

What Are the Signs of the Antichrist?

What are the signs and characteristics of the “Antichrist” who is prophesied to rise up in the End of Days? How will we be able to recognize him? What are his tell-tale “marks” and identifying qualities? According to the Scriptures, the whole world will be deceived and led astray by him, even to where they will unite under him to fight the Messiah when He returns from heaven, claiming He is an “alien” from other worlds! How can you keep from being taken in by this great deception?

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In I John 2:18 we read: “Dear children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the *Antichrist* is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. *They went out from us*, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.”

The word antichrist is capitalized (A) here meaning that it is a specific individual prophesied to come in the last days who will lead the world astray, who is anti-God and Christian religion even though he appears to be a Christian. John says “went out from us” but went out into error of wickedness and lawlessness.

What are the characteristics of this Antichrist who is coming? How will you and I recognize him? The world will not recognize him. The world does not believe the word of God and will not know what God says, prophetically speaking. Remember, the Antichrist is *going to be a ruler* of the world. God specifically states attributes that the Antichrist will have. The world stage is set for the appearance of the Antichrist and the world is ready for a super leader to bring all the nations together as one to get the world out of its super mess.

The apostle John goes on to tell us, “Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but try the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God. Every spirit that confesses (acknowledges) that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus, *is not of God.*” (I John 4:1-2).

Notice also verses 7-8, where we read: “Everyone who loves has the Spirit of God in him (has no fear). Whoever does not love, does not know God. This is the spirit of the

Antichrist and is now already in the world.” And verse 15 declares, “Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God’s Spirit dwells in him.”

Part of the understanding of this verse is the belief and understanding that the Christ comes into our flesh through the Holy Spirit and dwells in us.

What are the signs that help to identify the Antichrist? One of the signs of the Antichrist is that he will show by his life and his teachings a calloused disregard for the things of God and Christ. He will not acknowledge that Christ is the Son of God and has come in the flesh and through his Holy Spirit dwells in us. The Antichrist will be one who disregards the Christian religion and disregards the Bible and mocks the Old and New Testaments. You can apply that carefully to world figures today and see who is the most outspoken against God; who once claimed to be a Christian, but has spoken derisively about God in public. Consider who fits that sign and description. If you have eyes to perceive and the mind to comprehend, the Antichrist is here today—well on his way, but not yet fully made manifest.

The Profane Prince

The prophet Ezekiel declares of the Antichrist, the end-time prince who leads the world in rebellion against God, “O profane (corrupt) and wicked prince of Israel, whose day has come, whose time of punishment has reached its climax, This is what the Sovereign Lord says, ‘Remove the diadem, take off the crown. It will not be as it was: exalt the humble (lowly) and abase him that is high. Overturn, overturn, I will overturn it: and it shall be no more, until he comes to whom it rightfully belongs; and I will give it to him’” (Ezek.21:25-27).

Ezekiel is talking about the end-time “Antichrist” who is wicked and corrupt – a lying master, a ruthless politician in high political office.

This is talking about an end-time prince of “Israel” who is wicked and corrupt and who God is going to remove from office and have the scepter taken away from him. The term “Israel” applies not only to the Jewish people, but to the “lost ten tribes,” which includes the birthright tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, the sons of Joseph. Today, they are the United States and British nations of the world, and the democracies of Northwestern Europe as some of the other “lost” tribes.

This end-time wicked and profane prince ties in with Revelation 13 and the beast kingdom coming out of the sea. The Antichrist is going to be the ruler-king of the end-time world kingdom being set up today in our midst – a world empire that the Bible calls “Babylon the Great.”

The “Beast”

The apostle John says, “I saw a beast coming out of the sea having ten horns and seven heads (divisions), with ten crowns on his horns, and on each head a blasphemous

name. The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. The dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority. I saw one of the heads of the beast as if it had been wounded to death, and his **deadly wound** was *healed*. The whole world marveled (at this miracle) and followed the beast.” (Revelation 13:1-4).

Men worshipped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshipped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?” This beast is the Antichrist, the one who is going to lead the world in war against Christ and his angels at Christ’s return.

