Bible Thoughts

with P.H.A.Hopkins

The

Antichrist

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The Antichrist.

The title, "the Antichrist" is only given for one person, according to the Bible, it is a person who will appear just before the judgement of Mankind by God and the end of the present known world.

Over history there have been many people who have appeared to be the AntiChrist, some even actually claiming to be that person. for instance, Hitler often referred to himself as the "messiah."

Though John the disciple refers to the appearance of the Antichrist, he does not appear in power until God opens the seals on the scroll, see <u>Revelation 6:1ff.</u>

It appears that at first, when the Antichrist appears, he will bring great peace to the earth, because the effects of war and resulting death do not appear until the opening of the second seal.

The AntiChrist, or "against Christ," is a man who has been taken over by the power of Satan, he will offer himself as the answer to the problems of the world. There are over one hundred passages which describe the person which is called "the Antichrist," yet the actual name only appears in four verses which are found in the letters of John the Apostle.

1 John 2:18;

"18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time."

1 John 2:22;

"22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son."

1 John 4:3;

" 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world."

2 John verse 7

"7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist"

Titles and descriptions given to the Antichrist.

There are more than twenty-five names or titles given to the Antichrist in the scriptures, they give us an appreciation and understanding of the evilness of this person. We know that Satan gives him his power, his authority and throne.

We have to ask if the "Antichrist" is actually Satan incarnate in some way?

The "dragon" referred too is Satan.

Revelation 12:3-9.

- "3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.
- 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.
- 5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.
- 6 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.
- 7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,
- 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.
- 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

Here are some of these names and descriptions.

"The Beast from the sea."

Revelation 13:1-6.

- "I And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.
- 2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.
- 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.
- 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?
- 5 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.
- 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven"

A Scarlet Coloured Beast.

Revelation 17:1-18.

- "I And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:
- 2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.
- 3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.
- 4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a gold-

- en cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:
- 5 And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABY-LON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOM-INATIONS OF THE EARTH.
- 6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.
- 7 And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.
- 8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.
- 9 And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.
- 10 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.
- 11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.
- 12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.
- 13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.
- 14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.
- 15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.
- 16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these

shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth."

The "Man of sin the son of perdition;"

2 Thess. 2:3,4.

"3 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;

4 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, showing himself that he is God. "

"Then shall that Wicked be revealed"

2 Thess 2:8-10.

"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:

9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved."

The "false Christs."

Matthew 24:23,24.

"23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not.

24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. "

The "little horn"

Daniel 7:23-25.

- "23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.
- 24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.
- 25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. "

Daniel 8:23-25.

- "23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.
- 24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.
- 25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand."

"King of fierce countenance." & The "Prince of the World." Daniel 8:23-25.

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The "Prince of the World." John 14:30.

"30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me."

A Fourth Beast, dreadful and terrible.

Daniel 7:7-8.

"7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things."

The Ten Horns.

Daniel 7:24,25;

"24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."

"Man of Sin."

2 Thess 2:3-9.

- "3 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;
- 4 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, showing himself that he is God.
- 5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?
- 6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

7 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:

9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, "

The harvest and tares.

Matthew 13:38-40.

"38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world."

Beelzebub the prince of the devils.

Matthew 12:24-32.

"24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.

25 And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand:

26 And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?

27 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges.

28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you. "

Who is the Antichrist?

The Antichrist is described in great detail, yet we are not given any idea of his actual identity. However, you will know who he is when he appears **after** the Rapture of the Church. <u>2 Thess. 2:7-12.</u> If you are able to recognize who the Antichrist is then you have been

left behind. God has taken the True Believers to heaven!!!

We know that the Antichrist will be a great, charismatic leader whose enhanced words will turn the people to him. Note that his words will also be against God, blasphemies. <u>Revelation 13:5.</u>

Daniel prophecies that the Antichrist will be cruel and take over the whole world, any who turns to God will be persecuted.

As he will make a covenant with Israel we must assume that he will come from a Gentile nation.

The False Prophet.

The Antichrist will have a partner, the "False Prophet." Revelation 13:11-15.

"11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed."

John is using symbols to explain the evilness of this person, it appears that he will initially appear with a humble but attractive personality, he will combine politics and religion with subtile but convincing arguments, he will be able to control the people with his speeches. With the addition of Satan we now have the false, unholy trinity of Satan, the Antichrist and the False Prophet. Authority comes from Satan to the Antichrist and the False Prophet leads the people to worship the Antichrist.

The False Prophet will be able to demonstrate and use great power, produce great signs and so quickly deceive the people, this power is being given through the Antichrist, who gets his power from Satan, the Dragon, Rev 13:2-8.

This indicates that Satan has the power to work miracles, they are not tricks, read Matt 24:24.

The False Prophet is able to copy God by calling fire from heaven, possibly pretending to be Elijah. He will create an image of the Antichrist in the Jewish temple, <u>Rev 13:14</u>. Some how this image will be able to breath and speak, <u>Rev 13:15</u>. This act must be accomplished by demonic power.

Political power of the False Prophet

John tells us that the False Prophet will introduce sweeping economic plans for the world.

Revelation 13:16,17.

"16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

No one will be allowed to trade in any way without this license mark. Anyone who refuses the mark will not be allowed to buy or sell anything.