

The Antichrist

1. BASE SCRIPTURE

(Daniel 2:31-45 NIV) "You looked, O king, and there before you stood a large statue--an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance.

The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay.

While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were broken to pieces at the same time and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth.

"This was the dream, and now we will interpret it to the king. You, O king, are the king of kings. The God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory; in your hands he has placed mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. Wherever they live, he has made you ruler over them all. You are that head of gold.

The Antichrist

"After you, another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron--for iron breaks and smashes everything--and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others.

Just as you saw that the feet and toes were partly of baked clay and partly of iron, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay.

As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle. And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay.

"In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands--a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces.
"The great God has shown the king what will take

The Antichrist

place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy."

a. Unable to cover everything in our limited time. I had to pick and choose.

i. Note that the text is coming out of Daniel.

1. Some criticize those that have gone through Scriptural gymnastics to formulate a picture of the end times.

2. We cannot simply dismiss them entirely. When we do look at Scripture within its context, there are some things that should awaken us to the reality of Christ's return and what it will look like.

b. Synopsis of world Gentile rule:

i. Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar. (Head, Gold)

ii. Medes and Persians (Arms, Silver)

iii. Grecian Empire ruled over by Alexander the Great. (Waist, Brass)

iv. Eastern & Western Division of Roman Empire. (Legs, Iron)

v. Revised Roman Empire (Ten Toes, Iron & Clay)

The Antichrist

1. “Revised Roman Empire” – Last Gentile Empire
2. Little Horn is rise of the Antichrist.
 - a. He does not come from Indonesia
 - b. He does not come from Hawaii
 - c. His name is not Obama.
 - d. He is not any number of people that have been named in the past.
 - e. We may or may not have seen his face.
3. Will the church be here?
 - a. Who knows? Probably not.
 - b. How bad will it get?

(Matthew 24:21-22) For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now--and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Human Government becomes less and less in:
 - i. World influence.

The Antichrist

ii. Morality.

3. ANTICHRIST: PART ONE

a. Name unknown

b. Will require the mark to trade

c. World Government will happen

d. Everything seems to be going in the direction.

i. The stock market will wobble up and down.

ii. We will not see our economy return as we have known it.

1. Hyper-inflation? Maybe.

2. But things will be different.

e. Rapture?

i. Some believe in it. Some do not believe in it.

1. Either way, you need to be ready to go, similar to Exodus.

(Daniel 7:1-14, NIV) In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying on his bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream.

The Antichrist

Daniel said: "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea.

"The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a man, and the heart of a man was given to it.

"And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your fill of flesh!'

"After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

"After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast--terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was

The Antichrist

different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns.

"While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

"As I looked, "thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.

"Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. (The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.)

"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of

The Antichrist

heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

4. PROPHECY OF GLOBALISM

- a. Again, writing over 600 years before Jesus was born.
- b. Daniel's image is referred to as the "Gentile Rule."
 - i. It is not God's rule.
- c. Day after Daniel's interpretation, Nebuchadnezzar placed an edict that the image should be built and everyone should worship it.
 - i. Revelation: Another image will be built that the False Prophet will require everyone to worship.
 1. The image will be of the Antichrist.
- d. Government will deteriorate. (From Gold to Iron & Clay)
 - i. Governments will become more corrupt.
 - ii. Justice will not be true.
 - iii. Government will be less for the people and more for those in power.

The Antichrist

- iv. The world is not growing better.
- v. Note for example that Cyrus, leader of the Medes is named in Scripture 175 years before he is born.

(Isaiah 45:1-2, NIV) “This is what the LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut: I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron.

- 1. Rose to take Babylonian power away.
- 2. Rose to put forth an edict for the Jews to return and rebuild the Temple.

- vi. This is one of many texts that point to Prophecy being real.

e. Rome

- i. The longest rule, thus the legs being the symbol.
 - 1. Divided into two parts:
 - a. Constantinople.
 - b. Rome

The Antichrist

f. Shows how world power is falling apart.

5. THE FEET

a. Iron and clay do not mix, they mingle.

i. There is not union.

ii. Even this reflects there will be dissension.

iii. Iron represents Imperialism.

1. Countries will be united by choice or the threat of war.

2. Dictatorship

iv. Clay represents Democracy.

1. Comingling of Democratic leaders and Dictators.

6. THE STONE

a. It hits the feet and everything collapses.

b. This is the power of God.

i. The power of Jesus Christ.

ii. An age of judgment.

1. Swift.

2. No grace at this point.

The Antichrist

- iii. Christianity is not the stone, Christ is the stone.
 - 1. Scripture talks of Christ as the Stone.
- iv. Rome was initially comprised of 23 countries in Biblical times.

7. Globalism

a. Could it be:

- i. The current situation, with the economic crisis, will be the catalyst of the Revised Roman Empire to form?

b. No where in time has there been a world Dictator.

- i. Technology for the first time has allowed the possibility for a one world ruler.

1. You can be tracked if you carry a cell phone.

2. You can be tracked if you get on the internet.

3. Implants are put into our animals to track them.

a. Perhaps to be placed in babies in the future “to protect against kidnapping.”

4. These are few of the precepts for the potential of control in the future.

The Antichrist

c. We are definitely in a shift.

i. Book, The World is Flat, shows how the economic world has shifted through technology for business to be achieved in partnerships around the world.

ii. The dollar will not be king.

iii. The White House will not be calling the shots.

8. THE ANTICHRIST: PART TWO

a. Will arise out of the coalition.

b. He will rule over the world.

c. Scholars are divided on specifics:

i. Will be of Jewish dissent.

ii. Will probably come out of a Syrian dissent.

d. He causes all, small and great, rich and poor, free and in bondage, will be required To receive the mark, the name, or the number (666 the Evil at its fullest decimal.) to do business.

1. Implants?

2. Tattoo?

(Revelation 13:38, NIV) One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal

The Antichrist

wound had been healed. The whole world was astonished and followed the beast. Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, "Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?"

The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words 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 of the world.

- e. The scripture speaks for itself. Read it verse by verse.
- f. Taking the mark will mean no grace. We are warned in Revelation 14:9-11.

The Antichrist

(Revelation 14:9-11, NIV) A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name."

- i. Angel is the proclaiming the Word, a warning.
 1. There will be no faithful Pastors because they will be killed, along with their family and faithful flock.
- ii. "I'll wait til then to believe and follow"
 1. Dangerous risk.
 2. Who will teach and preach?
 3. If you are not faithful now that things are good, what makes you believe you will be able to do it then?

The Antichrist

a. Economic power buys physical power, sovereignty.

g. United Nations had this on its building:

(Isaiah 2:4, NIV) He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

i. Sounds good, but

1. Taken out of context.

Isaiah 2:2-3, NIV) In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

ii. Only then do we have the Scripture of the United Nation.

iii. But world peace will only happen when we go up to the mountain of the Lord and learn his ways.

The Antichrist

9. CONCLUSION

- a. Time limits what I can share with you. It would take much longer to talk about the signs of the Antichrist. Next week I will cover a few of those.
- b. Beware the signs, the leaves upon the fig tree. The Antichrist is coming. When, I do not know.
- c. But Christians need to recognize that God has a plan, God wins, and we will be okay.
- d. If your heart is set on the things of this world only, then better enjoy it while you can.
 - i. Ignore your fellow human beings.
 - ii. Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow...
- e. If your heart is on the plan of God, prepare for the worst, celebrate the best.