

**Jesus Christ now describes the middle of the Tribulation**  
**Matthew 24:15**

Matthew 24:15

*“Therefore when you see the  
ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION  
which was spoken of through Daniel the  
prophet, standing in the holy place (let  
the reader understand),*

In some warnings it is what you hear:

*“hear the sound of the trumpet”*

*“but now it is what you **see**”*

Two things are interesting about this verb by JESUS CHRIST.

- 1 it is not in the future but Aorist Active Subjunctive. The Aorist tense notes a specific time. The Active voice—Jews in Jerusalem and the Subjunctive mood, maybe they will see this, maybe not, *keep looking!*
- 2 is the verb JESUS CHRIST uses is obsolete but a rich word denoting *seeing*. It means to see with understanding. Some Greek words means simply ‘to see’ but our word means to see and to understand the significance of what you see

*They shall see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION*

And they know about this from their knowledge of Daniel.  
It cannot be over stated how much is gain by the knowledge  
of God's Holy Word.

**The knowledge of, believing of  
and then  
letting His Word guide you in your daily living.**

My grandson is studying in Bible class at school: And the  
question arises "*why we should believe that  
Jesus died for the sins of the world?*"

Great question. Why indeed?

**Because the bible tells me so!**

If Christians just *knew*  
and *believed*  
and *lived*  
the WORD OF GOD!

Jesus Makes Reference To Fact That  
This Was Spoken Of By Daniel

15 *The abomination of Desolation or the  
abomination that causes desolation.*

The phrase refers to an act of abomination  
that causes desolation or renders abomination  
in this case the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem

In Daniel 9:24-27 Daniel describes Daniel's seventieth week  
where in verse 27 he speaks of the very same thing and time  
that JESUS CHRIST is speaking of in Matthew 24:15.

Daniel 9:27

27 *And he will make a firm covenant with the  
many for one week, but in the middle of  
the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and  
grain offering; and on the wing of  
abominations will come one who makes  
desolate, even until a complete  
destruction, one that is decreed, is  
poured out on the one who makes  
desolate.”*

*“And he* [ dictator of Revived Roman Empire often referred to as the Anti-Christ ] *will make a firm covenant with the many* [this is a reference to those Jews we have been studying in Matthew 24, who fall away; these either do not know or do not believe prophecy taught in their Scriptures ] *for one week,* [ this covenant is made at the beginning of the Tribulation whereby Revived Roman Empire would protect Israel, and now we know more on why, because JESUS CHRIST prophesied that *all nations will hate the Jews* ] *but in the middle of the week* [that is in the middle of the seven year period, that is after 3 ½ Years. ] *he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering;* [remember he is also known as the Lawless One and lawlessness is multiplying everywhere which allows him to come into Jerusalem and do as he pleases. ] *and on the wing of abominations* [this is the statute of abomination of desolation – a statue of himself to be worshiped in the temple ] *will come*

*one who makes desolate,* [that is, he will make the temple in Jerusalem desolate ] *even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”* [ Second Coming of JESUS CHRIST at end of the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel. ]

Daniel prophesied this to occur in the Tribulation, but to give them an idea of just how devastating the abomination that causes desolation is in reality, Daniel also prophesied that this would occur some 400 years after he wrote.

This time it would be set up by Antiochus Epiphanes of Syria, in Daniel 11:31.

As we studied the phrase in Daniel and now Matthew 24.

Note the chronology of events:

- 1 Beginning of The Tribulation

The covenant with the dictator of the Revived Roman Empire will be made, for the protection of Israel

- 2 Events that will take place in the middle of The Tribulation or 3 ½ years later:
  - a the dictator will break that covenant.  
(Daniel 9:27)
  - b he will stop all sacrifices and worship of the Messiah
  - c he will set up the abomination that causes desolation (Daniel 9:27 and Matthew 24:15)
- 3 Daniel also prophesies when this Anti-Christ will be destroyed (Daniel 12:11) 3 ½ years later, at the end of The Tribulation and his destruction will be by Christ when He returns to earth.

### **Chronology of events yet to take place in history**

Prophesied

by **Daniel**

by **JESUS CHRIST** Matthew 24

by **Paul** 2 Thessalonians 2:4

by **John** Revelation 13:14-15

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | This Abomination of desolation is the setting up of a statue in the temple to be worshipped in place of the true God. Daniel 11:31; Daniel 12:11 and Revelation 13:14 |
| 2 | This takes place in the Jewish temple in Jerusalem<br>Daniel 11:31 and 2 Thessalonians 2:4  |
| 3 | Regular worship by the Jews will be prohibited Daniel 9:27; 11:31 and 12:11   |

