

THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION

Tract C15

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains

It would be difficult for a Christian to deny that the blasphemous Islamic Dome of the Rock, is AN abomination with it's mosaic inscriptions of "God is only One God. Far be it removed from His transcendent majesty that He should have a son." and "God, Who hath not taken unto Himself a son".

That is the exact opposite of what the Gospel teaches through hundreds of verses that confirm Jesus is the Son of God and God His Father, such as....

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

When a Muslim confesses that Jesus Christ is the Son of God he has committed the most egregious, and only unpardonable, sin in

Muhammad's stand-alone 7th century religion. In stark contrast...

1 John 4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

Confessing that Jesus is the Son of God violates the most important fundamental in Islam and is known as "shirk". Christians readily identify it as coming from the spirit of antichrist.

1 John 2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. 23 Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: [(but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also].

There is certainly no shortage of Jews in Israel that consider the Dome of the Rock to be an abomination of desolation with the Muslim leaders declaring the temple mount a "no prayer zone". The Israelis regained control of the temple mount in 1967 but were later forced to negotiate it away to the Muslims.

Muhammad wholesale slaughtered Jewish farmers, abused and enslaved their wives and children, and stole their property, and his hatred of Jews is expressed throughout Islam's books as in this example from Islam's Hadith:

Narrated 'Abdullah bin 'Umar: Allah's Apostle said, "You (i.e. Muslims) will fight wi the Jews till some of them will hide behind stones. The stones will (betray them) saying, 'O 'Abdullah (i.e. slave of Allah)! There is a Jew hiding behind me; so kill him."

Amazingly, the only claim that Islam has to Jerusalem whatsoever, comes from a story that Muhammad told wherein he declared that he rode on a flying animal one night from Mecca to Jerusalem, where he claimed that he prayed in a temple that had been torn down over 500 years previously, followed by a leg of his journey up to

"paradise" where he met Adam, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and others, then rode his flying donkey/mule back to Mecca by morning!

But illegitimate claim aside, could the blasphemous Islamic structure on the temple mount be THE abomination of desolation "spoken of by Daniel the prophet" that was "set up" or "placed" to "stand" in the holy place?

Daniel 12:11 And from the time [that] the daily [sacrifice] shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, [there shall be] a thousand two hundred and ninety days.
(Tanach) - Daniel 12:11 And from the time the daily sacrifice was removed and the silent abomination **placed**, is one thousand, two hundred, and ninety.

Mark confirms it to be "standing" and tells us that the abomination is an "it":

Mark 13:14 But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, **standing** where **it** ought not, (let him that readeth understand,) then let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains:

Luke tells us that it is Jerusalem that is desolated, in his parallel verse:

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

All three apostles also confirm it is written about the future as in "... ye shall see...", so we can conclude that it was to be an abomination, associated with the desolation of Jerusalem, in the future of the time in which Jesus delivered this discourse, even though it was "spoken of by Daniel the prophet" well over 500 years prior to when Jesus delivered this Olivet Discourse.

Jerusalem was compassed with armies on many occasions after the discourse

was delivered including 70 AD, 132, 639, 1099, 1187, 1948, 1967 and indeed even as of this writing. In 70 AD, a million Jews were killed, and an already long desolate temple was torn down. Jesus had declared almost 40 years earlier: Matt 23:38 "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.", in part because the Pharisees had made "...the word of God of none effect through your tradition..." (Mark 7:13), a condition in which we seem to find much of today's church. If the temple had not already been rendered desolate as Jesus' declaration above would seem to suggest, then it was certainly rendered desolate through Jesus' shed blood on the Cross, almost 40 years before the temple was torn down in 70 AD. That is also why "...the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom..." after Jesus had "...yielded up the ghost..." on the Cross (Matt 27:50-51). In 70 AD the Christians escaped, and were saved from the slaughter of the Romans, not even desolating the Christian community.

Though a significant and horrific event in 70 AD, the Roman Gentiles came back to slaughter another 600,000-750,000 Jews less than 65 years later, in the Bar Kokhba revolt of 132-135 AD.

Later in the Olivet Discourse we find:

Luke 21:24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

So Luke gives us another historical time pin. It would seem problematic indeed to suggest that the "times of the Gentiles" were fulfilled in 70 AD since the Roman Gentiles came back for a double dip of Jewish slaughter less than 65 years later. Let alone the list of Gentile armies from throughout the Christian era listed earlier. Blessedly, as Daniel's "times" seem to demonstrate - both mathematically and textually - the "times of the

Gentiles" were fulfilled in 1967, when the Jews were restored to power and control of Jerusalem for the first time in over 2500 years. We read "... when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people..." - the end of the scattering of the power of the Jews - the only "holy people" of Daniel's day.

Jerusalem was temporarily desolated in 70 AD, again in 132 AD, and conquered again in 639 AD when Khalifah Omar marched into town during the Islamic First Jihad. The church was alive and well since history tells us that Bishop Sophronius was compelled to show Khalifah Omar around town. History has shown that nothing was more physically or spiritually desolating to Jerusalem than 1100 years of Islamization and accompanying exile of Christians and Jews. By the early 1800's there were just 550 residents. This is why the historical record of Jerusalem in first quarter of the 19th century is sketchy and anecdotal at best.

In "A History of the Jews" Paul Johnson writes on page 321: "Between 1827 and 1839, largely through British efforts, the population of Jerusalem rose from 550 to 5,500 and in all Palestine it topped 10,000 - the real beginning of the Jewish return to the Promised Land. In 1838 Palmerston appointed the first western vice-consul in Jerusalem, W.T. Young, and told him 'to afford protection to the Jews generally.'"

Even 30 years later in 1867 Mark Twain described it thus: "...[a] desolate country whose soil is rich enough, but is given over wholly to weeds-a silent mournful expanse....A desolation is here that not even imagination can grace with the pomp of life and action....We never saw a human being on the whole route....There was hardly a tree or a shrub anywhere. Even the olive and the cactus, those fast friends of the worthless soil, had almost deserted the country."

No surprise then when we find the founding verses on the Islamic abomination the Dome of the Rock read: O People of the Book! Do not exaggerate in your religion nor utter aught concerning God save the truth. The Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, was only a Messenger of God, and His Word which He conveyed unto Mary, and a spirit from Him. So believe in God and His messengers, and say not 'Three' - Cease! (it is) better for you! - God is only One God. Far be it removed from His transcendent majesty that He should have a son.

It helps to get to know The History of Mecca and the origins of Islamic "traditions".

When we read: Matt 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains... it becomes pretty clear that this would apply to all of the compassings of Jerusalem, but the desolation symbolized by the Dome of the Rock would seem confirmed when we consider the text and math of this verse:

Revelation 12:6 (KJV): And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days.

It was 1260 "days" (as years) from the founding of the Dome of the Rock in 688, representing the exile of Jews and Christians, until the declaration of an independent Israel in 1948. It was 42 prophetic "months" from 688 to 1967 as the beast continued. The date of 688 is also confirmed mathematically and textually by Daniel's 1290, and the 1290 is confirmed by his 1335.

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