

The Eschatology of the Servant Part 2 - Mark 13:14 “Who is the Antichrist?”

Please Stand and Open your Bibles to 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

This will be our opening reading for the next two weeks as we deal with part two and three of our study “The Eschatology of the Servant” out of Mark 13. Here is our running breakdown of the chapter:

The Eschatology of the Servant Mark 13

13:1-13 “Context, Context, Context”

13:14 “Who is the Antichrist?”

13:15-27 “What is the Tribulation?”

13:28-31 “Who or What is the Fig Tree?”

13:32-36 “The Doctrine of Imminency”

13:37 “The Pretribulation Rapture of the Church”

Last week we saw the context as we discovered what the disciples thought about their Messiah and the coming kingdom. Because the church age was hidden from them, they had to ask “when?” and “what?”. So, Jesus gives them the “Signs” for all the times. What we should expect to see as the time get’s closer is an increase of things described as “sorrows” or “birth pangs”. And in all honesty, He shows them the truth of what would happen to them as persecution awaits each one who stands up for Jesus while awaiting this time to come. This ends Jesus’s answer to the when. Starting today He will start dealing with the what...

Mark 13:4

“Tell us, **when** will these things be? And **what** will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?”

And the first sign to look for is found in the one verse we will be looking at today:

Mark 13:14

So when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not” (let the reader understand), “then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

The words translated “so when” are Greek conjunctions that could be looked at as “However when” or “Moreover then” sometimes in English we use the word but to make a new point. And the next phrase “You see” is a verb that is in the second person plural meaning a future group that will see the subject that is mentioned. And what is that? The Abomination of Desolation! Now if your version does not have the “Spoken by Daniel” part in it, do not worry it as it is in your account in Matthew...

Matthew 24:15

"Therefore when you see the 'ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand)

Now, this gets us to the point that we will look at today and next week and that is to let the reader understand. Both Matthew and Mark expect you to know what they are talking about. They expect you to have a working knowledge of the book of Daniel. This book was being used by the early Apostles to show Jesus is the Christ by fulfilling prophecies. Where is that you ask? I am glad you asked!

We did an extensive study on this in our podcast on the book of Daniel. 40 lessons and 5 specifically we did on something called the * “The Key to Bible Prophecy”. These were out of Daniel 9:24-27. Daniel was an old man and had been reading the prophets and understood that Israel was to be in captivity for seventy years and that time was about up. This led him to one of the most powerful prayers recorded in scripture that was rewarded by a prophecy of the future of his people. Many call it the seventy seven’s prophecy but I like what we titled it and let’s show you why...

The Key to Bible Prophecy – Daniel 9:24-27

Emphasis added

Daniel 9:24

“Seventy weeks (Seventy seven year periods) are determined for your people (The Jewish People) and for your holy city (The City of Jerusalem), to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

Daniel 9:25

Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince (Jesus Christ), there shall be seven weeks (49 years) and sixty-two weeks (434 years); the street shall be built again, and the wall (March 5, 444 BC), even in troublesome times.

Daniel 9:26

And after the sixty-two weeks (March 30, 33 AD Palm Sunday) Messiah shall be cut off (The Cross), but not for Himself (For you and me!); and the people (Rome) of the prince (Antichrist) who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. (Destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD) The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.

Daniel 9:27

Then he (The Antichrist) shall confirm a covenant with many (A global peace treaty with Israel and all the nations) for one week (Seven Years) ; but in the middle of the week he (The Antichrist) shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate (What Jesus is talking about), even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.”

How do we know?

Daniel 12:11

And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days.

What we have learned to understand reading as Jesus expects us to, we can come to this much knowledge:

A * world leader will come on the scene that will come out of Rome or somewhere out of Europe that will have the global authority to make a treaty with all the nations including Israel. During this seven-year period Israel will be operating the temple again as this person will stop the sacrifices at the three- and one-half year mark and set up an abomination of desolation.

Revelation 6:1

Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He (The Antichrist) who sat on it had a bow (Diplomacy); and a crown (Authority) was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

Who is this world leader? Believe it or not this person is the one of the most talked about persons in the Bible besides Jesus. He has many titles, but we use the one that John the Apostle gave him, the Antichrist.

1 John 2:18

Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

People that tell me that prophecy is not important needs to go back in time and let the Apostles know because they though it important. Jesus told us to understand. John says you have “Heard”. That means it is being taught. But John is using this to make a point that Jesus had taught us to not be deceived. So, this is how we get His name.

