

<Introduction>

“His sanctuary was thrown down” by Jeremiah

Today, our study is titled: “His sanctuary was thrown down”.

<It is prophesized in scriptures that his sanctuary will be thrown down >

The Bible tells us that under the influence of the country of the beast, his sanctuary will be thrown down. It is stated as seen in the scripture reference.

Daniel 8:11 It set itself up to be as great as the commander of the army of the Lord; it took away the daily sacrifice from the Lord, and his sanctuary was thrown down.

What does it mean to have a sanctuary thrown down here? This is what we will be our focus today.

Now, first of all, what kind of place is the sanctuary? It is explained as seen in the scripture reference below.

1 Chronicles 28:10 Consider now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a house as the sanctuary. Be strong and do the work.

What we can understand from here is that the sanctuary is the temple of God. So, what is prophesized in Daniel is that the foundations of the temple of God will be thrown down as the country of the beast arises in End Times.

<Matthew 24 prophesizes the same day>

Actually, having the temple thrown down is exactly prophesized in Matthew 24 as seen below.

Matthew 24:1 Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings.

24:2 “Do you see all these things?” he asked. “Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be

left on another; every one will be thrown down.”

Matthew 24 is famous for being the scripture where the Lord prophesized about the End Times, and it describes about destruction of the temple. Therefore, we can see that destruction of the temple has a significant meaning in the End Times.

<The Bible mentions about destruction of stones and the foundation of the temple>

Let's think about the destruction of the temple in End Times. Both Daniel and Matthew 24 mention about destruction of the temple as a major incident in the End Times, there is one more thing we will come to realize as we take a good look.

It is about the destruction of the stone of the temple which formed the foundation. Nowhere else but foundation is mentioned. This is a bit strange, because the temple is the center of worship for God's people, therefore there are many other important things to be mentioned and described about the temple.

Despite the fact that there are many precious things such as the Ark of the Covenant, Pot of Mana, Table of bread, and Candlesticks, the Bible doesn't mention any of those when it comes to the End Times. It only focuses on destruction of the stone and foundation of the temple. It seems that there are some meanings in this.

<What does the foundation of the temple mean?>

What does the foundation of the temple mean? Ephesians explains this as seen in the scripture references below..

Ephesians 2:20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

2:21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.

2:22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Here, it is described that the foundation of the temple are the apostles and prophets. Also, it clearly states that Jesus himself is the chief cornerstone.

Therefore, when we think about the destruction of the foundation, we shouldn't focus only on material aspects but rather on what it represents which means it makes more sense to think that it describes the destruction of the church as temple.

When we think about the destruction of the temple, I think it is necessary to understand it as a parable. Let's remember the Lord told off His disciples by saying "Don't you understand this parable?" and this indicates that it is important to understand parables in the Bible. There are many parables in Revelation and scriptures about End Times, so understanding of parables is particularly important there.

According to this scripture in Ephesians, we can see that the temple in the New Testament means the church where Christians gather, so when we look at destruction of the temple in End Times, it is out of context to think about temple as a physical building. Rather, it is likely that destruction happens to the church as the temple of God.

<The third temple will never be built>

In terms of the temple, they often discuss about building of the third temple. This means that there will be the third temple built in Jerusalem despite the fact that there is not a hint of the temple at the moment, and Jesus prophesized the day when the temple is destroyed.

Let's think about this. There is no temple existing in present day Jerusalem. Not a single stone is left. Plus, you can't build the temple anywhere you like, but the Bible clarifies that it has to be built on the top of Mt. Moriah.

The trouble is that there is a golden dome built by Muslims on the spot. This place is one of the three Holy places for several billions of Muslims in the world, and a very special place for them. Therefore, there is no way that they will abandon this place and the third temple is built there. There is no chance. So, the third temple is almost like an impossible dream. In conclusion, I don't think it is really meaningful to consider the temple as an actual building when it comes to the prophecy in End Times.

Rather, I would think it is important to realize that God didn't allow us to rebuild the physical temple. I feel that God wants us to think about something thoroughly.

1 .The fact that the temple is completely destroyed.

2 .It is impossible to rebuild.

I think that what God is talking about here is not the destruction of the temple as building, but rather the temple as parable. Now, I wonder what you think about this...

<Examining Daniel 8>

Based on this understanding, let's take a further look at Daniel 8 where the destruction of the foundation of the sanctuary is mentioned.

Daniel 8:10 It grew until it reached the host of the heavens, and it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them.

It describes that the country of the beast will grow bigger, reaching the host of heavens. What does this mean? From the scripture below, we can see that the host of heavens means Israel, the descendants of Abraham, which are also Christians in the New Testament.

