

The Destruction of the Temple

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By [Nathan Jones](#)

Vic: Our subject matter will be that of the destruction of the temple found in Matthew chapter 24. And of course, Nathan, today's program is very exciting because we're going to talk about a topic that is very important and one that maybe a lot of people are not too aware of when it comes to Bible Prophecy and that is this incredible prophecies that are found in Matthew chapter 24 and I was gonna ask, Nathan, if you might be able to open us up by reading Matthew chapter 24 verses 1 and 2, if you happen to have your Bible handy? Would that be ok?

Nathan: That'd be great. I'll be reading out of the New King James version. Matthew 24 starting in verse 1, "Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not *one* stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

Vic: Amazing. A prophecy that were going to notice here the destruction of this temple, but Nathan I was gonna ask you if you would take us back in a little bit of a journey through history regarding the Israel temples that were built even back to the time of Solomon, right, Nathan?

Nathan: Oh certainly, certainly. Well the temple was the center piece of all Jewish life. It was in Jerusalem, it was on Mount Moriah where Abraham was supposedly going to sacrifice his some Isaac and so it has a long history there. It was called Bethelohime which means the house of Yahweh. It's where God Himself lived in a particular room called the Holy of Holies deep within the temple. Now King David around 1000 BC wanted to build a temple, but God said, "You know you are a man of blood with your hands in all the wars and I want a man of peace to build my house." So his son Solomon, David collected all the materials to build it, but it was actually his son Solomon who built it, basically about 3,000 years ago.

Vic: Wow.

Nathan: And inside it housed the Shekinah glory of God. It rested on the Ark of the Covenant and the Ark of the Covenant was what the Israelites would carry around with them with the Tablets of the Law and Aarons rod that budded and the pot of Manna and they would bring that into the battle field and God would use His power through that to defeat their enemies, but in the temple, it rested inside the Holy of Holies. Now before the temple, actually, the Israelites had a tabernacle, it was a tent version of it they could travel around with it as they wondered around the wilderness for 40 years, but David had a passion for making a temple and his son Solomon handled that. Now the temple lasted a little over four hundred years as the Israelites began to sin and pull away from God, God pulled back His protection and more judgment came upon them and by 586 the Babylonians came down, they destroyed Judah and they destroyed the

temple in Jerusalem and the Jews were exiled up into the Babylonian area which is present day Iraq. And there the temple was destroyed and Jerusalem was destroyed. Only the poorest of people were left and it was just rubble. But then we get about 50 years later and Zerubbabel was sent back by an edict from Cyrus a hundred sixty years earlier was prophesied that Cyrus would receive the edict a hundred a sixty years earlier which is an amazing prophecy Isaiah 4:28, you gotta go to that. He prophesied that a man named Cyrus would make an edict to have Ezra go back and start rebuilding the temple. So about 50 years later between 538 and 515 BC Zerubbabel rebuilt the temple that was called the second temple. Now it wasn't very impressive compared to Solomon's temple, Israel didn't have a lot of money and so King Harod between about 20 BC or so, he came and around and he was a great builder and he restored the temple and he made it magnificent again and he brought a lot of wealth back into the temple and that was the temple of Jesus's time called the Second Temple.

Vic: That is awesome. And Nathan, of course that temple if I'm not mistaken, it was looked at as one of the wonders of the world, right?

Nathan: Yea, yea, I believe it was one of the Seven Wonders of the World. I mean this think was an architectural wonder. And again the dimensions of it were the parallel of what God's throne room look like. So it was God's throne room miniature. And it was paled with all sorts of cedar wood, the floors were made of Cyprus wood, the whole thing was inlaid with gold, they had all sorts of decorations like floral designs, pomegranates, flowers and palm trees. They had these huge carved doors made of wood and gold, it was made out of hewn carved stone and had all these furnishings. Of course it had the Ark of the Covenant if anyone watched Indiana Jones or Raiders of the Lost Ark, they get an idea of what the Ark looked like. Inside the Holy of Holies there was two 15 foot tall cherubim statues with wings that spanned 15 feet, two giant pillars, it had a bronze alter that was 30 foot square by 15 feet tall, it had something called the molten sea it was like a giant tub that held 10,000 gallons it was on the back 12 bronze ox that were the size of three, it had washing utensils called the Lavers, there were ten of them and then Harod when he came, of course a lot of that was taken away by the Babylonians, but Harod brought a lot of the wealth back in. He made a great veil across the Holy of Holies that no none could enter, but the high priest, it had a seven branch lampstand called a Menorah today, it had porches and courts and all of Israel went to Jerusalem to worship in there. And all the money was brought there. Now the great wealth of the temple is what the disciples were seeing when they were with Jesus up at the temple mount, they got to the temple and they were just amazed by it. You can actually, Matthew 24 is a parallel passage to Luke 21 and Mark 13 and you can read that the story which were about to cover in Luke 21:37 said each day Jesus was teaching at the temple and each evening He went out to spend the night on the hill called the Mount of Olives and the people came early in the morning to hear him in the temple. So Jesus was preaching in the temple and Luke 21 starts this famous story which you and I know, it says as He looked up Jesus say the rich putting their gifts in the temple treasury and He also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins and He said, "I tell you the truth this woman has put in more than all the others. All these people gave out of their wealth, but she gave out of her poverty, all she had to live on." So all the disciples had this lesson that they're seeing all this wealth all this money pouring, these are poor people, these are farmers and fisherman and you know they basically live in you know, mud and huts, to them going to see the temple would be like us going to see the Taj Mahal or congress. It was a building beyond belief for them and so

