



THE GREAT TRIBULATION

Matthew 24:15-28

Introduction: Last week, we looked at _____ signs of the End of the Age.

Matthew 24:8 (ESV) - *“All these are but the beginning of the birth pains.”*

Names Given to the Tribulation

I. The _____ of Desolation – 24:15

¹⁵ *“Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand),*

It is believed that this single event here in verse 15 divides the Tribulation. We now begin what Bible teachers all, **The _____ Tribulation**, or the last 3 1/2 years of the Tribulation.

What is the Abomination of Desolation?

Daniel mentions the *“abomination of desolation”* - Daniel 9:27, 11:31, 12:11. Read: Daniel 9:20-27 -

INTERPRETING DANIEL’S 70 WEEKS

The Interlude/Church Age

Question: How long is a week here in Daniel 9:27?

Answer: ____ years.

The Antichrist, or the “_____ who is to come” (v. 26), or the “beast” as he is named in the book of Revelation (Revelation 13-14), will sign a covenant with the nation of Israel for 7 years.

In the _____ of the 7 years, or 3 1/2 years into the treaty, the antichrist will bring an end to sacrifice and offering. How? Through “*the abomination of desolation*” that Jesus spoke about here in Matthew 24:15.

Bible teachers believe that the Antichrist will invade the temple and set up an image of himself to be worshipped (II Thessalonians 2:1-11; Revelation 13:2).

The Chart

II. _____ to the Mountains – 24:16-20

¹⁶ “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. ¹⁸ And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. ¹⁹ But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ²⁰ And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

Jesus makes it clear that those living should flee to the mountains. Why? So that they might escape the terrible _____ that would come upon all mankind. The Greek word for flee means a _____. It carries with it the idea to run, to get away, or to hide.

- Housetops – (v. 17) -
- Fields – (v. 18) -
- Pregnant – (v. 19) -

Hosea 13:16 - *“Samaria is held guilty, for she has rebelled against her God. They shall fall by the sword, their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child ripped open.”*

- Winter or Sabbath – (v. 20) -

III. There shall be a _____ Tribulation – 24:21

²¹ *For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be*

- _____ (v. 16).
- sabbath (v. 20).
- _____ sake (v. 22).

Israel is _____ the Church, and the Church is _____ Israel.

The Tribulation

IV. God Himself will _____ the Days – 24:22

²² *And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened.*

V. False _____ and false prophets will arise – 24:23-26

²³ *“Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe it. ²⁴ For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵ See, I have told you beforehand. ²⁶ “Therefore if they say to you, ‘Look, He is in the desert!’ do not go out; or ‘Look, He is in the inner rooms!’ do not believe it.*

VI. The _____ of Jesus Christ – 24:27

²⁷ For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Jesus spoke these words to remind us that when He does return, it will be _____ and that it will be quick, as fast as lightning. Lightning happens so fast that at times it is hard for the naked eye to comprehend it.

VII. The Certainty of _____ – 24:28

²⁸ For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.

One thing will be certain during the Tribulation. There will be a lot of _____ – carcasses will be everywhere.

The Antichrist and his armies will gather to war against _____ and His armies (the saints), and they will be utterly defeated. The Antichrist and the false prophet will be cast into hell. Their armies will be defeated, and their carcasses will serve as food for the birds of the air (Revelation 19:21).

Conclusion: The story you heard today is _____. None of the names has been changed to protect the innocents. There are no innocents (*“All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”* (Romans 3:23)). The Antichrist will arise, destroy the _____, and persecute God’s “elect” – the Jews. People will flee into the mountains to hide. There will be a Tribulation unlike the world has ever seen before. God will keep it to 7 years so that people can be saved. False christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

And let us not miss verse 25, *“See, I have told you beforehand.”*

None of these events should take the people of God by _____. We have been forewarned. It’s all recorded for us in Scripture.