



Here's the "BLUF" (bottom line up front) – understanding end-time events gives clarity to me now.

What difference does it make in my life? Let's consider two practical ramifications of end-time events posed as two questions:

But first, some background to the Antichrist & the Evil Trinity.

I. What Do You A v. 4

"Success-driven" world will worship Antichrist. One of the profound lessons to be learned has to do with the character of the leadership that impresses us.

Two questions emerge:

⇒ "Who is like the Antichrist?" v. 4

⇒ "Who is like unto our God?" Exodus 15:11; Psalm 35:10; Isaiah 40:18; Isaiah 40:25; Isaiah 46:5

Are you impressed with success?

II. What Keeps You G v. 7-10

It looks bad for the saints (v. 7-8). But remember this.... v. 9-10

Antichrist Loses! Revelation 20:10

We Win! Revelation 11:15

THIS is your "...patience...faith..."

"patience" – endurance, determination of the will

"faith" – reliance, trust



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"Even so, come Lord Jesus!"

A Biblical Survey of the Anti-Christ

Paul, when writing the believers in Thessalonica about the Antichrist, wrote to them:

“Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?” 2 Thessalonians 2:5

Teaching about the Antichrist and end of this age was apparently common long before the book of Revelation was written (app. 95 A.D.). Where did Paul get a knowledge of the Antichrist? This world dictator, who is inspired by Satan, has appeared in the pages of your Bible many times.

DANIEL (in Daniel chapters 7, 8, 9 and 11)

7:8 – arises out of the confederacy of kings (revived Rome). “eyes of a man, mouth speaking great things.” Probably refers to his intellectual genius, cleverness, shrewdness, knowledge, oratory.

He arises out of the group of kings, tearing up 3 of the 10 as he rises. Apparently he rises through the ranks, is an intellectual genius, surpasses his associates, becomes a proud orator.

7:20-22 – he becomes more “stout” (greater authority) than the kings. He wages war against the saints and prevails till God stops him and the saints possess the kingdom.

7:23 – Rome’s military might crushes the world!

7:24 – Revived Rome and the uprising of the Antichrist who overcomes 3 of the 10 kings.

7:25 – for 3 ½ years he blasphemes God, wears down the saints, perhaps through injustice, seizure, punishment, death, etc. During this time God will give him free reign. He will re-write morality, laws, etc.

7:26-27 – ...till his end comes and the saints of God are granted victory...we win!

8:23-25 – the rise of a fierce ruler who is a master deceiver, a demon-inspired despot. Offering peace, he will destroy.

9:26 – Antichrist is the “prince that shall come.” He destroys the city and sanctuary, war will continue to the end.

9:27 – During this 7-year period he makes a peace covenant but breaks it midway through the 7 years. He attacks the Jews to destroy them so God’s covenant cannot be fulfilled.

11:36 – arrogant, self-willed, blasphemous.

11:37 – no regard for god, no regard for the “desire of women” (homosexual? or no regard for “that which Jewish women desire” which would be to bear the Messiah. Therefore – no regard for the Messiah).

11:38-39 – he regards only force, military might. He will spend vast fortunes to amass a military powerhouse. He will worship military might. He will sell land (authority to rule lands) for a price. He will own the world!

JESUS (in Matthew 24)

24:15, 21, 29-30 – Antichrist will exalt himself as god in Jerusalem.

PAUL (in 2 Thessalonians 2)

2:3b-12 (especially vv. 3-4, 9-10) – Satan-inspired, deceitful, arrogant.

JOHN (in 1 John & Revelation)

1 John 2:18 – “as ye have heard”. Yes, much was known and taught about the human leader who would be inspired by Satan and would lead a worldwide assault on the Jews and Jesus Christ.

Yet, before that final human being steps into the spotlight on world stage, there will be many antichrists who will exalt themselves in opposition to God and His Word. According to 2 Thessalonians 2 Satan has been attempting to bring such a final world leader to the

spotlight since the time of the apostles but the Holy Spirit, through the salt & light of Holy Spirit indwelt Christianity, has been holding back those attempts.

