

The Olivet Discourse Decoded Summary

Messiah proclaimed that all of the things that He described would take place in that generation, so we need to take Him at His Word, and look to see how those things were fulfilled in the first century.

The context of the Olivet Discourse is that Messiah had just rebuked the Jewish leaders, who would kill Him and His disciples, and He said that all of the righteous blood that they shed would come upon on them, in that generation. *“Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation.”* Matthew 23:36

Then Messiah proclaimed that the temple would be desolated, which caused His disciples to ask about the sign of these things (the judgment of the Jews and the desolation of the temple) which were about to happen, that would fulfill Daniel 9:26-27; and the desolation of Jerusalem, the temple and the Jewish nation.

Jewish historian Josephus documented the fulfillment. Wars occurred around Judea, in the Roman Empire. There were times of famine and pestilence, and earthquakes. The disciples were delivered up to councils, all but John was killed. Many false prophets rose up during this time (Bar-Jesus, Simon Magus). Paul proclaims that the Gospel was preached all over the world (Romans 1:8, 10:15-19, 16:25-26, Colossians 1:4-6, 23)

The abomination of desolation is defined in Luke 21:20-21, *“And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains.”*

In Spring of 66 AD, Josephus says that an army with chariots, gathered in the clouds above Judea, a sign to flee. Then in fall of 66 AD, Cestius and his army came into Jerusalem to capture it, and then suddenly left. The Jewish rebels chased after the Romans, and this gave the saints the opportunity to flee Jerusalem.

Messiah said to flee Judea, which only existed until 132 AD. He said to not come down from the housetop, a typical design of Judea house. He said to pray that it doesn't happen on the Sabbath, when the Jewish priests would have shut the city gates, keeping them in. All of those things isolate the prophecy to that generation.

Messiah said to flee the mountains, to escape the coming judgment of the Jewish nation. It's documented that the saints fled to the mountains of Pella after seeing the abomination of desolation, to escape the time of tribulation. Josephus documented the horror of the Jewish-Roman War of 66-70 AD, when 1.1 million Jews died in and around Jerusalem from famine, pestilence, infighting, suicide, crucifixion and the Roman sword.

During the time of great tribulation from 66-70 AD, hundreds of thousands of Jews died during the civil war in Jerusalem between three rival factions. They slit each other throats and tortured each other. They slew the High Priest and his temple guards. Hundreds of thousands of bodies were stacked in Jerusalem or thrown over the city wall into the valleys around it. Jews that tried to escape were tortured and crucified outside the city, so many that the trees around Jerusalem were filled with multiple bodies. Thousands swallowed gold coins to protect their wealth and they tried to escape, but were caught and disemboweled. Then hundreds of thousands were killed the Roman sword and 97,000 taken captive and sold as cheap slaves.

The sun, moon and stars being darkened, symbolizes the Jewish leadership system being removed from power. Isaiah 13:9-10 gives us example of this, as applying to the fall of Babylonian leadership.

Messiah coming in power and glory point to His judgment of the Jewish nation. Messiah told the High Priest that he would see Him come in power. Was Messiah mistaken? No.

The angels gathering the elect is referring to the church leaders calling an assembly of the saints who had fled the destruction of Judea. Jerusalem lay in ruins, but many of them returned to continue ministry. All of this is prove out in detail, with a verse by verse explanation and the witness of Josephus in my book.

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