

12 Topic: Abomination of Desolation

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Tagline

Synopsis

Short description of the study and its connection to the context of the end and how it's important.

Overview

- Introduction
- Defining the Words
 - Abomination
 - Desolation
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- Daily Sacrifice an Abomination to the Lord?
- The Olivet Discourse
 - Daniel's Four References
 - Similarly Different
- Mortal Wound Healed
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Details

- Introduction
 - Overview Timeline
 - Similar to The Restrainer study, this overview timeline is locked to about the middle of the 70th week as this is the pivotal event that changes everything on the earth. We will, however, be addressing historical events that foreshadow and somewhat mirror this future event that Yeshua pointed to in order to highlight what we should be looking for.
- Defining the Words
 - Abomination
 - Physical
 - Deuteronomy 7:25-26 - the silver and gold made into idols is an abomination to the Lord, it is cursed, do not bring into your house
 - Deuteronomy 27:14-15 - A graven or molten image is an abomination to the Lord
 - Deuteronomy 12:29-31 - When you dwell in the land the Lord will give you, don't be snared by following their ways after they are destroyed. Don't even wonder about how they worshiped their gods. They even killed their children with fire to their gods.
 - Deuteronomy 18:9-14 - When you dwell in the land the Lord will give you, don't learn or do the abominations of those nations. Making son or daughter pass through the fire, divination, enchanter, witch, charmer, wizard, necromancer, consult familiar spirits are an abomination to the Lord.
 - Spiritual
 - Proverbs 6:16-19 - These six [things] doth the LORD hate: yea, seven [are] an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness [that] speaketh lies, and he that soweth

discord among brethren.

- Example from Solomon
 - 1 Kings 11:4-8 - Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites, and build high places for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. He had foreign wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.
- While Solomon's actions were an abomination and adultery, going after other gods and giving them place in the land of Israel, this was not related to the temple

○ Desolation

- Exodus 19:3-8 - After God saved Israel from Egypt and took them into the wilderness to meet with Him at Mount Sinai, they agreed to follow all that YAHWEH had spoken.
- Leviticus 26:31 - God laid out a series of blessings and curses tied to this conditional covenant in Leviticus 26:1-46, Deuteronomy 7:12-24, and Deuteronomy 28:1-68. One in particular that is tied to the abomination of desolation comes from a curse regarding Israel's sanctuaries being made desolate.
 - Sanctuaries - It is referred to as the most holy place only by Ezekiel referring to the Messianic temple and is clearly referred to as where the Lord dwells among His people.
 - Desolation - The meaning is generally clear that desolation would be astonishing, just as the Jews wondered at the cities and sanctuary as they stood.
- We saw this in the Babylonian destruction of the temple and Jerusalem on the 9th of Av in 587 BC and in the Roman destruction of the temple and Jerusalem on the 9th of Av in 70 AD. There have been other desecrations through history as well that didn't lead to the destruction, but looting of the temple instruments around the times that Israel was turned from God.
- Leviticus 26:34-35 - Regarding the land, it was lying desolate when Israel was no longer in it. While Israel was gone in captivity it enjoyed the Sabbath rest Israel did not give it.
- Psalm 69:25 - We see this same idea of desolation related to absence from ones habitation and empty tents in the Psalm of David in his distress from his enemies, which much of the Psalm turned out to be prophetic speaking of Yeshua.
- Matthew 23:38 - Yeshua prophesied the desolation of the temple just before His crucifixion. For the next 40 years until the destruction of the temple in 70 AD, strange events would make it clear that something changed with God's presence in the temple in 30 AD after the veil was rent in two.
 - "Forty years before the destruction of the Temple, the western light went out, the crimson thread remained crimson, and the lot for the Lord always came up in the left hand. They would close the gates of the Temple by night and get up in the morning and find them wide open" (Jacob Neusner, The Yerushalmi, p. 156-157). [The Temple was destroyed in 70 C.E.]
 - "Our rabbis taught: During the last forty years before the destruction of the Temple the lot ['For the Lord'] did not come up in the right hand; nor did the crimson-colored strap become white; nor did the western most light shine; and the doors of the Hekel [Temple] would open by themselves" (Soncino version, Yoma 39b). [The Temple was destroyed in 70 C.E.]
 - Lot for the Lord
 - ◆ "The practice on the day of Atonement in which a random choosing of the lot would determine which of the two goats would be for God and which goat would be the Azazel, or scapegoat. The lot was practiced by selecting a white stone or a black stone. Statistically that would result in equal chance for each stone, and of course that was the historical result. However, beginning in 30 C.E. for 40 years, the high priest always selected

a black stone. The odds of this happening are just over 1 in 1 trillion. (1 in 1,099,511,627,776) The only thing that they knew was that something was seriously different in the Day of Atonement sacrifice. Something very profound happened in 30 C.E." | Messiah 2030