Notice what God’s Word says about this end-time world leader: “He was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and *to exercise his authority for forty-two months*. He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation (foundation) of the world” (Revelation 13:5-8). He will continue in office for forty-two months (3 ½ years) ruling the world.

Notice: (1) He is going to have some type of fatal encounter. In Ezekiel 21:25 the word used for *profane* is an interesting word in the Hebrew that has several meanings and can mean fatally wounded unto death. So, this end-time *prince of Israel* (the beast of Rev.13) is going to have something happen to him that appears to be “fatal” to his success and power in rising to the forefront of the leadership of the world. This could be a physical wound, as in an assassination attempt, or a moral wound or political wound, as in a great moral weakness or problem, or a tremendous political difficulty.

It appears that this Antichrist has slavish devotion from many people on the one-hand and bitter opposition from others on the other hand, jeopardizing his rise to supreme power. As a world ruler, he will be very security conscious for his own safety and have continuously twenty-four-hour security guard protection. In WW II, Adolph Hitler’s own generals tried to kill him and he barely escaped with his life so Hitler was extremely careful and hired personal guards to protect him. This same thing applies to this coming Antichrist world ruler.

Notice also:

(2) “His mouth speaks great pompous words and blasphemies against God, his name, his tabernacle and those who dwell in heaven.”

(3) “It was granted to him to make war with the saints and overcome them.”

(4) “Authority was given him over every tribe, tongue and nation.”

(5) “*All who dwell on the earth will worship him and give him honor whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the earth.*”

The world is going to love Antichrist because he promises them everything telling millions of people that they are “entitled” — telling them they haven’t been getting a fair deal. In a case like this, people look to the government to be the “great giver and supporter”. The government taxes the people, even reaching into the future generations in order to continue to supply its “free” services.

The Roman Empire gave its people free bread and circuses in order to keep the population under control. Today, America has spectator sports of football, basketball, and baseball that fill huge stadiums with people while vendors sell peanuts, hotdogs, popcorn and drinks. The religious freedom we still have is slowly being eroded and legislated away by increased governmental laws and Supreme Court decisions.

Notice that the “Antichrist” will be hostile toward Christianity. Those who really have repented of their sins, accepted Christ as their Savior and strive to live by His word daily and keep His commandments, are the ones Antichrist is going to hate and make war against, forbidding the free practice of their religious faith. He will pass laws and enact legislation that takes away free will and forces people to comply with things contrary to their faith – like subsidizing abortion, performing services of various kinds for homosexual couples, and hire homosexuals and deviants to work for churches and their social projects, even though they condemn such activities and immorality.

The “Mark” of the Beast

“Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb, and spoke like a dragon. 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. . . 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, 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. Here is wisdom: Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666” (Rev.13:11-12, 16-18, NKJV).

The Greek word translated “mark” in the expression “mark of the beast,” used throughout the book of Revelation, is *charagma* and means “a scratch or etching, i.e. stamp (as a badge of servitude), or sculptured figure (statue)” – graven, mark” (see *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance*, number #5480). *Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament* defines this word as follows: “to engrave; a. a stamp, an imprinted mark: of the mark stamped on the forehead or the right hand as the badge of the followers of Antichrist, Rev.13:16; 14:9, 11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4) . . . b. thing carved, sculpture, graven work: of idolatrous images, Acts 17:29.”

What is this strange-sounding prophecy all about? One thing is for certain – possession of this “mark” will no doubt be looked upon by the masses of people as a GOOD thing, when it is announced, for no one will be able to buy or sell without it! Yet, God says plainly, it is really the “badge of DEATH”!

Possession of this “mark” will certify one as a “member” of the religious and political system of the great Worldwide Empire which will rule all nations in the very “time of the end” – the fast-rising “Babylon the Great,” as the Scriptures call it (Revelation 17-18). Modern world leaders refer to it as the “New World Order,” and claim it will be a wonderful new world system of enlightenment and religious freedom and UNITY! But beware – the truth is not so sanguine or innocent!

What is this strange “mark,” then? What is it that we need to beware of? Is it already beginning to be developed?

