 days in 1844, Christ then entered the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary to perform the closing work of atonement preparatory to His coming.” GC 422

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

What is our condition in this fearful and solemn time?

“Alas, what pride is prevailing in the church, what hypocrisy, what deception, what love of dress, frivolity, and amusement, what desire for the supremacy! All these sins have clouded the mind, so that eternal things have not been discerned. **Shall we not search the Scriptures, that we may know where we are in this world's history? Shall we not become intelligent in regard to the work that is being accomplished for us at this time, and the position that we as sinners should occupy while this work of atonement is going forward?** If we have any regard for our souls' salvation, we must make a decided change. We must seek the Lord with true penitence; we must with deep contrition of soul confess our sins, that they may be blotted out.” {1SM 125.2}

What are two things you can do, but two things that is impossible for you?

You can repent and confess your sins. Only Jesus can forgive and cleanse you from ALL unrighteous!

Appeal

Next lesson we are going to learn more about Jesus role as our High Priest in the Most Holy Place... the holy of holies.