- Crimson-colored strap wasn't white
 - ◆ "and it has further been taught: 'For forty years before the destruction of the Temple the thread of scarlet never turned white but it remained red.'" (Bavli Rosh Hashanah 31b).
 - ◆ "This concerns the crimson strip, or cloth tied to the azazel goat. A portion of this red cloth was also removed from the goat and tied to the temple door. Each year the red cloth on the temple door turned white as if to signify the atonement of another Day of Atonement was acceptable to the Lord. This annual event happened until 30 C.E. when the cloth then remained crimson each year till the time of the temple's destruction. This undoubtedly caused much stir and dismay among the Jews. This traditional practice is linked to Israel confessing its sins and ceremonial placing this nations sin upon the azazel goat. The sin was then removed by this goat's death. Sin was represented by the red color of the cloth, the color of blood. The cloth remained crimson, that is, Israel's sins were not being pardoned and made white. As God told Israel through Isaiah the prophet," Isaiah 1:18 - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. | Messiah 2030
- Western most light went out
 - ◆ The next miracle was that the most important lamp of the seven candlestick menorah in the Temple went out and would not shine. Every night for 40 years, over 12,500 nights in a row, the main lamp of the Temple lampstand, the menorah, went out of its own accord, no matter what attempts and precautions the priests tried to safeguard against this event. "In fact, we are told in the Talmud that at dusk the lamps that were unlit in the daytime (the middle four lamps remained unlit, while the two eastern lamps normally stayed lit during the day) were to be re-lit from the flames of the western lamp (which was a lamp that was supposed to stay lit all the time - it was the 'eternal' flame that we see today in some national monuments). This 'western lamp' was to be kept lit at all times. For that reason, the priests kept extra reservoirs of olive oil and other implements in ready supply to make sure that the 'western lamp' (under all circumstances) would stay lit. But what happened in the forty years from the very year Messiah said the physical Temple would be destroyed? Every night for forty years the western lamp went out, and this in spite of the priests each evening preparing in a special way the western lamp so that it would remain constantly burning all night!" (The Significance of the Year CE 30, Earnest Martin, Research Update, April 1994, p.4). | Messiah 2030
- Doors to the temple would open by themselves
 - ◆ The next miracle, which the ancient Jewish authorities acknowledged, was that the Temple doors swung open every night of their own accord. For 40 years this was the case, beginning in 30 C.E. The leading Jewish authority of that time, Yohanan Ben Zakkai, declared that this was a sign of impending doom. The Jerusalem Talmud states:"Said Rabban Yohanan Ben Zakkai to the Temple, 'O Temple, why do you frighten us? We know that you will end up destroyed. For it has been said, 'Open your doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour your cedars'" (Zechariah 11:1)' (Sota

6:3). Yohanan Ben Zakkai was the leader of the Jewish community during the time following the destruction of the Temple in 70 C.E., when the Jewish government was transferred to Jamnia some 30 miles west of Jerusalem. | Messiah 2030

- These strange occurrences after Yeshua's death and resurrection until the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple 40 years later would seem to indicate a desolation, or absence of God's presence in the midst of Israel.
 - Luke 11:47-51 - "the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation; From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation."
 - Luke 19:41-44 - "For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation."
- The tabernacle of God
 - Exodus 25:8-9 - the tabernacle in the wilderness and the temple built in Jerusalem were meant to be the habitation of God. In terms of the events this page is about, this is the critical thing to understand.
 - The tabernacle in the wilderness, and later the temples build by Solomon and those returning from Babylonian captivity, were the dwelling place of the Lord amongst His people Israel. Unlike at previous points in history, God gave instructions for the service to His dwelling place so that the children of Israel could dwell with God, who remained behind the veil.
- Daily Sacrifice an abomination to the Lord?
 - I would recommend first watching Michael Heiser's Thinking Like an Israelite series for a more scholarly point of view on this.
 - [Week 1: Impurity and Sin](#)
 - [Week 2: Sacred Space and Sacrifice](#)
 - [Week 3: Sacrificial System \(OT Sacrifices\)](#)
 - [Week 4: Chaos & Calendar](#)
 - Exodus 29:38-46 - Now this [is that] which thou shalt offer upon the altar; two lambs of the first year day by day continually. The one lamb thou shalt offer in the morning; and the other lamb thou shalt offer at even ... a continual burnt offering throughout your generations [at] the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD: where I will meet you, to speak there unto thee ... I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God. And they shall know that I [am] the LORD their God, that brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them: I [am] the LORD their God
 - It is clearly stated that God's tabernacle is the sanctuary to be built in which He will dwell and sanctify. This is critically tied to the sacrifice offered twice daily on the altar at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD. This daily sacrifice is tied to the sanctuary, God dwelling there, and communion with Israel. There were other continual, or daily, parts to service at God's temple that God said were to be a statute forever to the generations of Israel. These were all part of ministry to ensure continual operation as God had commanded. Several places in scripture "the daily" is referred to and is likely tying all of these together as continual minstry to God.
 - The table of showbread was to be continually before the Lord. Exodus 25:23-30 | Leviticus 24:5-9 | Numbers 4:7
 - The golden lampstand (menorah) was to be lit continually. Exodus 25:31-40 | Exodus 27:20-21 | Leviticus 24:1-4
 - Incense was to be burned on the altar of incense and the lamp continually. Exodus 30:1-10

