

#1488 The Abomination of Desolation – Moshe Dayan and the Fall of the Third Temple

Key Understanding #1: *Moshe Dayan and the fall of the Third Temple.* The most famous reference to Israel being the Third Temple was made by Israeli Minister of Defense Moshe Dayan during the early stages of the Yom Kippur War in October 1973.

Sources differ on their accounts of Moshe Dayan's reference, but the common denominator in all is that he was referring to the nation of Israel as the Third Temple. Here are three examples:

Source #1

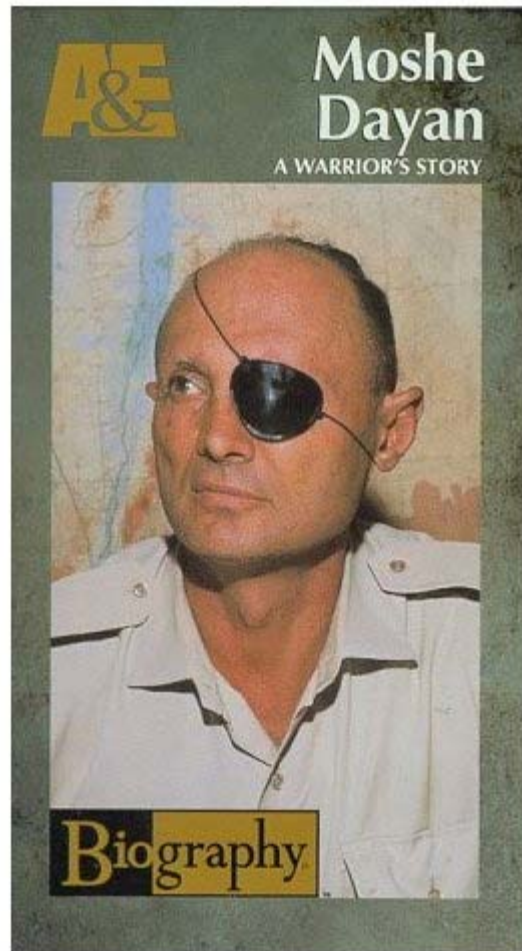
On the afternoon of 6 October 1973, Egypt and Syria attacked Israel in a coordinated surprise attack, beginning the Yom Kippur War. Caught with only regular forces on duty, augmented by reservists with a low readiness level, Israeli front lines crumbled. By early afternoon on 7 October, no effective forces were in the southern Golan Heights and Syrian forces had reached the edge of the plateau, overlooking the Jordan River. This crisis brought Israel to its second nuclear alert.

Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, obviously not at his best at a press briefing, was, according to *Time* magazine, rattled enough to later tell the prime minister that **“this is the end of the third temple,”** referring to an impending collapse of the state of Israel.

Source #2

After Golda Meir became Prime Minister in 1969, [Moshe] Dayan became the Minister of Defense in her government. He was still in that job when the Yom Kippur War catastrophically began on October 6, 1973. As the most high-ranking official responsible for military planning, and in particular for examining the intelligence apparatus, it is of little doubt that Dayan, who became the symbol of victorious complacency following the Six-Day War, bears a part of [the] responsibility for Israeli leadership's missing the signs for the upcoming war. In the hours preceding the war, Dayan opted for not carrying out a full mobilization or carrying out a preemptive strike against the Egyptians and the Syrians; he assumed that Israel would be able to win easily even if the Arabs had attacked and did not want Israel to appear as the aggressor.

Following the heavy defeats of the first two days, Dayan's views experienced a radical turn; he was close to announcing **“the downfall of the Third Temple”** at a news conference, but was luckily forbidden to speak by Meir.



Moshe Dayan and Ariel Sharon during the Yom Kippur War



Source #3

Moshe Dayan and Golda Meir almost used that “Option” in the first days of the Yom Kippur War, when it appeared they were going to be overrun. Dayan gave the code for its use when he told Prime Minister Meir, “Arm the doomsday weapons, **the Third Temple is about to fall.**”

Key Understanding #2: Note that the theme of war is directly tied to the theme of temple in the story of Moshe Dayan in the 1973 Yom Kippur War, just as the themes of war and temple are seen together in Matthew 24:1-15.

*Matthew 24:1-2, 6-8, 15 (KJV) And Jesus went out, and departed from **THE TEMPLE**: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of **THE TEMPLE**.*

*2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one [dead] stone [of **the Temple**] upon another [dead stone of **the Temple**], that shall not be thrown down.*

TEMPLE

*6 **AND YE SHALL HEAR OF WARS AND RUMOURS OF WARS**: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, **BUT THE END IS NOT YET.***

*7 **FOR NATION SHALL RISE AGAINST NATION, AND KINGDOM AGAINST KINGDOM**: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.*

8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.

WAR

*15 **When ye therefore shall see THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place,** (whoso readeth, let him understand:)*

TEMPLE

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