

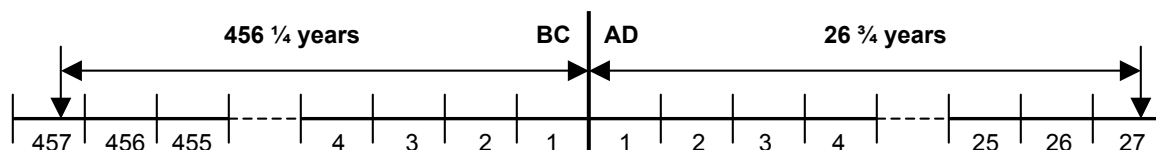
THE 2300 DAYS OF DANIEL 8:14Notes for the Instructor

Purpose of lesson 16: Following the introduction to Daniel 2, 7, and 8 in lesson 15, this lesson serves to complete the study of the 2,300 years of Daniel 8:14, necessarily involving the 490 years of Daniel 9:24-27. Lesson 16 sets the stage for the next two studies, the answering of the question, What is the sanctuary? and then the question, What is the cleansing of the sanctuary?--both as they relate to the year 1844. If this is the significant contribution of Adventists as we have long claimed, then the allowance of four studies in the series is not without justification. It is a foundation upon which we build, a real taproot of the message, a key to the modern day proclamation of the three angels' messages. Here is a key to our uniqueness, a message that other Christians and non-Christians need to hear in order to better understand salvation, the full ministry of Christ for sinners, and the vital importance of daily readiness to meet the Lord.

During the study itself: There are a number of points in this lesson that the instructor must spend adequate time to carefully explain. Do not leave any point indistinct. Explain at the very beginning that this lesson, preceded by lesson 15, and followed by lessons 17 and 18, form a most important series, as stated above.

In connection with question 2, the literal time, 6 years, 4 months, and 20 days is based on 360 days per year. There is no attempt here to bring in the "evening-morning" theory of 1150 days. (See discussion in 4 BC 844.) Question 3 emphasizes that Daniel is still thinking of time, of the defiled sanctuary, and is face-to-face again with the same angel as in chapter 8.

In connection with question 4(a), explain the idea of seventy weeks being "determined," or "cut off"--from the 2,300 day period. Also, show how the authors of the RSV, even though being interpretive, recognize the seventy weeks to be seventy weeks of years. This is recognized by many Bible scholars. Also explain, in connection with 4(b), that the 490 year period was a period of probation for the Jewish people. (See 4 BC 852.) Explain with question 4(d), that there is no known explanation of any literal seventy weeks or 490 actual days from the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem. (See SDA Bible Commentary for discussions of the decree of Artaxerxes in connection with Daniel 9:25 and Ezra 7:11-13.) You will need to clarify the computation of time from BC to AD in connection with question 4(e).



Appeal: Make it twofold: First, appeal to the marvelous certainty of Bible prophecy, and second, appeal to the vital importance of the next two studies.

Illustration: Keep it very simple. By experiment, see if you like it best as a review at the end of the study, or built up as you go.