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 4 | Daniel's 70 <sup>th</sup> week is divided into halves of 3 ½ years on each side. From the making of the covenant to setting up the abomination that causes desolation is the first 3 ½ years, then it will be another 3 ½ years to the end. Daniel 9:27 and Daniel 12:11 |
| 5 | The setting up of the abomination that causes desolation is when the anti-Christ sets up a statute of himself to be worshipped in place of God. Daniel 11:31; 2 Thessalonians 2:4 and Revelation 13:14-15  |
| 6 | What is interesting and deceiving to most is that this image will come to life Revelation 13:14  |
| 7 | After this coming alive, the worship of him as god—false god—will begin. 2 Thessalonians 2:4 and Revelation 13:14-15   |
| 8 | While all this will cause great distress or trouble to Jacob(—all Jews), this anti-Christ will be destroyed at the end of Daniel's 70 <sup>th</sup> week Daniel 9:27 and Daniel 12:11  |

Matthew 24:15

*“Therefore when you [Jews in Jerusalem in the middle of The Tribulation ] see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),*

*Let the reader understand* Do you understand?

Jesus actually said:

the one reading let Him understand

*The one* [ any Jew ] *reading* [ reading what? ]

## **The Book Of Daniel**

*let him understand*

The Greek word means

*to observe with the mind,  
to perceive with the mind,  
not... the emotions.*

It means to think long and hard about the words of Daniel—because what is written there is vital to your well-being.

This day you see the abomination going up in the Holy place of the Temple.

It means to pay attention to the WORD OF GOD as it relates to what is going on in history in your lifetime.

Americans have not paid attention to what has been happening to their freedoms. One of the most damaging presidents to constitutional America was Woodrow Wilson who, during WW 1, said "*peace without victory*"... totally opposed to what Patrick Henry was saying when he gave his great speech ***Is peace so dear...***

Here in Matthew, JESUS CHRIST is warning Jews as to the message of Daniel, but John was led to write to the seven churches in his warnings in Revelation.

Revelation chapter 2 verses 7,11,17,29

Revelation chapter 3 verses 6,10,13,22

Revelation chapter 5 verses 3,6,10,13

Revelation chapter 6 verses 4,8,10,12,13,15

Revelation chapter 7 verses 1,2,13

Revelation chapter 8 verses 5,7

*He who has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.* [ and he says this seven times... but Church History has not paid much attention to what the HOLY SPIRIT said to the churches. ]

Now if we understand Jesus' words here and relate it to Mark's words we get an idea of what JESUS CHRIST is saying:

Mark 13:14

*“But when you see the  
ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION  
standing where it should not be [ in the  
Holy of Holies in the Temple ] (let the reader  
understand), then those who are in  
Judea must flee to the mountains. [ If we  
combine both passages, JESUS CHRIST is saying—  
study and understand Daniel and when you see the  
abomination that makes the Holy Places desolate, be  
able to see what is going on and get out of  
Jerusalem. ]*

*In Matthew chapter 24 verses 16-20*

JESUS CHRIST tells the Jews in Jerusalem what to do when they see the abomination of desolation set up in the temple and are able to understand from Daniel what is going on.

**The Command To Flee  
When God,  
the Son of God, the God-man, Savior, Messiah-King  
gives a command  
it is wisdom to obey!**

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## Matthew 24:16-18

16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.

17 “Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house.

18 Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak.

## Why this urgency?

**When** the beast, **the Lawless One**, the antichrist, sets up the abomination that causes the rebuilt Jewish temple to become desolate, he breaks the covenant to protect Israel and he immediately starts persecuting Israel.

So if they want to escape a violent death they should listen to the Words of Christ and get out of Jerusalem.

This is nothing new to Jewish heritage. Matthew 2:13

*13 Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord \*appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you;*

*for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him.”*

*14 So Joseph got up and took the Child and His mother while it was still night, and left for Egypt.*

Matthew 24:16

*16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.*

We have studied **Petra** seems to be the place for them to seek refuge.

*17 “Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. [ Time of emergency and intimate danger does not allow to go down and gather up a few things. ]*

18 *Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak.* [ If you are in the field working or traveling, do not go home to pack up a few things ] *flee to the mountains.*

19 *“But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!* [ do not take time to secure some baby provisions. ]

20 *“But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath.* [ This is really interesting, JESUS CHRIST tells them to ] *pray* [ for emergency travel not in the winter nor on a Sabbath, which would make travel more difficult. ]

- 1 Moving quickly is essential in that the forces of the Beast will not have time to organize and put a block.

2 JESUS CHRIST says it may be very difficult but  
**not impossible**  
**Miraculous Provision**  
**A place prepared by God**

In Matthew 24, JESUS CHRIST describes difficult journey.

