

In order to understand the final kings and kingdoms in the book of Revelation one must follow the progression presented in Daniel.

Daniel begins with the Kingdom of Babylon, learns of the coming of the Medo-Persian Empire and is given visions of Greece and Rome. The final kingdoms to come are sealed up for another day; to be revealed to John in the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

The timing of events are revealed in Daniel 9.

“Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. 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. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate”

There is a purpose to the time determined upon Israel; to make reconciliation for iniquity; to bring in everlasting righteousness; and to seal up and anoint. This purpose tells us a lot about the final plan of God. The Revelation shows the end of the world, details about the seventieth week and the bringing in of everlasting righteousness.

“And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever” Rev 22

The time given in Daniel is 70 weeks of years; 490 years. This is broken up into 3 parts; 7 weeks; 62 weeks and 1 week. (49 years, 434 years and 7 years)

The first two parts are fulfilled; they end with Messiah being cut off, but not for himself.

The first 7 weeks begin when the commandment to restore Jerusalem comes by The Persian King Cyrus; In his first year as king of Babylon.

First Year of Cyrus;

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The Lord God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. (Ezra 1:1)

According to the best historical data the first year of Cyrus as king of Persia was 550 BC and his conquering of Babylon was 539 BC. In light of the fact that he could not restore a people captive to another nation, and that Daniel's view is from the perspective of Babylon, we believe that the commandment to restore Jerusalem came when Cyrus conquered Babylon; 539 BC.

The Kings of Persia are as listed here.

Cyrus 550BC-530 BC

Cambyses 530 BC-522 BC

Darius I (son of Hystapes) 522 BC-486 BC

Xerxes 486 BC-465 BC

Artaxerxes (Longimanus) 465 BC-424 BC (Ahasueras)

Darius II 424 BC-405 BC

Artaxerxes II 404 BC-358 BC

Artaxerxes III (Ochus) 358-338 BC

Arses 338-336 BC

Darius (Codomannus) 336-332 BC (Conquered by Alexander of Macedon)

Another important piece of information is the identity of Darius the Mede (Dan 11:1). He is the Median ruler, under Cyrus, who conquered Babylon and ruled over a part of the empire under Cyrus. The Medians were allies with Babylon against Assyria, but joined with The Persians to conquer Babylon when it began to weaken. The relationship between the Persians, the Medes and the Babylonians is difficult to discern from historical records, but the Medes and the Persians became very closely linked with Cyrus taking over head ruler ship of both, but a "king" of the Medes remained.

The timing therefore is as follows:

Jeremiahs prophecy of 70 years of bondage fits from 609 BC until 539 BC. 609 BC is when Pharaoh Necho takes Jehoiakim and replaces Jehoahaz as king. Jehoiakim serves Nebuchadnezzar. (These dates may be moved slightly later to when Jehoiakim actually chooses to serves Nebuchadnezzar.) see Jeremiah 25 and 29

And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the Lord, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations (Jer 25:11-12)

Dan 9:2; Daniel Understand by books the seventy years of service to Babylon and asked when this should come to pass; the vision of seventy weeks was the answer.

The first period of 7 weeks (49 yrs) is from 539 BC-490 BC. (Or somewhat later) This goes into the time of Darius I. There seems to have been a halt on the work in Jerusalem after this because of the trouble caused by the people around about Jerusalem who wrote letters and spoke against Israel. This pause continued until Ezra, Nehemiah, Zechariah and Haggai came and pushed them through. Everything was set for the 62 week period to begin in 404 BC.

Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah, and troubled them in building, And hired counsellors against them, to frustrate their purpose, all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia. And in the reign of Ahasuerus, in the beginning of his reign, wrote they unto him an accusation against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem. (Ezra 4:4-6).

Darius I finds the command of Cyrus to rebuild Jerusalem in Achmetha (Ecbatana). (Ezra 6) Ecbatana was and is a city in Media; now western Iran.

Specific letter to Artaxerxes I (Ahasueras) in his first year (465 BC) requesting that he stop allowing the Jews to rebuild Jerusalem. (Ezra 4:11).

