



## End Times Bible Prophecy – Antichrist, False Prophet, Mark of the Beast

### Part-2

Sunday September 08, 2024

We are currently doing a 4-part sermon series on End Times Bible Prophecy. In this series we will cover:

Sun Sep 01: The Middle East Conflict

Sun Sep 08: Antichrist, False Prophet, Mark of the Beast

Sun Sep 15: Russia, Iran, Turkey and kings of the East

Sun Sep 22: The Battle of Armageddon and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ

### Today: Antichrist, False Prophet, Mark of the Beast

#### WHEN WILL THE ANTICHRIST BE REVEALED?

##### 2 Thessalonians 2:6-8

**6 And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time.**

**7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; **only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.****

**8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.**

The Church, empowered by the Holy Spirit is the one restraining force on the Earth today. Once the Church is taken out of the way, then the lawless one will be revealed (vs 7-8).

Why do we say that "*He who now restrains*" refers to the Church and not the Holy Spirit? For the following reasons:

(1) Jesus clearly stated that the Holy Spirit will abide with us forever (John 14:16). So it will be a contradiction to Jesus' statement to say that the Holy Spirit will be taken out of the earth, and that those who become believers during the Tribulation will be left without the Holy Spirit to go through the Tribulation.

(2) The apostle Paul in His writing to the Thessalonians had already informed them about the Church - the entire body of believers - being taken into Heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). He is now writing specifically about "*the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him*" (2 Thessalonians 2:1). He had stated in 1 Thessalonians 4 that the Church would be taken out of the earth. Hence it is only right



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to interpret 2 Thessalonians 2:1-10 in a manner consistent with what he had already written earlier.

(3) The Church is called the salt, the light, empowered to advance the Kingdom against the works of darkness. Hence it is the Church that acts as a restraint to evil at this present time on the earth.

(4) While we understand that the Church is referred to as the "Bride" of Christ (feminine), since the Church is the "Body" of Christ (masculine), it is perfectly right for the "*He who now restrains*" (masculine) to also refer to the Church, the Body of Christ.

(5) We know from Scripture that the Holy Spirit will be at work in and through people on the earth during the Tribulation:

- We know that the Holy Spirit is God and so is omnipresent (present everywhere at all times, Psalms 139:7-11) and hence will continue in some way to move upon the earth.
- We know that during the outpouring of the Spirit continues through the entire period of the Last Days until the great and terrible day of the Lord as stated in Joel 2:28 and Acts 2:17.
- During the Tribulation the 144,000 Jews (Revelation 7:1-17) are sealed (marked) by God. As far as the New Testament is concerned, this seal is the presence and work of the Holy Spirit (John 6:27; 2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13; Ephesians 4:30, Joel 2:28-29). These Jews are thus empowered to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ to the whole world (Revelation 14:1-5).
- During the Tribulation there will be people saved and turn to the Lord when they see the signs (Acts 2:16-21, Revelation 6:9-11; 7:13-17, 15:2-4; 20:4-6). People cannot be saved apart from the work of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:9; Titus 3:5). Many of them will be martyred during the Tribulation. These Tribulation believers will need the work and empowering of the Holy Spirit more than ever (John 14:16-17).
- We also know that during the Tribulation there will be people who will bear the testimony of Jesus as stated in Revelation 12:17: "*And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*" We also know that the Holy Spirit is the testimony of Jesus, as stated in Revelation 19:10: "*And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."*"
- The Two Witnesses, one of whom we know is Elijah (Malachai 4:5-6) will come in the power of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 17:11; Luke 1:17) just as Elijah did in Old



Testament times and will perform signs and wonders in the power of the Spirit (Revelation 11:3-6).

- We also read that when the Lord returns to deliver Israel at the battle of Armageddon, He will pour out His Spirit of grace and supplication upon them (Zechariah 12:8-10).

The Antichrist cannot be revealed until the Church departs from this world. This does not mean that the Holy Spirit must be removed from the earth. We do not have a definitive indication of the Holy Spirit being taken out of the earth in Scripture at any point. [Side note: Genesis 6:3 is not a clear statement that the Holy Spirit will be taken out of the world. Instead, it is referenced in the context of righteous living as in James 4:5].

When we look at the sequence of events unveiled in the book of Revelation, Revelation 4:1 begins with the Lord informing John, he is going to see things which are in the future, things which must take place after this:

#### **Revelation 4:1**

**After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."**

In Revelation chapters 4 and 5, we see a picture of the church in heaven after the rapture, with the elders and saints worshipping God in the Throne Room. At the end of chapter 5, (in the future) the Lord Jesus comes forward and opens the scroll indicating that the events (mentioned from then on) will begin to take place on the earth.

#### **Revelation 6:1-2**

**1 Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see."**

**2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.**

Then in Revelation 6:1-2, as the first of the seven seals are opened, this is the start of the 7 years of Tribulation on earth. The first thing we see is the Antichrist, the rider on the white horse revealed. This antichrist is the false Christ. He comes with military power and strength (had a bow), comes as a leader (has a crown) and extends his influence over the nations (went out conquering and to conquer). The Real Christ comes later in Revelation 19 riding on a white horse.



## THE RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

(Why we say that the Rapture will take place before the Tribulation).