**But God knew of their difficulty in Eternity past  
and has already made provision.**

Revelation 12: 5-6

<sup>5</sup> *And she* [ Israel ] *gave birth to a son,* [ our Savior Jesus Christ ] *a male child,* [ the God-man ] *who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron;* [ in the Millennium ] *and her child* [ JESUS CHRIST ] *was caught up to God and to His throne.* [ Death, Burial, Ascension and Session of JESUS CHRIST ]

6 *Then the woman* [ Israel ] *fled into the wilderness* [ this is the event JESUS CHRIST describes in Matthew 24:16-20 ] where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.  
[ the last half of the Tribulation ]

End of verse 5

*...and her child was caught up to God and to His throne*

Begin of verse 6

*and the woman fled into the wilderness*

Between verses 5 and 6 has already elapsed some 2000 years of the Church Age.

What is the flow from verse 5 -to- verse 6?

## **Ascension of the Son and Fleeing of the Woman**

Since Satan failed in his plans to kill the baby,  
and then not able to kill JESUS CHRIST,  
he turns all his attention against the woman;  
that is, Satan turns all his attention against Israel.

People, if you belong to JESUS CHRIST by faith in JESUS CHRIST, then  
YOU ARE THE ENEMY of this dragon, enemy of Satan...and **since**  
**JESUS CHRIST is now absent from the earth, Satan**  
**directs all attention towards you... the Church**

Revelation 12:6

6 Then the woman [ Israel ] fled into the wilderness  
the woman fled

AORIST ***pheugo***-to escape, flee hastily from danger

this is Aorist tense-no concept of time: There is no  
Past Perfect or Future  
just the event.

This is important because it reveals that there will be a  
number of Jewish believers those who believe that Jesus is  
the Messiah, in Judah, still alive in Mid-Tribulation and they  
know Scripture or will be taught...

Here is the importance of our Lord's words:

*let the reader understand* and then execute...flee!  
*Into the Wilderness* out of realm of battle!  
*where she* [ fleeing Israelites ] *had a place*

This is beautiful:

Present tense **echo** to have—

*Has...* this is correct translation of present tense

**This place is already there!**

At the time of John's writing of Revelation around AD 100.

*she has!* This place prepared by God is already there!

The Love of God has already *prepared*

Perfect Passive Participle **etoi-mazo** and if you don't think this is important to you, think again,

this is same verb in the Gospel of John 14:6

*I go to prepare a place for you!*

*prepared by God,*

here is **grace** of God! and **love** of God,

this is what **Love** does:

## **LOVE SEES A NEED AND MEETS THAT NEED**

So You have a place prepared by JESUS CHRIST  
for you, for all eternity!

This is what **His LOVE does for you...**

Comfort over His Absence and  
Comfort related to your Death...

No Fear

Peace

Assurance,

THIS IS WHAT KIND OF GOD OUR GOD IS.

This is what **His LOVE** does for His people  
and Remember:

This is how **Your Love** will act under the filling of the Holy Spirit!!!

Revelation 12:6

*she has a place prepared*

what is important here is **TENSE:**

Perfect Tense: present result of past action,

God has prepared this place centuries ago,  
with the present result...

when it is time for Israel to flee for safety from the  
Dragon-serpent it will be there!

The Passive Voice is the **grace** voice:  
this place **receives** being prepared by God for Israel.

*so that* here is why God has prepared this place,  
*so that, there,* the place He has prepared  
*she might be nourished for one thousand two  
hundred and sixty days.* 3 ½ years.

## **This is why**

they do not need to go and pack before leaving Jerusalem;

God has everything they will need, prepared for them.

## **This Is What Our God Is Like!**

These tenses have caused some difficulty for some teachers...  
But if we just see what is going on in the development of  
these tenses;

*the woman fled into the wilderness*

Aorist = point in time in Mid-Tribulation.

*where she has a place*

Present tense = God already has this place set apart

***prepared by God,***

Perfect Passive = present result of past action;

God has prepared this place centuries ago,  
*with the present result...*

when it is time for Israel to flee for safety from Dragon-  
serpent

it IS there!

Passive = this place receives being prepared for Israel by God  
speculate: **where will these Jews flee?**

**So let's take a look at this city as prepared by God**



A good place is into the Jordan desert... to **Petra**

- an abandoned city, that was carved into the rocks of these mountains centuries ago.

-you should be familiar with this name and what it means— ***Petra-the Rock.***

In Matthew 16:18

...JESUS CHRIST said to **Peter** – ***petros*** and upon this **Rock *petra***

-it has the security of only one entrance and many caves for the Jews to hide and live in for safety. And they will be secure there for the last 3 ½ years of Tribulation.

-the ancient city of **Petra** lies in a mountainous area about 20 miles South of Dead Sea in the country of Jordan.

