

54 DESOLATIONS ARE DETERMINED. Daniel 9:26-27

"...the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the prince who come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end will be with a flood, and war will be even to the end. Desolations are determined. 27 He will make a firm covenant with many for one week. In the middle of the week he will cause the sacrifice and the offering to cease. On the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate; and even to the decreed full end, wrath will be poured out on the desolate." Daniel 9:26-27 (WEB trans)

1. "The Anointed One [Messiah] will be cut off and will have nothing." Dan. 9:26

- A) "He was cut off out of the land of the living and stricken for the disobedience of my people." Is 53:8
- B) "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Mk 15:34
- C) "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us..." 2 Cor 5:21
- D) "For indeed Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed in our place." 1 Cor 5:7

2. "The people [Jews] of the prince [Messiah] who come ..." Dan. 9:26

- A) John of Gischala, a cunning young Jewish leader who fled Roman destruction in Galilee, went to Jerusalem and "corrupted a great part of the young men and puffed them up for the war." Wars 4.3.2
- B) [Jewish bands of robbers/zealots] "became a band of wickedness, and all together crept into Jerusalem, which was now become a city without a governor, and, as the ancient custom was, received without distinction all that belonged to their nation..." Josephus, "The Wars of the Jews," 4.3.3.
- C) "There were besides these other robbers [zealots] that came out of the country, and came into the city [Jerusalem], and joining to them those that were worse than themselves, omitted no kind of barbarity." Wars 4.3.3.

3. "...will destroy the city and the sanctuary [temple]."

- A) [Jewish rebels] "set fire to the house of Ananias the high priest, and to the palaces of Agrippa and Bernice; after which they carried the fire to the place where the archives were repositied, and made haste to burn the contracts belonging to their creditors...And when they had thus burnt down the nerves of the city, they fell upon their enemies." Wars 2.17.6
- B) Ananus the high priest lamented: "...we withal see those of our own nation taking our spoils, and plundering our glorious metropolis, and slaughtering our men, from which enormities those Romans themselves would have abstained." Wars 4.3.10
- C) "... neither did any other city ever suffer such miseries, nor did any age ever breed a generation more fruitful in wickedness than this was, from the beginning of the world. Finally, they brought the Hebrew nation into contempt..." Wars 5.10.5
- D) "for they [Jews] set the north-west cloister [outdoor covered walkway adjacent to temple] which was joined to the tower of Antonia, on fire, and after that brake off about twenty cubits of that cloister, and thereby made a beginning in burning the sanctuary [temple]." Wars 6.2.9
- E) "...even when it was in their power to have stopped the fire; nay, they [Jewish zealots] lay still while the temple was first set on fire, and deemed this spreading of the fire to be for their own advantage." Wars 6.2.9
- F) Titus condemned the zealots in a speech: "After every victory I persuaded you [Jews] to peace, as though I had been myself conquered. When I came near your temple, I again departed from the laws of war, and exhorted you to spare your own sanctuary, and to preserve your holy house to yourselves. I allowed you a quiet exit out of it, and security for your preservation; nay, if you had a mind, I gave you leave to fight in another place. Yet have you still despised every one of my proposals, and have set fire to your holy house with your own hands." Wars 6.6.2

4. "Its end will be with a flood and war will be even to the end. Desolations are determined." Dan. 9:26

- A) "When they are saying, 'Peace and safety,' then sudden destruction will come on them, like birth pains on a pregnant woman; and they will in no way escape." I Thess. 5:3
- B) "...they [zealots] depended on these underground subterfuges, and set more places on fire than did the Romans themselves." Wars 6.7.3
- C) Titus admonished the zealots: "O miserable creatures! what is it you depend on? Are not your people dead? is not your holy house gone? is not your city in my power? and are not your own very lives in my hands? And do you still deem it a part of valor to die?" Wars 6.6.2

5. "He [Messiah] will make a firm covenant with many for one week." Dan. 9:27

- A) Jesus's ministry was 3 1/2 years and the day of the Lord i.e. Israel's national judgment was 3 1/2 years, making a total of 7 years. (See P.P #22)
- B) "The days come, says Yahweh, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah." Jer 31:31
- C) "For this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, since a death has occurred for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first covenant, that those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance." Heb 9:15
- D) "In that He says, 'A new covenant' he has made the first old. But that which is becoming old and grows aged is near to vanishing away." Heb 8:13

