

HAS ISRAEL RECEIVED THEIR PRINCE?

According to Noah Webster's 1828 dictionary of the English language, a Prince is: **In a general sense, a sovereign; the chief and independent ruler of a nation or state.**

It seems there is a general belief that Jesus came as Israel's Prince in His earthly ministry, however scripture does not indicate this to be the case.

I do recognize that in **Daniel 9:25-26** there appears to be an obvious answer to this issue: If the **threescore and two** week period in verse 26 refers back to the **threescore and two** week period in verse 25, (if these two time periods have the same starting and ending point) then we would have to conclude Jesus did come as Israel's Prince at that time. However, when other scriptures are considered (Dan. 8:13-14, 9:24, 12:11-12, Matt. Ch 24, 2 Thess. Ch 2, Rev. 11:3, 12:6, 12:14, 13:5), I find that 69 weeks have not yet been fulfilled.

It must be noted here that the Authorized King James Bible does not add the word **"the"** in verse 26 between **"after"** and **"threescore"**. Most of the "Bible versions" add a **"the"** in this location forcing the threescore and two of verse 26 to refer back to the threescore and two of verse 25. Adding that one little word forces error in the outcome of understanding the entire seventy-week vision. ***A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.*** With the words given in the Authorized King James Bible, the time listed in verse 26 can begin with the going forth of the commandment, as it does in verse 25.

We should ponder the reason Gabriel distinguished between **Messiah the Prince** in verse 25 and simply **Messiah** in verse 26. They are of course the same person; however, Jesus is not always Israel's Prince. A fair question then is when does He come and fill the role as their Prince? I believe God sent the exact words to Daniel to tell us. The cross took place sixty-two weeks from the commandment, and it will be sixty-nine weeks from the commandment when Israel's Prince comes. Also, the passage says it was **Messiah** who was cut off, not Messiah **the Prince**. When all of the scriptures which describe Jesus' role as Israel's Prince are considered, it is impossible that anyone could have killed Israel's Prince - it was the Messiah that was cut off and not Messiah the Prince.

Listed below are a few points which indicate Jesus was not Israel's Prince when He rode into Jerusalem on the colt:

1. **Acts 5:30-31, The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.** Here we see that it is the risen Christ Jesus that God exalted to be (future of Him being raised from the grave) a Prince and a Savior to Israel. Per scripture it is not possible for Jesus to have been Israel's Prince when He rode into

Jerusalem before His crucifixion. He will be their Prince and fulfill that role at His second coming.

Concerning Jesus being raised from the grave to be Israel's Savior, **Acts 3:19** shows that believing Israel receives their atonement, their sins being blotted out, when Jesus comes the second time. The Gospel of the Kingdom and Gospel of the Circumcision believers had to maintain their faith to the end of their lives or they could not renew – **Matthew 24:13, Hebrews 6:14**. Yes, Jesus died for their sins, however they do not receive the atonement until His second coming. See **I Peter 1:5, 1:9, 1:13**, where their salvation comes later. This shows us that He was not Israel's Prince nor Savior when He rode into Jerusalem on the colt. Jesus will fulfill this prophecy in the future at His second coming.

2. It is important to keep in mind the seventy-week prophecy given to Daniel concerns Daniel's people and their holy city, Jerusalem. **Isaiah 9:6-7** says of Jesus that ***the government shall be upon his shoulder***. At no time during His earthly ministry did He govern over Israel nor the holy city. His coming as Israel's Prince coincides with His governing over them. In His role as Israel's Prince, Jesus Christ will cast Satan into the bottomless pit (Rev. 19:3), He will reign over Daniel's people in mount Zion (Micah 4:7), the government shall be upon His shoulder (Isaiah 9:6-7), He will govern peace among the nations (Micah 4:3, Zech. 14:9), He will execute judgment and righteousness in the land (Ez. 8:17), He will rule with the rod of iron (Rev. 19:15), He will build a temple for the millennium (Zech. 6:12), and He will put His law in their hearts (Jer. 31:31-33). When Jesus rode into the holy city before His crucifixion He had performed none of these activities.
3. The scriptures referenced in #2 above show that the Prince of Daniel's people will need a physical kingdom to govern. When Jesus' earthly ministry began, the kingdom of heaven (the heavenly kingdom on earth He was to rule over) was "at hand", however it did not come to pass as they rejected and killed their King. After His resurrection the apostles asked if He would restore the kingdom to Israel and He did not tell them the time but went on to ascend to the Father – it was not yet time for Him to be Israel's Prince. **Acts 3:21** says of Jesus, ***Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began***. Note Revelation 11:15 as to when Jesus will get the kingdom(s).
4. When Jesus was answering to Pilot before His crucifixion He said, ***John 18:36, Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence***. When Jesus comes the second time and fills the role of Israel's Prince, He certainly will come to fight and will be put down by no one.