

## Natural time and the time, times, and a half

by Douglas E. Cox

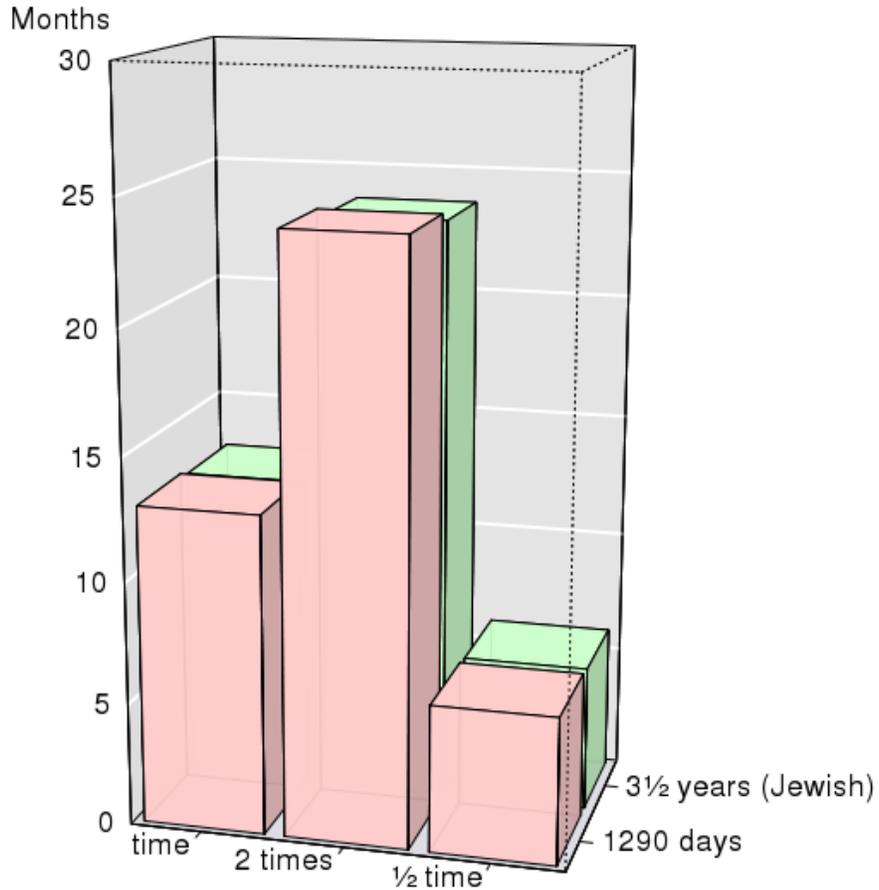
The prophetic time periods of 1,290 days, and 1,335 days, are mentioned in Daniel 12:11-12. The 1,260 days is found in Revelation 11:3 and 12:6. Each of these three periods is distinct, because each represents either the church age, or a portion of it. This is a diminishing period. The "time, times and a half" is symbolic, and the numbers associated with it are also symbolic. They are "models" having a character similar to other prophetic symbols. For example, the church is represented by a temple, or by a candlestick; Christ is represented by the passover lamb, etc. Likewise, the duration of the church age is represented by three and a half *symbolic years*, that together with the ministry of Jesus, three and a half *natural years*, make a prophetic "week," in which Christ confirms his covenant with his saints. [Daniel 9:27]

Each of the periods associated with the "time, times and a half" differ from a *natural* three and a half years, as shown in the series of 3D graphs below, which compare the times related to the prophetic "time, times and a half" to a natural three and a half years, according to the Jewish solar-lunar calendar. The natural three and a half years is shown in light green, in each graph. It is a period of three and a half years, where months are lunar months, and one year has 13 months.

The prophetic time periods of Daniel 12:11-12 consist of three years and a half, where years are either 12 or 13 months. Months are 30 days, and one year differs from the rest in each period.

The graphs in Figures 1-3 illustrate the differences between the prophetic time periods and *natural* times. I suggest that the distinction between these prophetic periods and a *natural* three and a half years shows that the prophetic times are spiritual, figurative time periods, not *literal* or natural earth days or years. *Natural* units of time do not apply to the works of God, which are spiritual in nature.

Figure 1: precision 3D plot comparing 1,290 days with three and a half natural years.

