The Revelation of the Antichrist

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Topic:
THE REVELATION OF THE ANTICHRIST
Bible Text: 1 John 2:18

Introduction

I welcome everyone of us to this study in the name of the Lord. Today's study is a very sensitive one that requires our attention. It has to do with our watching and waiting for the Lord and the unfolding of biblical prophecies right before our eyes.

Study

If there is something constantly being talked about by the Lord Jesus Christ and His apostles, it is about the last hour. In fact, the Lord Jesus spoke and taught about it, citing different illustrations and parables so that we can understand it very well. He knew that if we fail to understand it, we will lack preparation. Apostle John—just as his custom is—says, "**Little children**." Why he said "**little children**" is not because those he was speaking to were little in age or stature, but because he was speaking as an elder to those whom he had begotten in the faith. As an elder who had walked with the Lord and had grown to that stature in the realm of the Spirit, his words carried weight and authority.

"It is the last time," he says—meaning, it is the last hour.

When talking about what the last time truly is, we see that it was used in different ways throughout the Scriptures to convey the same meaning. The phrases include:

- The last time

- The latter times

- The last days

- The end of all things

- The end of the age

- The end of the world

- The midnight hour

- The time of the end

- The day of the Lord

All these expressions point towards the close of the age in different ways and through various events. From John's usage of the term "the last hour," he is speaking about the nearness of Christ's return—and he points us back to what has been spoken before: that the Antichrist is coming.

For him to have said the Antichrist, then still went ahead to say **many Antichrists.** This means there is a particular Antichrist who will be revealed in his own time, aside from the ones that have been coming. This one is the king of them all. This Antichrist is the one who will appear last before the close of the age.

What is the Antichrist known as according to the Scriptures?

- The Willful King – Daniel 11:36

- The Beast – Revelation 13:1–18

- The Little Horn – Daniel 7:8; Daniel 8:9

- The King of Fierce Countenance – Daniel 8:23–25

- The Prince That Shall Come – Daniel 9:26–27

- A Foolish Shepherd – Zechariah 11:15–17

Many think that the Antichrist who is to appear at the close of the age is Satan. This is not true. Satan is different from the Antichrist. If we consider the titles of Satan all through the Scriptures, we will see that they are completely different.

Who is Satan?

- Lucifer – Isaiah 14:12

- The Devil – Matthew 4:1; Revelation 12:9

- The Old Serpent – Revelation 12:9

- The Dragon – Revelation 12:3, 9

- The Prince of This World – John 12:31

- The god of This World – 2 Corinthians 4:4

- The Prince of the Power of the Air – Ephesians 2:2

- The Tempter – Matthew 4:3

- The Wicked One – 1 John 5:19

- Beelzebub – Matthew 12:24

We must then understand that whenever these names are mentioned, they refer to the same person. His names are not limited to these. There are more.

Another of the name Satan is known as is the **Morning Star** that fell. For John to now say that the Antichrist is coming, he is making it clear that this man of sin, who is not Satan, will appear and carry out what has been written concerning him. Before we go into when he would appear and his duty.

let's see the difference between the Antichrist and Satan:

1. **They are different in nature** . Satan is a spiritual being, founded in archangel, while the Antichrist is a human being, empowered by Satan.

2. **They are different in origin** . Satan was the created angel who rebelled against God, while the Antichrist is likely a man who would rise among nations, possibly in Rome, i.e. Papal.

3. **They are different in power source** . Satan was given power by God while he was in heaven, and when he was sent out, his power was not taken from him, but was limited by God because he lost his position of authority in heaven. So he became self-powered, while the Antichrist receives power directly from Satan.

4. **They are different in mission.** Satan has a mission to oppose God, accuse, tempt, and deceive, while the Antichrist's mission is to be Satan's human representative and counterfeit Christ.

5. **They are different in titles.** Satan's titles are the accuser, dragon, devil, serpent, prince of this world, while the titles for the Antichrist are the beast, man of sin, lawless one, etc.

6. **They are different in act.** Satan leads global rebellion wars against heaven, "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (**Revelation 20:7–10**), while the Antichrist leads the world in worship of himself.

