



## UNDERSTAND THE TIMES

## KNOW HOW TO LIVE

Matthew 24

### INTRODUCTION

*1 Chronicles 12:32 (NLT) From the tribe of Issachar, there were 200 leaders of the tribe with their relatives. All these men understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take.*

Series Theme: "Understand the times, to know how to live."

### REVIEW

Their questions were:

1. When will these things happen?
2. What will be the sign of Your coming?
3. What will be the sign of the end of the age?

### PREVIEW

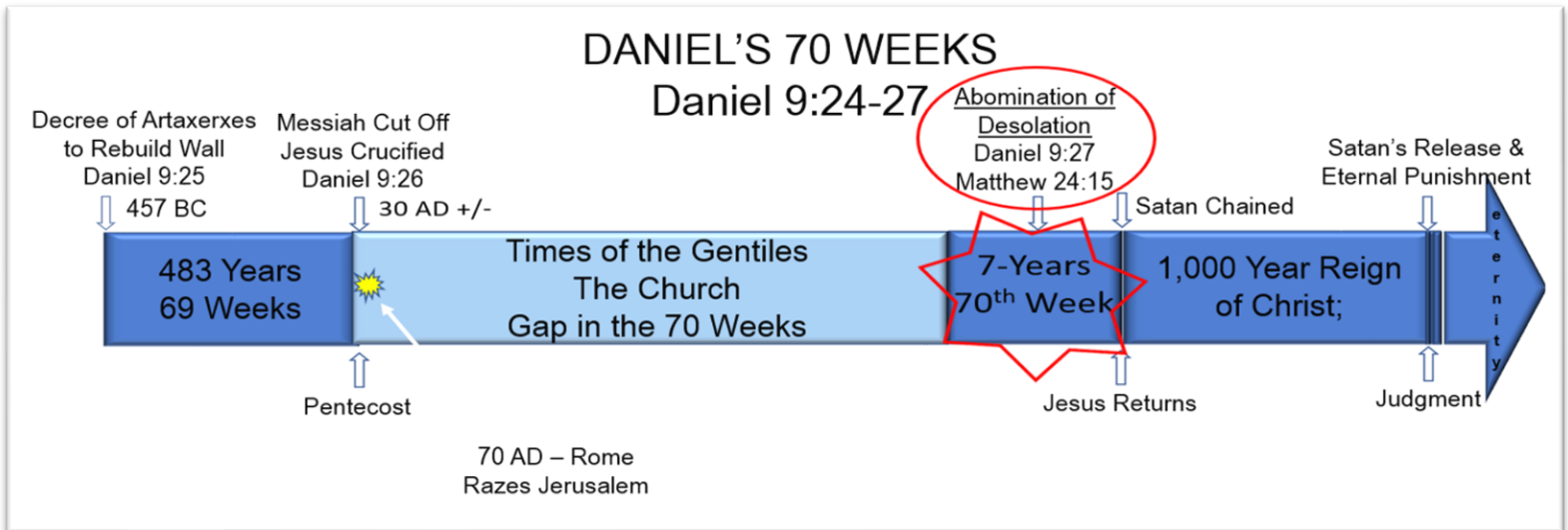
The events will be:

- The Abomination of Desolation (Matthew 24:15)
- The Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:21)
- The Great Deception (Matthew 24:23)
- The Darkening of the Sun, Moon, and Stars (Matthew 24:29)



**MESSAGE THEME: *Living Alert, Prepared, and Discerning***

- **THE ABOMINATION** - *Matthew 24:15 (ESV)* "So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),
  - **The Abomination of Desolation in the Holy Place**
    - Abomination – *bdelygma*: loathsome, detestable, pollutant, revulsive, defiled
    - Desolation – *eremosis*: destruction, utter ruin, wasted



- Holy Place – The Temple
  - **An End Time Event** - *2 Thessalonians 2:3–4 (ESV)* Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.
  - **Quickly Flee – Avoid Detection** - *Matthew 24:16–18 (ESV)* then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, 18 and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak.
  - **The Blessings of the Unrestricted** - *Matthew 24:19–20 (ESV)* And alas [how dreadful] for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! 20 Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath.
- **GREAT TRIBULATION**
  - **The Severity** - *Matthew 24:21 (ESV)* For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be.
    - Grk Wd: "Megas" - huge, large, or great
    - Grk Wd: "Thlipsis" a pressing together, Intense pressure, duress, stress
  - **Cut Short** - *Matthew 24:22 (ESV)* And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.
- **GREAT DECEPTION**

- **Miracle Working False Messiahs & Prophets** - *Matthew 24:23 (ESV) Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it. 24 For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders,*
- **Great Capacity to Decieve** - *Matthew 24:24-25 (ESV) . . . so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. 25 See, I have told you beforehand.*
- **Christ's Coming will be Obvious** - *Matthew 24:26-28 (ESV) So, if they say to you, 'Look, he is in the wilderness,' do not go out. If they say, 'Look, he is in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. 27 For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 28 Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.*

#### APPLICATION

1. Live Alert
2. Live Prepared
3. Live Discerning