Revelation 6 – we saw him briefly as the rider of the white horse, bringing peace.

Revelation 11:7 – no longer peaceful, he now rises up to kill the two witnesses.

Revelation 13 – finally, the God who orchestrates world events, will now pull back the curtain to reveal the depravity of this Antichrist along with his side-kick, the False Prophet. Along with Satan, these form the *evil trinity of the tribulation* (16:13; 20:10).

Revelation 16 & 17 will continue to portray this beast.

This demon-indwelt global dictator will fulfill his role on the stage of human history in a *three-actor plot* designed to dethrone God, destroy all God is doing and become usurp control of God's universe.

The Evil Trinity of the Tribulation

Revelation 12:3 & 13:1, 11; 16:13; 19:20 & 20:2; 20:10

These three persons are the leadership behind the events of the world's tribulation.

1. The Devil Rev. 12:3, 9

- ▶ 7 Heads w/ crowns — Satanic dominion of 7 world empires.
- ▶ 10 Horns — Satanic dominion of the 10 coming kings.
- ▶ Cast down to earth at the mid-point of the tribulation and for 3½ years brings great trouble to the remnant.

2. The Anti-Christ 13:1-10 ... the “beast from the sea”

- ▶ 7 Heads — each named blasphemy v. 1 (also 17:3, 9-11)
 - 1 Egypt.....5 past
 - 2 Assyria
 - 3 Babylon

- 4 Persia
- 5 Greece
- 6 Rome..... 1 is (when John wrote)
- 7 Revived Rome.....1 yet to come

- 8 Globalism (Antichrist after “resurrection” — 17:11)

- ▶ 10 Horns w/ Crowns v. 1 (also 17:3, 12-14)
 These 10 are confederate with the Antichrist. They will turn on the woman (later study — global religious system) and destroy her (17:16-17).

- ▶ Leopard, Bear & Lion v. 2
 Accumulated strengths of previous world leaders/empires. These animals are found in Daniel’s dream (Daniel 7).
 Leopard — swiftness
 Bear — clumsy brutality
 Lion — Strength

- ▶ Killed & Resurrected v. 3
 See also 13:12b, 14; 17:8, 11

What/who was “killed”?

- 1) One of the heads (v. 3)? Head #6 Rome? Is it a shock that the old Rome has risen back to life?
- 2) The Antichrist? Notice the personal pronouns throughout the chapter. Did he really die? Or was it a deception?...his “lying wonders” that invite awe and worship (2 Thess 2:9-10)?

- ▶ Empowered by Satan v. 2b, 4
- ▶ Worshiped by the World v. 4
- ▶ Blasphemer v. 5a, 6
- ▶ War w/ Saints for 3½ Years v. 5b, 7-8
 See also 12:17

NOTE: who/what is “the beast”?

13:1 – the “beast” = all 7 heads and 10 horns (all past Gentile world powers and future confederacy of *Globalism*).

13:12 – the “beast” = the one head that was killed and resurrected.

THEREFORE: The “beast” = the entire global system and the one man who heads it up.

3. The False Prophet 13:11-18 ... the “beast from the earth”

- ▶ 2 Horns Like a Lamb v. 11 – outward appearance of a gentle, Christlike person.
- ▶ Spake as a Dragon v. 11
- ▶ Satanic Power v. 12
- ▶ Points Worship to Anti-Christ v. 12
- ▶ Performs Miracles v. 13-14
- ▶ Deceives v. 14
- ▶ Has the People Make an “Image” of the Antichrist and Makes it Live 13:14-15; 15:2

What is this image? A television image? Computerized monitor in every home? It lives and reports on each persons’ worship of the beast!

- ▶ Kills All Who Do Not Worship the Image (beast) v. 15
- ▶ Institutes a Mark 13:16-18; 14:9-11; 15:2 – “6” is the number of a man. Three “6’s” for the trinity of man. Therefore, does the devil personify himself as a man?

NOTE: The Antichrist receives the emphasis, not the False Prophet. The False Prophet and his religious system are used by the Antichrist to gain prominence. No reality in religion — just something to be used!