7. **The way they would be defeated is different.** Satan would be cast into the lake of fire forever, "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (**Revelation 20:10),** while the Antichrist would be destroyed by Christ's appearing and cast into the lake of fire, "And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming" (**2 Thessalonians 2:8).**

From this, we can see that Satan still seeks to be like the Most High God. This is why he would send the Antichrist to imitate and oppose Christ. He is the invisible power behind evil, the chief enemy of God and man. The Antichrist is his visible representative on earth, who will deceive the world and demand worship. But the destiny of them both is the same—eternal torment in the lake of fire. The Lord Jesus Christ told us about when the Antichrist would be revealed, just as Paul also said that he would be revealed in his own time. "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)" (**Matthew 24:15**). This is when the Antichrist would reveal himself to the whole world as the Antichrist. For he would sit in Jerusalem as God, breaking the seven-year peace treaty he made with Israel in the middle—that is 3⅔. In simple terms, "And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate" (**Daniel 9:27);** "Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God"

(**2 Thessalonians 2:1–4**), connected with **Matthew 24:15**, this say some important things that we must observe. The abomination of desolation is connected to a particular man. Remember, we said the Antichrist is a human being. This is a man of great authority who would present himself as a friend of Israel—most likely the Papal—in a sense of security. It is at this point that he would confirm a seven-year covenant with Israel, assuring them of protection.

Is someone still with me?

We all know that Israel is currently at war with several nations. All these are towards the fulfillment of this prophecy. It is called

Daniel's 70th week, and it begins with the confirmation of the covenant. The Antichrist would be a man of peace and protect them for the first three and a half years. During this time, he would conceal his true identity, and the whole world would hail him. It is at the middle of the seven years that he would make himself known as the Antichrist, then turn out to be Israel's worst enemy. This is why the Lord said, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be" (**Matthew 24:21**). What then does **the abomination of desolation** mean? We should note that whenever the word **abomination** is used, it is connected to something which ought not to be done.

Apostle Paul said that the second coming of our Lord Jesus, which is **the day of Christ**, shall not manifest until **the man of sin** is revealed. Remember, one of the titles of the Antichrist is **man of sin**. This means that the Antichrist will oppose and exalt himself above the Lord God Almighty before the coming of Christ. He will sit in the temple in Jerusalem, showing himself that he is God: "Let no man you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God" **(2 Thessalonians 2:3–4)**.

The Antichrist would desecrate the Jewish temple that is newly built. He will set up an idol altar in the holy place inside the temple. It is possible that it is his own image, because the Lord said, "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)" (**Matthew 24:15**). This would he do in order to be worshipped by the Jews.

It is this event that would trigger the desolation of the temple, as the Jews would reject it and choose to render the temple desolate. The Lord says that the moment this happens, all the Jews in Judea, where the temple dwells, should flee. "Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains" (**Matthew 24:16**), for there shall be great tribulation, **"such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be"** (**Matthew 24:21**), which means it is the last.

This shaking is called various names in the Scriptures:

1. **The Time of Jacob's Trouble** – "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it" (**Jeremiah 30:7**).

2. **The Hour of Temptation** – "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth" (**Revelation 3:10**).

3. **Indignation** – "And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be" (**Daniel 8:19**).

4. **Tribulation, Such As Was Not** – "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time" (**Daniel 12:1**).

5. **Days of Affliction** – "For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be" (**Mark 13:19**).

6. **Days of Great Distress** – "But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people" (**Luke 21:23**).

This period will not only be a time of great distress and indignation for the Jews, but also for all those who would refuse the mark of the beast and refuse to worship it. The time of the great tribulation is a period of the wrath of the Antichrist. This is not the time of God's wrath, as many take it. It is the time that the Antichrist would forcefully demand worship from Christians all over the world, and persecute all those who refuse to worship it. The aspect of the time of the manifestation of the Antichrist has really been a topic of debate today, and the reason is not far-fetched. It is because this matter was closed up, sealed, to the end of the world: "And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end" (**Daniel 12:9).**

Therefore, most of what many believe it to mean before now are not right, and it takes God to open the understanding of man to understand it. Thank God that the seal has now been broken, for we are clearly and undoubtedly in the time of the end. Therefore, concerning the manifestation of the Antichrist, he would certainly be revealed in the middle of the 70th week, as prophesied by Daniel—i.e., in the midst of the seven years, after the first three and a half years of the peace agreement between Israel and the Antichrist. Many believe that the Church is the one that is entering the manifestation and the revealing of the Antichrist to the whole world, and that it is after the rapture that the Antichrist will be revealed. This is not true, as we have been learning that the **man of sin** shall be revealed **before** the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ the second time. For that day will not come unless the man of sin is revealed. What Paul wrote has been misunderstood by many today.

