# "Jesus Gave Only One Sign"

**It is common to hear preachers say, "There is only one sign of 'the end' given by Jesus: 'This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world…and then shall the end come'" (Matthew 24:15).**

That assertion is unsustainable.

While Jesus' statement is most certainly true, it cannot be construed as a 'signal' in the sense demanded by the disciples' urgent, end-of-the-world question: "Tell us[1], ***when*** will these things happen and what will be ***the sign*** of your coming, and of the ***end of the world?*** (Matthew 24:3).

The gospel, finally being preached to every last living person, is certainly an accomplishment but it is neither immediately nor universally observable and therefore does not meet the essential terms of definition of a signal—notwithstanding it will coincide with "the end".

Jesus did, however, give his puzzled disciples the answer to their urgent question. It is found in Matthew 24:15[2] and it refers exclusively to Daniel 12:11. *"From the time* that the daily[3] ~~*sacrifice*~~[4] shall be taken away, and the **abomination that makes desolate set up,** there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days". Both the disciples' question, and Jesus' reply, focus on the word, "when" (a time-based, relative adverb). Time is of the essence here.

At first blush Jesus' response seems even less accessible to a galloping horseman than the "gospel-preached-universally" proposition. And, to the indolent and distracted, it will indeed remain opaque. It requires genuine willingness and some effort to "understand", as Jesus admonished.

Although Jesus' sign is not 'flashing lights and sirens' to those who are comfortably preoccupied, to those who are "taking heed" with trimmed lamps and plenty of oil—it is *exactly* that.

Jesus makes it unambiguously clear that this enigmatic, "abomination of desolation" phenomenon will be set up[5] at the **end of time.** So it cannot have happened centuries in the past. This realisation can be confronting to those who have, long and honestly, been committed to the common and misleading tradition that says the 1290 and 1335 'days' time periods[6] described in Daniel 12 have been fulfilled long ago.

See the book, *1335 Days* for a full discussion of this important subject and its real, life-and-death implications.

[1] *Peter, James, Andrew and John asked the question.*

[2] *"Therefore **when** you see 'the abomination of desolation', spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place, (let whoever reads understand)…" Jesus knew that Matthew, Mark and Luke would record what He was saying to them in their gospels, hence the words in brackets in each account (cf John 20:29-31).*

[3] *The word translated as "daily" more accurately means "continuum".*

[4] *The word "sacrifice" is not in the original Hebrew text and is an editor's artefact that distracts from the statement's true intent.*

[5] *Daniel 12:11*

[6] *The "1260 days/3½ years" also mentioned in Daniel 12:7 and the same number in chapter 7:25 are two distinct events, widely separated in history. The fact that the identical numbers are involved has been one of the enigmas that have kept Daniel 12 "obscured" for so long. See Objections.*