- The burn offering fire was never to go out on the altar. Leviticus 6:8-13
- The garment of the priests was to have the names of the children of Israel before the Lord continually and Aaron was to have on his forehead a plate of gold engraved with "HOLINESS TO THE LORD." Exodus 28
- The daily sacrifice of a lamb in the morning and evening each day continually. Exodus 29:38-46 | Numbers 28:1-8 | Ezekiel 46:13-15 (Only morning in Messianic Kingdom, no evening sacrifice)
- Christians tend to look Israel's animal sacrifice as an abomination because of Christ's sacrifice, but something should be clarified.
 - Hebrews 10:1-4 - For the law having a shadow of good things to come, [and] not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect ... in those [sacrifices there is] a remembrance again [made] of sins every year. For [it is] not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins
 - It was never possible for the sacrifices Israel made to take away sins, before or after Christ's sacrifice that was sufficient. As Christians we have no need of sacrifice, as our remembrance is of Christ in communion of His works He did to save us from our sin that they be remembered no more.
 - Hebrews 10:11-22 - every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins ... by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified ... This [is] the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these [is, there is] no more offering for sin. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And [having] an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.
 - We who believe and have accepted Christ are sanctified and consecrated as kings and priests to our God by the blood of Christ.
 - Romans 11:25, Matthew 23:39, Luke 19:41-42 - Israel, both in history and now in blindness, is still living in the Old Covenant. Israel is unable to see what was done by their Messiah for them until they are unblinded with the fulness of the Gentiles.
 - so many of the things Israel was told to do was to consecrate and sanctify them to minister to God. Exodus 29
 - Would God, having blinded them in unbelief, remain turned from them when they begin coming back to Him the only way they know how?
 - Deuteronomy 30:1-10 - when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call [them] to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee, And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee ... And thou shalt return and obey the voice of the LORD, and do all his commandments which I command thee this day
 - What commands did God give Israel in the wilderness that they are supposed to do? The Jewish religion is based on the Law of Moses in the Torah that defines their lives. If God keeps His promises, then when Israel turns from the secular society they are now back to the God of their fathers, obeying what He told them to do in the Torah - sacrifices and all - then God will bring them back to

the land and bless them.

- God specifically says to Israel, not everyone, that it shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations. What was once a foreshadow can become a memorial and I believe that's why we see sacrifices in the Messianic Kingdom as well. Isaiah 56:6-8 | Zechariah 14:16 | Jeremiah 33:15-18 | Ezekiel 43:18-46:24 | Ezekiel 46:13-15
- Ezekiel 43:7-9 - Here we can see, just before the describing of the altar of sacrifice and offerings depicted in the remainder of the chapter, that the period depicted is after the wrath of God when Israel will no longer defile and God will dwell in their midst forever, the Messianic Kingdom.
- So the question is if Israel becomes orthodox as a nation, rebuilds the temple according to the Torah, consecrates it and the priests according to the Torah, performs the daily according to the Torah, and truly has their hearts turned back to Him, will He reject them?
- Will animal sacrifice, which never could or ever will accomplish what Yeshua did, and were statutes given to Israel to perform perpetually and continually, be an abomination to God?
- I think it's important to understand the distinction of Israel's place in God's plan and re-examine aversions to the idea of the animal sacrifice being re-instituted in light of God's Word. This would include that of Ezekiel 40-48, which speaks of a temple larger than any previously existing in which there will be perpetual animal sacrifice in the Messianic Kingdom.
- The fact that Yeshua Himself points to the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet in terms of our future indicates that He would consider it to be the dwelling place of God in order for it to have an abomination that makes it desolate where God leaves the tabernacle. In order for the house of God to become desolate due to an abomination, it logically follows that it must not have been desolate previously.
- The only other option is that this term is really just meant to show an event that at one time had meaning, but in the future has no real meaning to it, it's just similar to what happened before. The central nature of this event in Bible prophecy leads me to lean toward the former option.
- In light of the whole council of God, we must each make our own mind up on this matter.

★ • The Olivet Discourse

- Matthew 24:14-15, Mark 13:13-14 - The time Yeshua defined as the arrival of "the end" is when we see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, so we should turn to Daniel to examine.
 - These are the only two places where the exact phrase "abomination of desolation" are used in scripture, but the concept is elsewhere stated differently.
- Going over what we've seen in scripture, an abomination is something that is detestable to God and desolation, in context of tabernacling in His sanctuary, is Him departing the temple as a result of an abomination desecrating it.

