

Lesson: ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION

Olivet Discourse occurred on the third day prior to the Jewish Passover of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

Olivet Discourse resulted from a comment made to His disciples regarding the temple as they were leaving it. *"Do you see all these great buildings? Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."* (Mark 13:2)

Jesus was warning His disciples of the imminence of the 5th cycle of divine discipline.

Four disciples responded by asking Jesus the following two questions. *"Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are going to be fulfilled?"* (Mark 13:4)

Jesus gave them two signs important to the Jewish Age Tribulation.

- The first sign was the destruction of the temple and Jerusalem (Matt.23:37-39; Mark 13:2).
- The second sign was the Abomination of Desolation in the new temple of the Tribulation (Mark 13:14).

Jesus taught that between these two signs would be a period called – "The beginning of birth pangs." (Mark 13:8; 13:1-13)

We will examine our lesson text by the following SIX homiletical points regarding the Abomination of Desolation.

- **Sign** - Statue of DRRE in temple – emperor worship (13:14; Matt.24:15; 2 thess.2:3-4)
- **Signal** to flee Judea (13:14-16) (flee/ pheugo/ p.a.impv)
- **Special** woman's woe & prayer (13:17-18)
- **Severe** tribulation (13:19-20; Matt.24:21) – worst in human history; days shorten for the elect.
- **Signs and wonders** by false prophets (13:21-22) – attempt to lead the elect astray.
- **Scriptural** warning (13:23) – take heed (blepo/ p.a.impv) – forewarned is forearmed.

Today's lesson will study SIX aspects of the Abomination of Desolation of the Jewish Age Tribulation.

- 1. The disciples of Jesus Christ ask for a sign that would characterize the end of the Jewish Age. Jesus gave them the single most important sign – Abomination of Desolation. (Matt.24:3; Mark 13:14).**

"Therefore when you see the Abomination of Desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand)." (Matt.24:15)

Daniel prophesied that it would occur in the middle of the Jewish Age (Dan.9:27; 12:11). It would desecrate the new Jewish temple (Dan.11:31).

The Greek words for Abomination of Desolation is (*to bdelugma tes eremosis*). Note the doubling of the definite article. *To bdelugma* refers to the object of disgust, the statue of DRRE. *Tes eremosis* refers to that which makes the temple desolate by desecration, emperor worship and idolatry (2 Thess.2:3-4).

2. The statue of DRRE was the result of an alliance of the unholy trinity (Satan, Dictator of the Revived Roman Empire (DRRE) and Dictator of Palestine (DP) (Rev.13:11-18).

It was part of a military protection package agreement between the DRRE and DP. It was to protect Israel against the aggression of others national coalitions (Dan.9:27; 11:40-45).

3. The DP under demonic power will appear to give life to the DRRE (Rev.13:14-15; Dan.3:1-12).

Bob Thieme referred to it as the Eggastrimuthos demon that is able to speak through inanimate objects (Lev.19:31; 1 Chron.10:13-14; Isa.8:19; 29:4).

“The python was a mythical snake worshipped at Delphi and associated with the Delphi oracle. The term ‘python’ came to be used of the persons through whom the python spirit supposedly spoke. Since such persons spoke involuntarily, the term ‘ventriloquist’ was used to describe them. To what extent she actually predicted the future is not known.” (Acts 16:16; NIV)

The statue of DRRE will represent ecumenical religion at its very worst.
(Rev.13:11-15; 2 Thess.2:3-4, 8-11).

4. The mark (charagma/ stamps) of the beast is given to all that worship this statue.

The charagma mark was used on Roman recruit soldiers who passed basic training. The tribulation mark will be for the Imperial worshipper (DRRE) (Rev.13:16-18).

Those without it will be given the death penalty (Rev.13:14-15; 20:4; Dan.3).

The mark will be placed on either the right hand or forehead and is irrevocable.

5. The Abomination of Desolation will be the final warning for the Tribulation believers to flee Judea.

False propaganda will attempt to lure them out of hiding in order to kill them.
(Matt.24:23-26; Mark 13:21-23).

The Abomination of Desolation will begin an intensity of persecution of believers such as the mark of the beast (Rev.13:16-18).

6. The Abomination of Desolation will establish the last 3 ½ years of the Jewish Age Tribulation (Matt.24:21; Dan.21:11).

It will be the abomination that will make desolation. It will establish the end phase of the Jewish Age and set up the Second Coming of Christ (next week’s lesson).