It's All About “Control”

In all totalitarian countries in the past, such as Stalinist Russia, or Hitler’s Nazi Germany, the citizens were compelled to carry identification papers on their person at all times. They had to be ready to present their identity documents to the proper authorities at any time. Such papers were often checked at borders, train stations, bus depots, when doing banking, airports, at road blocks, and various check points. The words, “Show me your papers,” would send an ominous chill up the spine of the enslaved people.

This was, however, a rather cumbersome procedure, and papers could easily be forged by a good engraver or printer. But today we live in the age of incredible advances in computer technology. Today, the United States and the western world are very close to achieving and implementing a NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD – a computerized “smart card” that can carry hundreds of pages of data on each citizen!

Implementation of such a card will give the Government, Big TOTAL CONTROL over the lives of individual citizens. You would not be able to buy or sell or conduct any business, without your own “ID chip”!

The “Man of Sin”

The apostle Paul writes, “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, 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” (II Thessalonians 2:3-4).

The Great Apostasy has to occur first and the man of sin revealed. The Greek word for falling away is “*apostasia*” which means departure from the truth. This is talking about the Antichrist who is going to be revealed. He *is going to be a lawless man*.

The Antichrist is called “the man of sin.” Paul also speaks of him saying, “And then the lawless one will be revealed” (II Thess.2:8). In verse 9 he says, “The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs and lying wonders.”

What does that mean? “Sin,” by definition, means “lawlessness.” The apostle John wrote, “Sin is LAWLESSNESS” (I John 3:4). So, the Antichrist will be a man of extreme lawlessness – an imperial dictator who despises the laws of Almighty God!

The prophet Daniel declares, “He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to *change* times and laws” (Daniel 7:25).

God warns us, “My son, do not fret because of evildoers, nor be envious of the wicked; for there will be no prospect for the evil man; the lamp of the wicked will be put out. Fear the Lord and the king. *Do not meddle (associate) with those given to change, for their calamity shall rise suddenly; and who knows the ruin those two can bring?*” (Proverbs 24:19-22).

Notice, now, the characteristics of the “Antichrist.”

- The *man of sin* means he is a sinner, a lawless individual. The Bible defines “sin” as “the transgression of the law” (I John 3:4). He flaunts his sin in the face of God. He is **a lawless** man—the epitome of lawlessness.

In other words, he will be an immoral person of despicable character – in God’s sight! Who could this be?

King of Pride

The Antichrist is also known in Bible prophecy as being the “king of Tyre,” and “king of Babylon,” and is a man of fierce pride. Ezekiel says of him, “Because your heart is lifted up, and you say ‘I am a god, I sit in the seat of gods, in the midst of the seas,’ yet you are a man, and not a god, though you set your heart as the heart of a god (Behold, you are wiser than Daniel! There is no secret that can be hidden from you!” (Ezek.28:2-3).

Isaiah the prophet calls him the “king of Assyria,” and says God declares to him, “‘I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his haughty looks.’ For he says: ‘By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom, for I am prudent; also I have removed the boundaries of the people, and have robbed their treasuries; so I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man. My hand has found like a nest the riches of the people, and as one who gathers eggs that are left, I have gathered all the earth; and there was no one who moved his wing, nor opened his mouth with even a peep’” (Isaiah 10:12-14).

He is a man of insolent pride. The apostle Paul says of him, he “opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped” (II Thess.2:4). He is proud and arrogant, and thinks he is superior to others. His megalomania will become so serious that he will even invade the temple of God, claiming himself to be God – that is, he will claim to be the promised divine “Messiah.”

“Son of Perdition” and Destruction

As the end-time “king” of the world’s New World Order, and “Babylon the Great,” he will be a military-minded man and leader – a man who wages war and causes great destruction. God Himself allows him to come to power because of the sins of His people who have turned their backs on Him and His laws.

John says of him in the book of Revelation, the world will worship or highly esteem the “Beast,” saying, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?” (Rev.13:4).

His armies are compared to “locusts” which devour the earth. “Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power” (Rev.9:3). “And they had as king over them the angel [or “messenger”] of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek his name is Apollyon” (Rev.9:11). The name identifies the person or king. Abaddon means “Destruction,” and Apollyon means “Destroyer.”

The prophet Daniel says of this time, “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. 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. Through 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 [i.e. transfer their wealth to others, his supporters]” (Dan.8:23-25).