-the mountains of **Petra** are a red and white sandstone—a volcanic crater

-this is the area where the Edomites lived ca 500 bc -- and it was the Edomites who carved houses, business and, of course, temples directly out of rock!

--**Petra** is known by many names in Bible: **Sela** in 2 Kings 14:7 and we saw that Hebrew **Sela** means **Rock, firm, solid, elevated, fortress, stronghold** excellent names for a place prepared by God for His people!

-the city –deserted for centuries... and still today is difficult to reach because of the narrow passages used to enter the city.

Which, of course, makes it a perfect place to hide in and guard against an invasion!

Others believe it will be in a uncertain place called **Bozrah**.

But whether **Petra, Bozrah** or some other place already prepared by God, let's take a look at what is going to happen.



Read Isaiah 33:1-24 *The Judgment of God*

### **But First – Let's See the Context:**

This section of Isaiah is of prophecies concerning The Day of the Lord, and of judgments and blessings – As the enemies of the Jews approach Jerusalem, God delivers...

Read Isaiah 33:16-17

16 *He will dwell on the heights;* ok, just who is being talked of here?

If we are on right track, this is a reference to those Jews who will listen to the word of prophecy and when the Abomination is set up in Temple will listen and they will move out of Jerusalem and head to these mountains...

*He* [ these Jews who listen ] *will dwell on heights* [ refer to mountains ] *His refuge* [ from disaster ] *will be the impregnable rock;* [ this is a perfect description of what we have seen of **Petra - Bozrah** ] *His bread will be given him; His water will be sure.* [ Note, these are future tenses; the place is there, but we do not need to go there and store up K-rations ]

**God will supply both food and water !**

While we are here let's note what is also being said for eyes that will see:

*their refuge will be the impregnable rock—*

Who <u>IS</u> the impregnable rock of all history?	<b>Jesus Christ</b>
What is bread we live on?	<b>Word of God; Scriptures</b>
Who is analogous to springs of Water?	<b>Holy Spirit</b>

All three members of the Godhead are involved in delivering the Jews.

16 *He will dwell on the heights;* [ refer to mountains ] *His refuge* [ from disaster ] *will be the impregnable rock;* [ **Bozrah/Petra** ] *His bread will be given him; His water will be sure.* [ The 2nd half of The Tribulation. And if you have any trouble with God supplying the bread, just remember how He supplied the Jews with manna... now it gets better ]

17 *Your eyes will see the King in His beauty;*

**Whose eyes?**

The eyes of those who fled from Judah to **Bozrah/Petra.**

## Who is the King?

Messiah, JESUS CHRIST in Second Advent!

Only this time He will come,

not as suffering servant,

as Savior but as **a conquering King!**

*They will behold a far-distant land.*

What land is this?

And what is going on?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | the abomination of desolation, in Mid-Tribulation   |
| 2 | then they flee  |
| 3 | they are fed and watered and protected for some<br>3 ½ years  |
| 4 | then Messiah-King comes and He comes to these<br>Jews in hiding and leads them safely out                               |
| 5 | as they come out of the mountain strongholds they<br>will see the land of Judah, without any of the enemies<br>present! |

Next let's turn to one of the most powerful verses on the invasion, the fleeing and coming of Lord and defeat of enemy.

Isaiah 34:6

*the sword of the Lord is filled with blood, It is sated with fat, with the blood of lambs & goats, With the fat of the kidneys of rams. For the Lord has a sacrifice in Bozrah & a great slaughter in the land of Edom.*

Isaiah 63:1

*Who is this who comes from Edom, With garments of glowing colors from Bozrah, This One who is majestic in His apparel, Marching in the greatness of His strength? "It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save."*

It is easy to determine just who this majestic one is...  
it is Messiah

And He comes out of Edom...**Why out of Edom?**

If we are on the right track, that the sheep of Jerusalem and Judah flee to Edom, in Middle of The Tribulation, then it is easy to understand how the Messiah will come out of Edom, He will go to the remnant in Edom (**Bozrah** and or **Petra**) and lead them out at end of The Tribulation.

Then this is what is described here in Isaiah 63:1

*Who is this who comes from Edom,  
With garments of glowing colors from  
Bozrah, This One who is majestic in His  
apparel,  
Marching in the greatness of His strength?  
“It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to  
save the deliver.”*

Micah 2:12

*"I* [ God ] *will surely* [ God is going to do  
this...Mid-Tribulation ] *assemble all of you,*  
*Jacob, I will surely gather the remnant of*  
*Israel.* [ This remnant of Israel includes those who  
fled from Judah in Mid-Tribulation in refuge in  
mountains of **Bozrah/Petra** ]  
*I will put them together like sheep in the*  
*fold; Like a flock in the midst of its*  
*pasture They will be noisy with—*  
*because of men.*