

What the Future Holds- Biblical Prophecy

Lesson 5—The Antichrist

- I. **Description of the antichrist:** The Bible identifies the one we call the antichrist with several different words and phrases.
 - A. The little horn—He is called the little horn in Daniel 7 which who will be a world ruler who will emerge during the tribulation period—*Daniel 7:7–8, 20–28*.
 - B. The prince of the people who is to come—This phrase is used to describe the one who will make a covenant with Israel and in the middle of the tribulation will set himself up as an object of worship—*Daniel 9:24–27; Matthew 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:4*.
 - C. The man of lawlessness and the son of destruction—This phrase is used by Paul to describe this one who defies God's law and disregards God's people—*2 Thessalonians 2:3–10*.
 - D. The antichrist- John the apostle warns of one's coming who is called the "anti" (against) and "christos" (Messiah) who will be the expression of godlessness and deception—*1 John 2:18–23*.
 - E. The beast- The apostle John consistently refers to this central person during the tribulation as the beast, which looks at his destructive, controlling character which will be hidden at first but eventually revealed—*Revelation 11:7; 13:1–10*.
- II. **Actions of the antichrist:** The antichrist who is empowered by Satan will oppose and attack God's people and try unsuccessfully to establish a permanent kingdom
 - A. His first action will be to sign a treaty with the nation of Israel which lulls them into a false sense of security—*Daniel 9:24–27*.
 - B. This individual will commit the abomination of desolation by putting an end to sacrifices in the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem and will establish a idol of himself that people in the tribulation

must worship—*Daniel 9:24–27; Matthew 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:3–10.*

- C. With the help of the second beast of Revelation 13, he will institute a system of commerce that will require the mark of the beast in order to buy or sell or do business in the tribulation period—*Revelation 13:16–18; 14:9–13.*
- D. He will, with the help of the second beast of Revelation 13, establish a one-world religion—*Revelation 13:12–15; 2 Thessalonians 2:3–12*
- E. He will persecute those who come to faith in Christ during the tribulation with the goal of annihilating all of them—*Revelation 11:7; 13:7; Daniel 7:21–22.*
- F. He will be judged by Christ when Christ returns at His second coming—*Revelation 19:19–20.*

III. **The fatal wound:** In Revelation 13:3 the beast is said to have recovered from a fatal wound. While some see this as a physical wound it is probably best to see it as a loss of political power that has been restored—*Revelation 17:1–18.*

IV. **The power behind the antichrist:** Satan will be the one who gives power to antichrist with the purpose of directing worship away from the Lord to himself. He ultimately will fail—*Revelation 13:2, 4; 20:10.*