Let's look into these scriptures carefully— **2 Thessalonians 2:1–4:**"Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."

Paul says, **"Now brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our gathering together with Him,"**—that is the rapture. Let's clarify some things. Paul spoke this way because he did not want anyone to be confused. Then he spoke of a need to clarify some things. He began to clarify them in verse 2. He says we should not be easily shaken or alarmed. We should not be unsettled by those who say that **the day of the Lord has already come**—that is, there are those who say that the rapture has happened.

Then he says, **Don't believe them**, even if they claim to have heard a spiritual vision, a revelation, or a letter from the apostles—that is, from those who are regarded as the leaders of the Church. These people would try to convince you that the Lord has already come and gone. Then Paul says, **2 Thessalonians 2:3 AMP** Let no one in any way deceive or entrap you, for that day will not come unless the apostasy comes first [that is, the great rebellion, the abandonment of the faith by professed Christians], and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction [the Antichrist, the one who is destined to be destroyed], From this, he speaks more clearly, saying that we

should not be fooled, and gives two important things that must happen before the rapture would occur:

1. There would be a great falling away: This falling away from the faith by many would be all over the world. Those whom we do not expect to fall away would too. This talks about the departure from the faith by many Christians. They would renounce their faith. They would reject the gospel. They would speak ill of the name of the Lord. Many would draw back to their former lifestyles. Many would go back to their former friends who did not know the Lord. The love of the world in the hearts of many would choke the love of Christ in them, and they would develop spiritual apathy.

This would not only be heard about on TV. It would happen all around us—even close to you—that if you are not careful, you might begin to question your faith, and even question if the way of the Lord Jesus Christ is truly the way. We have seen people who said that a spirit has said to them that they should go back into the traditional way their fathers worshipped, and now they have become priests of an idol—and they once claimed to be Christians.

This is a serious matter, and these things are already happening during our time. Many will rebel against God. They would betray Him because of worldly gains. They would choose fame, wealth, positions, and desert the Lord. They would prefer worldly recognition over heavenly recognition. Those who we see and call mighty men would fall, and many will tremble. Some churches known for holiness would deviate and start preaching for fame and worldly gain, and many insensitive members would follow them. This is why Paul had to make it clear that these things must happen before the coming of Jesus Christ. And since

He wouldn't have come at that time, we must be on the lookout and not grow weary.

2. The man of sin would be revealed: We remember that the man of sin is the Antichrist, right? Paul says he would be revealed before the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. **2 Thessalonians 2:3 (Amplified Version) –** "Let no one in any way deceive or entrap you, for that day will not come unless the apostasy comes first [that is, the great rebellion, the abandonment of the faith by professed Christians], and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction [the Antichrist, the one who is destined to be destroyed]. Paul used two titles to describe the Antichrist here: **the man of lawlessness** (or sin) and **the son of perdition**. He says he would oppose and exalt himself above all that is called God. By this, he makes the agenda of the Antichrist known. If the Antichrist would come after the rapture, Paul wouldn't have said he must be revealed before the coming of the Lord. The revealing of the Antichrist would be through the abomination of desolation that I explained.

Are you getting this?

If Paul is saying this, then it would not make sense to interpret, **2 Thessalonians 2:7–8**—in a contrary way, claiming that it is the presence of the Church that is hindering the coming of the Antichrist. **2 Thessalonians 2:7-8 KJV** For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. [8] And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Let me explain better. Many have said that it is because Christians are still on earth that the Antichrist has not come, and that immediately the rapture happens, the Antichrist would surface. And by this interpretation, they mean the restrainer is the

Church. If it is the Church truly, then it would have been that Paul was confused to have said that the Antichrist must come first before the rapture, and then still say that it is because Christians have not been raptured that the Antichrist has not come. This clearly shows that the restrainer is not the Church.

- Another thing to look into is that if we examine more deeply, we would see that the restraining personality that Paul mentioned is a **he**, not **she**—i.e., "Only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way**" (2 Thessalonians 2:7, KJV).**
The Church is the bride of the Lamb—a she, a chaste virgin. So the Church is a **she**, not a **he**. Therefore, the Church can never be the one withholding the manifestation of the Antichrist. "For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming" **(2 Thessalonians 2:7–8, KJV).**

Does this make sense to you?