Daniel says of him, “So he shall return and have regard for those who forsake the holy covenant. And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress [the Temple Mount]; then they shall take away the daily sacrifice, and place there the abomination of desolation. Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits” (Dan.11:30-32).

Daniel declares, “Then the king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper until the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done” (Dan.11:36).

The Description of the Antichrist

The prophet Habakkuk describes the leader of end-time Babylon – the Antichrist! Notice! He writes, “Behold the proud. His soul is not upright (desires not right) in him; but the just shall live by faith. Indeed, because he transgresses by wine, he is a proud (arrogant) man. He does not stay at home” (Hab.2:4-5).

Wine here is also a type of drugs (mind intoxicating chemicals, like alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, etc.). “He enlarges his desire as hell, and he is like death, and cannot be satisfied. He gathers to himself all nations, and heaps up for himself all peoples” (v.5, latter part).

“Woe to him who increases what is not his—how long? And to him who loads himself with many pledges [vast indebtedness and borrowing from other nations]? Will not your creditors [among the nations] rise up suddenly? Will they not awaken who oppress you? And YOU will become their booty, because you have plundered many nations, all the remnant of the people shall plunder you” (Hab.2:6-8).

“Woe to him who covets evil gain for his houses that he may set his nest on high that he may be delivered from the power of disaster! You give shameful counsel to your house, cutting off many peoples, and sin against your soul. For the stone will cry out from the wall, and the beam from the timbers will answer it” (vs.9-11).

What is this “shameful counsel”? What kind of sin is “against your own soul” or body? Homosexuality!

“Cutting off many peoples” means going to war at the drop of a hat, and invading nations where there is no real justification, nations which have not endangered us or attacked us. America never used to do this. Throughout our history, we never struck the first blow. But we fought back when we were attacked – the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Spanish American War, the First World War, the Second World War, Korea, Vietnam . . .

That is, up until the Iraq War, and the Afghanistan War, and the War in Libya, and supporting the Al Qaeda linked rebels in Syria. Where will it all end?

God says, “Woe to him that builds a town with bloodshed, who establishes a city by iniquity (crime)! Behold, it is not of the Lord of Hosts that the people labor to feed (fuel) the fire, and the nations weary themselves for vanity (pride/ uselessness; exhaust themselves for nothing).” (Hab.2:12-13).

“The borrower is servant to the lender,” God says (Prov.22:7). America has become a borrower nation, in debt to all. God says to His people, today, “Those who hate you shall reign over you” (Leviticus 26:17). He declares, “The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you and you shall come down lower and lower. He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail. Moreover all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you” (Deut.28:43-45).

Is the Antichrist Here, Today?

There is no doubt that the Antichrist is alive today. Six thousand years are ended since Creation of Adam. This is the time of the end. This is the generation that Christ said would see his coming and Israel was reborn as a nation (symbolized by the fig tree) in 1948.

Jesus Christ the Messiah said, “Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. I tell you the truth, THIS GENERATION shall certainly not pass away until all these things have happened” (Matt.24:32-34, NIV).

What did He mean by “this generation” He is talking about the “fig tree.” The fig tree is a symbol of Israel! God says of Israel, When I found Israel, it was like finding grapes in the desert; when I saw your fathers, it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig tree” (Hosea 9:10).

Biblically speaking, “The days of our lives are seventy years” (Psalm 90:10). Thus, a Biblical “generation” would be 70 years, from birth to death. Israel, God’s nation, was voted into existence by the United Nations in November 1947, and was “born” on May 14, 1948. A “generation” would be 70 years. Thus, Israel’s first generation would end in 2017-2018.

Is this significant? Is this a harbinger that we are living in the End of Days, and the coming of the Antichrist is on the horizon?

Jeremiah’s Warning

God looks upon our generation with great alarm and concern. He inspired Jeremiah the prophet to write, “This is what the LORD says: ‘When men fall down, do they not get up?’ When a man turns away, does he not return? Why then have these people turned away? They cling to deceit; they refuse to return. I have listened attentively but they do not say what is right. No one repents of his wickedness, saying, ‘What have I done?’ Each pursues his own course, like a horse charging into battle” (Jeremiah 8:4-6).