in verse 5 of Luke 21 says, "Some of His disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God." So that's the background of the story as we get into Matthew is that it was an amazing place, the disciples were amazed at how just the wealth that came through in it and then Jesus said something really amazing.

Vic: And you know, Nathan, this is why we're sharing these details because maybe to someone who's just turning to the pages of Matthew chapter 24 they might not be very aware of all these details, but it gives us now more of an appreciation to listen to the words that Jesus was saying that you were about to share for us.

Nathan: Yea I mean it's important I understand to have the background of the temple. The temple was the place where God dwelled, where God dwelled on earth. Now because sin separates us from God, man couldn't be in His presence so He had His Shekinah glory, His Holy Spirit in the Holy of Holies and once a year the high priest could go in and make a sacrifice of sprinkling blood on the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the Covenant and burn incense and that was the one time where a man got to be before God the priest was representing those who were in God's covenant to God. Now I look forward to the day when we get to be before God face-to-face. Because this Second Temple that was destroyed in 70 AD, there will be other temples in the future, but I'm getting ahead of myself, aren't I?

Vic: You know what Nathan? I think that this is why I believe these details are very important because now when we get into the prediction of the destruction of this temple often times we might take for granted what we're reading here, but Nathan, correct me if I'm wrong, but just one stone that was used to be part of this temple, weighed something like ten tons or a crazy size that it was, right?

Nathan: The temple that's in Israel today is not the temple of Jesus' time. I mean it's the same location the same place, but Jesus made a prophecy, that we just read in Matthew 24, "And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not *one* stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." So here's Jesus and here's the disciples sitting here and they're amazed at all this wealth, this is God's home and then Jesus says, "You know what? This place isn't going to exist anymore." Can you imagine? That'd be like someone coming up and saying, "Do you know what? The White House won't exist tomorrow."

Vic: Right, right.

Nathan: Or "You know what? The Taj Mahal won't exist." Any of the greatest buildings of the world and not only that it was God's home so they thought, "God would never abandon His home." And yet Jesus said, "Do you not see these things? I promise you that none of these things will be here."

Vic: Right and Nathan, I think that's what blew some of these disciples away is there saying, "Jesus, what did you just say?" Right?

Nathan: Exactly. I mean like those old movies where all the sudden the telephones stop ringing and you don't hear people typing anymore, everything gets silent and everyone turns. The disciples, I bet they all had their mouths hanging open and you know, they're eyes were bugging

out, there was silence and they just looked at Jesus, like what are you talking about? This is your father's home. This is the center of religious worship in Jerusalem. How can you say that this won't be here anymore? And at first the Pharisees, they were listening too because they used this prophecy against Jesus when they were trying Him just before the crucifixion. But Jesus made a prophecy that the temple would be destroyed and not only just destroyed, but that not one stone would be left upon another, each would be thrown down.

Vic: And you know, Nathan, that's why this prophecy is so incredible. Here Jesus in a sense was going out on a limb because let me tell you, this right here was a prophecy that if it didn't come through, right? I mean He would just be labeled as a false prophet.

Nathan: Right. Jesus had to fulfill 100% of His prophecies that He made throughout the Old Testament with the angel of the Lord and that He made in the New Testament, otherwise, yea you're right. He is a fraud. That's how in Deuteronomy we're told how we can find out who is a false prophet. It says that if not 100% of their prophecies come true, they're a false prophet and don't be afraid of them. We have many false prophets today.

