**Mt. 24: The Olivet Discourse Part I – A key bridge between Daniel and Revelation**

**What did we learn from Daniel? Four key takeaways**

**The Most-High rules in the kingdom of men and He gives it to whomever He wishes**

**1. The man of sin**

* **Comes from revived Roman Empire**
* **Is prefigured by Antiochus Epiphanes**
* **Highlights the Abomination of Desolation**
  + **Twice after Daniel; both near future and far future**
  + **Antiochus is first, another is future to him**

**2. The Son of Man**

* **Coming with the clouds of heaven**
* **Will rule an eternal kingdom**

**3. The Seventy Weeks of Daniel**

* **In context, the “weeks” are years**
* **Follows seventy cycles of Sabbath disobedience (7 X 70 = 490 years)**
* **Unveils six things necessary for the kingdom to come**
* **Explains Israel would realize their kingdom in 490 years of their history**
* **And, that there would be 483 years weeks until Messiah, the Prince**
  + **Then, He is “cut off” or killed for others**
  + **Jerusalem and the Temple are destroyed by the Beast (Rome?)**
* **Reveals there is a gap after the 483 years and the 490 years.**
* **Then, the Beast (Rome?) ends sacrifice and offering after 3 ½ years**
* **Then, the abomination of desolation is repeated**

**4. Daniel emphasizes the final week and, even more, the final 3 ½ years**

**What were they thinking? The expectation of Israel**

**1. Messiah would be a King with an everlasting Kingdom on earth**

* **The Son of David with eternal rule – 2 Sam. 7:16**
* **Rule the nations of the earth and His enemies – Ps. 2, 110**
* **Messiah = Son of Man, Son of God, the Christ – Dan. 7:13-14; Mt. 26:63-64; Mk. 14:61-62; Lk. 22:66-70**
* **The Temple in the kingdom – Ez. 40-48; Dan. 9:24**
* **The people in the land – Ez. 36-37; 39:25-29**
* **The six requirements for the Kingdom of Dan. 9:24**
  + **The Temple has not been anointed**
  + **Vision and prophecy have not been sealed up**
  + **Everlasting righteousness is not here**
  + **The transgression of Israel has not been dealt with**
* **The realities of Zechariah 14**
  + **The attack of the nations and the deliverance of Israel**
  + **Messiah would stand on the Mt. of Olives**
  + **The return and rule of Christ**
  + **The ultimate worship of all the nations**
* **The Temple and worship in the Kingdom – Dan. 9:24; Ez. 40-48**

**2. The Nature of the Kingdom**

* **The Temple would have healing waters, fruit for good, and leaves for medicine – Ez. 47:7-12**
* **All nations would worship there – Zech. 14:16-19**
* **A time of peace, joy, and the rule of Christ – Micah 4:2-4; Isa. 9:3-7; 11:1-10; 32:17-18; 61:7, 10**

**3. Jesus will fulfill their expectations**

* **Son of David with an eternal kingdom - Lk. 1:32-33**
* **The King’s presence brings the Kingdom – Mt. 16:28-17:13**
* **When He is present, the Kingdom of God is “among” or “with” you – Lk. 17:20-22**
  + **“In you” is a poor translation choice**
  + **“Among” or “with” you is used by 28 translations**
  + **The context: 1) Jesus was talking to the Pharisees, not believers and 2) The Spirit had not come yet; “in” does not make sense**

**4. The immediate context**

* **Mt. 23:36 - Jesus predicts judgment on that generation of Israelites**
* **Their “house” would be left desolate (destruction of the Temple, 70 AD)**
* **Mt. 23:37-39 – No Messiah until their hearts are ready (v. 39; Acts 3:19)**

**The Text: Matthew 24:1-14 – Jesus overviews the 70th Week**

* **Parallels the first six seals of Rev. 6**
* **War, famine, death (pestilence), persecution, earthquakes**
* **Rev. 6 - After a focus on the first 3 ½ years, it moves to the end**
* **Mt. 24 – After the overview, Jesus comes to the middle of the week to bring the listener to the end, as described in Rev. 6:12-17 and Joel 2:28-32**

**Next week, back to the middle; the Great Tribulation and the Coming of Christ!**