★ ○ Daniel's Four References

- 4 places Daniel refers to this event from Daniel's perspective, all prophetic, from 30 AD, partially fulfilled
- Looking to the past: 2 historical (Daniel 8, Daniel 11:31)
 - Daniel wrote of the abomination of desolation in several places. In fact, a similar event to what will come in the future has happened before in history, although not to the specifications in Matthew 24:15-25, Mark 13:14-23, and 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12, and almost two centuries before Yeshua walked the earth as a man.
 - Daniel 8:11-14 - the place of his sanctuary was cast down ... the transgression of

desolation

- ◆ “The place of His sanctuary(H4720) was cast down,” which is the same word used in Leviticus 26:31 regarding the curse of the desolation of God’s temple if Israel turned away from Him. It’s also used in Exodus 15:17 and Exodus 25:8 as the sanctuary in which God dwells. That the house of God is cast down is symbolic of the desecration which took it from a sanctified and consecrated place to that of desolation where God no longer resided.
- ◆ As if to make a point of tying things together, the daily is taken away in conjunction with this. It is a theme throughout all the times that Daniel speaks of the sanctuary being cast down, or the abomination that makes desolate. The daily is always a part of the event. It makes sense that a purposeful desecration of God’s sanctuary, or temple where He resides, would necessitate the stopping of the daily rituals and sacrifices that were part of ministering to God, who would no longer be present making the temple desolate.
- ◆ Daniel has a vision of the ram with two horns and the he goat with a notable horn. These horns represent kings and this is the story of Alexander the Great conquering the Medo-Persian Empire. When the he goat’s notable horn is broken, death of Alexander the Great in Babylon, four notable horns replace it. His four generals divided his kingdom upon his death and the one magnifying himself in verses 11-14 is a future ruler from one of those generals, Antiochus IV Epiphanes.
- ◆ 1 Maccabees 1:10, 41-46, 54-56 - Antiochus's attempt to force everyone to leave their beliefs to become one, forbidding the temple sacrifices, burnt offering, drink offering, etc. Also setup the abomination of desolation on the altar and burnt the Torahs on the fifteenth day of the month Casleu, in the hundred forty and fifth year [December 6, 167 BC].
- ◆ This abomination of desolation led to the rededication of the temple 2,300 days later celebrated today as Chanukkah. The story can be found in 1 Maccabees and 2 Maccabees and the events were foretold in the Book of Daniel with great clarity to the point that many declare it was written after the fact because it’s too on-point.
 - ◇ 1 Maccabees 4:52-56 - on the twenty-fifth day of the ninth month, which is called the month Casleu, in the hundred forty and eighth year, they rose up betimes in the morning, And offered sacrifice according to the law upon the new altar of burnt offerings, which they had made.
 - ◇ Accounting for lunar/solar differences and that daily means 2 sacrifices so the 2,300 daily sacrifices means 1,150 actual days, it was 1,150 morning and 1,150 evening sacrifices that passed before the temple was re-dedicated from 15 Kislev December 6, 167 BC to 25 Kislev December 13, 164 BC.
- Daniel 11:31 - pollute the sanctuary of strength, take away the daily, and place the abomination that maketh desolate
 - ◆ Daniel, over 350 years before it occurred, also described the political climate between the Ptolemaic and Seleucid Empires in Daniel 11, ending with another depiction of that same time.
 - ◆ Here again we see different wording regarding the same thing. They pollute the sanctuary of strength. This sanctuary is said to be to Israel, “the excellency of your strength, the desire of your eyes” in Ezekiel 24:21
 - ◆ And once again we see what Yeshua didn’t mention when pointing us to Daniel, but is always there, the taking away or stopping of the daily.

