

## Other Validation of the Fulfilled Time of Daniel Applied to the Cross

I had meant to mention in my sermon that the Harper's Study Bible<sup>1</sup> has the following comments regarding the beginning of the prophecy of Daniel 8:14 as explained to Daniel by the angel Gabriel in Daniel 9:24-27:

“The prophecy of the seventy weeks has been variously interpreted. One conclusion seems self-evident. Each *week* or ‘heptad’ must be a period of seven years or a total of 490 years. Daniel divides this period into three parts; the first has seven weeks or 49 years, the second has sixty-two weeks or 434 years, and the third has one week or seven years... The *terminus a quo* (point of beginning) for the commencement of these sixty-nine weeks of years is stated to be *from the going forth of the word (or decree) to restore and build Jerusalem* (ver. 25). This may refer to the divine decree or one of three historical edicts: (1) the decree of King Cyrus in 538 B.C. (Ezra 1:1-4); (2) the order of Artaxerxes to Ezra in 457 B.C. (which apparently involved authority to erect the walls of Jerusalem, cf. Ezra 7:6-7; 9:9; (3) the order to Nehemiah in 445 B.C. to carry through the rebuilding of the walls (which Ezra had not been able to accomplish). Of these choices, (1) must be ruled out as coming nowhere near to the time of Christ's ministry; (3) comes out too late, unless lunar years are used for the computation; only (2) comes right according to regular solar years, for it yields the result of A.D. 27, or the commencement of Christ's ministry.

1 *Harper Study Bible, Revised Standard Version, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, © 1972, footnote pp. 1312-1313.*

Underlined section Pastor Taber's emphasis.