

Why There Can Be No Dual Fulfillment of Matthew 24

There cannot be the possibility of the concept of “Dual Fulfillment” applied to the prophecies of the End Times, most especially, that of Matthew 24 and the Great Tribulation. The problem is absolutely one of context.

Daniel 8's abomination is depicted within the 3rd kingdom (See Daniel 2 & 7), the shaggy goat, or Greece, and not the fourth (understood to be Rome).

Daniel 11 also appears to indicate that the abomination was to occur in the 3rd empire, not the fourth. Notice that while it begins in Media-Persia, it transitions to Greece, and indicates the parcelling out of the nation to the “four winds of Heaven”, thus, North, South, East, and West. These indicate the four generals of Alexander the Great who took over portion of the Grecian kingdom after his death. The Fourth Kingdom, with Caesar Augustus, is indicated in Daniel 11:36, the 'willful king'. It says, he must rule until the time of indignation, or wrath, is complete.

This leads me to believe that Daniel 12's abomination, the one referenced by Jesus, was not a repeat of the prophecies of Daniel, but a yet future event, a second abomination.

But, if you accept any fulfillment of Matthew 24 in the historical record, you cannot go on from there.

The notion that God has to repeat His prophecy for modern interpreters to be happy is without Biblical foundation. The whole notion of dual fulfillment is actually BUILT on the Abomination, and doesn't really appear anywhere else in Scripture, that I can find. There are 'patterns', but not of that kind. Again, the only portrayed “clear-cut” example of “dual fulfillment” was the abomination of desolation, and so it cannot be used to support its own case.

So, take Matthew 24... v1-3 (more or less the same in all parallel accounts), "As for what you see here".... This CANNOT apply to ANYTHING other than the literal, physical buildings that were in existence in that day, the 2nd temple, Herod's temple. Any other interpretation of this is flawed, because He then goes on to say, "Do not let anyone deceive you..." Don't be deceived, most of Matthew 24 is applying to the years leading up to 70 AD, and culminates with it. There simply is no other way to read Matthew 24, other than the “then visible buildings” (See the document on the interpretation of Matthew 24 for further treatment of how this literally breaks down in the text).

The destruction of Jerusalem Jesus was talking about was the 70 AD judgment, and was to be in fulfillment of the sworn judgments (See Daniel 9's prayer) which God specified. These are listed in Leviticus 26's, God's promises for failure to keep the covenant (as attested to in 2 Chron 36). God brought about the 70 AD events, everything except the 2nd coming from Matthew 24, for only this one reason.

Reading in Daniel 9, Daniel had said in his prayer that nothing like this (the first destruction of Jerusalem when he was taken captive) had ever happened to any city ever before. The book of Daniel, then, goes on to have the promise for the rebuilding and duration of the city, and ENDS, Daniel 12:1-3, with an even WORSE sacking of Jerusalem, which Daniel was told would be the WORST event in all of history (again, 70 AD, the “great tribulation” of Matthew 24:21).

These particular judgments were specifically brought about because of the failure of the Jews to keep their covenant, and, while they are still children of the promise, they will all yet perish today if they do not turn to Christ. God has turned His face from them until such time as they are restored to fellowship through Jesus their Savior.

But, the point.... The first sacking of Jerusalem was in response to the failure to obey, and resulted in what Daniel called the worst tragedy to any city in all of history UP TO THAT TIME. Their CONTINUED failure to obey resulted in the 7-fold INCREASE of punishment, from 70 years to 70 7's of years, and resulted in a 7-fold WORSE tragedy in 70 AD than what had happened previously, the worst tragedy to happen to any city IN ALL OF TIME.

Since first of all, it is said right there that IT WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN (can't get any clearer than that), and second of all, it was ONLY in response to the dis-fellowship-ing of the Jewish people in response to their failure to keep covenant, and was the Leviticus 26 punishment, in essence, evicting them from the promises in one sense, it absolutely CANNOT happen again, because they are not IN right covenantal relationship with God, and WILL NOT BE until salvation through Yeshua.

Anything more would be violation of God's Word, and will not happen.

Thus, dual fulfillment CANNOT happen with regards to the Great Tribulation, as it has already happened once, and God said it would not be re-done, nor should it be. *

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