The third thing we must consider is that Paul says that the lawless one would be revealed, and the Lord would slay him at the brightness of His coming— "And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming**" (2 Thessalonians 2:8, KJV).** This means that if the Church is the one hindering the Antichrist from manifesting and the Lord destroys him at rapture, it implies that he would have been destroyed before his manifestation. Then, how would the prophecies written concerning him be fulfilled? These three points are valid reasons that prove that the Antichrist would be revealed before rapture, and it is not the presence of the Christians that is withholding the manifestation of the

Antichrist. Now, many would then ask: What is withholding his manifestation? What is the restraining and the withholding power standing in the way of the Antichrist? It is no other thing than **divine timing.** What does this mean? It is the heavenly power that controls all things that are prophetic in nature. Paul mentions something that we must take note of in 2 **Thessalonians 2:6— "**And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time." This means that **he that is to be taken out of the way** is a restraining power of the Almighty that controls divine timing. It would give way for the Antichrist to be revealed **before** the Lord Jesus Christ comes into the world.

As when the Lord came to save this world was at the fullness of time— "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons" **(Galatians 4:4–5, KJV).** In the same way, the Antichrist, who is the opposer of Christ, would be withheld and restrained **until the fullness of his time.** God's prophetic agenda for the universe is attached to His sovereign timing, and that is the reason that the Antichrist will only come forth **in his time**. Therefore, the Church is not the one restraining the revealing of the Antichrist to the world.

The period of the Antichrist's persecution is **three and a half years**. The Word of God makes this clear using different terminologies—this is opposed to the seven years believed by many. His reign will be for seven years, but his **persecution of the saints** will be only for three and a half years. The Bible uses different expressions to portray this:

1. Forty and two months – "And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was

given unto him to continue forty and two months" **(Revelation 13:5, KJV).**

2. A time, times, and half a time – "And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High... and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time" **(Daniel 7:25, KJV).**

3. A thousand two hundred and threescore days – " And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle... that she might fly into the wilderness... where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time" **(Revelation 12:6, 14, KJV).**

In simple terms, the Antichrist will sign the **confirmation of the covenant** with the nation of Israel—a peace agreement—and from that time to the end of the **Great Tribulation** is seven years, i.e., Daniel's 70th week. But the Antichrist will not be revealed until **the midst of this week**. In the prophetic, sometimes **a week** symbolizes **seven years**. So, he would be revealed in the middle—after **three and a half years**—through the **abomination of desolation** and then operate for the next three and a half years before the second coming of Christ. During that last three and a half years—the reign of the Antichrist—there are some things that will happen.

The Beast—the Antichrist—will be given power to operate all over the world and to continue for **forty and two months**. "And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months" **(Revelation 13:5, KJV).** The **little horn** from the ten horns, identified to be the Antichrist, has been ordained prophetically to persecute the saints, and **they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.**

A **time** is one year, **times** is two years, and **the dividing of time** is half a year. 1+2+½ = 3½

"After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly... and it had ten horns... I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn..." **(Daniel 7:7–8, KJV). "**And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings... and he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High... and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time**" (Daniel 7:24–25, KJV).**

- The **two witnesses** that God has ordained to oppose and limit the Antichrist in his rage against Israel will be given power, and **they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days.** One thousand plus two hundred plus three score (a score is twenty, so three score is sixty) equals **1,260 days.** This is **forty-two months**, using thirty days per month. It is also three and a half years.

"And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth**" (Revelation 11:3, KJV).**

- The Bible says in **Revelation 12:6** that the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

That **woman** is symbolically **Israel**. She is meant to be protected and preserved there from the **dragon**—that is, the power that will overshadow the Antichrist. So, the woman fled to where she would be fed for **1,260 days.** The **woman**— **Israel**—was given **two wings of a great eagle**, that she might fly into the

wilderness into a place where she is nourished **for a time, and times, and half a time.** The wings given to her are also symbolic. "And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent" **(Revelation 12:14, KJV).** Then **Daniel 12:1** and **7** tell us that **Michael**, that great prince that guards over the people of God, at the end time will **stand up for the children of Israel—**at the time of trouble, which is the period of the **great tribulation**. He will arise with his angels for the protection of God's people—those whose names have been written in the **book of life** among the Israelites.

