

“Seventy weeks of years”

Jeremiah 29:10 ^{WTT} כִּי־כֹה אָמַר יְהוָה כִּי לְפִי מְלֹאֵת לִבְבֶּל
שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה אֶפְקֹד אֶתְכֶם וְהִקְמַתִי עֲלֵיכֶם אֶת־דְּבַרִי הַטּוֹב
לְהָשִׁיב אֶתְכֶם אֶל־הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה:

Jeremiah 29:10 For thus says the LORD: Upon [Spanish “al cabo de”] seventy years (but using the singular, “year”) שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה being completed for Babylon, I will visit you and I will make stand [rise verb] upon you my good word to make you return this place.

Daniel 9:2 ^{WTT} בְּשָׁנַת אַחַת לְמַלְכוֹ אֲנִי הִנְיָאֵל בֵּינָתִי בַּסְּפָרִים
מִסְפֵּר הַשָּׁנִים אֲשֶׁר הָיָה דְבַר־יְהוָה אֶל־יִרְמְיָה הַנְּבִיא
לְמַלְאוֹת לְחַרְבוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה:

Daniel 9:2 in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, “intensely consulted” [see NOAB 473 ESSAYS] in the books the number of years which was the word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet, to be completed for the desolations of Jerusalem, seventy years (again, using the singular, “year”) שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה.

Daniel 9:24 ^{WTT} שְׁבַעִים שְׁבַעִים נְחָתָד עַל־עַמֶּךָ

Daniel 9:24 (Literally) Weeks seventy are decreed concerning your people

Note that שְׁבַעִים in Dan 9:2 is listed twice. First, it is vocalized shavu‘im =weeks; then the consonants are repeated, but this time vocalized shîv‘im = seventy. The angel Gabriel (Dan 9:22) is telling Daniel how to interpret Jeremiah’s שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה (see Jer 29:10, but remember that originally the text had no vocalization, it appeared without vowel points just as it does here in this paragraph). Gabriel is telling Daniel to read שְׁבַעִים twice, vocalizing it first as meaning “weeks” and then vocalizing it as meaning “seventy.” One thus arrives at “Weeks seventy” in Dan 9:24.

A similar expression is found in

Psalm 90:10 ^{WTT} יְמֵי־שָׁנוֹתֵינוּ בָהֶם שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה

“The days of our years (plural) [have] in them seventy year (singular).”