

b. Analysis of the passage itself

"Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to take atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most holy place. So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a word to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in the times of distress. Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who made desolate."