Vic: And you know Nathan, that's a very good point because here we have people like Nostradamus and some others and so many people fall for these lies, right? And they claim these people were prophets, but we realize, not all their prophecies always came true.

Nathan: Exactly and if they don't come true, you can't trust them. But we can trust Jesus because every single prophecy...you know in the Old Testament, there was 300 general prophecies, 109 distinct prophecies that Jesus was the messiah. He fulfilled all 109 distinct prophecies. Now the odds of that and it's been calculated by a mathematician is astronomical, it's off the charts, it's impossible, but it's not impossible with God and Jesus fulfilled all those prophecies. So when He made the 500 prophecies in the Old Testament and 120 prophecies in the New Testament about His Second Coming, we can be 100% sure that Jesus will return just as He promised.

Vic: Amen. And that's why we say the Bible is so trustworthy and we would encourage everyone tuned into this program, you need to read Matthew 24, its just incredible prophecies and of course our lines are open and you're tuned into The Truth Will Set You Free Bible Prophecy Edition, Vic Batista, Nathan Jones as we talk about the destruction of Harod's temple in Matthew chapter 24. Our local phone number is 305-992-9537. Feel free to call us or text us at any moment. So Nathan, again this is just wonderful background regarding the temple and here Jesus makes this astounding prophecy, not like Nostradamus or any modern day prophets that sometimes things come true, sometimes they don't, right?

Nathan: Exactly, exactly. We cannot trust prophecies from man. As soon as one goes wrong and doesn't happen, you know people try and spiritualize them away, but unless a prophecy is 100% true just as the prophets said then we cannot trust them. Only, only the Bible gives us prophesy that comes true 100% of the time.

Vic: And you know so Nathan, take us a little bit fast forwards, so verse 1 of Matthew 24 you read to us there regarding the temple, His disciples they showed Him the building of the temple and then verse 2 says, And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I

say to you, not *one* stone shall be left here upon another that shall not be thrown down." So move us forward in history, talk to us about this event right here.

Nathan: Sure, sure. Well, if we can get into verse 3 just to give you a little background if I can read it, it says, "Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" So the disciples finally got the nerve to ask Jesus, "How can this be possible, how can this be happening?" And basically when you read Luke 21 and Matthew 24 altogether. They were asking three questions.

Vic: Yes.

Nathan: When will this temple fall? What will be the signs of the end of the age? And what will be the sign of Jesus's coming? So they're really asking three questions for three time periods. So to answer your question, "When did the temple fall?" Actually I have to give you, Pastor Vic, two answers to that, because prophets of Jesus, because prophesy comes from God, usually has a near and a far fulfillment. Did you ever used to watch Grover on Sesame Street?

Vic: Yes, yes.

Nathan: And you remember Grover was notorious for teaching you, near and far. You know he'd run back to the back of the set and he'd say "far" and then he'd run up to the front "near" and he taught us the difference between near and far and with prophetic perspective we have near and far fulfillments of prophesy. Now in this case the near fulfillment of the temple being destroyed would be in 70 AD and I'll go into detail into that in just a minute so that is the near fulfillment of it. Now the other question, they wanted the far fulfillment was the end of our age, the end of our time, the end of the Church Age and I would argue, the time we are living in now.

Vic: Yes.

Nathan: And then, which Grover didn't teach us is there is a farther view, it points to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, a future time. So we're actually talking about two temple destructions, one near, in the New Testament which happened in 70 AD and one far, which will happen just before Jesus comes at the Second Coming.

Nathan: Excellent and you know, Nathan, thank you for making that distinction because when we read those verses slowly and we divide it up, we can see that that's really divided into separate portions and often times I only catch two, but you tell us there are three different distinct things there that will be happening.

Nathan: Yes, yes. I mean they're asking three separate questions relating to the temple. When will the temple fall? What will be the sign of the end of the age? And what will be the sign of Jesus's Coming? So they already were asking, "When is He coming back?" They knew that the kingdom was coming and they wanted to know. Now to answer your question then, the first time the very temple that they were walking around in up on the temple mount that was so glorious and so covered in gold and Herod had built the porticoes and it was just an amazing place beyond what any poor dirt farmer could imagine and Jesus said that it would be destroyed. Now Judah or Judea as it was called by the Romans was notorious for rebelling against the Roman

Empire. The Hebrews just hated Rome and its control. Zealots and rioters were always out there trying to break away from the Roman Empire and the Romans, especially Pontius Pilate did not handle rebellions well at all. Anytime a riot or a protest would break out, it's not like in the United States where we shoot them with water cans and rubber bullets. They would send the centurion brought his troops in, the Legion would destroy all the people and that would stop the rebellion.