6. "In the middle of the week he will cause the sacrifice and the offering to cease." Dan. 9:27

- A) "[Jesus] when he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God. Heb 10:12
- B) "[Christ] doesn't need, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices daily, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. For he did this once for all, when he offered up himself." Heb 7:27

7. "On the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate." Dan. 9:27

- A) "[Zealots] did almost draw that fire on the temple, which they seemed to think came too slowly; and indeed when they saw that temple burning from the upper city, they were neither troubled at it, nor did they shed any tears on that account..." Wars 5.10. 5.
- B) "Now as soon as the [Roman] army had no more people to slay or to plunder, because there remained none to be the objects of their fury, (for they would not have spared any, had there remained any other work to be done,) Caesar [Titus] gave orders that they should now demolish the entire city and temple." Wars 7.1.1
- C) Yahweh said, "I will hide my face from them. I will see what their end will be; for they are a very perverse generation, children in whom is no faithfulness." Dt. 32:20 [see "Song of Moses" P.P. #50]
- D) "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky. Then all the tribes of the earth will mourn..." Mt. 24:30

8. "And even to the decreed full end, wrath will be poured out on the desolate." Dan. 9:27

- A) DECREE: "Evil will happen to you in the latter days; because you will do that which is evil in the sight of Yahweh, to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands." Dt. 31:29
- B) DECREE: "Vengeance is mine, and recompense, at the time when their foot slides; for the day of their calamity is at hand. The things that are to come on them shall make haste." Dt. 32:35 [see "Song of Moses" P.P. #50]
- C) "Therefore in one day her plagues will come: death, mourning, and famine; and she will be utterly burned with fire; for the Lord God who has judged her is strong." Rev. 18:8
- D) Josephus told the Jews: "It is God himself who is bringing on this fire, to purge that city and temple by means of the Romans, and is going to pluck up this city which is full of your pollutions." Wars 6.2.1
- E) "Now round about the [temple] altar lay dead bodies heaped one upon another..." Wars 6:4:6
- F) "...but for all the rest of the wall [of Jerusalem], it was so thoroughly laid even with the ground by those that dug it up to the foundation, that there was left nothing to make those that came thither believe it had ever been inhabited. This was the end which Jerusalem came to by the madness of those that were for innovations [rebellion]; a city otherwise of great magnificence, and of mighty fame among all mankind." Wars 7.1.1

JOSEPHUS REFERENCED SACRED ORACLES WHICH APPEAR TO BE TAKEN FROM DANIEL 9:26-27.

1. Prophecy regarding destruction of Jerusalem and the temple by the Jews.

"...there was a certain ancient oracle of those men, that the city should then be taken and the sanctuary burnt, by right of war, when a sedition should invade the Jews, and their own hand should pollute the temple of God. Now while these zealots did not [quite] disbelieve these predictions, they made themselves the instruments of their accomplishment." Wars 4.6.3

2. Prophecy regarding the Jews slaughtering their own countrymen.

Josephus told the zealots "... who is there that does not know what the writings of the ancient prophets contain in them, and particularly that oracle which is just now going to be fulfilled upon this miserable city? For they [prophets] foretold that this city should be then taken when somebody shall begin the slaughter of his own countrymen. And are not both the city and the entire temple now full of the dead bodies of your countrymen? It is God, therefore, it is God himself who is bringing on this fire, to purge that city and temple by means of the Romans, and is going to pluck up this city, which is full of your pollutions." Wars 6.2.1

3. Prophecy regarding a great ruler who would come from Judea.

"But now, what did the most elevate them [Jews] in undertaking this war, was an ambiguous oracle that was also found in their sacred writings, how, 'about that time, one from their country should become governor of the habitable earth.' The Jews took this prediction to belong to themselves in particular, and many of the wise men were thereby deceived in their determination. Now this oracle certainly denoted the government of Vespasian, who was appointed emperor [while] in Judea." Wars 6.5.4