

**ISRAEL**  
**PROGRAM 15 (#911175)**  
**WEEK 3 (#911335)**  
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**SERIES: Israel**

**TITLE: Program 15 – Sequence Of Events Leading To the End**

**FRIDAY**

**OPEN**

I'm standing on the windy Mount of Olives overlooking the old city of Jerusalem. Between me and the city of Jerusalem is the Valley of Jehoshaphat. This is a valley that is some day going to be filled with blood that will come up as high as the bridal on a horse. These are the days that are about to come and that's what we'll look at today from the Word of God.

**PART ONE**

You know what I wish would be happening right now? I wish that you were sitting with me here at the Tear Drop Church on the Mount of Olives, like so many do, when I teach them the Word of God. We usually don't need an overcoat, because it's in the Spring and it's absolutely beautiful. But since you're not here with me, what I want to do is I want to orient you to where we are. Because we're in just the most significant place you can be if you really want to understand prophecy, if you really want to know what's going

on. So let me take you for a few minutes and show you where we are in the city of Jerusalem. As I told you, I'm on the Mount of Olives. If you were to go to your right, on this mount, we would go to the Garden of Gethsemane which is just a little bit below us. Then we would cross the Kidron Valley. It's also called the Valley of Jehosaphat. This is a valley that goes all the way up to Har Megiddo, to the ruins of Armageddon, to where Solomon had the stables with all of his horses. This valley runs all the way down to Petra. So from Armageddon, all the way to Petra, past the city of Jerusalem is about 200 miles. All right, now, over my shoulder is a sealed gate. That sealed gate is called the Eastern Gate, the Golden Gate. And they believe that in the time of Jesus that from that gate, all the way across this valley, there was a bridge, a bridge that would take them right out of the Temple mount to the Mount of Olives. All right, now, that Eastern Gate is very significant. And let me show you why. Open your Bibles to Ezekiel. All right. And we want to go to Ezekiel, chapter 44, because you hear about this Eastern Gate and you hear that this Eastern Gate is going to be closed or has been closed and so let's see what God has to say about it. In Ezekiel 44, it says, "Then he brought me back by the way of the outer gate of the sanctuary, which faces the east; and it was shut." (Ezekiel 44:1) That gate faces east. Why? Because whenever the tabernacle was set up or whenever the Temple was built, it was always pitched to the east. It had one door, only one door by which you could enter, showing us the truth, that Jesus is the only to God. In John, chapter 10, he says, "...I am the door [into] the sheep[fold]." (John 10:7b) He's the door. He's the way. So it was always pitched in the east, in the light of the rising sun. So in Ezekiel, chapter 44 it says, "[And] the Lord said to me, '[The gate,] This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, and no one shall enter by it, for the Lord God of Israel has entered by it; therefore it [will] be shut.'" (Ezekiel 44:2) This is the gate that is going to be shut until Messiah comes. In front of that gate you see a cemetery. It's a Muslim cemetery. And because this was a sacred place to

the Jews, it became a political move for the Arabs then to bury their dead there, thinking then the Jews would never come into an unclean cemetery and possibly because they hear that Messiah would enter through that gate and they thought that He would never walk through a cemetery, so that's why they buried their dead there. You see, we forget that God is far greater than all of that. That gate someday will be open and the King shall come in, the King of Glory. All right, now let me show you where else we are. Behind me is the Golden Dome of the Rock. All right. Now that Golden Dome of the Rock, underneath there, there's a rock on which they believe Abraham offered Isaac. All right, and more to the right of that Golden Dome, would be where you would find the Holy of Holies. And they believe that that's where the Holy of Holies was because there was like a cavern going down where the blood from the sacrifices, and remember hundreds of sacrifices were made there, so that blood would go down through there and come out under the wall and come down here into the Kidron Valley. Or what is it called? You're right, it's the Valley of Jehosaphat. All right now, imagine there the Temple, because someday, the Temple will be rebuilt on that spot. We're going to study it as we look at Matthew, chapter 24 and as we look at Luke, chapter 21 and continue exploring those chapters to see all that God has for us so that you and I know what is going to come to pass. To the right of the Temple would be Antonio's fortress, or what we call the Praetorian. That's the place where Jesus was tried. That's the place where Jesus was scourged for you and me. That's the place where, as they stood out before that at the homoeke, where they said, "Behold the Man." So this is where they shouted, ["Give us Barabas! Give us Barabas!"] When Pilate said, "Who should I release to you in this time of the feast?", because it was normal to release a prisoner, "would I release to you Jesus or would I release to you Barabas?" And so they shouted and they said, "Give us Barabas! Give us Barabas!"] (PARAPHRASE, Luke 23:18-21) All right now, follow me again. Let's leave the Antonio fortress. Let's go along the Temple