Vic: They were the elite soldiers, right?

Nathan: Yea. I mean we're not talking about there was no, the Romans did everything expedient and ruthlessly and there was no mercy. And so the Jews again around 57 AD were starting to rebel against Rome and finally, Rome was like we've had it, it's enough of Judea and we can destroy them if we destroy their capital city and the temple, that will dissolution and it will disperse the Jews to the corners of the earth. And that's exactly what they did. They sent their general Titus Vespasian who which later would become a Ceaser himself and they sent him with four Legions of Roman troops. And these four Legions came down, they besieged Jerusalem for about three years, they starved the people and there's all sorts of accounts through Josephus and other historians about the suffering that went on in Jerusalem as the people starved. They even resorted to cannibalism, but eventually the Romans broke through the walls of Jerusalem, they stormed it, the stormed the... I guess you could say the palace, they also went into a frantic destructive frenzy. They set fire to the temple, now the fire melted the gold and the gold seeped down between the rocks of the temple mount and the Romans were so desperate to get that gold, they pried the stones apart to get the gold that had melted and then was solidified between the cracks. By the time they were done, not one stone was left on another just as Jesus said. Now today you can go and stand at what's called the Wailing Wall, the western wall and people say it's that part of the temple? It's not it's a retaining wall and holds the dirt up around the temple mount, but it's not really the temple mount and so that's all that's left and that's why they go and wail at it because the Jews want a temple to be rebuilt one day and one day there will be according to prophesy.

Vic: That's amazing.

Nathan: Now all this I just talked to you about we could read about in the prophets, especially Daniel, that the Legions would come and destroy the temple. As a matter a fact the antichrist, the one world ruler coming would come from the people who destroyed the temple. So the temple was prophesied to be destroyed in Daniel's time, a second time. Now remember Daniel was in exile. There was no temple to destroy.

Vic: That's right.

Nathan: It hadn't been rebuilt yet. And he was prophesying that the temple would be destroyed again and that the people would be the Romans. So that's how today we know the antichrist will rise from Rome, the European Union because he is of the people who destroyed the temple.

Vic: Excellent point. And of course, Nathan, we'll definitely be able to recapture some of those details on our next segment of the program following this one. And you know, Nathan, and of

course the great details of this prophecy, you made such a great point so of course the Roman soldiers were trying to get at this gold and therefore the prophecy came to be complete regarding, "not one stone will be upon another," because they were trying to get what was there, the value, right?

Nathan: Correct. I mean they walked off with all the furnishing inside the temple building. As a matter a fact you can go and see the Arch of Titus encaved on with the Jews being...with the Romans carrying including the giant Menorah and bringing back, Titus was vicious and he absolutely annihilated Jerusalem and yes, just as Jesus said the temple was destroyed in 70 AD. Not one stone was left upon another, the Jews, the nation of Israel was absolutely destroyed and the people dispersed to the four corners of the world that so many prophesies especially the Minor Prophets prophesied that one day would happen.

Vic: An amazing prophesy. And thank you Nathan. And what great details, we pray that anyone tuned in would just take hold of these incredible truths from the word of God that Jesus Christ was a true prophet and the only true prophet. Everything in the word of God that the Bible says is going to happen will happen in detail. So we pray that you will also stay tuned to out next segment of the program, but Nathan, thank you so much for sharing with us and for being part of this segment of the program and for giving us the wonderful insight into the destruction of the temple.

Nathan: Thanks for having me on, Pastor Vic, always a pleasure.

Part 2

Vic: Of course today's subject matter will be that of the destruction of Harod's temple found in Matthew chapter 24. So Nathan, always a pleasure to have you on. Well we started this incredible segment in our last program regarding the destruction of the temple and you gave us some incredible insights that really were eye-opening and educational and we looked here at just more in detail of what really happened and what the temple was like, but Nathan I was gonna ask you if maybe you would read for us Matthew chapter 24: 1-3 and give us a recap of those verses as we move forward then talking about the destruction of the temple.

Nathan: I'd be happy to. Matthew 24 is also parallel to Luke 21 and Mark 13, they're all the same account of Jesus, but from different points of views of the different apostles. And it's also one of the most prophetic chapters in all the Bible.

Vic: Yes.

Nathan: So Matthew 24:1-2, "Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say to you, not *one* stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

Vic: Amazing. And you know, Nathan, as we look here also you mentioned on verse 3, "Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will

these things be? And what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" And you also share with us that that's really a three part question, right, Nathan?

