

## **Special Note on Daniel 9:26-27 and the Abomination of Desolation**

### **Verse 26**

"After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed."

As we have seen, a strong argument can be made for taking the first sentence of this verse as a prediction of the atoning death of Christ,<sup>1</sup> though Keil and Leupold have urged that the entire verse be taken as a description of the beginning of Antichrist's reign.<sup>2</sup> According to the Maccabean view the sentence describes the murder "of the martyred high priest, Onias III" in 170 B.C. (cf. 2 Macc. 4:33f).<sup>3</sup>

If the sentence is taken as referring to the crucifixion, the rest of the verse is readily interpreted as a description of the series of events that occurred about thirty years later when nearly four years of effort to throw off Roman domination ended in the complete destruction of the city and the temple. Multitudes died in the fighting; thousands starved during the long siege; great numbers were sold into slavery. The land of Israel became a scene of frightful desolation and before there was much improvement the great rebellion under Bar Cochba in A.D. 132-135 led to further carnage and even greater desolation. Centuries passed before the land could fully recover.

It has been suggested that the words, "The people of the