



SAVED TO SERVE

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YOU MUST STUDY THE BOOK OF DANIEL! THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION STANDS IN THE HOLY PLACE

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study the abomination of desolation that stands in the holy place. Jesus tells us to study this entity and the book of Daniel for these last days.

2. What do the disciples ask Jesus in Matthew 24:3?

a) What does Jesus say must be done before the end of the world comes in Matthew 24:14?

3. In which passage of scripture is this gospel found, and what is it called? Revelation 14:6-12

4. Matthew 24:14 told us that the end comes after the preaching of the gospel. Notice that Matthew 24:15 shows us the event that brings the end. Which event in Matthew 24:15 brings the end?

5. **Note:** The abomination of desolation and various phrasings of it are found in Daniel 9:27, Daniel 11:31, Daniel 12:11, and Daniel 8:13 respectively. Let us study Daniel 11:31-33 to identify who the abomination of desolation is.

6. Read Daniel 11:31. It mentions the abomination of desolation. In Daniel 11:32, notice that the "he" refers to the abomination of desolation. Now read Daniel 11:33. By what means would the people that know their God fall?

7. Remember that the book of Daniel and Revelation unlock each other. Which entity in Revelation 13 went into captivity and was killed by the sword because it led others into captivity and killed them with the sword? Revelation 13:10 **Answer:** This is the first beast of Revelation 13:1-10 which is the Papacy or Roman Catholicism. During its reign from 538 A.D. - 1798 A.D. it persecuted God's saints. During the French Revolution, papists were killed in France and in 1798, the Pope was taken into captivity where he died in exile.

"The periods here mentioned—"forty and two months," and "a thousand two hundred and threescore days"--are the same, alike representing the time in which the church of Christ was to suffer oppression from Rome. The 1260 years of papal supremacy began in A.D. 538, and would therefore terminate in 1798. At that time a French army entered Rome and made the pope a prisoner, and he died in exile. Though a new pope was soon afterward elected, the papal hierarchy has never since been able to wield the power which it before possessed." {GC 266.3}

"All too well the people had learned the lessons of cruelty and torture which Rome had so diligently taught. A day of retribution at last had come. It was not now the disciples of Jesus that were thrust into dungeons and dragged to the stake. Long ago these had perished or been driven into exile. Unsparing Rome now felt the deadly power of those whom she had trained to delight in deeds of blood. "The example of persecution which the clergy of France had exhibited for so many ages, was now retorted upon them with signal vigor. **The scaffolds ran red with the blood of the priests. The galleys and the prisons, once crowded with Huguenots, were now filled with their persecutors. Chained to the bench and toiling at the oar, the Roman Catholic clergy experienced all those woes which their church had so freely inflicted on the gentle heretics.**" (See Appendix.) GC 283.2

8. In Revelation 17:1-6, we have another description of the Papacy. A impure woman riding a beast (church controlling a nation/ civil power) and is called an abomination and the mother of harlots. Which church is called the Mother Church? Revelation 17:5

Pope Francis: The Church, like Mary, is woman and mother

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta/2018-05/pope-francis-mass-santa-marta-mary-church-woman-mother.html>

9. What will be the punishment of the Papacy, the beast, which connects with Daniel 11:33? Revelation 17:16; Revelation 20:10

a) **Note:** The Papacy will be burned with fire because she historically killed the saints of God with fire by burning them at the stake for so-called “heresy”.

10. Read Hebrews 10:33-35 and notice the word “spoiling” which connects with Daniel 11:33. Paul and other Christians endured afflictions for their faith in God, even the spoiling of their goods. Likewise, the faithful saints endured the same during the Papacy’s reign of 538 A.D. to 1798 A.D. Read the following example of how the Papacy dealt with Luther and those who adhered to his writings.

“He had not been long absent from Worms, when the papists prevailed upon the emperor to issue an edict against him. **In this decree Luther was denounced as “Satan himself under the form of a man and dressed in a monk’s frock.”**— D’Aubigne, b. 7, ch. 11. It was commanded that as soon as his safe-conduct should expire, measures be taken to stop his work. All persons were forbidden to harbor him, to give him food or drink, or by word or act, in public or private, to aid or abet him. **He was to be seized wherever he might be, and delivered to the authorities. His adherents also were to be imprisoned and their property confiscated.** His writings were to be destroyed, and, finally, all who should dare to act contrary to this decree were included in its condemnation. The elector of Saxony and the princes most friendly to Luther had left Worms soon after his departure, and the emperor’s decree received the sanction of the Diet. Now the Romanists were jubilant. They considered the fate of the Reformation sealed.” {GC 167.3}

11. Remember that in Matthew 24:3, Jesus was asked what shall be the sign of thy coming and the end of the world? We learned that one event Jesus answered in response is found in Matthew 24:15: the abomination of desolation will stand in the holy place. This means that we should expect the Papacy to rise to power again in these last days. What does it mean that the Papacy will “stand”? Daniel 11:3

12. Let us analyze a few more passages of scripture to get an understanding of what it means that the abomination of desolation will stand in the holy place. Standing in the holy place refers to the fact that it will have religious authority. Read 2 Chronicles 35:5-6. Why were the Levites standing in the holy place in the time of Josiah? **Answer:** For worship. It was a passover ceremony.

13. Notice also that standing in the holy place is connected to worshiping by law. Read 2 Chronicles 35:6, 12, 26. What inspired Josiah to command the Levites to stand in the holy place? **Answer:** The law of Moses, the law of the Lord! Additionally, Acts 6:13 tells us that the priests charged Stephen with blaspheming against the holy place and the law. Therefore, when we see the Papacy standing in a position to rule and enforce religious laws, then we know that the end is near! Notice the following headlines which show that the Papacy is posing itself to stand in the holy place.

