

THE ANTICHRIST

By
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The Bible informs us of a very powerful man who is coming to the world and who is called “The Antichrist”. He is described as being a terrible man who is extremely destructive and evil. He will be able to have far reaching influence over the world and will cause millions to be killed by starvation and various other acts of cruelty.

The spirit of Antichrist has been prevalent for a long time and is described in the scriptures as being anyone who is against Jesus Christ (II John 7). This spirit which reflects the Antichrist’s attitude is one thing, but the person, himself, is another. The Antichrist is a man, a human being who is inspired, influenced, and energized by Satan.

At least fifteen (15) titles are used in the Bible to describe the Antichrist. Among them are “A King of Fierce Countenance”, Daniel 8:23, “The Beast” in Revelation 13, and the Little Horn of Daniel 7:8-24. His coming and reign will strike terror in the hearts of millions as he advances his kingdom of death and destruction.

According to Daniel, the Antichrist will come from the northern quadrant of the Old Greek Empire. Syria is a focal point of that geography. Greece is referred to in the Bible as “Grecia”. When Alexander the Great died at the early age of 33, his kingdom was divided into four (4) divisions. We know that Ptolemy I became King of the South (Egypt) and Seleucus I, after some struggle, became King of the North (Syria). Daniel sees the Antichrist coming from the “North”. Later, the Greek empire was incorporated into the Roman Empire and we can easily follow Daniel’s Prophecy as he places the Antichrist coming from the northern quadrant of the Old Greek Empire which is expressed as being inside the “Revised” Roman Empire in the prophetic description of the “ten (10) toes”.

The ten (10) toes of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream, as interpreted by Daniel, signals the very end of the image envisioned, and the ten (10) toes represent the ten nations (part iron and part clay) which are ultimately ruled by the Antichrist. The Antichrist comes to power after the ten nations have been formed. He conquers three of the ten (10) nations at first and then the other seven (7) give their power to him. It is the people living inside these ten nations located inside the Revised Roman Empire that the Antichrist terrorizes most. It is within them that the dreaded “Mark of the Beast” is instituted. However, at Armageddon we see an extension of the influence of the Antichrist. He is able at Armageddon to have persuaded the major nations of the world to join him on the mountains of Israel and in the giant valley of Jehoshaphat. His purpose at Armageddon is to try to exterminate forever the Israelis and any remaining Christians from the world. He is denied his objective because Jesus Christ intervenes for Israel and the rest of the world.

The Bible informs us about the behavior of the Antichrist during his seven-year reign. He comes immediately after the Rapture of the church and his coming is signaled by the opening of the 1st Seal of Revelation 6:2. He can do nothing as long as the church is on earth (II Thess. 2:7). His introduction is deceitful. He comes riding on a white horse, but with a bow in his hand. White is the symbol of purity. Following his appearance is the opening of six additional seals. All of them describe destruction and trouble for the world.

He comes as the opposer of God and exalts himself above God and accepts worship (II Thess. 2:4). In II Thess. 2:4, he claims to be God. The Bible describes him as being wicked and the embodiment of the “spirit of lawlessness”. He is also called the son of perdition and the man of sin (II Thess. 2:3). He will disregard the God of his fathers, the true God, and will honor the god of forces (Daniel 11:38). He will have no regard for the desire of women but will honor strange gods and divide the land for gain (Daniel 11:39).

The Antichrist receives special power from Satan, as many people are deceived into worshipping both Satan and the Beast (Antichrist). Foul and blasphemous language comes forth from the mouth of the Beast as he speaks great things (Rev. 13). He immediately makes war upon the Saints and overcomes them. These saints are the Tribulation saints (those saved after the Rapture). Millions will be saved after the Rapture, but will be faced with almost instant death because of their faith in Christ.

The Bible tells us of an important seven years, which is the “time of Jacob’s trouble”. It is also described as Daniel’s 70th week. It is a seven-year period in which the world will experience three tremendous problems. These three problems are the wrath of God, the wrath of man, and the wrath of Satan. This particular time is described by Daniel as “being a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time” (Daniel 12).

According to Jesus a “time of sorrows” is coming and that time seems to be approaching us now. We are seeing prophecy fulfilled almost daily. It’s simply amazing! The world seems to be turning toward a one-world system. Beware of this! (Matthew 24).

Think about a few of many prophetic statements:

- 1. A failing money system.**
- 2. Corruption in politics.**
- 3. Indifference in churches.**
- 4. Denying the power of God.**
- 5. A breaking up of homes.**
- 6. Unruly children and wayward parents.**
- 7. Selfishness and a falling away from God, yet a great revival continues.**
- 8. Corruption in judicial systems.**
- 9. Theft, murder, and lying.**
- 10. Disrespect for law and order.**
- 11. Terror in our streets.**
- 12. Drugs and alcoholic abuse.**
- 13. Depression and insecurities.**
- 14. AIDS and viruses.**
- 15. Knowledge abounding.**

There are many others. (II Timothy 3, Daniel 12, Matthew 24).

The above paragraph suggests only a few of many prophetic statements and things to which we need to pay attention. The world systems seem to be preparing, consciously or unconsciously, for the coming of the Antichrist. Don’t be deceived into believing that the Antichrist is the answer. He is part of the problem. He reigns for only seven years and then is destroyed by Jesus Christ.

As we are experiencing a millennial change, we are, also, experiencing a change in the attitudes of people. We are seeing such frightening things as starvation running rampant in nations, which

spend most of their money on guns instead of food. Weapons of war have become extremely sophisticated and lethal. Entire countries with millions of people can be killed almost instantly by simply pressing a few buttons. This is truly a dangerous time as Paul stated in II Timothy 3.

Daniel tells us that people will be “going to and fro” and that knowledge will increase. We are seeing that prophetic fulfillment now. With information being available almost instantly on a world-wide basis and travel a reality at record speed, we know that Daniel’s prophecies are coming to pass with amazing accuracy, (Daniel 12:4).

Signs of the times are revelations of the Bible. We can expect to see some major changing in the monetary systems, financial failures in various world-wide markets, an increase in lawlessness as well as disrespect for one’s self and for each other. The “spirit” of the Antichrist is with us now. The wise person will see the signs of the time for what they are and interpret them accordingly, and then look beyond the signs to their meaning. Change is the message here and this change will yield some good and some bad experiences. The good is the fact that Jesus is coming for the church. The bad is that the Antichrist is coming, too, and when he comes, he will begin his seven-year reign of terror. Read the Bible, watch and pray for we know neither the day nor the hour when our Lord will come. Matthew 24:36.

Be diligent and be aware that all of these changes we are seeing are happening for a reason. Wise people will seek God and pray. The foolish will be unprepared.

Don’t look for the Antichrist to come, look for the real Christ who is coming soon for His own. Be prepared and ready. The coming of Christ will be quick and unannounced. Today is the day of salvation, now is the accepted time to receive Christ.

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