Ezra receives letter from Artaxerxes I, in his 7th year, (458 BC) commending him to fulfill the command to rebuild Jerusalem. (Ezra 7)

Haggai prophecies:

In the second year of Darius the king, (422 BC) in the sixth month, in the first day of the month, came the word of the Lord by Haggai the prophet unto Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying” (Haggai 1:1)

In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of the Lord unto Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying (Zech 1:1)

The time of Nehemiah; beginning in the 20th year of Artaxerxes, 445 BC; rebuilding the wall in troublous times. Nehemiah became governor for 12 years. (Neh 5:14) (445 BC-433 BC)

The beginning of the 62 week period (434 yrs) is 404 BC, and it ends in 30 AD.

404 BC is the first year of Artaxerxes II. This is based on the crucifixion of Jesus being in 30 AD; when Messiah was cut off, but not for himself. (Jesus crucified in 30 AD; born in 4 BC.)

The final week begins with the catching away of the church and the free reign of the destruction of sin in the earth until the final end and restoration of righteousness.

Esther is not well worked out, but clearly Mordecai was in the captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon and ended up in Shushan a city of the Medes in that province of the greater Babylonian empire.

“Now in Shushan the palace there was a certain Jew, whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite; Who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captivity which had been carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away” (Esth 2:5) (About 597 BC).

Esther’s Ahasueras must have been before or in the time of Cyrus. Shushan is the palace in the province of Elam which borders Babylon.

In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes (2 Ki 17:6 Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus, (this is Ahasuerus which reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia, over an hundred and seven and twenty provinces:) That in those days, when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the palace, In the third year of his reign (Esth 1:1-3)

The king who was closest to the captivity of 597 BC and who reigned over Egypt was likely a Median ally of Babylon. Probably about 550 BC. Esther therefore could have had some effect on the disposition of Cyrus himself.

Table 1

	615	610	609	606	605	604	601	600
Egypt	Piankhi	Piankhi	Piankhi	Piankhi	Piankhi/ Smenes II	Piankhi	Piankhi	Piankhi
Egypt	Pedubast II 617-609 BC	Pedubast II	Pedubast II	Pedubast II	Pedubast II	Pedubast II	Pedubast II	
Egypt	Shabaka	Shabaka	Shabaka	Shabaka	Shabaka	Shabaka	Shabaka	Shabaka
Egypt	Osorkon IV 619-604 BC	Osorkon IV/ <i>Neferkare</i>	Osorkon IV/ <i>Neferkare</i>	Osorkon IV/ <i>Neferkare</i>	Osorkon IV/ <i>Neferkare</i>	Osorkon IV/ <i>Neferkare</i>	(Aakheperure Amenhotep)?	
	617 Tefnakht Rebellion Stele		Battle of Carchimish Jer 46:1-5 Necho of Egypt defeated			2Ki 24:7		Shabaka begins more independent rule
		Necho goes out to fight at Carchemish against Babylon	2 Ki 23:27 2Chr 36:3 Necho of Egypt puts down Jehoahaz					
Judah	Josiah	Josiah	Jehoahaz 609 BC Jehoiakim	Jehoiakim 609-598 BC	Jehoiakim 609-598 BC	Jehoiakim 609-598 BC	Jehoiakim 609-598 BC	Jehoiakim 609-598 BC
	18th year kept passover 2Chr 35:19; 2Ki 23:23	Josiah killed by Necho of Egypt (2Ki 23; 2Chr 35:20) (609 BC)		3rd yr of Jehoiakim Daniel to Babylon (Dan 1:1; 2Ki 24:7)		2Ki 24:1 Tribute to Babylon 3 years	Jehoiakim changes back to Egypt 2 Kings 24:1 (After battle noted in Babylonian Chronicle at border of Egypt	
	2 Ki 23:25-27			Jer 25:1; Dan 1:1; 2:1 Jeremiah 45:1		Urijah Jer 26:20-23 Killed by Jehoiakim		
Tyre								
	Jer 4:7	Ninevah sacked 612 BC by Medes and Babylonians		Nebuchadnezzar as crown Prince	Battle at Carchemish in Babylonian Chronicle 605 BC	All Hatti lands bow to Nebuchadnezzar	601 BC brutal battle between Babylon and Egypt in Babylonian Chronicle	Time at home regathering his armies
Babylon	Nabopolasser	Nabopolasser	Nabopolasser	Nabopolasser	Nebuchadnezzar 605-562 BC	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar
Lydia (Western Turkey)								
Medes	Cyaxares 624-585 BC	Cyaxares	Cyaxares		Cyaxares	Cyaxares	Cyaxares	Cyaxares