- ◆ Finally an abomination that makes desolate is placed. Given what we've seen from scripture, something God finds abominable is placed and God is no longer present in His sanctuary.
- ◆ Daniel 11:1-35 can be seen represented historically as well, and I recommend going through that study. However, Daniel 11:36-45 doesn't have the historic fulfillment and describes the attributes of the future man of sin after ending with Antiochus IV Epiphanes. In this way I believe scripture highlights the relationship of these two figures as a type for the future fulfillment and to show the similarities to help us understand the future.
- This gives us historical account of what this event means.
 - ◆ Preventing Israel's statutes of a daily sacrifice from being performed (Leviticus ??)
 - ◆ Placing an idol to be worshipped in God's house, causing it to be desolate.
- Characteristics and actions of Antiochus IV Epiphanes
 - ◆ Worshipping false gods - Daniel 8:11, Daniel 11:31-32
 - ◆ A proud look - Daniel 8:25
 - ◆ A lying tongue - 1 Maccabees 1:30-40, Daniel 11:21-23
 - ◆ Hands that shed innocent blood - Daniel 8:24, 1 Maccabees 1:24,37,50,59-64
 - ◆ Heart that devises wicked imaginations - Daniel 8:23, 1 Maccabees 1:16, Daniel 11:25
 - ◆ Feet swiftly running to mischief - 1 Maccabees 1:16, Daniel 11:24
 - ◆ A false witness speaking lies - Daniel 11:21
 - ◆ He that soweth discord among brethren - 1 Maccabees 1:41-49, 1 Maccabees 2:15-22, Daniel 11:30
- Looking to the future: 2 unfulfilled (Daniel 12:11, Daniel 9:27)
 - Daniel 12:11 - time [that] the daily [sacrifice] shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up
 - ◆ The beginning of chapter 12 follows the events at the end of chapter 11 and speaks of the unparalleled time of Jacob's trouble from which they will be saved. This is the same time Yeshua pointed to Daniel from in Matthew 24:15-22 and Mark 13:14-20 and the same time Jeremiah 30:4-7 speaks of that is tied to the time of the end. So we know verse 11 is speaking of a time yet future.
 - ◆ The plain reading of this this passage would seem to combine the stopping of the daily and the abomination of desolation at the beginning of a 1,290 day period whose end is not explicitly defined. It would seem the natural end to this period of time to be the end of the 70th week of Daniel. This is somewhat of an assumption on my part as it's not clearly stated. We know that the man of sin is given power for 42 months, or 3½ years, starting with the abomination of desolation. Revelation 13:5 | Daniel 7:25 | Daniel 12:5-11 So it would seem this 1,290 days would add another 30 days at the end of his reign.
 - ◆ Since the last half of the week is 1,260 days, the abomination of desolation would then be 30 days before the exact middle of the 70th week. This would also mean that Yeshua would return to Armageddon 30 days before the end of this 1,290 day period as that's when the man of sin is defeated, ending his reign. Revelation 19:20
 - ◆ What I believe this represents is two phases of the great tribulation such that phase 1 is the time of Jacob's trouble, Revelation 12:7-13, and phase 2 is the time after Jacob is saved out of this unparalleled trouble in Judea, as is also common to all the mentions of unparalleled tribulation for Israel.

Revelation 12:14-17

- ◆ Note also that it is Michael and his angels that cast the dragon from heaven at this time. Revelation 12:7
- ◆ It is at the beginning of this chapter that Michael stands up and the unparalleled time of great tribulation begins. Daniel 12:1 I believe this hints to the identity of the restrainer we see talked about in conjunction with the time of the abomination of desolation as well.
- ◆ Alternate views
 - ◇ Another perspective on the time frame of Daniel 12:11 is that a preposition has been omitted from all versions of the Bible except Young's Literal Translation and instead the passage should read, "And from the time the daily/continual service has been caused to be taken away and/even to the placing of an abomination of desolation: 1290 days."
 - ◇ The record from the books of the Maccabees shows a separation of the stopping of the daily from the setting up of the idol in the temple, so it may be that there is a separation in the future as well.
 - ◇ Either way, it is at the event of the abomination of desolation that Yeshua points to that all those in Judea should flee to the mountains. Just keep in mind that while the stopping of the daily is always tied to the abomination of desolation, there may or may not be a separation of time.

★ □ Daniel 9:27 - he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make [it] desolate

- ◆ Alternate views
 - ◇ Desolation the 70 AD destruction? Some believe this is either fully or partially historical. This will be touched on in later presentations
- ◆ For many, this is the primary scripture that people believe Yeshua was pointing to regarding the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel.
- ◆ Since this is focused on the AoD, we won't get into the 70 weeks of Daniel prophecy, that will be another presentation.
- ◆ The abomination of desolation is always mentioned with the stopping of the daily and I think that's a key point when framing what Christ pointed to. It seems that the taking away of the daily sacrifice always comes before an abomination of desolation when mentioned in scripture. As evidenced in history, the daily sacrifices won't be carried out by the Jews if an idol is set up in the Holy of Holies until it is cleansed. So I believe, regardless of time, anytime the abomination of desolation is set up, the daily sacrifice stops even if it isn't forcibly stopped.
- ◆ The altar
 - ◇ 1 Maccabees 1:54-56 - abomination of desolation set up on the altar
 - ◇ Genesis 8:15-21 - God spoke to Noah and he built an altar upon which he offered burnt offerings.
 - ◇ Genesis 12:7 - In Canaan the Lord appeared and spoke to Abram and he built an altar
 - ◇ Genesis 12:8; 13:4 - he moved from Sichem to Bethel and built an altar to call on the Lord.
 - ◇ Genesis 22 - It was also on Mount Moriah, where the temple later stood, that Abraham built an altar to sacrifice his only son and instead sacrificed a ram that God provided and burned it on the altar. This was a foreshadow of God sacrificing His only Son at that same mountain some 2,000 years later.
 - ◇ Genesis 26:24-25 - The Lord appeared to Isaac after he dug wells

and repeated the promise given to Abraham that his seed would be multiplied, so Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord.

