THE SEVENTY WEEKS OF DANIEL
as understood by Sir Robert Anderson
In his book "The Coming Prince"

Daniel 9:24-25 says that from the decree to rebuild Jerusalem to the coming of the Messiah there will be 483 years.

7 + 62 "weeks" = 69 groups of seven years. 7 x 69 = 483 years

Anderson understood a prophetic year as 360 days. This is based both on ancient history and on Revelation 11:2, 13:5, 11:3, and 12:6 which indicate that 42 months – 3 ½ years – are equal to 1,260 days.

Therefore, 483 years x 360 days = 173,880 days

Artaxerxes started his reign in 465 B.C. The decree to rebuild Jerusalem was given on the first day of Nisan, in the 20th year of Artaxerxes. In our calendar system (the Julian calendar) that date is March 14, 445 B.C. (Nehemiah 2:1)

Jesus started His ministry in the 15th year of Tiberius (see Luke 3:1). Tiberius started his reign in A.D. 14, so Jesus' ministry started in A.D. 29. Anderson believed that Jesus celebrated four Passovers during His ministry, one each in A.D. 29, 30, 31. and His final Passover in A.D. 32. With the help of lunar charts, we can calculate the exact date of ancient Passovers, so it is possible to calculate the exact day of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as April 6, A.D. 32.

From 445 B.C. to A.D. 32 there are 476 years on the Julian calendar (not 477 years, because there is no year zero).

- 476 years x 365 days = 173,740 days.
- Adjusting for the difference between March 14 and April 6 adds 24 days.
- Adjusting for leap years over a period of 476 years adds 116 days.

The total number of days from March 14, 445 B.C. to April 6, A.D. 32 is as follows:

173,740 + 24 + 116 = 173,880 days.

According to the calendar from Daniel's time, he was told there would be 173,880 days between the decree to rebuild Jerusalem and the arrival of Messiah the Prince.