DISPENSATIONALISM (28)

<u>Israel Reality #7</u> - The key sign for <u>Israel</u> that the end of things is near. 24:15

This is a critical event pertaining to Israel that she had better be able to identify. It has a name. It is called "The Abomination of Desolation."

The Jewish prophet who gives us the most information about this is <u>Daniel</u>. In Daniel's prophecies, he uses this title three times: Dan. 9:27; Dan. 11:31; Dan. 12:11. All three of these uses refer to the same period of time—the final 3 ½ years of the Tribulation.

The word "abomination" is one that speaks of something very detestable to God. The word "desolation" refers to that which leads to that which is totally desolate or laid waste (G. Abbott-Smith, *Greek Lexicon*, p. 179).

When Daniel and Jesus combine these two words, they are referring to something that is so detestable to God that He will permit Israel to be laid waste or leveled like a desert.

At the beginning of the Tribulation, the Antichrist will enter into a peace treaty with Israel (Dan. 9:27). The Tribulation is a period of time that lasts for seven years—or one week—or Daniel's seventieth week. When 3 ½ years are left to go on the Tribulation clock, the Antichrist will break the agreement with Israel and turn ferociously against her.

The Antichrist will put an idol in God's Temple in Jerusalem and demand that both the idol and the Antichrist be worshipped as God (II Thessalonians 2:4). This is the abomination—idol worship, Antichrist worship in God's sacred Temple in Jerusalem.

If one refuses to worship the Antichrist in Jerusalem, he will be killed (Rev. 13:15). This is the moment that Israel needs to spot because this is when things will become unbearable for Israel. She had better be able to spot this and realize what this is because this begins the finale that will lead to the coming of Jesus Christ. Carefully notice what is said in **Matthew 24:25**, "let the reader understand."

It is obvious from this statement that the prophetic Scriptures are to be read and they are to be understood. God wants Israel very familiar with this passage and he certainly wants us to understand it so we can accurately communicate what is here.

The Church is not here at all. This has nothing to do with the Church. This is how the Kingdom program with Israel will come to an end and this is what will lead to the return of Jesus Christ. Israel needs to know this truth.

DISPENSATIONALISM (29)

According to Matthew 24:16, when the Jews see these things happening in Jerusalem, they need to be warned and take immediate action and get out of there fast. These six warnings do not make any sense except for Israel. These warnings certainly do not make sense for the Church:

(Warning #1) - Those in Judea need to flee to the mountains. 24:16

We are not in Judea and we don't have mountains.

(Warning #2) - Those in or on a house need to get out as fast as they can. 24:17

In times of trouble, we flee to our house, not from our house.

(Warning #3) - Those in a field need to flee the area and not even go back for a coat. 24:18

Before we venture out we make sure we have proper clothing.

(Warning #4) - Those women who are pregnant or who have small babies will not be able to travel fast. 24:19

In our day, travel is not slowed by this; we just get in the car and go wherever we want as fast as we want.

(Warning #5) - Those trying to escape in winter weather will have travel slowed. 24:20a

It is true that we tend to slow down in winter, but it does not take us that much longer.

(Warning #6) - Those trying to escape on a Sabbath day will be slowed and noticeable. 24:20b

It is critical to see that Jesus challenges them to pray. Now this fact that Israel prays about their flight not being in winter or Sabbath Day, proves this has nothing to do with the <u>Church</u>. We pray for the Rapture every day, whether it is summer, winter, spring or fall. We pray for the Rapture every day, whether Sunday or Saturday. This discourse has nothing to do with the church and the prayer doesn't even make sense for the Church.

In verses 21-26, Jesus continues His warnings to Israel and continues to explain what will bring things to a conclusion for Israel and will lead to His second coming:

<u>Prophetic Fact #1</u> - A great Tribulation will hit the world that has <u>never</u> been equaled in history and will never be equaled again. Matt. 24:21

Daniel predicted exactly the same thing concerning the Tribulation - Dan. 12:1