	615	610	609	606	605	604	601	600
Persians								

	598	595	590	586	585	580	575	570
Egypt	Piankhi	Piankhi	Piankhi	Piankhi	Piankhi	Pinudjem II 584-572 BC	Pinudjem II/ <i>Kheperkhare</i>	Psusennes III 572-565 BC
Egypt					Amenemopet			
Egypt	Shabaka	Shabaka	Shabaka	Shabaka Wahibre (Hophra)	Shabataka 585-569 BC	Shabataka	Shabataka <i>Menkheperre</i>	Shabataka
Egypt								
				Ezek 29 10th year since captivity	Ezek 30:4-8; 32:1-6 against Egypt			
		Jer 37:5/Ezek 17 trust in Egypt misplaced		Jer 44:29-30; Pharaoh Hophra will be handed over to his enemies	Jer 43-46 flee to Egypt; Egypt to be conquered			
Judah	Jehoiachin 598-597 BC	Zedekiah 597-586 BC	Zedekiah (Mattaniah)	Zedekiah	Gedaliah appointed Governor			
	597 2nd captivity 2Ki 24:1-12 ; 2Chr 36 Jer 52 Esther 2:1		2 Ki 24:20 Zedekiah rebels Ezek 4 Jerusalem to be besieged. Ezek 20 the 7th year (590)	Jerusalem Conquered by Nebuchadnezzar and destroyed 586 BC (Jer 52:1)				Ezek 29:17-20 27th year of Ezekiel's captivity
	(Ezekiel taken captive per Josephus) Ezek 1:1-5		Ezek 24 the 9th year(588);	Ezek 26 the 11th year (586) Ezek 27-28 Lamentation of Tyre				Carthage independent of Tyre 574 BC
Tyre			Ithobaal III 591-573 BC	Ithobaal III 591-573 BC	Ithobaal III 591-573 BC	Ithobaal III 591-573 BC	Ithobaal III 591-573 BC	Baal II 573-564 BC
	In his seventh year He laid siege to Jerusalem and took it	Babylonian Chronicle ends Here (10th year) His army apparently rebels in his 10th year		Takes Jerusalem in 19th year 2Ki 25	Babylonian siege of Tyre 585-573 BC (13 years) (Ezek 26-28)	Seige of Tyre	Seige of Tyre	572-566 BC Nebuchadnezzers Mania; Daniel 4
Babylon	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar	Nebuchadnezzar
						May 28th 585 Battle of the eclipse near Halys river Lydia vs Medes		
Lydia (Western Turkey)			Croesus 595-546 BC	Croesus	Croesus	Croesus	Croesus	Croesus
Medes	Cyaxares	Cyaxares	Cyaxares	Cyaxares	Astyages 585-549 BC	Astyages	Astyages	Astyages