14. **Current Events:**

Trump floats ‘Board of Peace’ to replace UN, signals major global power shift

<https://www.foxnews.com/world/trump-floats-board-peace-replace-un-signals-major-global-power-shift.print>

Pope evaluating Trump’s invitation to join Board of Peace, Vatican’s official says

<https://www.ncronline.org/vatican/vatican-news/pope-evaluating-trumps-invitation-join-board-peace-vaticans-official-says>

Leo and Trump offer 2 American visions of power: Which one will endure?

<https://www.ncronline.org/opinion/leo-and-trump-offer-2-american-visions-power-which-one-will-endure>

‘Rerum Novarum’ 2.0? Catholic labor advocates heartened by Pope Leo’s direction

Pope Leo XIV confirmed those conjectures when he first spoke to the College of Cardinals in Rome on May 10 — two days after his election — **revealing that he chose his new name “mainly because Pope Leo XIII in his historic encyclical ‘Rerum Novarum’ addressed the social question in the context of the first great industrial revolution.”**

<https://catholicreview.org/rerum-novarum-2-0-catholic-labor-advocates-heartened-by-pope-leos-direction/>

RERUM NOVARUM: ENCYCLICAL OF POPE LEO XIII ON CAPITAL AND LABOR

Let the working man be urged and led to the worship of God, to the earnest practice of religion, and, among other things, to the keeping holy of Sundays and holy days. Let him learn to reverence and love holy Church, the common Mother of us all; and hence to obey the precepts of the Church, and to frequent the sacraments, since they are the means ordained by God for obtaining forgiveness of sin and for leading a holy life.

https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_l-xiii_enc_15051891_rerum-novarum.html

15. Which day does Jesus remind us to keep and not to break in these last days? Matthew 24:20

16. The Papacy claims to be standing as holy, yet Christ calls it an abomination. What is the sin or abomination that the Papacy promotes to counter God's seventh-day sabbath? Revelation 14:9-10. See below.

The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, page 50

Q. **Which is the Sabbath day?**

A. Saturday is the Sabbath day.

Q. **Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?**

A. We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.

Q. **Why did the Catholic Church substitute Sunday for Saturday?**

A. The Church substituted Sunday for Saturday, because Christ rose from the dead on a Sunday, and the Holy Ghost descended upon the Apostles on a Sunday.

Q. **By what authority did the Church substitute Sunday for Saturday?**

A. The Church substituted Sunday for Saturday by the plenitude of that divine power which Jesus Christ bestowed upon her.

Note: Sunday worship enforced by law is the Mark of the Beast. Let us prove this point. Read the following excerpt from Catholic Cardinal Gibbons.

WHO CHANGED THE SABBATH TO SUNDAY?

Cardinal Gibbons, in *Faith of Our Fathers*, 92nd ed., p. 89, freely admits, "You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we [the Catholic Church] never sanctify."

Again, "The Catholic Church, ... by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from Saturday to Sunday" (*The Catholic Mirror*, official publication of James Cardinal Gibbons, Sept. 23, 1893).

"Protestants do not realize that by observing Sunday, they accept the authority of the spokesperson of the Church, the Pope" (*Our Sunday Visitor*, February 5, 1950).

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change [Saturday Sabbath to Sunday] was her act... **And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things**" (H.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons).

[https://www.cgi.org/who-changed-the-sabbath-to-sunday?](https://www.cgi.org/who-changed-the-sabbath-to-sunday?sapurl=LytXNWdtL2FwcD9lbWJlZD10cnVlJnJlY2VudFJvdXRlPWFwcC53ZWItYXBwLnJlZGlyZWNo3lmcmlVjZW50Um91dGVTbHVnPWFW)

[sapurl=LytXNWdtL2FwcD9lbWJlZD10cnVlJnJlY2VudFJvdXRlPWFwcC53ZWItYXBwLnJlZGlyZWNo3lmcmlVjZW50Um91dGVTbHVnPWFW](https://www.cgi.org/who-changed-the-sabbath-to-sunday?sapurl=LytXNWdtL2FwcD9lbWJlZD10cnVlJnJlY2VudFJvdXRlPWFwcC53ZWItYXBwLnJlZGlyZWNo3lmcmlVjZW50Um91dGVTbHVnPWFW)

17. Let us close with the practical preparation needed for these last days. As we see this end-time crisis approaching, where should we take refuge? Matthew 24:16; Genesis 19:17

18. What experience is also connected to fleeing the mountains? Matthew 14:23; Luke 6:12; Luke 9:28

19. Read Matthew 24:17-18, 20. These verses teach us to always be prepared: have food, water, and clothes stored up and be ready for the winter. In the Mark of the Beast crisis, what will Satan use to tempt people to break God's law? See below.

"Thus the world will become mine. I will be the ruler of the earth, the prince of the world. I will so control the minds under my power that God's Sabbath shall be a special object of contempt. A sign? **I will make the observance of the seventh day a sign of disloyalty to the authorities of earth. Human laws will be made so stringent that men and women will not dare to observe the seventh-day Sabbath. For fear of wanting food and clothing, they will join with the world in transgressing God's law. The earth will be wholly under my dominion.**" {Mar 162.4}

20. What must we be clothed with now before the final crisis? Isaiah 61:10

21. Compare Matthew 24:21 with Daniel 12:1. They both mention a time of trouble or great tribulation which has never been seen on earth. What is our God-given work as we are approaching this time of trouble? Daniel 12:3

22. What promise does Jesus give us in Matthew 24:13?

23. How can we endure the crisis that is ahead of us?

a) Hebrews 12:1

b) Hebrews 12:2

c) Hebrews 12:3-4
