

have occurred exactly as predicted . . . from the going forth of the divine command. Daniel right in this ch. refers to Jeremiah's prediction. Certainly (he had in view) this divine word to Jeremiah.

So here is the 49 weeks exactly. That suggests that probably the rest is also weeks of years. I don't ~~don~~ say it absolutely proves it, but it strongly suggests it that the rest are going to be weeks of years. God gives us things that have happened in the past in precise ways to strengthen our faith, but for the future God is telling us that of the times and seasons you are not to know. You are to serve the Lord and follow him, and be waiting and looking for what God will bring. A general idea. He does not usually pinpoint.

Sixty-two weeks are ~~na~~ ahead. How long are 62 weeks? If you multiply that by 7 you get about 434 years. What happened in 434 years after ~~52~~ 538 B.C.? Nothing of any importance to us. So what are we going to do with that? Well, there is a characteristic feature in the book of Daniel that we need to note. . . . The characteristic feature is an unmentioned interval. You look at Dan. 2 and there we have a statement in vv. 36-38 the description of this image that represents the history of the great empire. This is a great image. He will tell the interpretation before the king. It is a great image with different types of materials representing different empires.

He says at the end of Dan. 2:38, "Thou art the head of gold, and after thee shall arise another kingdom . . ." ~~XXXXX~~ Nebuchadnezzar died and was succeeded by his very weak son, and he was succeeded by a usurper and he was succeeded by a strong man who after he became quite elderly died and was succeeded by his son. Then there was another ruler. There were at least four rulers after Daniel before the second empire. There is a period of at least 20 years passed over, skipped. There is an unmentioned interval.

You look at Dan. 7 and there are four empires. Most evangelical interpreters think of them as the Roman empire, but we find this the fourth of them empire destroyed and the Son of Man comes back. Somewhere in there there is an unmentioned interval.

We look at Dan. 11, which begins with a description of the armies of Xerxes as they went to try to conquer Greece (v. 2) and v. 3 tells about the coming of Alexander the Great more than 150 years later to destroy the Persian empire. You read vv. 2-3 and you would think they came the one right after the other! There is an unmentioned interval of 150 years! This description in ch. 11 goes on in ch. 12 to the resurrection. There is an unmentioned interval somewhere there. Now I believe most present evangelical scholars think that unmentioned interval comes between vv. 35 and v. 36. Before v. 35 it is telling about Antiochus Epiphanes, and in v. 36 it says the king shall do according to his will. What king?