And the heavenly timing schedule was given to be **for a time, times, and an half**—that is, 1 plus 2 plus ½—equaling **three and a half years.** "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book" **(Daniel 12:1, KJV).**

"And I heard the man clothed in linen... and sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished" **(Daniel 12:7, KJV).** From this, we can see in **Revelation 12:6** and **14** that the **woman**, who symbolizes **faithful Israel** (the remnant), flees into the wilderness, which symbolizes a place of **divine refuge and protection,** for **1,260 days**, which is **three and a half years**—the time of the **Great Tribulation.** "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days" **(Revelation 12:6, KJV).** "And to the woman were given two

wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent" **(Revelation 12:14, KJV).** This she does through the **wings of a great eagle** given to her, which is a symbol of **God's powerful and swift protection**, and the **serpent** going after her, which is **Satan**, the enemy of God's people. Looking carefully at this, we would see that it is not that **Israel will be entirely exempted** from the tribulation, but that **a remnant of Israel is miraculously protected**. However, it does not mean that **all of them will be saved.** In **Revelation 12:17,** it shows that Satan went to make war with the remnant of her seed, suggesting that others are still persecuted or killed.

"And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ**" (Revelation 12:17, KJV).** Therefore, some of Israel may be **martyred**, while some are **protected**, but **all those whose names are written in the Book of Life** will be ultimately delivered—that is, they will **finally make it to heaven. From this teaching, there are different points that have been clarified, which are as follows:**

1. The last hour is a constant theme spoken of by the Lord Jesus Christ and His apostles, especially to emphasize the urgency of preparation for the end of the age.

2. Scripture uses different terms to describe the same prophetic season: **the last hour, the last days**, **the time of the end, the end of the world, the end of all things, the midnight hour, the day of the Lord,** etc.

3. The Antichrist is different from Satan. While Satan is a fallen spiritual being **(Lucifer)**, the Antichrist is a human being empowered by Satan.

4. The Antichrist has multiple prophetic titles in Scripture: **the Willful King (Daniel 11:36), the Beast (Revelation 13:1–18), the Little Horn (Daniel 7:8; 8:9), the King of Fierce Countenance (Daniel 8:23–25), the Prince That Shall Come (Daniel 9:26–27), and the Foolish Shepherd (Zechariah 11:15–17).**

5. Satan also has several distinct titles: **Lucifer (Isaiah 14:12), the Devil (Matthew 4:1; Revelation 12:9), the Old Serpent (Revelation 12:9), the Dragon (Revelation 12:3), the Prince of this World (John 12:31), the God of this World (2 Corinthians 4:4),** and more.

6. Satan is spiritual and self-powered after his fall. The Antichrist is human and receives power directly from Satan.

7. The Antichrist is Satan's visible representative on earth who will demand worship, deceive the world, and be destroyed by the brightness of Christ's appearing.

8. The Antichrist will be revealed through **the abomination of desolation**, when he sits in the temple in Jerusalem and declares himself as God **(Matthew 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:3–4).**

9. The confirming of the covenant in **Daniel 9:27** marks the beginning of the final seven years **(Daniel's 70th week).** The Antichrist breaks the covenant in the middle and is revealed.

10. The period of great tribulation begins in the middle of the seven years, when the Antichrist is revealed. It is also called by various scriptural names:

- **The Time of Jacob's Trouble (Jeremiah 30:7)**

- The Hour of Temptation (Revelation 3:10)

- The Indignation (Daniel 8:19)

- Tribulation such as was not (Daniel 12:1)

- Days of Affliction (Mark 13:19)

- Days of Great Distress (Luke 21:23)

11. This period is the wrath of the Antichrist, not the wrath of God. It is the time when the Antichrist will persecute saints and Jews who refuse to worship him.

12. Paul teaches that the Antichrist must be revealed before the coming of the Lord **(2 Thessalonians 2:1–4).** Therefore, the rapture does not come before his manifestation.

13. Two things must happen before Christ's return: a great falling away from the faith, and the revelation of **the man of sin.**

14. The Antichrist will exalt himself above all that is called God and sit in the temple, showing himself as God.

15. The **restrainer** in **2 Thessalonians 2:6–7** is not the Church (a "she") but a "he," meaning a divine restraining power under God's authority.

16. If the Antichrist is destroyed at Christ's coming, he must have been revealed before that. This confirms he will be active before the rapture.

17. The Antichrist will be revealed **in his time**—according to God's prophetic calendar **(2 Thessalonians 2:6; Galatians 4:4–5).**

18. The Antichrist's reign will last for seven years, but his persecution of the saints will last only three and a half years.

