

Daniel's 70 Weeks

Rationale for Taking 1,260 Days as Literal

²⁴ “Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city ... ²⁵ Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks ... ²⁶ And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing

(Daniel 9:24-26)

Beginning of the Prophecy	
Artaxerxes' decree to rebuild Jerusalem was in the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of his reign (Neh. 2:1, 5, 8)	Artaxerxes began to reign in 465 B.C. Twentieth year of his reign: 465 – 20 years = 445 B.C.
Account for “ascension year” which is excluded in calculation of reigns of Persian kings	444 B.C.
If a specific day is excluded, this often signifies that the 1 st day of the month is specified	Nisan 1, 444 B.C.
Convert from Jewish calendar to Gregorian calendar	Nisan 1 = March 28, 444 B.C.
Account for the difference between Hebrew and Babylonian calendars	March 28 → February 27, 444 B. C.
Therefore, the day when Daniel's prophecy begins is:	February 27, 444 B. C.
Add 69 Weeks	
Multiply 69 weeks by 7 years to calculate number of years between start of prophecy and death of anointed one	69 weeks x 7 years = 483 years
Multiply 483 years by the Hebrew 360-day year (a calendar which utilizes twelve 30-day months)	483 years x 360 days = 173,880 days
Convert biblical years (360 days) to Gregorian years (365 days) There are 365.24219879 days in 1 Gregorian year (accounting for leap years)	173,880 days / 365.24219879 = 476 years and 24.7 days
Add 69 weeks to start of prophecy	February 27, 444 B.C. + 476 years and 24.7 days = March 24, A.D. 33
Therefore, Daniel's 69 weeks ends on:	Gregorian calendar: March 24, A.D. 33 Jewish calendar: Nisan 6
Day of Jesus' Death	
Jesus must have died while Caiaphas was high priest and Pilate was governor	High Priest Caiaphas: A.D. 18—37 Governor Pontius Pilate: A.D. 26—36
Jesus died in a year when the Passover landed on a Friday	Within the range of A.D. 30—34, the only year when Passover was on a Friday is A.D. 33
Therefore, the date of Jesus' death is:	Gregorian calendar: April 1, 33 A.D. Jewish calendar: Nisan 14

Conclusion

Daniel's 69 weeks ends one week before Jesus' death, the day before He arrived in Bethany to spend his final Sabbath with Lazarus, Martha, and Mary who would anoint Him for this coming burial. The following day Jesus would ride triumphally into Jerusalem, His death just days away.

March 24 = Nisan 6-7
 March 25 = Nisan 7-8
 March 26 = Nisan 8-9
 March 27 = Nisan 9-10
 March 28 = Nisan 10-11
 March 29 = Nisan 11-12
 March 30 = Nisan 12-13
 March 31 = Nisan 13-14
 April 1 = Nisan 14-15
 April 2 = Nisan 15-16
 April 3 = Nisan 16-17

Thursday: **END OF DANIEL'S 69 WEEKS**
 Friday: Jesus arrives in Jerusalem (John 12:1)
 Saturday: Sabbath in Bethany (John 12:9-11)
 Sunday: Triumphal entry (John 12:12)
 Monday: Curses fig tree (Mark 11:12)
 Tuesday: Teaches in the temple (Mark 11:20)
 Wednesday: Judas agrees to betray (Mark 14:1)
 Thursday: Upper room + Jesus arrested (John 13-18)
 Friday: **Crucifixion** (John 19:1-30)
 Saturday: In the grave (John 19:31-42)
 Sunday: Resurrection (John 20)