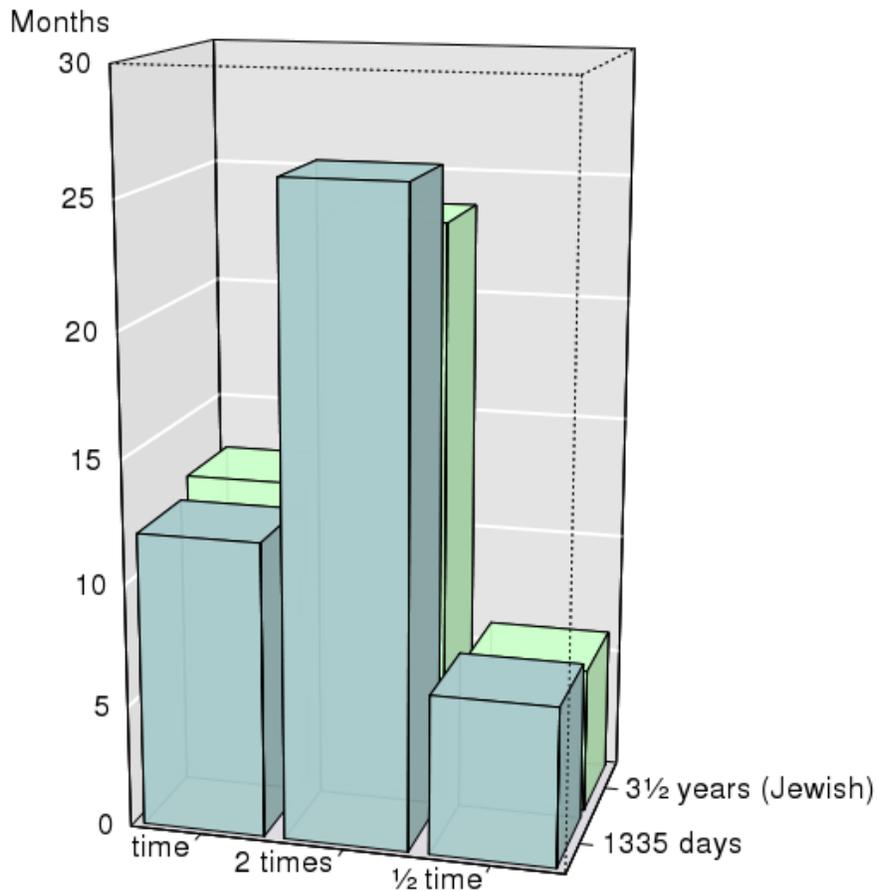


**The 1,290 days compared with natural years  
where one year is 13 months**

The 1,290 days is the time remaining after the “abomination of desolation” was set up in the Church. “And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.” [Daniel 12:11] This began in the first century, probably about the time of the destruction of the earthly

Jerusalem in 70 A.D., which was evidently a sign that the desolation of the heavenly city was about to begin. Afterwards, John said there were “many antichrists.” [1 John 2:18]

Figure 2: Precision 3D plot comparing 1,335 days with three and a half natural years.

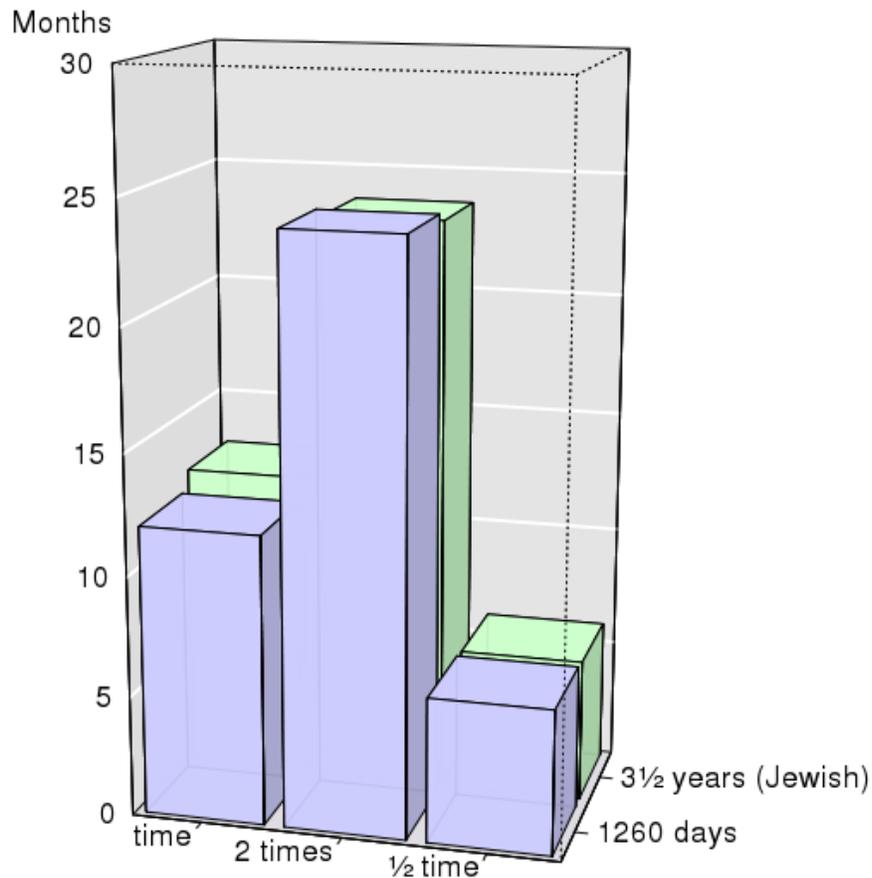


**The 1,335 days compared with natural years  
where one year is 13 months**

The 1,335 days represent all the time assigned to the present age of the Church. This period began about the time of Jesus' resurrection from the

grave after he was crucified. Daniel wrote: "Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days." [Daniel 12:12] The one who waits is Christ, who waits while his Church is preparing.

Figure 3: Precision 3D plot comparing 1,260 days with three and a half natural years.



**The 1,260 days compared with natural years  
where one year is 13 months**

The 1,260 days represent the remaining time, since the New Testament was completed, and the duration of the ministry of the two witnesses. It

began about the end of the first century when the New Testament was complete. It is the period when the Church, represented by the woman in Revelation 12 is nourished in the wilderness by the Scriptures, and by the Spirit, two things Jesus said would Testify of him. One who testifies is a Witness. The woman fleeing to the wilderness pictures the saints departing from the corruption of the world.