

## 6. The Two Babylons Judged, Revelation 17–18

### a. The Apostate Church in the Great Tribulation, Revelation 17

#### What we should Know

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination(**idolatry**) of desolation(**despoliation; W1828 = a stripping**), spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

- **Can't be the church because the Church has no holy place!**
- **We're looking for something different**
- **The Church has a blessed Hope to look for**

#### Titus 2:13-15

13 Looking for **THAT BLESSED HOPE**, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. **Let no man despise(depreciate)** thee.

- **Jesus is speaking of something different**
- **We're gonna look into what He was talking about**
- **We'll start trying to see what the "abomination of desolation" is referring to**

Daniel 9:27 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(**idolatry**) he shall make it desolate(**make empty**), even until the consummation, and that determined shall be **poured upon the desolate**.

#### Daniel Refers to **2 Abomination of Desolations**

Desolation #1 Antiochus Epiphanes the Syrian destroyed **Jerusalem in 170 BC**

Daniel 11:31 And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place **the abomination that maketh desolate**.

- **100,000** Jews killed
- Daily Sacrifice **removed** from the Temple
- Offered **Blood of pigs** on the altar
- Set **up the image of Jupiter** in the Holy Place

Desolation #2 Second Abomination of Desolation Daniel refers to what is called the **Tribulation Period**

**Daniel 12:11** 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.

**Matthew 24:21** For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

**Question: Why did God Reveal these secrets to Daniel**

**Daniel 9:1-27**

1. **Daniel's Prayer for Israel(He remembered how long the captivity was going to last and knew it was soon to be over) (Daniel 9:1-2)**
2. **He Prayed to the right One (Daniel 9:3-4)**
3. **He Prayed in the right way (Daniel 9:5-11)**
4. **We have rejected your prophets (Daniel 9:6)**
5. **Where we should be - realize the error of our ways (Daniel 9:7-8)**
6. **Realize that God is merciful (Daniel 9:9)**
7. **Remember we are the ones that failed to do as He said (Daniel 9:10-11)**
  - **If you won't Listen (Deuteronomy 28:15; 20)**
  - **Curses from God (Deuteronomy 28:45-47)**
  - **Nation Brought up against you (Deuteronomy 28:48-50)**
  - **Nature shall be brought against you (Deuteronomy 28:58-61)**
8. **God had kept His Word...WE DESERVED IT! (Daniel 9:12-15)**
9. **Plead for God's mercy - Turn Away Your Anger (Daniel 9:16-19)**

**The Angel Gabriel Brings an answer (Daniel 9:20-23)**

**20** And whiles I *was* speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God;

**21** Yea, whiles I *was* speaking in prayer, even the man **Gabriel**, whom I had seen in the vision **at the beginning**, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.

**22** And he informed *me*, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I **am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding**.

**23** At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew *thee*; for *thou art* greatly beloved: therefore **understand the matter, and consider the vision**.

**The Seventy Weeks (Daniel 9:24-27)**

**24** Seventy weeks are **determined(to cut off)** upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to **finish(hold back)** 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.

**Nehemiah 2:1-8**

**1** And it came to pass **in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king**, *that* wine *was* before him: and I took up the wine, and gave *it* unto the king. Now I had not been *beforetime* sad in his presence.

**2** Wherefore the king said unto me, Why *is* thy countenance sad, seeing thou *art* not sick? this *is* nothing *else* but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid,

**3** And said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' sepulchres, *lieth* waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire?

**4** Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make request? **So I prayed to the God of heaven.**

**5** And I said unto the king, If it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres, **that I may build it.**

**6** And the king said unto me, (the queen also sitting by him,) For how long shall thy journey be? and when wilt thou return? **So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.**

**7** Moreover I said unto the king, **If it please the king**, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah;

**8** And a letter unto **Asaph the keeper of the king's forest**, that he may give me **timber** to make beams for the gates of the palace which *appertained to the house*, and for the **wall of the city**, and for **the house that I shall enter into**. And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.

**26** And after threescore and two(**62**) weeks shall Messiah be cut off(**crucifixion**), **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*(**downfall of Babylon**), 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.

## The Abomination of Desolation - Part 2

### Daniel 10

**Daniel 10:1-21 (written 536-530 B.C.)**

**1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel**, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing *was* true, but the time appointed *was* long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.

**Daniel 9:1-2 (written 539-530 B.C.)**

**1 In the first year of Darius** the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;

**2 In the first year of his reign** I Daniel understood by books **the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet**, that he would accomplish **seventy years in the desolations (drought: W1828 = destruction)** of Jerusalem.

