

“Abomination, Desolation, and Tribulation”

Matthew 24:15–28

The Big Idea of Matthew 24:15–28: Jesus warns of climactic tribulation at the end of the age.

- I. Beware the abomination causing desolation. (verses 15–22)
 - A. We must carefully understand the abomination of desolation. (verse 15)
 1. The Historical Desolations of the Sanctuary
 2. The Abomination Prophesied by Daniel
 - An Initial Abomination (in the Second Century B.C.)
 - Daniel 8:13 and Daniel 11:31 (and probably Daniel 12:11–12)
 - A Similar Abomination Sometime after Christ’s First Advent
 - Daniel 9:27 (and possibly Daniel 12:11–12)
 - The Related Doctrine of the Final Antichrist in the Book of Daniel
 - Daniel 7:8, 11, 20–22, 24–26 and Daniel 9:26–27 (and possibly Daniel 11:36–45)
 3. The New Testament Doctrine of the Antichrist and His Abominations
 - Mark 13:14; 2 Thessalonians 2:1–12; 1 John 2:18–22; 4:1–3; 2 John 7;
 - Revelation 11:7; 13:1–18; 16:12–16; 17:8–17; 19:19–20
 - B. When Christ’s disciples see this abomination, they must flee. (verses 16–20)
 - C. This abomination will begin a time of brief but unparalleled distress. (verses 21–22)
- II. Beware false Christs and false prophets. (verses 23–28)
 - A. Supernatural spectacles will seem to prove their claims. (verses 23–25)
 - B. These false Christs will lure people to seek them out. (verse 26)
 - C. When the true Christ arrives in sudden glory, no one will miss it. (verses 27–28)

How Should We Then Live?

- 1) Do not be distracted from Christ and his Word, even by supernatural signs.
- 2) Be prepared for the tribulation which will come to all of Christ’s disciples.
- 3) Trust the God who chose you to salvation, even when endurance seems impossible.