God declares, “From the least to the greatest, all are greedy for gain; prophets and priests alike, all practice deceit. They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. ‘Peace, peace’, they say, when there is no peace. Are they ashamed of their loathsome conduct? No, they have no shame at all; they do not even know how to blush. So they will fall among the fallen; they will be brought down when they are punished, says the LORD” (Jer.8:10-12).

God says of his people today; will they fall and not rise again? End-time Israel, including the “lost ten tribes,” Ephraim-America and Great Britain-Manasseh, have backslidden and remain in a perpetual backsliding holding fast to deceit, refusing to return. Deception abounds everywhere, especially in monetary matters.

“I listen and heard that they do not speak right. No man repents of his wickedness—saying “WHAT HAVE I DONE?” (Jer.8:6).

Antichrist Revealed

Are you ready?

We need not fear. If we have faith in God, and His promises, and obey His commandments, then we can escape these hellish events or be protected through them. King David wrote, “The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear? The Lord YHVH is the strength of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid? When foes advance against me to eat up my flesh, they will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart shall not fear. Though war rise against me, even then I will be confident” (Psalm 27:1-3).

David declared, “I would have lost heart, unless I believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord. Be of good courage, and

He shall strengthen your heart. Wait, I say, for the Lord.” (verses 13-14).

God is now calling His people to repentance from sin. He is calling us to “come out of this world,” and its Babylonish system.

Jesus Christ said, “Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse than those other Galileans who suffered death from the Roman governor Pilate. I tell you, no. But unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Do you think that the eighteen that died when the Tower of Siloam fell were worse than other sinners who dwell in Jerusalem? I tell you, no. Unless you repent, you will all perish likewise” (Luke 13:1-5).

We must learn to fear God, not man. The Messiah declared, “I will show you whom you should fear, or be in awe of. Fear him who, after he has killed has power to cast into hell (Gehenna Fire). Yes, I say unto you, fear Him [God]” (Luke 12: 5). Christ went on, to comfort and encourage us: “Are there not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? Not one of them is forgotten before God. The very hairs of our head are numbered by God. Therefore, do not fear men. You are of more value than many sparrows” (v.6-7).

Here are the signs of the Antichrist:

1. He is lawless, a man of “sin.”
2. He is the son of destruction. He uses drones to kill innocent people.
3. He is a liar and a deceiver. He and his administration are full of deception.
4. He is insolent, proud, arrogant and a blasphemer.
5. He is a Thief; robs to give to his friends; redistributes a nation’s wealth.
6. He is pompous, proud, conceited, and thinks he is “God.”
7. He is wise politically – “wiser than Daniel.”
8. He is ambitious, power mad, seeks absolute and total power.
9. He claims to be God, divine, a messianic figure – but worships Satan in reality.
10. He is aggressive, militaristic, a war-maker.
11. He is a murderer. Human life is unimportant to him.
12. He is vehemently Antichristian—he does not acknowledge Christ, nor His living within us through the Holy Spirit, or that He is the only name under heaven whereby we may be saved.
13. He is a persecutor of the church, and Christians in general, and hostile toward their views and sacred beliefs.
14. He is ruthless, cruel, despotic, and a “son of perdition” (doom). At some point, he will become Satan-possessed, even as Judas Iscariot was, and Satanically inspired to lead the nations to fight against Christ when He returns from heaven in glory.

God says of him and those like him, “They profess to know God, but in works deny Him, being abominable [margin, “detestable”], disobedient, and disqualified [“reprobate”] for every good work” (Titus 1:16). Even their mind and conscience are defiled (verse 15). They are sons of blasphemy and children of Satan – impervious to good and imperious in their blatant wickedness and iniquity.

Do You Recognize the Antichrist?

Do we have eyes to see and a mind to comprehend? Has the Antichrist already appeared on the scene? Is he among us, today, beginning his strategic ascendancy to the top, the pinnacle of world power?

Is the Antichrist now among us? Do you see him for who and what he is? Or are you one of the great majority who will follow him, and bear his mark? Those who do follow him will suffer the wrath of God poured out without dilution and be tormented with fire and brimstone before all the holy angels of God (Rev.14:9-11).

Where will you stand in that day? Only you can decide.