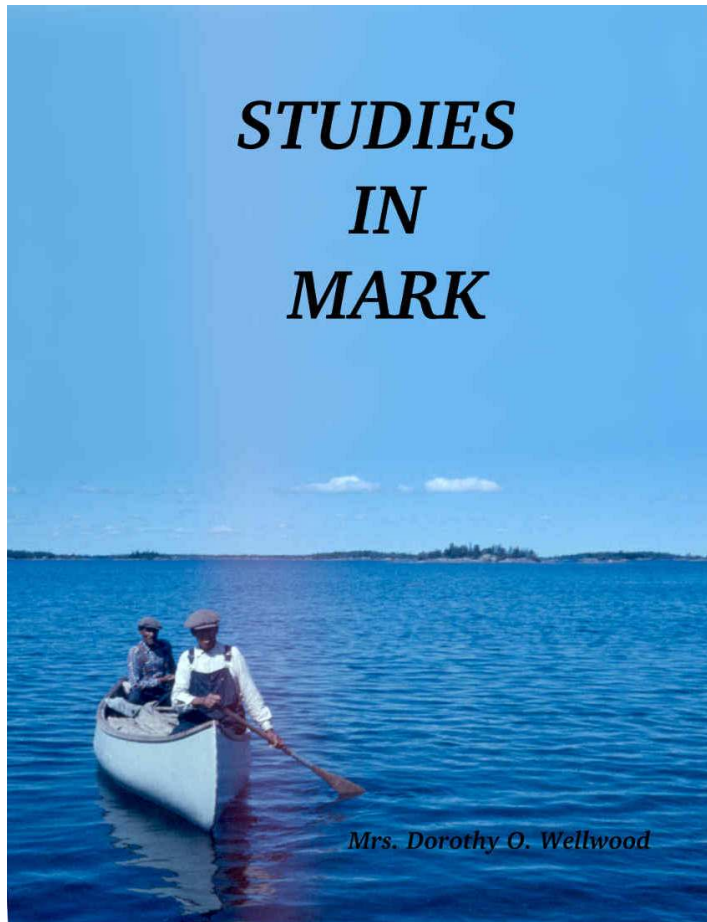


*STUDIES
IN
MARK*



Mrs. Dorothy O. Wellwood

LESSON 51

MARK 13:14-18

REVIEW:

The time was near when Jesus must die for the sins of His people. He still had many things to tell His disciples.

1. Mark 13:1-4 Jesus told them that the _____ would be destroyed.
2. All they saw with their eyes would NOT last forever.
3. Jesus wanted them to love God, not just the house they had made for Him.

To get the meaning of today's lesson, we must turn back to the prophet Daniel.

READ DANIEL 9:21-27

SEVENTY WEEKS OF DANIEL

Daniel was a prophet very much loved by God. God let Daniel look far ahead of time. God told Daniel what He planned to do before the end of the world. In Mark 13, Jesus talked about the very same things Daniel and other prophets said would happen before the end.

Daniel 9:21 - What was the name of the angel that came to tell Daniel what things were going to happen? _____ .

Daniel 9:23 - How much did the angel say that Daniel was loved by God?

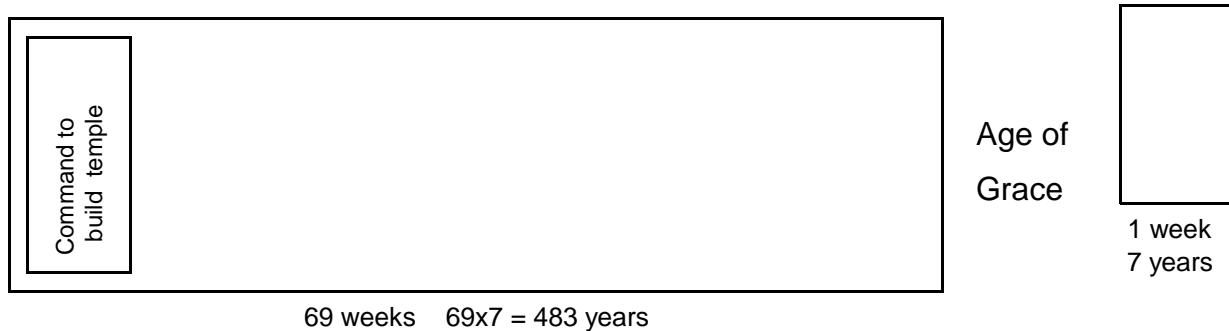
"Thou art _____ ."

Daniel 9:24 - The prophecy was for how many weeks? _____ .

(Our week is made up of 7 days. The weeks that Daniel talked about were made of 7 years.)

70 weeks for Daniel would mean $70 \times 7 = 490$ years from the time God told the Jews to build Jerusalem again.

Daniel 9:25 - Jerusalem had been destroyed when Daniel wrote. The Jews were carried away into another country. Later a command was given to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. From the time that the command was given to build up Jerusalem till the Prince, or Messiah, would be 69 weeks. This would mean $69 \times 7 = 483$ years.