- ◇ Genesis 33:18-20 - Later Jacob purchased land in Canaan and built an altar there in Shalem and later in Bethel where God appeared to him as he fled his brother Esau. Genesis 35:1-7
- ◇ Exodus 17:13-16 - Moses, after defeating Amalek, built an altar he named Jehovahnissi after the Lord spoke to Moses and declared He would utterly remove Amalek from memory.
- ◇ Exodus 20:18-26 - at Mount Sinai a corporate altar was introduced to the children of Israel for their sacrifices where God would come to them.
- ◇ Exodus 24:1-8 - These individual altars changed after God brought Abraham's seed out of captivity in Egypt. Now God wanted to live amongst His chosen people corporately and to that end made a covenant with them. This covenant was sealed with the blood of the sacrifices made on the altar.
- ◇ The altar is the place of communion between God and man. Wherever God spoke with the fathers of Israel, they built an altar. When they wanted to call on the Lord, they built an altar. In some cases sacrifices aren't mentioned, but it was part of the first altar Noah built and part of the majority of other mentions so it's probably safe to assume that to be the case.
- ◇ Exodus 29:38-46 - we see in the daily sacrifice that this continual morning and evening sacrifice would be at the door of the tabernacle where the Lord would meet with Israel and speak to them.
- ◇ the desolation is the lack of the presence of the inhabitants and God's presence won't coexist with abominations to Him. So we see the corruption of purity of sacred space and sanctification of the place where God communes with His people brings about a break in that communion.
- ◇ An interesting parallel to the Christian is that we are temples, 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, and the Holy Spirit dwells within us as we remain in obedience to God. 1 Corinthians 6:15-20 When we corrupt that temple, we are left desolate of the Holy Spirit's presence and comfort in our lives. So unlike Israel who had a veil of separation between the presence of God in the Most Holy on the mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant, Yeshua's death and resurrection has given us direct communion with the spirit of God and a better sacrifice that has truly covered our sins and brought us into the relationship with God that we were designed for.

★ ◇ Yom Kippur, the day of atonement, was the annual atonement for Israel. Leviticus 16:29-34 The people are to afflict their souls and the high priest "shall make an atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make an atonement for the tabernacle of the congregation, and for the altar, and he shall make an atonement for the priests, and for all the people of the congregation."

- ◇ Leviticus 16:1-2, 12-19 - come not at all times into the holy [place] within the veil before the mercy seat, which [is] upon the ark; that he die not: for I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat ... he shall put the incense upon the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that [is] upon the

testimony, that he die not: And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle [it] with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times. Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that [is] for the people, and bring his blood within the vail, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat: And he shall make an atonement for the holy [place], because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions in all their sins: and so shall he do for the tabernacle of the congregation, that remaineth among them in the midst of their uncleanness. And there shall be no man in the tabernacle of the congregation when he goeth in to make an atonement in the holy [place], until he come out, and have made an atonement for himself, and for his household, and for all the congregation of Israel. And he shall go out unto the altar that [is] before the LORD, and make an atonement for it; and shall take of the blood of the bullock, and of the blood of the goat, and put [it] upon the horns of the altar round about. And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

- ▶ Revelation 15:5-8 - There's something familiar about this we see in the presentation of the final seven bowls of God's wrath.

- ◆ The Mercy Seat

- ◇ The mercy seat is the earthly copy of the throne of God in heaven. Within it is the testament, or the covenant God made with Israel and it is upon this seat the presence of God sat.
- ◇ Exodus 37:6-9 - And the cherubims spread out [their] wings(H3671) on high, [and] covered with their wings(H3671) over the mercy seat, with their faces one to another; [even] to the mercy seatward were the faces of the cherubims.
- ◇ 1 Kings 8:6-9, 2 Chronicles 5:7-10 - "And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, into the oracle of the house, to the most holy [place, even] under the wings of the cherubims. For the cherubims spread forth [their] two wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above."
- ◇ It could be then that the "the overspreading of abominations" or "the wing of abominations" could refer to defiling the mercy seat where the cherubim's wings are overspreading it, the throne of God on earth, and where the man of sin will sit and declare himself to be God.

- Characteristics and actions of the future man of sin

- ◆ Worshipping false gods - Daniel 11:36-39, Revelation 13:8,12,14, Revelation 17:2,8,12, Revelation 18:3, 2 Thessalonians 2:4
- ◆ A proud look - Daniel 11:37
- ◆ A lying tongue - Revelation 13:14, 2 Thessalonians 2:7-10
- ◆ Hands that shed innocent blood - Revelation 13:7,15, Revelation 17:6
- ◆ Heart that devises wicked imaginations -
- ◆ Feet swiftly running to mischief - Daniel 11:40-44
- ◆ A false witness speaking lies - Daniel 7:25, Revelation 13:1,5-6
- ◆ He that soweth discord among brethren -

