

Pastor's Pen

Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), 16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. Matthew 24:15-16

Jesus, in the Olivet Discourse, warned of a future event that Daniel had also prophesied. The prophet wrote his book around 540 B.C., over 500 years before Christ. Jesus' warning refers to the moment when the last half of the tribulation period will begin. John MacArthur writes the following about this event;

"In his parallel passage, Luke adds that Jesus said, "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is at hand" (21:20). In other words, it is while Jerusalem is encompassed by enemy nations who threaten to destroy her that this sign will occur. For several decades, the modern nation of Israel has increasingly become a major focal point of world events, events that involve not only the Middle East but also the great powers of the United States, Russia, China, and many nations of Europe. Naval fleets from the United States and Russia continue to grow in strength and readiness in the Mediterranean Sea, the Arabian Sea, the Persian Gulf, and the other great bodies of water in that part of the world. During the end times, the Antichrist will head a confederacy of ten European nations that will generally correspond to the territory of the ancient Roman empire (see Dan. 7:24; cf. 2:40–43), and he will at first pretend to be Israel's deliverer from her enemies, and she will make an alliance with him (9:27). But after he is victorious over the nations from the south, north, and east who have come against Israel, he will reveal his true evil character and his hatred for Israel and for God (Dan. 11:40–45). It is while occupying Israel under the guise of being her protector that the Antichrist will commit the abomination of desolation."

What is this abomination? Paul writes about it in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, *Let no one in any way deceive you, for it has not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called God or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the sanctuary of God, exhibiting himself as being God.* The abomination of desolation will occur in the middle of the Tribulation. After breaking the treaty with Israel (Daniel 9:27), He will make war on God's chosen people, *And it was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him. 8 And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain* (Rev.13:7-8). At this time an image of the Beast is set up in the temple, and all are commanded to worship the Antichrist. The false prophet will perform great signs and wonders to promote the worship of the Antichrist and even enable an image of the Beast to talk and cause the deaths of those who refuse to worship (Rev13: 11–15). When Jesus says, "let the reader understand", He is warning not the Apostles but future believers of what was to occur during the beginning of the Great Tribulation. If you are a Christian, a follower of Christ, rejoice in knowing that the Lord will come again to reclaim the title of earth. However, if you are not a follower of Jesus, be afraid, be very afraid. Now is the time of mercy and grace. Now is the day to receive Christ as Savior. Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Quote of the Week

"Resolution One: I will live for God.
Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will."
-Jonathan Edwards

Grace Gems

Chance, accident, luck—or Divine Providence!

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid—you are worth more than many sparrows!" Matthew 10:29-31

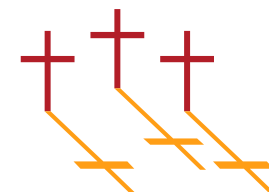
J.C. Ryle: "There is no such thing as chance, luck or accident in the Christian journey through this world. All is arranged and appointed by God. And all things are working together for the believer's good!"

Charles Spurgeon: "All things are ordained of God and are settled by Him, according to His wise and holy predestination. Whatever happens here on earth—happens not by chance, but according to the counsel of the Most High!"

Louis Berkhof: "Scripture everywhere teaches that even the minutest details of life are of divine ordering!"

Charles Spurgeon: "The best remedy for affliction, is sweet submission to God's providence. What can't be cured, must be endured!"

Matthew Henry: "God who feeds the sparrows—will not starve His saints! God controls all the concerns of His people, even of those that are most minute, and least regarded. This is an encouragement to live in a continual dependence upon God's providential care! If God numbers our hairs, much more does He number our heads. He takes care of our lives, our needs, our concerns, and our souls. God's universal providence extends itself to all creatures, and to all their actions—even the smallest and most minute!"



Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes
Ladies Class
Young Adults Young Parents
Youth Surge
Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM

Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM
Men's Bible Study
1st and 3rd Saturday
Women of Grace | 9AM

Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
every other week @ Chambers, Cox's,
Patrick's, Brown's and Royall's

Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team
and forgot to sign up, please contact the
team leader at the appropriate email
address.

Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study and AWANA!

Service Times

Sunday Services 8AM & 11:00AM
Sunday School 9:30AM
Children's Church @11:00AM

Giving from service on 03/19/2023

General Offering 8,249.03
Building Fund 1,703.50
Uganda Missions 55.00
Uganda Mission Trip 655.00

Total.....10,662.53
Attendance 251
Online.....30

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



Grace Harvest
Baptist Church
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ghbcva.org | 804.561.3742
9821 South Redfield Drive, Amelia, VA 23002

Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Mar 26, 2023

Welcome