19. Different scriptural expressions are used for this three-and-a-half-year period:

- **Forty and two months (Revelation 13:5)**

- A **time, times, and half a time (Daniel 7:25; Revelation 12:14)**

- One thousand two hundred and threescore days (Revelation 11:3; 12:6)

20. The two witnesses of Revelation will prophesy for 1,260 days, confronting the Antichrist during this time **(Revelation 11:3).**

21. The **woman** in **Revelation 12** represents **faithful Israel**. She is protected in the wilderness for 1,260 days during the tribulation.

22. The **two wings of a great eagle** signify God’s swift and mighty protection of the remnant of Israel.

23. Not all of Israel will be saved during the tribulation. Some will be persecuted or martyred **(Revelation 12:17),** but the remnant whose names are in the **Book of Life** will be delivered at the end of this world.

Whenever issues about the time and about eschatology come up i.e **pre-tribulation rapture**, **mid-tribulation rapture**,

post-tribulation rapture. Many commonly say that it is not necessary to know when it will happen or not—that all we have to do is to make sure that we prepare and get to heaven.

- **Pre-tribulation rapture** is the belief that the Church will be taken up to meet the Lord in the air **before** the great tribulation begins.
- **Mid-tribulation rapture** teaches that the Church will be raptured **in the middle** of the tribulation, after three and a half years.
- **Post-tribulation rapture** holds that the Church will go **through** the entire tribulation and be raptured **after** it ends.

As true as the statement "we should just prepare and go to heaven" sounds, it is good that we understand that the timing of these events is **meant to be known**. If it was not meant to be known and understood, the Lord would not have allowed it in the Word of God. So the Lord has not kept us in the dark. And when we choose to be ignorant of what the Word of God says, it will do more harm than good to us.

When the wrong idea about eschatology is heard, it can lead people astray. In the sense that, if a person believes in **pre-tribulation rapture** and the person suddenly finds himself in the midst of the **great tribulation**, such a person can become weak in faith and think the Word of God is false. It can be discouraging, because such a person will feel like all that is written in the Bible—that the Lord Jesus Christ is coming back—is not true.

Whereas, it is not yet time according to the divine calendar for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Many will not get prepared ahead for what is coming. The Bible says that for then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the

world to this time, no, nor ever shall be **(Matthew 24:21).** The persecution that is coming ahead is a very serious one that many will not prepare ahead for. And when a person is not prepared ahead for something, and such a thing meets the person suddenly, it takes such a person off guard. This is one of the reasons a lot of people would fall away. This is the reason a lot of people would deny the Lord Jesus Christ—because they would never expect it coming. So, this is why it is good that we teach the true doctrine and let people know what is ahead of them. And at the same time, it is good for us to know it, so that we can prepare our hearts and also inform others about it.

One thing we must understand also is that even if the Lord Jesus Christ will not come before the great tribulation, we must always be prepared—because death can come at any time. Once death comes, for that person, the Lord Jesus has come. This is why we must always place our focus on the Lord Jesus. And if by adventure we find that we are still alive by the time the Antichrist resurfaces, then we should know that we would be in the midst of intense trial and tribulation and trouble, of which we must have gotten ourselves prepared for.

This is the time for every one of us to understand the truth about the end times and also teach it to our family members so that we will not fall prey into the hands of the enemy. Because the Bible says, For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect **(Matthew 24:24).** And if false Christs would come, a person must really understand the operation of the Antichrist so that such a person will not fall into the hands of the Antichrist. As a result, the rate at which the deception that is coming will be so high, if one is not careful, one will be deceived. This is why the Lord said, Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth:

behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not **(Matthew 24:26).** Because the operation of the Antichrist will be so deceptive, many will be led astray and many will be deceived to take his mark—because they will feel that the person they are seeing is not the Antichrist, just because they believe that the rapture must have taken place before the revealing of the Antichrist. But when they understand that the Antichrist will be revealed before the rapture, and that they will pass through the great tribulation, they will not be deceived by the Antichrist when he comes.

I pray that the Lord will give us deeper understanding of His Word, in Jesus name.

Initially I wanted to address the Antichrist and other antichrists in this study, but I observed that the Holy Spirit has really stretched that of the Antichrist and He's even giving more things to teach on the Antichrist of which I will teach next time when the Lord permits because we have really stayed on this for days.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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