Nathan: Yea the disciples, of course they'd been under Jesus's teaching this was near the end of His ministry and Jesus was now teaching in the temple and we're getting to the final week of His life here on earth and there at the temple and Jesus shocks them. I mean here they are in the greatest building in all of Israel, like you said before one of the Seven Wonders of the World, people were having to flock to it to worship God, to make sacrifices for their sins. It's where God supposedly dwells with man and Jesus says, "You know what? This is going to be destroyed, as a matter a fact it's going to be so destroyed that not one stone will be left upon another." And you can imagine the apostles must have been in shock. Later as a matter a fact they were so in shock, it says later they went to the Mount of Olives which they would have had to cross the Kidron Valley and gone up the other side to the Mount of Olives and they're at the Mount of Olives and all the sudden they finally get the gumption to ask Jesus and what they really ask Him is three questions. One, when will the temple fall? I mean when is this gonna happen? Number two, what will be the sign of the end of the age? The age of grace, the church age, the age that we're living in now. And number three, what will be the sign of your coming? So what will be the sign of Jesus's Second Coming. So they were already...they were not sure about what His Second Coming was, but they knew that the Messiah was coming to take His throne and we knew that Jesus died and that He will return. So what they're asking is, when will the temple fall? What will be the sign of the end of the age? And what will be the sign of Jesus's coming? Three separate questions.

Vic: Incredible. And of course, Nathan, and you gave us some incredible details regarding, you fast-forwarded for us regarding the building of the temples and also how that temple of Harod's time was destroyed and Titus came in, as you told us, with the Roman soldiers, right, Nathan? And they desecrated the temple and as you mentioned to us, because it was overlaid with gold, right?

Nathan: Yea I mean the Romans after three years of putting Jerusalem under siege they'd wiped out whole forests of trees to keep their army going. They were ready for booty, they were ready to get paid and they got paid with plunder and so they marched in and they burned Jerusalem to the ground. They went into the temple, they set it on fire and it melted all the gold inlaid and it dripped down in-between the stones and so they actually pried up all the stones and threw them over the walls to get a the gold as it melted between the stones and just as Jesus prophesied, "Not one stone was left upon another." So by 70 AD Jerusalem was destroyed, the temple was destroyed and the people of the Jews were cast out onto the four corners of the world, which was prophesied many, many times in the Old Testament. That because of their rejection of God and of course, Jesus as the Messiah, that they would be exiled out into the world until Jesus was ready to regather them back into a nation again, which we've seen today, Israel's a nation again and that would be the time just before Jesus's return.

Vic: Wow that is amazing. And of course, Nathan, now of course you were fast-forwarding for us the events that Daniel prophesies that will take us into the time of the Tribulation and into the last days regarding the temple, that there would have to be another temple, right? So the first

segment was up to the destruction of the temple that you referred to in Matthew chapter 24, signs of His coming, the end of the age. Can you talk to us a little bit more about that?

Nathan: Sure. Well, for the one, when will the temple fall? Is a two part answer. Now we talked about the first temple, the first temple was Solomon's temple. He built it in 1000 AD, it lasted a little over three about to about 586 and that's when the Babylonians destroyed it and so that's when the first temple was destroyed. Ezra about 50 or so years later came back and started the reconstruction of the second temple and the second temple was enhanced and added on to much greater by Harod the Great. He was a great builder and he came in and he added all sorts of porticoes and he made it as amazing as the apostles saw, so that was the second temple. Now the second temple was destroyed in 70 AD just as Jesus said, but Jesus also answered their question by saying the temple will fall again.

Vic: Right.

Nathan: We talked a little earlier about how prophecy has a near fulfillment and a far fulfillment and when the apostles ask Him those three questions they were addressing three different time periods. Now there's no temple in our time I've been to the Temple Mount three times and all you see up there is the Dome of the Rock and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Those are the two buildings that are there. There's also a little portico that kinda denotes were the Holy of Holies might have been, but other than that it's pretty open. It's just all stone and some grass and trees, it's actually quite peaceful, the Muslims although Israel controls the Temple Mount on Mount Moriah the Muslims really have control over it and they have their own guards up there and kids play soccer and they picnic and you can go right up and you can touch the Dome of the Rock it was a Mosque with a gold covered, the roof of it is actual gold and you can go up and touch and you know, no Muslims are mad or shooting at you or anything like that. Now if you hold hands with your wife or you start praying to Jesus or have Bibles then they get upset. But you can go up there today, but we read that the antichrist, the one world ruler that comes will come to Jerusalem and desecrate the temple. And you're like, "How can that be? There is no temple."

