

End Time Scriptures: The Antichrist

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All scriptures are from the New King James Version unless otherwise indicated.

For thousands of years, God has let human government have authority of the earth. Often that government has been run without seeking God's will, even though God has continually and compassionately made Himself available to us. God is allowing the kingdoms of this world to have their time to operate in their pride and self-sufficiency; however, there is coming a time when God will take back the authority of the planet and place His Son, Jesus Christ, as King over the earth.

When Jesus reigns, He will reign from Jerusalem, giving honor to the nation He was born into as our human sacrifice. Before His return, God is going to cause the Jews to humble themselves and call out for His help. God is allowing the progression of sin to come to maturation. He is allowing conflicts in the Middle East to build in preparation for the return of His Son.

God has specifically foretold events surrounding Jerusalem and the Jews for the last seven years before Christ returns. When Christ returns, Israel will have gone through the Great Tribulation, the last three-and-a-half of the seven years. The Antichrist is a political leader who enters into a peace treaty with Israel at the beginning of the seven years, then in the middle of the treaty, turns on the Jews, causing them to cry out to the Lord for salvation.

The word antichrist is made up of two words "anti" meaning "against or instead of," and "Christ" meaning "the anointed, the Messiah." The word has been used to describe anyone who is against salvation through Jesus Christ and His blood of the New Covenant. The word has also been used as a name for the male leader who has been prophesied to come against Israel in the last three-and-a-half-years before Christ's reign on the earth. The Antichrist does not present himself as the Messiah to the Jews, but he does present himself as a conquering political leader that the Jews enter into an agreement with. The Antichrist will conquer many nations, but according to Daniel 11, he will not have authority over them all.

The following scriptures are meant to be a reference tool for you to use to gain insight and understanding on the end times and the Antichrist.

Daniel 7:7-8

"(7) After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. (8) I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in the horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words."

The fourth beast describes the Roman Empire, the fourth monarchy to rule over Israel. The first was Babylon, the second was Medo-Persia, and the third was Greece. The Jews were dispersed after the Romans turned against them, destroying Jerusalem and the temple in 70 A.D. When God scattered the Jews, the kingdom of Jesus Christ has gone out to the nations of the world. Before Jesus returns, the Jews are given seven more years. The ruling power during this time is referred to as a continuation of the Roman Empire.

- In scripture, a horn is symbolic of a leader. There will be ten leaders that come out of Rome, or what was once the Roman empire.
- The Antichrist will come from Rome, or what was once the Roman empire
- The Antichrist will overpower three other leaders.
- The Antichrist will speak pompous words.

Daniel 7:19-27

In this passage of Scripture, Daniel wishes to know more about the Roman Empire and the Antichrist that rises up over the Jews in the last seven years.

- The Roman empire will consume the whole earth, trample it, and break it in pieces (when this was written, it referred to the known world at the time. This prophecy may refer only to that part of the known world at the time).
- There are ten leaders that come out of Rome or what was once the Roman empire.
- The Antichrist will rise up and subdue three of the leaders.
- The Antichrist will speak pompous words against God, the Most High.
- He will persecute the saints of the Most High.
- The Antichrist will intend to change times and law.
- The saints are given into his hand for three-and-a-half years.
- The Antichrist will have his dominion taken away from Him by the Christ.

Daniel 9:26-27

“(26) And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined. (27) Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.”

- The Antichrist is called the prince who is to come.
- The Antichrist will come out of the people who destroyed Jerusalem and the temple. History tells us that the elite Romans destroyed the temple, so the Antichrist will either come from Rome, or possibly, from a nation that was once part of the Roman empire.

- The Antichrist will be one of many that sign a treaty with Israel. The signing begins the Seventieth Week of the prophecy, the last seven years before Jesus reigns on the earth.

Daniel 8:9-26; 11:31-45

Antiochus Epiphanes, or Antiochus IV, was a Syrian (Seleucid) king from 175 to 164 B.C. Antiochus ruled Syria during the Greek empire. The Jews had rebuilt their temple under the preceding Persian empire, after their Babylonian's had destroyed it. Antiochus Epiphanes desecrated the temple by slaughtering a pig on the altar, an unholy animal, and sprinkled its blood in the Holy of Holies. He then took the broth of the swine and poured it on the scrolls, or the Word of God. The temple was turned into a shrine to the idol Baal Shamen (Zeus), and only swine were permitted to be used for sacrifice. Many Jews were martyred for their faith when they refused to eat the pork offered to the false god. Jews fled to the mountains to hide in caves to escape the tyranny of Antiochus. A group of Jews, known as the Maccabeus, led by Judas Maccabeus, assembled and defeated the armies of Antiochus IV in 165 B.C.

History tells us that when the Jews went to dedicate the cleansed temple, there was only enough consecrated oil to light the lampstand for one day. It was a miracle that the lamp burned for seven more days, the amount of time needed to prepare new holy oil. The temple was rededicated on the 25th day in the Jewish month of Kislev (December), three years from the day it had been desecrated. The Jews celebrate Hanukkah, the Hebrew word for dedication, for eight days in the month of December, celebrating their deliverance and the promise of a coming Messiah. It is also known as the Festival of Lights.

The Antichrist is yet to come, but like Antiochus IV, the Antichrist will come against the Jews and will desecrate a future Jewish temple. He will set up an image, or statue, of himself and demand that he be given allegiance, or worship.