Genesis 22:17 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies

In this part, descendants of Abraham are seen as stars in the sky, so stars in the sky mean Christians who are Israel in the New Testament. Furthermore, Israel could mean soldiers of God as well, therefore it is Christians who are the army of the heaven.

So, what "It grew until it reached the host of the heavens" means is that the country of beast will gain the power in End Times, and will reach and influence Christians who are the army of heaven and the church.

"it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them"

It is written that under the influence of the country of the beast, the army of heaven who are some of the denominations in the Christian church will be thrown down, and

will become of this world. Although Christians fundamentally are heavenly and belong to heaven, because of the intervention by the country of the beast in the church and Christians, some churches and denominations will be thrown down and influenced by the world. This is actually already happening so often in the country of the beast, the U.S. In U.S, there is a country-wide movement going on to prevent right Christians to walk with the word of God, and to drag them into the world.

As a result, those Christians who followed the word of God and opposed homosexuality have been arrested or fined. On the other hand, Christians who support homosexuality are welcomed in the country. In this way, this country of the beast is trying to throw heavenly Christians down.

Daniel 8:11 It set itself up to be as great as the commander of the army of the Lord; it took away the daily sacrifice from the Lord, and his sanctuary was thrown down.

The commander of the army sounds rather mysterious, but it could mean Christians in the New Testament. The commander is the leader of the church who is no one else but Jesus Christ. However, it is written that the country of beast will not only steal the position of Jesus Christ, but it also replaces Him with their own king who is anti-Christ. What is prophesized here is the horrible day when the church is turned upside down.

“it took away the daily sacrifice”

What does the daily sacrifice mean? It is described as below.

Numbers 4:16 “Eleazar son of Aaron, the priest, is to have charge of the oil for the light, the fragrant incense, the regular grain offering and the anointing oil. He is to be in charge of the entire tabernacle and everything in it, including its holy furnishings and articles.”

The regular grain offering and the anointing oil are described here. They are parables, and grain makes bread therefore means sermons at the service. The anointing oil also means Holy Spirit.

So, to take away the daily sacrifice means that the right message will no longer be preached at the church, and the Holy Spirit is also not going to come upon anyone

anymore. Maybe the church will no longer preach the right teaching which is the salvation which can only be found in Christ.

“his sanctuary was thrown down”

As I mentioned before, sanctuary is parable of the church as the temple of God. Because its foundation is the teachings of apostles, prophets, and Christ, they are all described to be thrown down.

It seems that things like salvation and redemption of Jesus Christ, His second coming, Rapture, which are the foundation of the doctrine in the church will all be thrown down and destroyed. They will be recognized as unscientific wrong teachings, and thrown away from the public church.

Daniel 8:12 Because of rebellion, the Lord’s people and the daily sacrifice were given over to it. It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground.

To have the Lord’s people given over to rebellion means that the Christian church is going to become under control of the country of the beast. Therefore, appointment of pastors or establishment of doctrine always can’t be done without the permission of the country of beast. Indeed, such movement has already started in U.S. Pastors have been fined and arrested because they had family service without permission.

“the daily sacrifice were given over”

Instead of true sacrifice to God which is the right sermon, what can only be described as blasphemous teaching will be preached in the church, which could be like, homosexuality should be accepted and there is salvation in any religion etc.

“It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground”



His sanctuary was thrown down (image)

The truth in the Bible will be thrown away. Perhaps they will stop talking about hell and judgment. The truth in the Bible will be replaced by the worldly commonsense. The Bible says that homosexuality is sin, but it will be seen as “gender identity disorder” which is only a worldly point of view.

As we have seen, the Bible mentions that the temple which is the church as a place of worship will be destroyed and its foundation is also destroyed repeatedly. It talks about the day when the fundamental doctrine of Christian church will be thrown down.

<The Book of Thessalonians also mentions about the same day >

You may think it is silly to say that the fundamental doctrine of Christian church will be thrown down. But, if we open our eyes, we can see that this day is prophesized in many parts of the Bible. For example, it is prophesized in Thessalonians as seen in the scripture reference below..

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction.

2:4 He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

Here, as apostasy is to occur, it correctly prophesizes that Christian churches will turn its back to God and Christ, as well as Christian teachings. In other words, it means that the foundation of the temple as place of worship will be destroyed. And in relation to this, it is written that a person who is unlawful and a child of destruction will appear,

this person is indeed the anti-Christ. It is described that this anti-Christ will “set himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming himself to be God”. As I have mentioned many times, the temple means the church as a place of worship. However, despite there is only one Lord which is of course Jesus Christ, the anti-Christ will replace Jesus to occupy his position.