Vic: Exactly.

Nathan: There's no temple in Jerusalem, but for many years now the Temple Institute is a group that has wanted the temple to be rebuilt back in the Temple Mount again. I visited their headquarters, you can go on tour there and they show you they've got the priestly garments, they've got the Menorah, they've got everything and now one of the pieces that was missing was a red heifer, it's a cow that's red, it's gotta meet a certain purity and they've had some that were bred here in the States and they're testing them if they're just as pure as they need to be, the ashes of the red heifer dedicate the temple, but other than the Ark of the Covenant which they didn't even have in the second temple they are ready, they are ready in a heartbeat if anything should happen to the Dome of the Rock and they Jews have full control of the temple mount they will rebuild the third temple and we know they'll be successful because we read that the antichrist will desecrate the temple again as we read in Daniel 9. So there will be a third temple that'll exist and it'll exist during Daniel's 70th week which is the Seven Year Tribulation.

Vic: Excellent point and of course I know you were refereeing there to Daniel 9 verses 26 and on, right, Nathan?

Nathan: Yes.

Vic: And this is why we pray that anyone that is tuned into this program would take to heart what we're sharing here. These prophecies are amazing and if we saw the prophecies being fulfilled over 2,000 years ago we can be sure that the prophecies for the future will also be fulfilled, right, Nathan?

Nathan: Exactly. Jesus Christ fulfilled all 300 general and 109 distinct prophecies about the coming of the Messiah as He did. Now there are 500 verses in the Old Testament and 1 in every 25 verses in the New Testament talk about Jesus's Second Coming. As a matter a fact that was the third question the apostles ask, "What will be the sign of Jesus's Coming?" And that's what the rest of Matthew 24 is, it's Jesus giving ten signs that talk about His coming, what happens before He comes. So we know that there will be a temple there now, hey Pastor Vic, have you ever thought what would get rid of the Al-Aqsa Mosque up there and what would bring the temple about on the Temple Mount again?

Vic: Oh boy, Nathan. There's always a lot of speculations, right? I mean often times we think man, maybe they're just gonna blow it up, right? And put something else there, but we know that's probably not gonna be the case.

Nathan: Well, you're right. I mean for the Jews to go out control the Temple Mount and destroy the Dome of the Rock which the Muslims consider Jerusalem the third most holy site. They didn't when Muhammad was alive, but later they got this story that Muhammad did the Elijah thing, he ascended up to heaven from Jerusalem and so they claim Jerusalem as third most capital. Now also the Muslims having the Dome of the Rock up there that's their way of saying, "We are the dominant religion over Judaism and Christianity. We've got the most holy site, we control it and therefore we are the dominant religion." But at some point that Mosque will not be there. You know some theorize that maybe that where the location of it is it could be in the Gentile court, but I really truly believe that when the Jews rebuild the temple on the Temple Mount, Islam won't be there to compete with them.

Vic: Excellent point. And you know, Nathan, this is why what we finding is that we know without a shadow of a doubt that there will be a temple because in Revelation chapter 11 it talks about this temple, right?

Nathan: Right, right. We know that the antichrist, one day, about 3 ½ years into the Tribulation he will break a peace treaty that he had made with Israel and that's the start of the Seven Year Tribulation when he makes that treaty with Israel. He will come in and he will kill the two witnesses. There's two whiteness, there's two super evangelists who preach out to Jerusalem, they can't be hurt, they can do like the Old Testament prophets did, they can call down fire, they can cause droughts and things like that. The world hates them and the antichrist will, their supernatural protection is taken away and the antichrist comes and he kills them he leaves their bodies lying on the roads for 3 ½ days and the whole world it says rejoices over the fact that the two witnesses are killed and the antichrist then walks into the temple, he declares himself to be god. All other religions, the false Babylonian religion that will spring up, a one world religion during the Tribulation he'll destroy and he'll say, "You all will worship me." And of course Satan's possessing the antichrist so it's really Satan worship. And he will desecrate the temple. He'll

setup an image of himself to be worshiped in that third temple and it says it will cause the Jews to flee out of Israel and they'll be some left, but many of them will flee down to southern Jordan and there God will protect them for the remainder of the 3 ½ years of the Tribulation.

Vic: That is incredible and of course, Nathan, we see that the world again is being prepared for this. You talk to us about the articles, you talk to us about the institution that is getting ready with the articles and everything else. So, Nathan, what are the possibilities that we could start seeing some of this, of this new temple?