#### **Getting in Touch with God**

##### **Right frame of mind - Mourning**

**2** In those days I Daniel was **mourning (lamenting)** three full weeks.

##### **Right control of the Flesh**

**3** I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till **three whole weeks** were fulfilled.

##### **The Place**

**4** And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which *is* Hiddekel (**probably the Tigris River**);

##### **The Certain Man - Jesus**

**5** Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain (**Ordinal number signifying the Original One**) man clothed in linen, whose loins *were* girded with fine gold of Uphaz:

##### **Revelation 1:12-16**

**12** And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

**13** And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a **golden girdle**.

**14** His head and **his hairs** were white like wool, as white as snow; and **his eyes** were as a flame of **fire**;

15 And **his feet** like unto **fine brass**, as if they burned in a furnace; and **his voice** as the sound of **many waters**.

16 And he had in **his right hand** seven stars: and out of **his mouth** went a sharp twoedged sword: and **his countenance** was as the sun shineth in his strength.

**6** His **body** also *was* like the beryl, and **his face** as the **appearance of lightning**, and **his eyes** as **lamps of fire**, and **his arms and his feet** like in colour to **polished brass**, and **the voice of his words** like the voice of a multitude.

**Revelation 19:12** His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

### **What Daniel Alone saw**

**7** And I Daniel alone(**separation**) saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell UPON THEM, so that they fled to hide themselves.

### **The effect of seeing Jesus has on man (A realization of how unworthy man is)**

**8** Therefore I was left alone, and saw this **GREAT VISION**, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness(**honor**) was turned in me into **corruption(destruction)**, and I retained no strength.

### **The Power of the Word of God**

**9** Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground.

**10** And, behold, **an hand touched me**, which set me upon my knees and *upon* the palms of my hands.

### **What Daniel's position yielded - The Affection of Jesus**

**11** And he said unto me, **O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright**: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, **I stood trembling**.

### **God Planned for me to come sooner**

**12** Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, **thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words**.

**13** But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me **one and twenty days**: but, lo, **Michael, one of the chief princes**, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

14 Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the **latter days**(**last end; future**): for yet the vision *is* for *many* days.

**Daniel 9:21** Yea, whiles **I was speaking in prayer**, even the man **Gabriel**, whom I had seen in the vision **at the beginning**, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.

### **Daniel had nothing to say - In awe!**

15 And when he had spoken such words unto me, **I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb.**

**Psalms 46:10** Be still(**cease**), and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

### **Jesus Touched Him**

16 And, behold, *one* like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, **O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength.**

17 For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, **neither is there breath left in me.**

### **The Angel touched him and encouraged him**

18 Then there came again and touched me *one* like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,

19 And said, **O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be** unto thee, **be strong, yea, be strong.** And when he had spoken unto me, **I was strengthened**, and said, **Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.**

20 Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and **now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia**: and when I am gone forth, lo, **the prince of Grecia shall come.**

21 But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and *there is* none that holdeth with me in these things, but **Michael your prince.**

### **Covers the prophetic time between Malachi and the Gospel of Matthew**

#### **Daniel 11:1-45 (written 536-530 B.C.)**

1 Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, *even* I, **stood to confirm and to strengthen him.**

2 And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than *they* all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.

**Daniel 12:1-13 (written 536-530 B.C.)**

### **Resurrection**

**1** And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even to that same time*: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, **EVERY ONE THAT SHALL BE FOUND WRITTEN IN THE BOOK.**

**2** And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake,

### **Choices**

some to everlasting life, and some to shame *and everlasting* contempt.

### **Definition of Wisdom**

**3** And they that be WISE shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

### **Shut it up**

**4** But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even to the time of the end*: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

**5** Then I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, the one on this side of the bank of the river, and the other on that side of the bank of the river.

**6** And one said to the man clothed in linen, which *was* upon the waters of the river, **How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?**

**7** And I heard the man clothed in linen, which *was* upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth for ever that *it shall be for a time, times, and an half*; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these *things* shall be finished.

*John Gill: "Time" signifies a prophetic year, or 360 years; and "times" two prophetic years, or 720 years; and half a time half a prophetic year, or 180 years, in all 1260 years; which is the exact date and duration of the reign of antichrist, of the church's being in the wilderness, and of the witnesses prophesying in sackcloth, and of the treading under foot the holy city, expressed both by 1260 days, and by forty two months, which are the same; see Revelation 11:2*

### **What's the End? You'll know when you know!!!**

**8** And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what *shall be* the end of these *things*?

**9** And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end.

**10 Many shall be purified**, and made white, and tried; but **the wicked** shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but **the wise shall understand**.

**11** 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.

**12** Blessed *is* he that **waiteth**(**piercing**), and cometh to the **thousand three hundred and five and thirty days**.

**13** But **go thou thy way** till the end *be*: for **thou shalt rest**, and **stand in thy lot** at the end of the days.