How on earth will anti-Christ replace Jesus in the church to occupy His spot? It is hard to imagine but since the Bible clearly states that he will proclaim himself to be God, it must happen.

I would imagine that before the anti-Christ will rise up as God, there will be intense accusation, criticism, and negative rumors about Christ in the world. All the scientists, historians, scholars, media, and politicians will say that Jesus Christ is such fraudster and the Gospel is a book full of false promises. As a result, the reputation of Jesus Christ will go down, so that even people who believe in Him will be hated as well. The scripture below seems to be prophesizing the day.

Matthew 24:9 “Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me.

Once the reputation of Christ has gone down, the anti-Christ will be welcomed into the church of apostasy with voice of joy. We need to be aware of these things, and live a life according to this era.



Pastors get arrested for preaching the Gospel.

<If you choose to obey God>

A pastor of the church I used to go to gave me an advice, saying “You have got to obey!” I can’t remember how we ended up having the conversation, but I just had had a break from Christian life for a while, and it wasn’t long after I returned to my walk with faith and the church community, so I think maybe I asked something like “How should I walk my life?”

After a while, we had someone who shared his testimony at the same church. At the end of the testimony, he said “God will protect Christians. But, it is those who obey God that receive blessings and grace”. Especially, the phrase “it is those who obey God that receive blessings and grace” really spoke volumes to me. I am still reminded in my Christian walk.

By the way, unlike how I am now, I used to walk as crowd back then. So, although I was touched by those words “obey”, I didn’t really understand its meaning from spiritual point of view. But once I started my walk as real Lord’s disciple, the testimonies of the two became part of my spiritual development. And as I have been reading the Gospel recently, “obeying” is getting more meaningful. By the way, Jesus said “Follow me” to Peter, John, and James. They left their fishing nets and boats behind to follow Jesus, and continued to do so throughout their lives, and inherited the “kingdom of heaven”.

Do you feel any message included in here? I wonder if obeying Jesus to inherit the kingdom of heaven matches with how those two people gave testimony about “obeying”. I also think when my brother in Christ said “it is those who obey God that receive blessings and grace”, it meant to inherit the kingdom of heaven, just like how Peter, John, and James followed Jesus to the end. So, I think walking your life by obeying God is going to be equal to inheriting the kingdom of heaven.

Now, once you have understood it, all you have to do is to live like that, but...there is something God has shown me, so I would like to talk about it here a bit. “Walking a life of obedience to God” is indeed fantastic, and I wish all Christians in the world could do it. But, on the other hand, if we look at the reality, I want you to remember how the Bible describes that “there are so many Christians seeing the cross as enemy”. As is also mentioned in the Bible, it is “small and narrow” way which is not chosen by many people. This is exactly how it is written as “For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it”. This also means that so many Christians actually choose to go through the big and wide way which leads to

destruction. You may think “Unbelievable!” or “No way! Many Christians must be choosing the narrow way”, but this is what the Bible says, so we need to accept it. Based on this, because when you choose the “walk to obey God”, you will be differentiated from the rest of people who walk the “way to destruction”. Therefore, apart from the determination to walk the way to obey God, we have to properly understand that we need to have certain level of “awareness” and “determination”.

If you still choose to walk the life “to obey God”, and continue to the end, you will enter where Christians are meant to go; the “Kingdom of heaven”. Why can I guarantee it? Because it is what happened to Peter, John, and James as I mentioned before. They followed Jesus right through to the end, and managed to inherit the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, anyone who walk their life like them are promised to go into “the kingdom of heaven”.

On the other hand, what will happen if you don’t choose “the walk to obey God”? As the opposite to “obedience” or “faithful” is “disobedience”, if you choose such life, you are possibly going to be used by Satan. This means that you will become a Christian who pleases Satan by doing his will. Satan’s will is to persecute and trouble righteous Christians as well as to make them stumble, so disobedient Christians could be used to disturb the walk of righteous Christians. As the result, you may be completely excluded from “the kingdom of heaven” where you were supposed to be end up, so you need to be careful.

By the way, in terms of whether or not to obey God, I don’t think “somewhere in the middle” exists. You will definitely have to choose one of those. Also, I guess the life of Christian is about continuously choosing whether or not to “obey God”. Of course God allows Christians to have free will, but I personally and sincerely hope to walk “the life to obey God” throughout my life. If you feel God is speaking this to you as well, please put it into practice.

May glory and honor be given to God who always teaches us the important lessons.

Amen