Nathan: Well, see that's really tricky in how it plays into Bible prophecy. Before the Tribulation begins we're looking at two prophetic wars that must occur. Psalm 83 prophesies that Israel will finally have to subdue the hostile neighbors around them. We're talking about Gaza which is in the news every day, we're talking about Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Egypt. And Israel will have to defeat the enemies around them to be able to survive. Now those nations that attacked Israel in 1948, 1967 and 1973 and again and again and again Israel's been attacked by those nations. In Psalm 83 says that Israel will finally one day subdue those nations.

Vic: That's right.

Nathan: Now we know that will happen because there's another prophetic war and you can read about that in Ezekiel 38 and 39 and that's the Gog and Magog battle. It is the most detailed prophetic battle in all of Bible prophecy and it says that Russia will make an alliance with Iran and Turkey and all those "stan countries" and Libya and they will come down to destroy Israel and basically loot them. Russia particularly wants to loot Israel of all its wealth. Now the surrounding nations around Israel aren't there so we know that, that's a separate war, but God steps in as a matter a fact Israel's military is one of the strongest in the world, but it can't stand up against the might of the Russians and the Iranians and this huge alliance against them.

Vic: That's right.

Nathan: God steps into human history. He destroys those armies with hail and earthquakes and in fighting, it says He sends fire back on their countries and annihilates most of these countries so they won't even be a player during the Tribulation and the nation of Israel will give up its humanism, they will turn to God, all the Jews of the world will finally immigrate and about half of the Jews of the world their there today around 7 million. But all the Jews of the world will go back to Israel and they will worship God once more. Without Islam being a threat I believe then the Jews could rebuild the temple without any kind of problem, maybe the antichrist peace treaty with them guarantees they can rebuild the temple without any trouble and they will worship God again, but not yet His son Jesus Christ.

Vic: Excellent point. And Nathan, of course this is why we need to look at these prophesies slowly and carefully so that we don't miss out how these events are going to be played out because sometimes people get confused, right? And they think all this is supposed to happen right there and then in Matthew chapter 24 verse 3, but you're telling us as your taking us through these steps how everything is going to be developed, but it will ultimate calumniate into what the Bible tells us in end times prophesy.

Nathan: Exactly. As a matter a fact the apostles own questions about Jesus show they were talking about three different time periods. 70 AD when the temple will fall. The end of the age which is the church age we're living in now just before the Rapture and then the end of the Tribulation which is Jesus's Second Coming.

Vic: Yes. And of course we see evidence of this temple as you mentioned, Nathan, back in the book of Daniel chapter 9, Matthew actually 24 verse 15 talks about, " Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,'^[a] spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand) " right?

Nathan: Exactly. Yea the Abomination of Desolation which Daniel talked about in 11 verse 31 and chapter 12 verse 11. The antichrist will come in a desecrate the third temple so we know according to prophesy that Jesus said that the second temple would be destroyed and was, not one stone was left upon another, they were all thrown down the hill, there was nothing left on the Temple Mount. But there will be a time, another Abomination of Desolation, now a few hundred years earlier there was a mad man named Antiochus Epiphanies he was a Greek, a representative of the Greeks and he came down and did the same thing, Abomination of Desolation and what he did was he sacrificed a pig on the alter and that caused the Maccabean revolt and the Maccabees I believe its 135 BC, they had a revolt against Antiochus Epiphanies so they knew when their Abomination of Desolation would be, but Antiochus Epiphanies was not the Abomination of Desolation. It was the one that would come... Jesus said when you see the Abomination of Desolation spoken of by Daniel, he's not saying, "Yea back when "Antiochus Epiphanies came." He made it future tense and that refers to what we read in Revelation about the antichrist desecrating the temple. So, Pastor Vic, I don't know if we'll be here to see the temple rebuilt or it will be because the Rapture of the church we'll be taken out we won't be here anymore to see it. I believe we won't be here to see the temple rebuilt, but we know that the temple will be rebuilt, all the stuff, I've even see all the stuff they're gonna use in the temple and they're all ready to go to rebuild it.

Vic: That's right and I'm sure it's gonna be really nice temple, but I'm with you, I really don't need to see it. I'd rather be in heaven with Jesus.