- ◇ In the context of the Jewish antichrist concept, a strong leader arising from Israel would appear to fulfill messianic prophecies both deceiving and splitting allegiance amongst the people.
 - Proverbs 6:16-19 - These six [things] doth the LORD hate: yea, seven [are] an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness [that] speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.
- **2 Thessalonians 2:1-12** - There are also some events that we are told by Paul will transpire in relation to the abomination of desolation. Interestingly, these are tied to the catching away of the bride to be gathered to Yeshua.
 - The man of sin "opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God"
 - Go into Michael the restrained
- Similarly Different
 - Yeshua clearly tied the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet as a reference to understand this event that begins an unparalleled time of great tribulation in Judea. As we will see in the [Great Tribulation study](#), this same unparalleled language is used in speaking of the events of **Daniel 11:36-12:13** covering this same time.
 - However, Daniel clearly also has two historical fulfillments that speak of this same kind of abomination of desolation and stopping of the daily sacrifice.
 - Some take these similarities as a method of defining where the future false christ will come from, typically from Syria, Turkey, or some other foreign nation inflicting great tribulation on the people of Israel.
 - As we've seen in the examination of the Christian vs. Orthodox Jewish paradigm of the expectations of the Root of David, the Branch, a distinctly different paradigm is revealed. It is based on the same prophetic scriptures, the first coming in Truth and Spirit in the first century to become the Lamb of God that would take away the sins of the world, and the second a great deceiver who would seem to fulfill the prophecies to those blind to their previous fulfillment. He comes as a Dragon in sheep's clothing, even to the point of turning Israel back to God and His statutes for them as a people, but in the power and authority of the Dragon and full of pride, deceives the Chosen People and the world into accepting him as God.
 - And this is where the similarities lie between these two events, in their naming and the stopping of the daily sacrifice. But the abomination of desolation is not about identifying where the false christ comes from, it is about identifying his actions and spirit behind him.
 - Antiochus IV was a wicked and proud king of the Seleucid Empire. He tried to cause Israel to stop following God's statutes given to them and accept the pantheon of gods of the world, enforcing their worship of them. While he did not declare himself to be God, he placed an idol of a false god in the temple. He forced those in Israel to eat unclean meat and break the command of God for them, in addition to stopping the daily sacrifice and other acts that would prevent the purity rituals meant to foster relationship with God and His people at His temple. He forbade the obedience to God's commands on pain of death and enforced it.
 - ◆ In the context of Daniel's visions in Daniel 8, Antiochus IV is the little horn that grows from the fourth horn after Alexander the Great's demise, a designation meant to also be highlighted as in comparison to the little horn of Daniel 7.
 - ◆ In the context of John's vision in Revelation 17, Antiochus was either the

fifth head of the Dragon personally or one of many kings of the Macedonian Empire through its evolutions.

- The future false christ will stop the daily sacrifice and set himself up as a false god to be worshipped in the temple of God. Through deception he will take aspects of God's Word and twist them to insert himself as God. He, and his false prophet will enforce the creation of idols to be worshipped by the people on pain of death.
 - ◆ In the context of Daniel's visions in Daniel 7, the false christ is the little horn that arises amongst ten other horns on the fourth beast, a designation meant to highlight his connection to the previous iteration that cause the abomination of desolation.
 - ◆ In the context of John's vision in Revelation 17, the false christ's power is shown to grow in that the little horn that came up among ten on the head of the fourth beast, is now the head of the Dragon upon which the ten horns are established and upon which the harlot rides. Where the head turns the Dragon goes and he is now the voice of the Dragon, with his power and authority.
- As far as attempting to identify the false christ from where his predecessor came from, remember also that when asked by His Jewish followers admiring the Jewish temple, the Jewish Messiah, Yeshua, warned them three times that "many shall come in my **name**[G3686], saying, I am **Christ**[G5547 - Anointed, Messiah]; and shall deceive many." Will the false christ be named Yeshua? This word is used in this way of course. But if we are to take it as literal in that sense, is it Jesus, Yeshua, Emmanuel, Christ, Messiah, Savior, Redeemer? I would say yes, because it is also used in terms of identification by authority.
 - **Matthew 10:40-41** - "He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. He that receiveth a prophet in the **name**[G3686] of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the **name**[G3686] of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward."
 - **Matthew 12:15-21** - "But when Jesus knew [it], he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all; And charged them that they should not make him known: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory. And in his **name**[G3686] shall the Gentiles trust."
 - **Matthew 21:9** - "And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed [is] he that cometh in the **name**[G3686] of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest."
 - **Matthew 23:39** - "For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the **name**[G3686] of the Lord."
- **Matthew 24:24** - "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect."
 - One of those three times Yeshua suggests that the deception will be so convincing that it leads to the edge of being able to deceive the very elect. Now there is debate on who the elect are, but I will put it plainly that anyone who chooses Christ and ends up in heaven when time is over is the elect, from all of mankind. Obviously they will choose Yeshua so can't be deceived, but the point is how convincing the deception is.

