

WARNING OF THE 5TH CYCLE

Olivet Discourse occurred on the third day prior to the Jewish Passover of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

The first lesson of the Olivet Discourse resulted from the comments made by Jesus at the end of the Temple Discourse recorded in Matt.23:37-39.

A key statement made by Jesus was – “Look, your house is left to you desolate.”

This statement became the link to the warning of the 5th cycle of divine discipline to Israel – “Do you see all these great buildings? Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.” (Mark 13:2)

Four disciples responded by asking Jesus this question, “tell us, when will these things happen?” (Mark 13:3)

This leads into our first lesson of the Olivet Discourse entitled, “Warning of the 5th Cycle.”

Christians are warned that they will become the objects of *global hatred* before the END – “You will be hated by all on account of My name.” (Mark 13:13)

Six warnings are given in our lesson text.

- Don't be misled (13:5-6)
- Don't be afraid (13:7-8)
- Be on guard (13:9,11-12)
- Preach the gospel to all nations (3:10)
- Don't be anxious (13:11)
- Persevere to the end (13:13)

This lesson will study SEVEN aspects of the WARNING OF THE 5TH CYCLE.

- 1. The warning of the 5th cycle of divine discipline given at the Olivet Discourse is referred to as, “The beginning of birth pangs.” (13:8).**

We are told that these warnings of birth pangs and of the END (13:7).

“And when you hear of wars and disturbances, do not be terrified; *for these must take place first, but the end does not follow immediately.*” (Luke 21:9)

- 2. The Church Age began in 30AD in transition until 100AD. Two important events and dates are associated with this period of transition.**

The first date and event was 70AD and the 5th cycle of Israel to Rome.

The second date and event was 100 AD and the completion of the canon of Scriptures.

The transition period was the period of change of dispensations, priesthoods, divine agencies, law to grace, parakletos ministry of Holy Spirit, and completion of canon (Bible) based on the historical coming of Jesus Christ.

At the end of the transition period, the Church of Jesus Christ was established in the world (Eph.2:19-22; 3:1-10).

3. The Jewish Age was interrupted by the Church Age. There is still another 7 years of Jewish Age called Tribulation and Daniel's 70th Week.

The big sign to the Jews of the beginning of birth pangs was the 5th cycle was "the desolation of their house." (Matt.23:38). The tearing down of the temple and the fall of Jerusalem (Mark 13:2).

The next big sign to the Jews will be the Abomination of Desolation in the new temple (Mark 13:15).

4. The desolation of their house was 1 of 7 messianic signs given to the Jews associated with the first coming of Jesus Christ (Acts 4:10-12; 13:23-41).

- Virgin birth of Christ (Matt.1:20-23)
- John Baptist prophetic forerunner of Christ (John 1:19-34)
- Messianic miracles (Luke 4:17-21).
- Crucifixion and resurrection of Christ (Matt.12:39-40; John 1:11; 2:19-21)
- Spiritual gift of Tongues (1 Cor.14:21-22)
- Fall of Jerusalem (Matt.23:37-39)
- Destruction of temple (Mark 13:2)

5. The Olivet Discourse establishes the fact there is an interval between First Coming of Jesus Christ and the 5th cycle to Israel and the Abomination of Desolation and the Second Coming of Christ.

This interval is known as the mystery doctrine of the Church (Eph.3).

This interval is known as the beginning of birth pangs and not the END.

6. The house of desolation passage established the principle that a client nation's final heritage is desolation apart from faith in gospel of Jesus Christ (Acts 28:17-28).

"Let it known to you therefore, that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will also listen." (Acts 28:28) (Acts 4:10-12)

We will divide the study the Olivet Discourse into the following four lessons.

- Mark 13:1-13 – House of Desolation – warning of the 5th cycle
- Mark 13:14-23 – Abomination of Desolation
- Mark 13:24-27 – Second Coming of Christ
- Mark 13:28-37 – Two parables of the Second Coming of Christ

Pay special attention to the words *see (blepo)* and *hear (akouo)* (13:2,5,7); (13:14); (13:23, 26); and (13: 29, 33).