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~ All Articles are Written by George L. Faull, Rel. D. Unless Otherwise Stated ~

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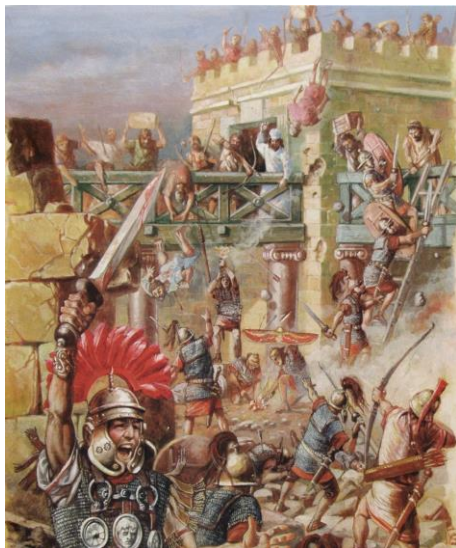
George L. Faull, Editor

Dear Brother Faull,

What is the Abomination of Desolation which Jesus refers to in **Matthew 24:15-21**?

Matthew 24:15-21, "15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be."

ANSWER:



Note – He says that it is spoken of by Daniel. This is in **Daniel 9:24-27**, "24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting

righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. 25 Know therefore and understand, *that* from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince *shall be* seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. 26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself:

and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof *shall be* with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate."

- ~ **Note that it is after Messiah is cut off – Daniel 9:26**
- ~ **It is when the people of the prince shall come to destroy the city and the sanctuary, and unto the end of the war desolations will occur - Daniel 9:26.**
- ~ **It is while there is a sanctuary – Daniel 9:26.**
- ~ **It will cause the temple service to cease – Daniel 9:27.**
- ~ **It involves abominable idols – Daniel 9:27.**
This verse says that the overspreading of abomination in Hebrew is "Upon the wing of the abomination on causing desolation." Or, as my footnote reads: "Upon the battlements shall be the idols of the desolation."
- ~ **It is the day of vengeance on the Jewish nation – Daniel 9:26.**
Luke 21:22-24, "22 For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. 23 But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. 24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."
- ~ **It involves war against Jerusalem, and Jerusalem being encompassed with armies.**
Luke 21:20, "And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh."
- ~ **It stands in the holy place.**

Matthew 24:15, “When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)”

~ **Where it ought not.**

Mark 13:14a, “But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing **where it ought not**, (let him that readeth understand,)...”

~ **It concerns only the people of Judea who flee to the mountains.**

Mark 13:14b, “...then **let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains:**”

~ **It is while Sabbath is still observed and the city gates would be closed.**

Matthew 24:20, “But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, **neither on the sabbath day:**”

The fulfillment then, is simple. We simply quote Josephus, the Historian, of Jerusalem’s destruction. Josephus says this of the Romans: “*And now the Romans, upon the **flight of the seditious** into the city, and upon **the burning of the holy house itself**, and of all the buildings around about it, **brought their ensigns to the temple and set them over against its Eastern gate; and there did they offer sacrifices to them**, and there did they make Titus imperator, with the greatest acclamations of joy.*”

The Conclusion then for these verses is: “**The abomination that maketh desolation**” is the Roman armies which encamped around Jerusalem and then entered into Jerusalem where they ought not while the people fled out of Judea to the mountains.

The abominable idols were brought into God’s Holy temple and were worshipped there before the temple was destroyed. The desolation followed.