- From our perspective in time, whether you label elect the Jews or Christians, the deception is clearly aimed at them, meaning the deception must be related to what they believe, the scriptures about the Jewish Messiah from the root of David.
 - So if we are to take Yeshua's warning of false christ's coming in His authority, according to the prophetic scriptures, saying they are the Messiah seriously, of all the places a Messiah for the Jews could come from, where is the most likely?
 - Will an anointed Mahdi from Islam who is clearly working from corrupted interpretations of Jewish and Christian texts deceive them? Given that the Islamic expectations of the Mahdi is that he will
 - Will an anointed Messiah from Christianity who would claim he is Yeshua returned, not with lightning from East to West but quietly back on earth, deceive them? They have rejected Him already and His followers were responsible for a lot of their persecution as a people.
 - I don't feel the need to address any other religions that don't have some relationship to the Tanakh because it is the source of all the authority defining who the Jewish Messiah is. And when it comes down to Yeshua's warning, it was about the deception of those waiting for the Jewish Messiah's coming being deceived into accepting a forgery, a false interpretation of the definition of who He is and His purpose for coming the way He did, the salvation of mankind, and how He will come, the judgement of mankind.
 - The abomination of desolation connection points us to the actions of a liar and deceiver attempting to steal God's people from him through that deception. Sure Antiochus IV may have believed Israel's God was false and all of his gods were real, but so could the false christ believe he is God. Remember, the true deceiver and accuser is behind his rise to power and I have no doubt pride is at the center of the false christ's own deception and fall. After all, how many men have risen from the dead?
- Mortal Wound Healed
 - There is a characteristic of the man of sin depicted several times indicating he will receive a mortal wound that will be healed.
 - **Revelation 13:3-5** - "I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast."
 - **Revelation 13:12-14** - "causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed...they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live."
 - **Revelation 17:8** - "The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."
 - **Daniel 11:45** - "he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."
 - **2 Thessalonians 2:6-12** - We are also told that God will send a strong delusion that those who refuse Christ and took pleasure in unrighteousness would believe a lie.
 - Could this strong delusion be the resurrection of the antichrist? It is this reason the world wonders after the beast who died and lived again.
 - Related to the rebuilding of the temple, at least some portion of the Jews will truly be seeking reconciliation with God in the rebuilding of the temple, the daily ministering at the temple and the daily sacrifice.
 - **Daniel 11:40-45** leads into **Daniel 12:1**, which is the abomination of desolation. He plants his tabernacles in Jerusalem and comes to his end, then the abomination of desolation happens.
 - It may be that something happens and he dies, is resurrected, and then goes into the

temple declaring himself to be god because of it.

- If I had to guess at how the antichrist would receive a mortal wound, it would be tied to the blasphemy of declaring himself God in the temple and the subsequent action determined for this sin by ministers at the temple who would reject the man of sin. Leviticus 24:16 It could be that after winning all his battles he enters the temple and declares himself god and at least one priest who is truly serving God as he knows how delivers the punishment for blasphemy and kills the antichrist. Then God raises him up, perhaps allowing it to appear as the false prophet (false Elijah) has performed it.
- This could also be a catalyst for the man of sin to make war on those who reject him, labeling them as terrorists not worthy to live in his kingdom. For those Jews who are deceived and accept him as their messiah, they would become the instruments of the dragon's wrath against God's people in Judea and then in time globally.

- Conclusion

- The abomination of desolation is a hostile takeover of God's dwelling place for the sole purpose of desolating God's temple and replacing His presence with that of idols or other gods. Lucifer will inhabit God's earthly temple through his proxy the antichrist attempting to fulfill his long-held desire.
- To set up an idol for worship in the Holy of Holies is defying God and the first commandment.
- While Christ's atoning death on the cross for all our sins has removed the foreshadow of the daily sacrifice, in the context of the prophecies of scripture, the Jewish people have been blinded until the fulness of the Gentiles. **Romans 11:25-27**
- **Daniel 9:27, Revelation 11:1-2** - The Jewish people are going to move back to the dictates of God in the Torah that was setup before the final sacrifice, which was already accomplished in Yeshua the Messiah whom they do not yet know or accept.
- From these scriptures, it is pretty clear what the abomination of desolation was and will be. It is tied to a specific time when the man of sin, the antichrist, declares himself God in the temple of God and places himself in place of God on His earthly throne in the Holy of Holies. To sit on the earthly throne of God and declare to the world that you are god would certainly fit with the kind of abomination that would make desolate. If God's presence was there, or perceived to be there, it would certainly not coexist with this proud deceiver speaking great lies and blasphemies in imitation of God in His temple.
- **Revelation 13:2** - This man of sin receives his power and authority from the dragon, Satan after he is cast out of heaven by Michael and his angels.

May God continue to bless you as you remain in Him.

Associated studies

- [Daniel's 70 Weeks](#)
- [Great Tribulation](#)

References

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Associated Dates

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