In the book of Daniel, Daniel prophesies about the Antichrist, but he also prophesied about Antiochus Epiphanes, who seems a lot like the Antichrist.

Daniel 8:9-22

In verses 1-8 we see the end of the large horn, Alexander the Great, and of the Greek empire, and the rise of Persia and the little horn. Antiochus IV Epiphanes is the little horn that came out of Syria. Antiochus persecuted the Jews and desecrated the temple.

Daniel 8:23-26

This portion of scripture seems to have a dual description of Antiochus IV and the coming Antichrist.

Daniel 11:1-30

This passage describes the Persian and Grecian empires, and from verse 21 through 20 the prophecy relates to Antiochus IV Epiphanes.

Daniel 11:31-45

From Antiochus, the account seems to pass to the Antichrist and the Roman empire.

Daniel 8:23-26

“(23) And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their fullness, a king shall arise, having fierce features, who understands sinister schemes. (24) His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; he shall destroy fearfully, and shall prosper and thrive; he shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people. (25) Through his cunning he shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; and he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without human means. (26) And the vision of the evenings and mornings which was told is true; therefore seal up the vision, for it refers to many days in the future.”

- The Antichrist has fierce features
- He understands and strategizes sinister schemes
- He works by a mighty power, the power of Satan
- He destroys the mighty and the holy people
- He will prosper and thrive
- The Antichrist is cunning and deceptive
- He exalts himself
- He destroys many in their prosperity
- He tries to rise up against Christ
- He will be defeated by Christ himself, no other man

Daniel 11:21

And in his place shall arise a vile person, to whom they will not give the honor of royalty; but he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue.”

Daniel 11:37

“He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nore regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all.”

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

“(3) Let no one deceive you by any means, for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, (4) who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”

We know that the Antichrist could be one of many that signs a treaty with Israel at the beginning of the last seven years. However, we may not recognize him at first. When he turns against the Jews and replaces their worship with worship of his own image, then it will be obvious who he is.

- The Antichrist is also called the “son of perdition.”
- The Antichrist opposes God and those honored in authority.

- The Antichrist exalts himself above God and those honored in authority.
- The Antichrist positions himself in the temple as a move to be seen as God.

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12

“(8) And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. (9) The coming of the lawless one in according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, (10) and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. (11) And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, (12) that they all may be condemned, who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

God’s purpose has always been and will always be that people will know the truth and be given the opportunity to receive salvation. God will even allow tribulation to cause people to look for and find their redemption.

- The Antichrist is also known as “the lawless one.”
- He will be revealed.
- The Lord will consume the Antichrist
- The Antichrist will be able to work signs, wonders by the power of Satan.
- He is a deceiver, and God allows the deception of the wicked

1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3

“(18) Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.”

“(22) Who is a liar be he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.”

“(4:3) and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of god. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.”

2 John 1:7

“For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.”

Revelation 13:11-18

“(11) Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. (12) And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. (13) He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. (14) And he deceives those who dwell on the earth lay those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of

the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. (15) He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. (16) He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads. (17) and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. (18) Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.”

The False Prophet

Verses 11 through 18 is a description of the Antichrist’s assistant, also known as the False Prophet.

- He has authority from the Antichrist
- His purpose is to enforce people to comply with the Antichrist
- He performs powerful signs and wonders, deceiving people
- He leads people to create an image of the Antichrist and to worship it
- He gives the image the ability to speak
- He puts anyone to death who refuses to worship the Antichrist and his image

The Antichrist

These verses also give us insight into the Antichrist.

- The Antichrist is referred to as the beast.
- He was healed of a deadly wound from a weapon.

The Mark of the Beast

These verses also give us insight into the Mark of the Beast

- The work “mark” in the original language is *charagma*, and it means an imprint, stamp, engraving, or tattoo. It has also been used as the mark made on a horse by branding, branding being a method of identification of ownership. The mark of the beast could simply be a tattoo.
- The mark is either the name of the Antichrist or his number.
- The number of the Antichrist is the number of a man. It is said to be 666.
- The mark is placed on the forehead or right hand. The placement of the mark is easily identifiable because of the location on the body.
- Receiving the mark of the beast is done to show allegiance to the Antichrist, whether done so willingly or unwillingly. It is not just received to have liberty to buy and sell.
- If someone not only receives the mark, but also willingly refuses the lordship of Jesus Christ and gives allegiance to the Antichrist, they will not be raptured, but will go through the Wrath of God poured out once the Church is removed. *Revelation 14:9-11 says, “(9) ... If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, (10) he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. (11) And the smoke of their*

torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

See also: Revelation 15:2, Revelation 16:2, Revelation 20:4

Revelation 17:1-18

The chapter is about the Roman empire, also known as Babylon. In verse 9 we see that the empire is on seven hills, which is Rome. This prophecy is similar to Daniel’s prophecy about the Antichrist subduing three of the ten leaders.

- The ten leaders do not have kingdoms, or nations. The Antichrist gives them authority for one hour as kings with him. The ten give their power and authority to the Antichrist.
- These ten make war with Christ, also known as Armageddon. Those who are with Christ are called “chosen and faithful.”

Revelation 19:20

“Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.”

Revelation 20:10

“The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.”

If you believe that we are living in the last of the last days, it is likely that the Antichrist has already been born and is living on the earth right now.

The Antichrist will be defeated by Jesus Christ, and Jesus will reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.