Nathan: Amen, amen. Because of God stepping back into the Jewish history again at the end of the Gog Magog battle I sincerely believe that is total disconnect from the Church Age and the transition to the Tribulation Age where God takes His focus off the church and puts it back on Israel again. Because He's always promised Israel that a remnant would come to salvation through them. The church doesn't need to be here for the Tribulation, we're taken off this earth so if the Gog Magog victory that allows the Jews to rebuild the temple or its related to the peace treaty the antichrist makes with them, that's after the Rapture so brother, we won't be here to see the third temple, but we will be here to see the fourth temple. And that's the Millennial Temple when Jesus returns and sets up His Thousand Year Reign on this earth there will be another temple more grand and vast then anything that's ever been built before. Jesus will be there at that temple and we will be able to see the Millennial Temple the Thousand Year Reign of Christ in that temple there. Now for the third temple it won't last very long, it'll only last for about the seven years of the Tribulation and that's about it.

Vic: That's right. That is awesome great news and of course your tuned into the Truth Will Set You Free Bible Prophecy Edition, Vic Batista, Nathan Jones as we talk about the destruction of Harod's temple, our lines will remain open the phone number is 305-992-9537. Feel free to call us in or text us with your question or comment. And of course Nathan, this is why we're taking time to discuss Matthew chapter 24 here we're looking at verses 1-3 and really the idea is we're not so concerned, at least I'm not so concerned when the temple is going to be rebuilt or all the articles. I really believe we're going to be outa here and we see so many signs of that truth, I really believe Nathan, that we could be that generation that is going to be alive and remain when the Lord comes back for His church at the Rapture, right?

Nathan: Wow, your jumping ahead to the end of Matthew. Because the answer to your question is in chapter 24 right there and if we get a chance to get to the end of that I will tell you exactly, we are the generation that will get to see this happen.

Vic: Well, we wanted to give our listeners a little bit of a tidbit to keep their appetite.

Nathan: Exactly.

Vic: But Nathan, of course this is just great. The encouragement as we pray that anyone that is tuned into the program that they will see how exciting Matthew chapter 24 is the way that it unfolds and just all the truth there and how they all tie to other parts of the Bible, right Nathan? Because Jesus himself here was quoting Daniel, right? So we know that that was a legit book.

Nathan: Exactly. Yea Jesus's prophecies came true, so if you're looking for legitimacy? Prophecy has to be 100% fulfilled to be true prophecy from God and every prophecy that the Bible has ever made has always come true or will come true.

Vic: That is amazing. And of course Nathan, we want to encourage our listeners to become students of the Bible, students of Bible prophecy, to take time to dig in and this is what we want to encourage anyone to check out the wonderful resources at lamblion.com. You know Nathan, I was also blessed by one of the DVDs movies that Dr. Reagan did on one of his trips to Israel where you have the whole thing for those that want to see the temple mount and see where everything is at, they can literally see the whole tour that Dr. Reagan did right at your website.

Nathan: Exactly. They can go to lamblion.com, they can see all out television shows "Christ in Prophecy" which is broadcast all over the world in 15 different networks. Dr. Reagan has lead over 40 tours to Israel and recorded quite a number of them, matter a fact starting in three weeks we will have an eleven part sermons from Jerusalem. Where Dr. Reagan takes you around Jerusalem and other parts of Israel and teaches you about the Bible from those locations and I know it lasts for about 11 weeks straight. It's probably the longest stretch of series we've ever done and we've got past series on our website and you can keep up with each new one as its being put on our website and of course you can watch it on Television on various networks.

Vic: I'm going to be looking forward to that because it's also excellent to take advantage of these great resources. Nathan, I'm like you, I'm a student, I don't claim to know it all so any resources that I can grab to enhance my learning I'll take advantage of it.

Nathan: Amen. It's so important to understand God's purpose because 31% of the Bible is prophecy in other words God wants us to know what's going to happen. He has this big picture plan for not only all of humanity, but for your and my life. Everyone listening, God has a plan for your life, He wants you to know that He wins in the end and that He loves you and He wants to forgive you of your sins and rebellion and give you eternal life and you just have to accept that free gift that He paid for you on the cross by praying in your heart, "Dear Jesus, please forgive me of my sins and be my Savior." And Jesus promises He will forgive you, give you a new life and life full of hope.

Vic: Wonderful. What a wonderful word of encouragement. Nathan, thank you so much for encouraging our listeners and we pray that anyone tuned in out there was edified, built up in the word of God and of course we want you to stay tuned to our following segments of our program as we will look further into Matthew chapter 24 talking about the signs of the times, the deception that is coming, the false prophets and all those other things that we're beginning to see happening even right before our eyes, but Nathan, thank you so much for being part of this program and it's always a pleasure to have you on.

Nathan: Well the pleasures mine. Thank you Pastor Vic.

End of Program