

An Uncensored Reading of the Purim Story with Chana Weisberg

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: The Seventy Year Prophecy

Jeremiah 25:11, 12 “This whole land shall be a desolation of waste and these nations shall serve the King of Babylonia for 70 years. But when the 70 years are over, I (G-d) will punish the king of Babylonia and that nation for their iniquity.”

Jerermiah 29:10 “For thus says G-d, ‘After 70 years are completed, I will consider you and keep my promise to you to bring you back to this place.’”

3319 *Nevuchadnetzer* assumes the throne of Babylonia, defeats *Yehoyakim*, King of Judea. The Jewish state becomes a vassal of Babylonia.

3321 *Jeremiah* predicted destruction of the Temple (Jer. Ch. 25)

3327 *Nevuchadnetzer* exiled King *Yechoniya* and leaders of the Jewish people including *Mordechai*

3338 Destruction of the first Temple.

WHEN DOES THE SEVENTY YEAR PERIOD BEGIN?

3389 —*Balshatzar*, son of *Nevuchadnetzer* made a feast celebrating the end of the 70 years and ordered the use of the Temple vessels. (3319 + 70=3389). Handwriting appeared on the wall, “Menei Menei Tikel Ufarsin,” (measured, measure, weighed and divided). *Balshatzar* was assassinated at this party by *Darius* and the Persian empire takes over Babylonia.

3390 —*Cyrus*, son of *Darius* becomes King. And a year later, allows the rebuilding of the Temple to escape Divine wrath. But before much work is done, *Cyrus* dies, *Achashverosh* becomes king and doesn’t allow work on the Temple.

3395—In this third year of *Achashverosh’s* rule he makes a party celebrating the end of the 70 years. (70+3327=3395). In this party, *Vashti* is killed and soon after *Esther* is chosen queen.

3400—*Darius II* is born to *Esther* and *Achashverosh*.

3404—Downfall of *Haman*.

3406—*Achashverosh* dies, *Darius II* succeeds him. Though he is only 6 years, he is brilliant and is aware that his mother and he are Jewish.

3408—*Darius II* allows the rebuilding of the Temple. The mystery of the 70 year prophecy is solved. 3338 (destruction of Temple) + 70 = 3408.