	598	595	590	586	585	580	575	570
Persians						Cambyes I 580-559 BC		

	565	560	555	550	545	540	535	530
Egypt	Psusennes III	Babylonian Admin	Babylonian Admin	Babylonian Admin	Babylonian Admin	Wahibre Psamtik 543-489 BC	Wahibre Psamtik	Wahibre Psamtik
Egypt	Siamun 569					Tanuatamon 543-532 BC		
Egypt	Taharka in Egypt 569-564 BC	Taharka in exile (Ethiopia) 564-543	Taharka in exile (Ethiopia)	Taharka in exile (Ethiopia)	Taharka in exile (Ethiopia)	Altanersa	Altanersa	Senkamenseken
Egypt						Cyrus supports Psamtik 1 on the throne as vassal.		
	Taharka a great conqueror during this time	Taharka moves south				Tanuatamon Dream Stela		
		564 Nebuchadnezzar invades Egypt Jer 43-46; Ezek 29-32	Egypt wasteland 40 years Ezekiel 29:9-12			26th dynasty; Saites under the 27th Persian dyn		
Judah								
		(Evil-Merodach king of Babylon lifts up Jehoiachin 2Ki 25:27)					Cyrus proclamation of return to Judah Ezra 1:1; 2Chr 36:22	
						Daniel's vision of 70 weeks	539 BC 2 Chr 36:22 Jeremiah 70 years fulfilled 609-539 BC	see also Dan 9:2; Jer
Tyre		Oligarchy					Persian Control	
	Nebuchadnezzar conquers Egypt	Babylonian Occupation of Egypt						
Babylon	Nebuchadnezzar	Amel Marduk 561-559 BC	Nergal-shar-user 559-556 BC	Nabonidus 555-539 BC	Nabonidus	Nabonidus	Nabonidus Belshazzar regent	
				Cyrus marries daughter of Astyages/ Astyages deposed	546 Cyrus defeats Croesus of Lydia Battle of Thymbra	Isa 44:28; 45:1	Babylon falls to Medo-Persia 539 BC	
Lydia (Western Turkey)	Croesus	Croesus	Croesus	Croesus				
Medes	Astyages	Astyages	Astyages	Astyages			Darius the Mede (Gubaru/Agabu)	

	565	560	555	550	545	540	535	530
Persians			Cyrus the Great 559-530 BC	Cyrus	Cyrus	Cyrus	Cyrus Cambyses	Cambyses 530-522 BC

Table 1

Daniel's 70 weeks	Judah	Egypt	Babylon	Media	Persia	70 weeks of Daniel	Notes	High Priest	Greece
? AD						Final Week			
??????	1948 return						Church Age		
30 AD							Messiah (Jesus) crucified		
4 BC						404 BC-30 AD			
100 BC									
200 BC									
300 BC		Ptolemy	Seleucus						Cassander
310 BC									
332 BC					Darius III (Artashatta/ Codomannus) 336-332 BC		Battle of Guagamela 331 BC		Alexander conquers Persia 332
340 BC					Artaxerxes IV (Arses) 338-336 BC				
350 BC		Artaxerxes reconquers Egypt 343 BC			Artaxerxes III (Ochus) 358 BC-338 BC				
360 BC					Artaxerxes II				
370 BC	32nd year Neh 5:14; 13:6				Artaxerxes II				
380 BC	20th yr of Artaxerxes Neh 2:1				Artaxerxes II	Walls rebuilt in troublous times		The Levites in the days of Eliashib- to the reign of Darius the Persian	
390 BC					Artaxerxes II			And Jeshua begat Joiakim, Joiakim also begat Eliashib, and Eliashib begat Joiada (Neh 12:10)	
400 BC		Amyertaus	Battle of Cunaxa 401 BC		Artaxerxes II 404BC-358 BC	62 weeks or 434 years	Ezra 7:1; during the reign of Artaxerxes comes Ezra the priest 7th year of Artaxerxes "after"	Joiakim son of Joshua	The 10,000 and Xenophon (Anabasis)
405 BC					Darius II				
410 BC					Darius II				
415 BC					Darius II				
420 BC	Zech 1:1,7 2nd yr of Darius (Ezra 5:1); Haggai 1:1; 2:10		Zech 1:12 is KEY	Edict of Cyrus rediscovered in Ecbatana of the Medes	Darius II 424 BC-405 BC	Ezra 6:15 6th year of Darius finished house (temple)	Wall still broken down Neh 8 Ezra & Nehemiah (Zech 1:12 2nd year of Darius (Lo these 70 years; 492-422) Zech 7 4th year) Zech 7:5, Edict of Cyrus rediscovered; Ezra 5:6; Ezra 6&7	Ezra 3:2 build the altar	
425 BC	Zerubabel				Artaxerxes	Wall rebuilt in troublous times		Joshua son of Jozadek	
430 BC					Artaxerxes		Alternate Esther? (Josephus)		
435 BC					Artaxerxes				
440 BC					Artaxerxes				
445 BC					Artaxerxes				
450 BC					Artaxerxes	? 86 yr interregnum	KEY Ezra 4:24 work ceased unto 2nd year of Darius		
455 BC					Artaxerxes (Longimannus)		Ezra 4:7		
460 BC		Inaros Revolts in Egypt			Artaxerxes 465 BC-424 BC				
465 BC					Xerxes				
470 BC					Xerxes				
475 BC					Xerxes				

Daniel's 70 weeks	Judah	Egypt	Babylon	Media	Persia	70 weeks of Daniel	Notes	High Priest	Greece
480 BC					Xerxes		Esther; Ahasuerus over 127 provinces		Battles of Thermopylae, Salamis and Platea
485 BC					Xerxes 486 BC-465 BC		Ezra 4:6 Xerxes = Ahasueras		Daniel 11:2; stirs up Greece
490 BC					Darius I				Battle of Marathon vs Greece
495 BC					Darius I				
500 BC					Darius I				
505 BC					Darius I				
510 BC					Darius I		founds Persepolis (Paarsa)		
515 BC					Darius I Hystaspes		Darius conquers in civil war		
520 BC				Smerdis/ Guatama for short time	Darius I 522 BC-486 BC		Darius the usurper, called king of kings		
525 BC					Cambyses				
530 BC					Cambyses 530 BC-522 BC	7 weeks or 49 years, 539-490 BC	Opposition all the days of Cyrus until Darius and into the days of Ahasueras Ezra 4		
535 BC	Sheshbazzar, the prince of Judah	Daniel 9; 1st year Darius the Mede		Darius the Mede rules Babylon short time to 538	Cyrus	Daniel 9:25-27	Ezra 1:1 Cyrus' command freeing Jews to return		
539 BC	Ezra 1:1		Belteshazzar regent/Babylon	Darius the Mede	Cyrus (First year as king of Babylon)	609 BC-539 BC	Cyrus conq Babylon 539 BC		
545 BC			Nabonidus		Cyrus				
550 BC			Nabonidus		Cyrus 550 BC-530 BC		Cyrus deposes Astyages 550 BC		
555 BC			Nabonidus 555-539 BC (after 2 others)	Astyages	Achaemenids		Cyrus marries Astyages daughter		
560 BC			Others	Astyages					
565 BC			Nebuchadnezzar 605-562 BC	Astyages					
570 BC			Nebuchadnezzar	Astyages		70 years of Jeremiah 25 and 29	Israel served Babylon until released by Cyrus		
575 BC			Nebuchadnezzar	Astyages					
580 BC			Nebuchadnezzar	Astyages					
585 BC			Nebuchadnezzar	Astyages 585-549 BC Median					
590 BC	Zedekiah 597-586 BC		Nebuchadnezzar	Cyaxares					
595 BC	Jehoiachin		Nebuchadnezzar	Cyaxares					
600 BC	Jehoiakim		Nebuchadnezzar	Cyaxares			Second captivity 2 Kings 24:1-10 598/7 BC 2Chr 36 Jer 52 Esther 2:1		
605 BC	Jehoahaz	Battle of Carchemish 605 BC	Nebuchadnezzar 605-562 BC	Cyaxares			First captivity 605 BC (Dan 1:1) Mordecai' ancestor (Esther 2:6) captivity 597 with Jehoiachin		
610 BC	Josiah		Nabopolasser 626 BC-605 BC	Cyaxares		609 BC-539 BC	2 Kings 23:26-27 after Josiah Jehovah turns Judah over. Pharaoh Necho deposes Jehoahaz		
625 BC	Josiah 640-609 BC	Pharaoh Necho	Nabopolasser 626 BC-605 BC	Cyaxares 624-585 BC Median		Isa 44:27-45:1 Isaiah prophecies of Cyrus			