"Above & Beyond"

Sunday, July 31, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI
Pastor Jonathan DeCou
Daniel 9:20-27

BIG IDEA: God's plans are above & beyond what we can ask or think.

"Now to Him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us—to Him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

Amen."
Ephesians 3:20-21 (CSB)

- God goes <u>ABOVE</u> & <u>BEYOND</u> what we can <u>ASK</u> or <u>THINK</u>, but we still do have to <u>ASK</u> and <u>THINK</u>. (v20-21a)
- God always <u>ANSWERS</u> in His <u>TIME</u> and in His <u>WAY</u>.
- God DELIGHTS in ANSWERING His KIDS. (v23)
- God has an "above and beyond" <u>PURPOSE</u> and <u>PLAN</u>. (v24-27)
 - O God has a purpose to achieve with Israel. (v 24)
 - 1 "to finish the transgression"
 - 2 "to put an end to sin"

- 3 "to atone for iniquity"
- 4 "to bring in everlasting righteousness"
- 5 "to seal both vision and prophet"
- 6 "to anoint a most holy place"
- God has a <u>plan</u> to <u>accomplish</u> His <u>purpose</u>. (v 25-27)
 - God's <u>490-year</u> prophetic <u>calendar</u>.
 - The 1st <u>49</u> years (the first <u>7</u> "sevens"). (v 25)
 - The next <u>434</u> years (the next <u>62</u> "sevens"). (v 25 & 26)
 - The "gap" between the 1st 483 years and the final 7 years.
 - The last <u>7</u> years (the <u>last</u> "seven"). (v 27)

BIG IDEA: God's plans are above & beyond what we can ask or think.

Read: Daniel 9:20-27

Think: Reflect on this remarkable prophetic passage and then ask yourself the following questions: What is it like to do a jigsaw puzzle that has missing pieces? What does this enigma imply about God's "answering service" (v 20-23)? What six things happen within the "seventy sevens"? What is their significance? What do the "seven sevens", "62 sevens" and the "one seven" mean? Which events of the this prophecy refer to the time of Ezra & Nehemiah (circa 458-430 B.C.)? Which to Jesus as the Anointed One? Which results are yet to be? What is the "abomination of desolation" (v 27, Matthew 24:15, Mark 13:14)?

Do: As you think of the prophetic words of Daniel & Jesus, is the emphasis on what the future holds or on who holds the future? What is the Gospel in this passage?