### Revision

General Principles of Interpretation

Immediate context | Broad general picture first | Scripture to interpret scripture | Interpreted in the light of the original audience | Compare and analyse parallel accounts

Immediate context for Matthew 24.

Term ‘This generation’

### Questions raised by the disciples

Place of the temple for the disciples. Two questions raised of events that they thought would happen together.

* 1) When will these things happen? (Destruction of Jerusalem, His coming and the end of the world)
* 2) What will be the sign when this happens (Destruction of Jerusalem, His coming and the end of the world).

### Three observations about Jesus’ answers

* 1) Jesus uses the method prophetic foreshortening Eg Joel 2:28-29 (Outpouring of Spirit) Joel 2:30-31 (Things happening in the heavens)
* 2) What Jesus foretold about the destruction of Jerusalem happened exactly as He said they would. So What he said about the end of the age will also likewise be fulfilled to the last word.
* 3) Jesus does not answer the questions in the order in which they were asked.

### About the signs we saw in Lesson 4

* Preaching of the gospel to all nations (Matt 24:14),

Worldwide spread of the gospel Col 1:5-6,23

Restrictive use of ‘all the earth’, ‘ends of the world’, ‘in all the world’ and ‘every creature under heaven’ in Lk 2:1, Rom 1:8 and Rom 10:18

* Great tribulation (Matt 24:15-22),

Dramatic hyperbole in Exod. 9:18 Exod. 10:14 Exod 11:6 Ezek. 5:9

* False prophets working signs and wonders (Matt 24:5,11,23,24)
* Signs in the heavens (Matt 24:29,30). Isaiah 13:9-10 about Babylon, Ezek. 32:7-15 about Egypt, Isa.34:4-5 about Idumea

### Abomination of desolation

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| **Abomination** is something that causes revulsion, an object of disgust, hatred.  **Desolation** means destruction or decay or ruin. |

Dan 9:27, 11:31 and 12:11.about sacrilege committed by Antiochus Epiphanes the Syrian king who ruled Palestine between 176-165 B.C. In 167 B.C. The culminating attack on Jewish worship came in December of 167 B.C. He desecrated the Temple by sacrificing a pig on the altar and then forced the priests to eat its flesh. He then set up in the Temple an idol of Zeus.

Jesus is saying, when you see another event as that which happened in 167 B.C. then it is a sign that the temple is about to be destroyed. Luke 21:20-21. Indeed that abomination did come in Roman form in AD 70. The Roman armies were always an abomination because they carried with them idolatrous images of the emperor, whom they worshiped. And those armies brought desolation because their commander leveled the city and entered the holy of holies, defiling it.