Mount, past the Eastern Gate, past the Golden Dome, we would come to the southern steps. All right, now the southern steps are on the side of the city of David. Well, you have to remember, that when Jerusalem, it was Jebusite city, and when Jerusalem then was conquered by David, David built his city. And so the city of David would come from the Temple Mount on down and eventually what you would do is if you kept on going, you would go around to the Valley of Gehennan. And that's where they burned the trash. And that's where they had a fire going all the time. And that's what became a symbol of torment. Now what's going happen in this valley? What's going to happen on that Temple Mount? Some very, very significant things are going to happen. And you know what, beloved? I believe that you and I need to know these things and understand these things so that you can look up and I can look up knowing this, that our redemption draws nigh. Now we've been looking in this series on prophecy at two major chapters in the New Testament, two major teachings of Jesus. One of those is in Luke, chapter 21 and the other one is in Matthew, chapter 24. And both of these have to do with the time that is near the end before Jesus is to be crucified. And when He comes out of the Temple and He sees the people putting in their gifts and they stop to notice the Temple and they begin to talk about the Temple. And they talk about how beautiful it is. And then Jesus says that not one stone is going to be left upon another. It's all going to be torn down. Now He's talking about the destruction of the second temple. The first Temple was built by Solomon. The second temple was rebuilt after the captivity in the days of Ezra and finished in the day of Haggai. That's the second Temple. Then that Temple which was nothing in comparison to Solomon's Temple was refurnished, refurbished, enlarged and made very, very beautiful by Herod. So that's the Herodian Temple, the temple, Herod's Temple is what they call it, that Jesus is talking about. Now all of this provokes them to ask Jesus, "...what will be the sign of Your coming..."(Matthew 24:3b) What will be the sign of the end? What will take place when they get ready to tear

down this Temple, when one stone's not left upon another? If you want to understand the answer to those questions in the sequence of their events, you really have to begin with Luke, chapter 21. And what I want you to do is see the sequence of events. The first thing that's going to happen is the destruction of the Temple. Now the destruction of the Temple is going to happen in 70 A.D. Of course Jesus does not tell them the year. But He tells them, "[That] when [they saw] Jerusalem surrounded by armies..." Luke, chapter 21. "...then recognize that her desolation, [Jerusalem's desolation] is [at hand]. Then [let] those who are in Judea...flee [into] the mountains..."(Luke 21:20-21a) Then He says, "...[let] those who are in the...city [depart]...[let not] those who are in the country...enter the city..."(21:21b) Why? Because this city is going to be the focus of the siege. This city is going to be totally, absolutely destroyed. What happened during that time was terrible. All right and then He says, "...because these are days of vengeance, [in order] that all things which are written [may] be fulfilled."(21:22) Now they're days vengeance because Israel has not walked with God. Really what is happening is it's a fulfillment of the curses that God says He's going to bring upon His people. Those curses are recorded for us in Deuteronomy, chapter 28. When He talks about the city being destroyed. He talks about the city being besieged. He talks about the siege being so bad and lasting so long that actually, the famine and He talks about how they're going to even eat their young. And that's what happened when this city was destroyed in 70 A.D. by the Romans.

## **PART TWO**

When you look at Luke 21 and He says, ["Flee and run,"] He's talking about the destruction that would come in 70 A.D. Now Jesus had told them about this before and I just want to show you where it is so that you will have it and you will understand it. In Luke, chapter 19, in verse 41, Jesus is approaching the city. He's coming down the Mount of Olives. He's coming

