

Christ to the coming of antichrist. The third period of one week is the period of antichrist before the return of Christ. That view is held by Keil in what Young says is the finest commentary ever written up to his time on the book of Daniel. Leupold, the Lutheran commentator who has written a number of commentaries, follows Keil in this view.

Points in favor of this view are (a) it recognizes 3 periods; It does not make merely two periods; (b) it parallels the other predictions as other chs. go to the bringing in of eternal righteousness, to the ending of sin so does the 69 weeks according to this view; (c) it recognizes the decree of Cyrus as the starting point if it is a human command to which it points. However, the theory has two very questionable features. (a) One of these is that the periods are quite disproportionate. If there was a period of 7 weeks from Cyrus to Christ, then if you are going to have a period of 62 weeks nearly 9 times as long before the coming of antichrist, that should be at least another two or three thousand years! Now that can still be for all we know, but it does seem to be too long a period. That is a small objection to it. (b) The big objection to it is the fact that it has the problem, of it takes the first Messiah as Christ (Messiah the Prince), but the second Messiah where it says that "Messiah shall be cut off and have nothing" it says, that means when antichrist takes over at the beginning of the week, Christ loses all power on earth; he is cut off, and has nothing now! I don't believe Scripture teaches there will ever be a time when you can say that Christ has absolutely no power on earth, when you can say He'll have no followers on earth, when you can say He has nothing. Christ's power is universal, it cannot be destroyed. He may withdraw parts of His power for a time, but to say that He