Daniel 9:26 - After this the Messiah would **be cut off**, but **not for Himself**. Jesus would be killed, but not for Himself. It was for us. God sent His angel to tell Daniel that Jesus, the Messiah, would come, and when He would come. He told that Jesus would die for us. All this was told to Daniel, the prophet, 490 years before it happened.

In verse 26, the angel of God told about another prince who would come. This prince is the antichrist. He will have many followers too. The angel said that this wicked prince and his people would destroy Jerusalem and the temple again.

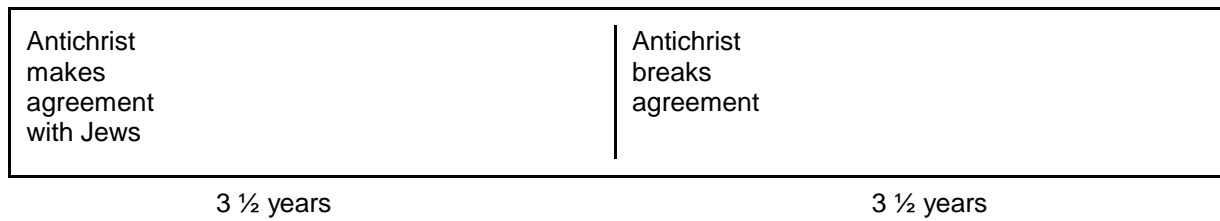
The Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the temple 70 years after Jesus was born.

This prophecy also talks about another hard time for the Jews. This hard time is yet to come.

Daniel 9:27 - In this last hard time, the antichrist will make an agreement with the Jews for one week (7 years). Unbelieving Jews will look for a superman to lead them. That superman will be antichrist. They will put their trust in the enemy instead of the real Christ. The angel told Daniel that the antichrist would break his agreement with the Jews in the middle of the week of years ($3 \frac{1}{2}$ years).

THE GREAT TRIBULATION TIME

1 week - 7 years



Never has there been such trouble on the earth as there will be in those days. The Book of Revelation tells of the awful suffering for the Jews, and all who are left on earth through the great tribulation.

READ MARK 13:14-18

THE TEMPLE MADE UNCLEAN

Let us look at the meaning of some of the big words in verse 14.

Abomination - *means something we hate. It is so bad that we do not want to go near it. It is so evil that God and his people do not want to have anything to do with it. The Jews usually thought of an idol as an abomination.*

Desolation - *means everything is ruined. There is nobody there. It is left alone because nobody wants anything to do with it anymore.*

The abomination of desolation seems to be an idol which will cause everything to be ruined. Jesus told the disciples about this sign in verse 14. Daniel had warned about this evil thing in Daniel 12:11.

Write the correct answer on the line:

1. Where did Mark say the abomination of desolation will be standing? (verse 14)
(where it should be; where it should not be.) .
2. When this happens, the people living in Judaea must (run quickly to the mountains; hide in their houses.) .

3. In Judea, the house had flat roofs. People used to visit on their roof tops, or sit out there when it was cool. If anybody will be on the housetop when the sign in verse 14 comes (he should go down into the house and pack his things; he should not stop for anything). (verse 15)
4. If anyone will be out in the field (he must run straight to the mountains; he better go home first and get some clothes to take with him). (verse 16)

Nearly 200 years before Christ, a wicked king tried to stop all worship of the true God. To do this, he made the people worship the heathen god, Zeus. This wicked king made a small altar to burn sacrifices to Zeus. He put his altar in God's holy temple. He put his altar on the altar where sacrifices were offered to God.

Only clean animals like lambs, calves, or goats were offered to God on His altar for the sins of people. When the wicked king offered a sacrifice in God's holy temple, he put a pig on his altar. God said that pigs (swine) were not clean animals. What that evil king did was an abomination to God and to His people. Now in Mark 13:14, Jesus made a prophecy that there will again be an abomination of desolation. It will be put where it should not be. It will not likely be a pig on the altar in God's house next time. The Book of Revelation, chapter 13, tells us that antichrist (the beast) will have an image put in the place of worship. By the power of the devil, this image will come to life, and will be able to talk. Anybody who will not worship the image of the beast will be killed. (Revelation 13:15) Surely when this happens, it will be an abomination of desolation. This may be why Jesus warns them to flee (run fast) to the mountains. When they flee they will not be killed for refusing to obey the devil's man and to worship the image.

WOE, in verse 17, means sorrow. Jesus said sorrow would come to women with unborn babies in the evil days. It will be hard for them to run fast to the mountains.

Jesus said that there would be woe to mothers with tiny babies in that day. It will be hard for them to flee to safety. They will have to carry their babies when they run.

5. What did Jesus tell the people to pray for in verse 18?

These warnings were for the Jews in Jerusalem in the time of sorrows. This will be when the antichrist rules. The Bible talks about Christ coming for His church before the time of sorrows. (1 Thessalonians 4:16,17)

STUDIES IN MARK by Dorothy O. Wellwood.

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