down what we call the Palm Sunday road, the road that comes from the top of Mount of Olives and takes us down into the Kidron Valley. And as he approached the city, He saw it and He wept over it. He wept because of the destruction that was going to come. And He said, "... 'If you had known this day, even...the things which make for peace! But...[these] have been hidden from your eyes.'" (Luke 19:41-42) Now listen, they could have known what was happening if they had been students of the Word of God. Because what was about to happen was written about, was predicted in the book of Daniel, in Daniel, chapter 9, in the prophecy of the 70 years or the 70 sevens of Daniel. So they could have figured it out. And this, my friend is why it's so important for you and I to study the Word of God. Because God tells us in Amos that ["God does nothing but what He lets us know through His prophets ahead of time."] (PARAPHRASE Amos 3:7) We're God's children. We're God's family when we belong to Jesus Christ and when we belong to God the Father. And God doesn't want these days that are coming to overtake us or to catch us unaware. And that's why what we're studying is so very important. So He says in verse 43 of Luke 19, "For the days [shall] come upon you when your enemies will throw up a [bank around] you, and surround you and hem you in on every side, and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because..." listen, "...because you did not recognize the time of your visitation." (Luke 19:43-44) because you didn't study the Scriptures, because you didn't see that when Daniel talked about this time, when Daniel talked about the Prince who is to come and how Messiah would be cut off and the time that he laid out in Daniel, and we're not going to study that right now. But they could have known. They could have known because He told them exactly. They could have almost named practically the year when Jesus would come into that city. They could have known that if they had studied the Word of God. Do you see, my friend, how important it is that you study the Bible, that you know it, that you make it your very

food, day and night? Well now, let's go on. And let's go to Matthew, chapter 24. Because in Matthew, chapter 24, He answers the question of what it's going to be like: when will the end come? And so He tells them in Matthew 24, as I've told you already in a previous program. In Matthew 24, in verses 1 through verse 14, He lays out what's going to happen just before the end comes. But then He makes a statement that shows us how we move from the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., (now listen carefully) to the destruction of Jerusalem that is yet going to take place in the future. All the turmoil that's going on in this land, as I sit here, I hear the minarets and I hear the Muslim call to prayer. I hear the ringing of the church bells in the background. I see the orthodox Jews walking through the streets. This is truly a metropolitan, cosmopolitan city where you find Jews and Gentiles and Christians and all of that. It's because now is the time of the Gentiles. And now they're trampling down the holy city. But there's a time coming when things are going to change. The Jews are going to be allowed to rebuild their Temple. They going to be allowed to rebuild it and it's going to be right over here on the Temple Mount. It won't be any other place because they would never build it anyplace but where God designated. You say, "Well what's going to happen to the Golden Dome?" Well, either the Temple will be beside it or the Golden Dome will be gone. Personally, I believe the Golden Dome will be gone. How it will disappear I don't know. Whether it will be an earthquake that destroys it or whether it will be a political negotiation. We only know that there will be a Temple rebuilt there, now listen to me very carefully, before, Jesus Christ comes again to rule and reign on the face of this earth. How do we know that? Well there's several scriptures that tell us that. But one of the main scriptures is Matthew, chapter 24. In Matthew, chapter 24, He has just finished telling them that the end is coming and that the gospel of the kingdom will be preached unto all the world and then the end shall come. He says, "Therefore..." in verse 15, "...when you see the abomination of desolation which [is] spoken of through

Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place...,” And then it says, “...(let the reader understand), then [let] those who are in Judea...flee [into] the mountains.”(Matthew 24:15-16) And we’re going to look at some more of that later. But what I want you to see and understand this, He says, “When you see the abomination of desolation standing in the holy place,” The holy place is the place that only the priests could go into. In the holy place and it was divided into two parts, the holy place and the most holy place, or the holy place and the holy of holies. And it’s separated by a veil. Until the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem, when you walked into the holy place on the right you would have the table of showbread, the bread of the face of God’s presence. On the left you would have the menorah, the seven-branch candlestick, the only light that was in that holy place. Then you would turn and you would face the veil. My back would be to the east and my face would be to the west. This is why the Jews go to the western wall and that’s where they pray, because it’s the closest place to the holy of holies and the holy place. All right, the table of showbread to the right, the menorah to the left and right in front would be the altar of incense. And what separates the holy place from the holy of holies would be a veil. All right, beyond the veil is the most holy place, or the holy of holies. Now when that is rebuilt up here they will either have the Ark of the Covenant to place back in that holy of holies because they will have discovered it wherever it is hidden, or that place will be empty. Nothing else would ever be put into the holy of holies. Now what’s going to happen? Well on one fateful day at one moment in time the abomination of desolation, that’s spoken of by Daniel the prophet, will walk into the holy of holies and the time will start and three and a half years later Jesus will be here. We want to study it in our next session.