

Daniel 9:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

Analysis

The prophecy foretells tragedy: 'And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.' 'Messiah be cut off' predicts His death. 'Not for himself' indicates substitutionary atonement—dying for others' sins. The 'people of the prince' (Romans) destroyed Jerusalem and temple in AD 70. The language of flood and desolation describes thorough destruction. This prophecy encompasses both Christ's atoning death and Jerusalem's later judgment.

Historical Context

Jesus's crucifixion occurred approximately AD 30-33, fulfilling 'Messiah be cut off.' The phrase 'not for himself' echoes Isaiah 53's Suffering Servant dying for others' sins. Roman armies under Titus besieged and destroyed Jerusalem in AD 70, razing the temple and killing an estimated 1 million Jews (Josephus). Jesus predicted this destruction (Matthew 24; Luke 19:41-44). The prophecy's dual focus—Messiah's death and Jerusalem's destruction—shows redemptive history's trajectory: atonement followed by judgment on those who rejected Messiah.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does 'cut off but not for himself' provide Old Testament foundation for understanding Christ's substitutionary atonement?
2. What does the prophecy linking Messiah's death to Jerusalem's destruction teach about rejecting God's provision bringing judgment?

Interlinear Text

וְאַתָּה מֶשֶׁךְ יְמִינְךָ וְאַתָּה
And after weeks threescore and two be cut off shall Messiah H369
H310 H7620 H8346 H8147 H3772 H4899

עַמְּדָה בְּשִׁיחַת וּבְעִיר לֹא
the city and the sanctuary shall destroy but not for himself and the people H5704
H5892 H6944 H7843 H5971

וְעַד בְּשִׁיחַת הַבָּא קְרַב יְדֵךְ
of the prince that shall come and the end thereof shall be with a flood H5704
H5057 H935 H7093 H7858

קְרַב שְׁמִינִית הַמְּלֵטָה נְחַלְּצָת שְׁמִינִית:
and the end of the war are determined desolations H8074
H7093 H4421 H2782

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 53:8 (Parallel theme): He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Nahum 1:8 (Parallel theme): But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter end of the place thereof, and darkness shall pursue his enemies.

Mark 13:2 (Parallel theme): And Jesus answering said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

Mark 9:12 (Parallel theme): And he answered and told them, Elias verily cometh first, and restoreth all things; and how it is written of the Son of man, that he must suffer many things, and be set at nought.

Matthew 24:2 (Parallel theme): And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

Luke 24:26 (Parallel theme): Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

1 Peter 2:24 (Parallel theme): Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Isaiah 8:7 (Parallel theme): Now therefore, behold, the Lord bringeth up upon them the waters of the river, strong and many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory: and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks:

2 Corinthians 5:21 (Parallel theme): For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Galatians 3:13 (Parallel theme): Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: