

The 7 Week Prophecy of the Book of Enoch

by Craig Paardekoooper

There is a prophecy in the Book of Enoch that describes history from the birth of Enoch until the time of the Maccabees. It divides this history into 7 weeks, and describes what happens in each of the 7 weeks. *The prophecy comes from the **Book of Enoch, chapters 93**. Fragments of this prophecy are found in the Dead Sea Scrolls, Cave 4.*

*We have some fragments of the prophecy from the **Dead Sea Scrolls** to compare with what we have from the Ethiopic version. While we don't have the complete prophecy in the Dead Sea Scrolls, we have enough to compare it to **the Ethiopic version of Enoch**. They match considerably well. If the parts we have match, it stands to reason that the rest would have as well. After all, for the translators of the Ethiopic version to invent the prophecy, they would have had to know exactly what parts would be discovered among the Dead Sea Scrolls and what parts would be lost to time and degradation [10]*

Dead Sea Scrolls – fragment (4QEn₉) dating to the time of the Maccabees.

Source :

You can read the full prophecy here <https://www.pseudepigrapha.com/pseudepigrapha/enoch.htm#CH93>

Important Notice :

Modern scholars take a section, chapter 91b, and transpose it on to the end of chapter 93. But they should not do this since it confuses the meaning. Chapter 93 ENDS with the 7th week. It DOES NOT have any more weeks. As you will see, this is because it is a prophecy of the Messiah – Jesus.

In contrast, chapters 85-91 are a separate prophecy that covers the period from Adam till the new heavens and new earth. This prophecy is called the “Animal Apocalypse”)

In this monograph, I look at the 7 weeks described in Enoch 93 – I discuss the Animal Apocalypse in a separate article.

XCIII, XCI. 12-17. The Apocalypse of Weeks.

CHAPTER XCIII.

And after that Enoch both †gave† and began to recount from the books. And Enoch said: 'Concerning the children of righteousness and concerning the elect of the world, and concerning the plant of uprightness, I will speak these things, yea, I Enoch will declare (them) unto you, my sons: According to that which appeared to me in the heavenly vision, and which I have known through the word of the holy angels, and have learnt from the heavenly tablets.'

And Enoch began to recount from the books and said: 'I was born the seventh in the **first week**, while judgement and righteousness still endured.

And after me there shall arise in the **second week** great wickedness, and deceit shall have sprung up; and in it there shall be the first end. And in it a man shall be saved; and after it is ended unrighteousness shall grow up, and a law shall be made for the sinners.

And after that in the **third week at its close** a man shall be elected as the plant of righteous judgement, and his posterity shall become the plant of righteousness for evermore.

And after that in the **fourth week, at its close**, visions of the holy and righteous shall be seen, and a law for all generations and an enclosure shall be made for them.

And after that in the **fifth week, at its close**, the house of glory and dominion shall be built for ever.

And after that in the **sixth week** all who live in it shall be blinded, and the hearts of all of them shall godlessly forsake wisdom. And in it a man shall ascend; and **at its close** the house of dominion shall be burnt with fire, and the whole race of the chosen root shall be dispersed.

And after that in the **seventh week** shall an apostate generation arise, and many shall be its deeds, and all its deeds shall be apostate. And **at its close** shall be elected The elect righteous of the eternal plant of righteousness, to receive sevenfold instruction concerning all His creation.

For who is there of all the children of men that is able to hear the voice of the Holy One without being troubled? And who can think His thoughts? and who is there that can behold all the works of heaven? And how should there be one who could behold the heaven, and who is there that could understand the things of heaven and see a soul or a spirit and could tell thereof, or ascend and see all their ends and think them or do like them? And who is there of all men that could know what is the breadth and the length of the earth, and to whom has been shown the measure of all of them? Or is there any-one who could discern the length of the heaven and how great is its height, and upon what it is founded, and how great is the number of the stars, and where all the luminaries rest?

Week	Prophecy	History
1	Justice still strong	
2	“And after me there shall arise in the second week great wickedness , And deceit shall have sprung up; And in it there shall be the first end. And in it a man shall be saved; And after it is ended unrighteousness shall grow up, And a law shall be made for the sinners.”	At its close : Noah Increase in evil before the Flood
3	And after that in the third week at its close a man shall be elected as the plant of righteous judgement, And his posterity shall become the plant of righteousness for evermore. (Enoch 93:5)	At its close : Abraham
4	And after that in the fourth week, at its close , Visions of the holy and righteous shall be seen, And a law for all generations and an enclosure shall be made for them. (Enoch 93:6)	At its close : Moses Law and the Tabernacle.
5	And after that in the fifth week, at its close, The house of glory and dominion shall be built for ever. (Enoch 93:7)	At its close : David & Solomon . Temple built during this period
6	And after that in the sixth week all who live in it shall be blinded, And the hearts of all of them shall godlessly forsake wisdom. And in it a man shall ascend ; And at its close the house of dominion shall be burnt with fire , And the whole race of the chosen root shall be dispersed . (Enoch 93:8)	At its close : Babylonian Captivity Apostasy during the time of the monarchy Elijah ascends to heaven. The Jerusalem Temple is burned The Hebrews are dispersed
7	9. And after that in the seventh week shall an apostate generation arise, And many shall be its deeds, And all its deeds shall be apostate. 10. And at its close shall be elected The elect righteous of the eternal plant of righteousness, To receive sevenfold instruction concerning all His creation . (Enoch 93:9–10)	At its close : Essenes During the Times of the Gentile Empires, people become apostate because they seek to assimilate with the gentiles The phrase “the eternal plant of righteousness” is an Essene phrase. It was how they described themselves – as a righteous remnant. Link The Essenes followed a sevenfold path of peace. They were the first to become Christians – “the Elect righteous” The Essenes dated their founding to 390 years after the destruction of the temple.

The elect branch of righteousness in Enoch refers to the Messiah. Referred to by various titles such as the Chosen One, the Son of Man, or the Righteous One, this enigmatic being occupies a prominent position within Enochian theology. <https://www.freebiblestudyhub.com/archives/1843>

Covenants

The Bible is a record of God's dealings with people, covering the time from Adam until Jesus – a period of 77 generations. God's interaction with people takes the form of a series of Covenants or agreements.

These covenants are –

1. Edenic Covenant
2. Noahic Covenant
3. Abrahamic Covenant
4. Mosaic Covenant
5. Davidic Covenant
6. The New Covenant

Notice how closely these coincide with the weeks described by Enoch. Each week there is a new covenant. A covenant is often accompanied by a judgement representing the end and destruction of what was before and the beginning of something new.

The Length of a Week

Let us assume that each of Enoch's weeks are of equal duration. Then we can look at the date of each of the events Enoch describes to determine the length of a week.

All of these dates are taken directly from the Ussher chronology –

- Noahic Covenant (2348 B.C.) **then 427 years**
- Abrahamic Covenant (1921 B.C.) **then 430 years**
- Mosaic Covenant (1491 B.C.) **then 437 years**
- Davidic Covenant (1055 B.C.) **then 430 years**
- New Covenant (625 B.C.) first mentioned by Jeremiah

So, God entered into a new covenant every 430 years.

During the interval between the Old and New Testaments, the community of the Essenes was founded and a new covenant made with them – called the **Damascus Covenant**. The Damascus document states –

*"During the period of wrath, 390 years after He had given them into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, He visited them and caused **a Root of His planting** to spring forth from Israel and Aaron to inherit His land."*

Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the Jerusalem Temple and took the Israelites into captivity in 586 B.C. , so 390 years later is 196 B.C.

So we have

- Noahic Covenant (2348 B.C.) **then 427 years**
- Abrahamic Covenant (1921 B.C.) **then 430 years**
- Mosaic Covenant (1491 B.C.) **then 437 years**
- Davidic Covenant (1055 B.C.) **then 430 years**
- New Covenant (625 B.C.) first mentioned by Jeremiah **then 429 years**
- New Covenant of Damascus (196 B.C.)

Each covenant between God and Israel was separated from the previous one by a 430 year period .

Note

The Davidic Covenant came into effect with Solomon. There was a period of 430 years of monarchs from Solomon till the last king. During this time, the people turned away from God, and a man ascended – Elijah. At the end of this period the Temple was burned and the people dispersed.

The 7th week is the Time of the Gentiles that lasted through the period of Babylonian rule, then Persian rule then Greek rule. During this time there was great apostasy which culminated during the time of Antiochus Epiphanes. Many people opted to adopt Greek ideas and religions and abandon the Israelite religion. In 196 B.C. (430 years after Jeremiah began to preach, and 390 years after the destruction of the Temple) the Essenes were founded as a righteous remnant. They referred to themselves as “the Eternal Plant of Righteousness”

Why is it called a week ?

A “week” is a “seven”. Every 7th year is a Sabbath year when the land rests, and every 50th year is also a Jubilee year, when the land rests again. So in 430 years there are 61.4 Sabbath Years + 8.6 Jubilee Years = 70 sabbatical years.

- 1 “week”, a 430 year period, covers 70 sabbatical years.
- 7 “weeks”, cover 70 x 7 sabbatical years.

The similarity of this prophecy to that of Daniel’s 70 weeks is evident. Both prophecy predicted the long span of human history down until the time of Antiochus Epiphanes, and both framed that history using the period of seventy “sevens”

Why Did God Choose to Separate Each Covenant by a “Seven” ?

The Jubilee year was to be a year when debts were cancelled, slaves were set free and people received back their inheritance. Bearing this in mind, consider the timing of the Biblical Covenants.

The seventh “day” was appointed as a day of mercy. The mercy of God is shown

1. on the Seventh day, which is the Sabbath
2. on the 7th year , which is the Sabbath year,
3. on the seventh sabbath year, which is the Jubilee year,

4. on a Covenant year , which is a total of 70 Sabbath years,
5. after 70 years , which is the end of the Captivity in Babylon
6. after 77 generations, which is when Christ was born

If God is Holy, then to draw close to sinful mankind is an act of mercy, and the day of mercy is the Sabbath; that's why every covenant was after a period of 70 Sabbath years.

The Adamic Covenant

After the 7 days of creation, Genesis 5 provides a record of Adam's descendants until the time of the Flood, which brought an end to Adam's world.

5 This is the written account of Adam's family line.

When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. ² He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them "Mankind"^[a] when they were created.

³When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth. ⁴ After Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ⁵ Altogether, Adam lived a total of 930 years, and then he died.

⁶ When Seth had lived 105 years, he became the father^[b] of Enosh. ⁷ After he became the father of Enosh, Seth lived 807 years and had other sons and daughters. ⁸ Altogether, Seth lived a total of 912 years, and then he died.

⁹When Enosh had lived 90 years, he became the father of Kenan. ¹⁰ After he became the father of Kenan, Enosh lived 815 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹¹ Altogether, Enosh lived a total of 905 years, and then he died.

¹²When Kenan had lived 70 years, he became the father of Mahalalel. ¹³ After he became the father of Mahalalel, Kenan lived 840 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁴ Altogether, Kenan lived a total of 910 years, and then he died.

¹⁵When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he became the father of Jared. ¹⁶ After he became the father of Jared, Mahalalel lived 830 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷ Altogether, Mahalalel lived a total of 895 years, and then he died.

¹⁸When Jared had lived 162 years, he became the father of Enoch. ¹⁹ After he became the father of Enoch, Jared lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁰ Altogether, Jared lived a total of 962 years, and then he died.

²¹When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah. ²² After he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked faithfully with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³ Altogether, Enoch lived a total of 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

²⁵When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech. ²⁶ After he became the father of Lamech, Methuselah lived 782 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁷ Altogether, Methuselah lived a total of 969 years, and then he died.

²⁸ When Lamech had lived 182 years, he had a son. ²⁹ He named him Noah^[c] and said, "He will comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed."³⁰ After Noah was born, Lamech lived 595 years and had other sons and daughters. ³¹ Altogether, Lamech lived a total of 777 years, and then he died.

We are told that the Flood occurred in Noah's 600th year, so we can calculate the duration from the Creation Week till the Flood -

$$130 + 105 + 90 + 70 + 65 + 162 + 65 + 187 + 182 + 600 = 1656 \text{ years}$$
 There

are 365.2422 days in a year, so 1656 years is a period of $365.2422 \times 1656 =$

$$777.7 \times 777.7 \text{ days}$$

This is interesting, since Adam's world was said to be created in 7 days, and now we see that it was destroyed after 777.7×777.7 days.

What is perhaps even more curious is that a day divides into intervals of seconds, minutes and hours

$$\text{thus } 60 \text{ seconds} = 1 \text{ minute}$$

$$60 \text{ minutes} = 1 \text{ hour}$$

$$24 \text{ hours} = 1 \text{ day}$$

and

$$777.77 \times 777.7 \text{ days} = (60 \times 60 \times 24) \times 7 \text{ days.}$$

So, the world was created in 7 days, and lasted 7 "days".

Expanding the Pattern

Adamic Covenant :	Adam
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after 7 "days"

Noachic Covenant :	Noah
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after 1 "week"

Abrahamic Covenant :	Abraham
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after 1 "week"

Mosaic Covenant :	Moses
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after 1 "week"

Davidic Covenant :	David
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after 1 "week"

New Covenant :	Jeremiah
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after 1 "week"

Damascus Covenant :	Essenes
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The Purpose of Enoch's Prophecy

*“And after that Enoch both †gave† and began to recount from the books. And Enoch said: ‘Concerning the **children of righteousness** and concerning **the elect of the world**, and concerning **the plant of uprightness**, I will speak these things, yea, I Enoch will declare (them) unto you, my sons: According to that which appeared to me in the heavenly vision, and which I have known through the word of the holy angels, and have learnt from the heavenly tablets.’*

The prophecy outlines the cycles of weeks until the children of righteousness, who are the elect of God – and the Messiah – who is referred to as the plant of uprightness. The prophecy seems to equate the children of righteousness with the Essenes, who called themselves by these names, and who were among the first to embrace Christianity. It is more than symbolic that John the Baptist became a follower of Jesus; in his wake, many of John's followers also became followers of Jesus.

Enoch's extraordinary prophecy of “seven seventies” regards God's children as the consummation of history after the Flood, in the same way that Daniel's prophecy of “seventy sevens” culminates in the Kingdom of God.