Anti does not he is the opposite of. It is the instead of or counterfeit. He will cause the world to reject Christ and be the replacement of him. But this is his title, but he goes by many names in the Bible. Here is a partial list:



Other Names for the Antichrist

- "the little horn" (Dan. 7:8)
- "the insolent king" (Dan. 8:23)
- "the prince who is to come" (Dan. 9:26)
- "the one who makes desolate" (Dan. 9:27)
- "the despicable person" (Dan. 11:21)
- "the strong-willed king" (Dan. 11:36)
- "the worthless shepherd" (Zech. 11:16-17)
- "the man of lawlessness" (2 Thess. 2:3)
- "the son of destruction" (2 Thess. 2:3)
- "the lawless one" (2 Thess. 2:8)
- "the beast" (Rev. 11:7; 13:1; 14:9; 15:2; 16:2; 17:3, 13; 19:20; 20:10)

We will not have time to look at every one as this study could take weeks. But let's cruise through the Bible and get a little acquainted with him.

Believe it or not the very first place he is mentioned is in
Genesis 3:15

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and
between your (Satan) seed (The Antichrist) and her Seed (Jesus
Christ); he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His
heel.

He is seen as a type or a shadow of in Nimrod.

Genesis 10:8-10

Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth.
He was a mighty hunter before (Lit. Against) the Lord; therefore
it is said, “Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before (Lit. Against)
the Lord.” And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel

The first place he is mentioned as a global leader is in Daniel 7.

Turn * to Daniel 7:1-8

So, Daniel wanted to know about this fourth beast and the
“Little horn”

Daniel 7:23

“Thus he said: ‘The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on
earth, which shall be different from all other kingdoms, and
shall devour the whole earth, trample it and break it in pieces...

Picture of Dan 2 *

Daniel 7:24

The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; he shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings.

Daniel 7:25

He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.

Then in Daniel 8 we learn a little more...

Daniel 8:23-24

“And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their fullness, A king shall arise, having fierce features, who understands sinister schemes. His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, and shall prosper and thrive; he shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.

Daniel 8:25

Through his cunning

He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of

princes;

But he shall be broken without human means.

And then to make the point even more interesting an angel will later give Daniel a vision of what would happen to Israel during what we call the inter-testamental times. After Greece dissolves into four areas the two that surround Israel will be fighting against each other. Chapter 11 give us this history in great detail that no one can believe that this was written beforehand. (Dead Sea Scrolls) It goes all the way to what would happen in Israel that would be a type of what Jesus mentioned today by Antiochus IV Epiphanies who desecrated the temple and slew a pig on the altar. This is what led to the Maccabean Revolution and the instituting of the holiday of Hanukkah. But at the end of it he turns our attention to the future...

Daniel 11:36-37

Then the king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done. He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all.

Daniel 11:38-39

But in their place he shall honor a god of fortresses; and a god which his fathers did not know he shall honor with gold and

silver, with precious stones and pleasant things. Thus he shall act against the strongest fortresses with a foreign god, which he shall acknowledge, and advance its glory; and he shall cause them to rule over many, and divide the land for gain.

And this now brings us to where this all plays out in Revelation 13...

Revelation 13:1

Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast (World Leader) rising up out of the sea (Humanity), having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. (Heading the One World Government)

Revelation 13:2

Now the beast (Remember Daniel 7!) which I saw was like a leopard (Will conquer swiftly like Alexander the Great), his feet were like the feet of a bear (Using Diplomacy like the Medes and the Persians), and his mouth like the mouth of a lion (Will speak with the authority of Nebuchadnezzar). The dragon (Satan) gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.

Revelation 13:3

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. (A False Resurrection)

Zechariah 11:17

“Woe to the worthless shepherd, who leaves the flock! A sword shall be against his arm and against his right eye; his arm shall completely wither, and his right eye shall be totally blinded.”

Revelation 13:4

So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?”

There is so much more but this takes us back to our reading at the beginning:

2 Thessalonians 2:3

Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day (The Seven Year Tribulation) will not come (Lit. Is Present) unless the falling away comes first (The signing of the seven year peace treaty), and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. (The Abomination of Desolation)

2 Thessalonians 2:9-11

The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that

they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

A * Prince out of the revived Roman Empire who will use deceit and lies to get the world to make him their king and will make a treaty to bring a final peace in the Middle east. He will fight against three of the ten world leaders and come out victorious and the world will marvel thinking he was dead. After this he will go into the temple in Jerusalem and tell the world that he is God and set up an image there. He will blaspheme Jesus and God and offer himself as the ultimate substitute to them by lying signs and wonders. * He will deceive people and get them to renounce Christ and place their affinity to him by taking a mark. The Jews will know they have been duped and run for their lives to Petra where God will protect them. In the meantime, the Antichrist will gather the world's armies in the valley of Armageddon to begin a campaign to go after the Jews in Petra. This will end at the end of the 3 ½ years when the Jews will realize that Jesus was their Messiah all along, call out to Him and He will return to rescue them and bring in the thousand-year Kingdom.

The good news is we are not waiting for the Antichrist we are waiting for Jesus Christ!

Titus 2:13

looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