I. JESUS FORECASTS THE TEMPLE’S DESTRUCTION.

A. We sometimes compare a current event with an event from the past.

B. Jesus compared what is going to happen during the Roman destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D. with what happened to an earlier event occurring 200 years before.

1. The earlier event Jesus is referring to is the “Abomination of Desolation “ that happened in 168 B.C. when the Hellenistic Greek Seleucid King, Antiochus Epiphanes, persecuted the nation of Israel.

2. The “abomination” during that time included sacrificing a pig on the Temple altar, setting up a statue of the Greek god Zeus and demanding Jews worship it and setting up a brothel in the Temple courtyard.

C. These desecrations were called an Abomination of Desecration by the Jews.


2. Jesus’ point is that the same kind of thing is going to happen when the Roman’s destroy the Temple.

3. Jesus isn't talking about the end of the world in these verses because he warns people to flee which would do no good if the world were ending--13:14-20 and Luke 21:20.

4. Jesus further proves he isn’t talking about the end of the world with this warning against false Messiahs--13:21-22.

II. HOW BAD WAS IT WHEN THE TEMPLE WAS DESTROYED?

A. Josephus, a first century Jewish historian, describes how bad.

B. Jesus’ advice is again to be on your guard--13:23.