### Why we believe in a pre-tribulation rapture of the Church?

- #1, JESUS SAID HE WILL COME AND TAKE US TO HIS FATHER'S HOUSE
- #2, THE TYPOLOGY OF NOAH AND LOT USED IN MATTHEW 24 AND LUKE 17
- #3, JESUS TAUGHT TO PRAY TO ESCAPE THINGS THAT WILL COME TO PASS
- #4, WHAT PAUL TAUGHT THE THESSALONIAN CHURCH
- #5, THE DEPARTURE MUST HAPPEN FOR THE ANTI-CHRIST TO BE REVEALED
- #6, THE PROMISE TO THE CHURCH IN REVELATION 3:10-11
- #7, THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION
- #8, DANIEL'S SEVENTIETH WEEK FOR ISRAEL NOT THE CHURCH
- #9, ANGELS PREACHING THE ETERNAL GOSPEL AND ADMONISHING PEOPLE IN REVELATION 14
- #10, AT THE END OF THE TRIBULATION THERE IS A RESURRECTION NOT A RAPTURE

## THE ANTICHRIST AND THE FALSE PROPHET

Let's try to understand a little about the antichrist and the false prophet.

We will read Revelation 13. We will read each verse and make comments to help us understand what is happening. For those who may be reading Revelation for the first time, all this may sound strange. But for those who have studied Daniel and Revelation these things, many of which are given in strange symbols have Biblical meaning and hence make sense. We will make brief statements after each verse to help us understand.

Revelation 13 describes what happens in the second half of the Tribulation, the last 3 ½ years.

### Revelation 13

**1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.**

The beast here is the antichrist. The sea represents nations and peoples (Revelation 17:15). The beast emerges from among the people and nations. The beast is a man (Revelation 13:18), we refer to him as the Antichrist (1 John 2:18,22; 1 John 4:3; 2 John 1:7).



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Based on what we have in Daniel 7-8 and in Revelation 17, the **seven heads are leaders** (kings, rulers) of seven mountains or kingdoms or empires (Revelation 17:9-10).

These seven kingdoms (empires) are: **Assyrian, Babylonian, Medes, Persians, Greek, Roman**, and the loosely held collection of **modern-day countries that were part of the former Roman empire**. Or some would put it as: Egyptian, Assyrian, Babylonian, Medo-Persia, Greek, Roman and the loosely held collection of modern-day countries that were part of the former Roman empire. Either approach is fine. We see these described for us in Daniel 2,7,8. The antichrist comes from this region where the seven kings and their kingdoms existed.

The **ten horns are ten leaders** who emerge from the seventh region (horns represent leaders) and their **ten crowns** represent their rule, authority and dominion.

The beast's primary assignment and identity ("a blasphemous name", name = identity) is blasphemy against the Most High God.

**2 Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.**

The antichrist has his origin in the Grecian (leopard), Medo-Persian (bear) and Babylonian (lion) region. The beast contains characteristics of these preceding empires, as foretold by Daniel (Daniel 2, 7).

It is interesting for us to see which modern nations lie in the overlapping region of these three empires: Babylonian Empire (circa 626-539 BC), Medo-Persian Empire (circa 550-330 BC), and Greek Empire (Alexander the Great's empire from 336-323 BC, and later his successors' Hellenistic kingdoms): **Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel/Palestine territories, Jordan, Egypt, Kuwait**. Note: Countries part of these three empires but lying outside of the overlapping regions are not listed.

Revelation 13:2 can be understood to mean that the antichrist comes from countries that have the traits of these three empires, or, can mean simply that the antichrist has characteristics/traits of these three preceding empires.

The antichrist is empowered by the dragon, that is satan (Revelation 12:9).



**3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.**

This seems to be an attempt to imitate Jesus Christ, through a death and resurrection like experience. The beast (Antichrist) was mortally wounded, perhaps through an assassination attempt, but was healed. The world is impressed, and they follow this man.

**4 So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"**

In following and worshipping the beast, people of the earth actually follow and worship the dragon, that is satan, who gives power to the antichrist.

**5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.**

**6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.**

His name is blasphemy and so what he does is speak blasphemy against God. This is exactly what Daniel mentioned (Daniel 7:8,11,20,25; Daniel 8:11,25 Daniel 9:27).

The Antichrist did this for 42 months which is 3 and ½ years. This corresponds to Daniel's "time, times and half a time" (Daniel 7:25; Revelation 12:14).

**7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.**

Daniel foretold that the Antichrist will make war with the saints (Daniel 7:25) which refer both to the Jewish people and to those who believe in Jesus Christ and have the testimony of Jesus Christ during the Tribulation (Revelation 12:13,17).

The Antichrist's influence will spread globally.

**8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**

**9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear.**

People globally will embrace and worship the beast, the Antichrist. This is a serious matter, and we need to pay attention to this.



**10 He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.**

Given that this (the second half of the Tribulation, will be the “Great Tribulation), the saints have this assurance that gives them endurance and faith. Those who lead them into captivity will themselves go into captivity one day. Those who kill them (the saints) with the sword, will themselves be killed with the sword - by the Lord and the sword of His mouth. Knowing this, gives the saints (those who become believers during the Tribulation) endurance and faith during the Tribulation.

**11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.**

Here is a second man, referred to as “another beast”. In Revelation 16:13; Revelation 19:20; Revelation 20:10 this second beast is referred to as the false prophet. This beast with two horns like a lamb (opposite or imitation of the true Lamb of God). This false prophet is focused on matters of religion and faith. He speaks like a dragon – deceptive, cunning and persuasive words that moved people to evil.

**“out of the sea” and “out of the earth” – what is the difference?**

The first beast, the antichrist comes “out of the sea” (13:1). The second beast, the false prophet, comes “out of the earth”. Is there a significance?

In Daniel 7, as Daniel sees the vision of coming empires, he sees "...four great beasts came up from the sea..." (Daniel 7:3) and also these same "...four kings which arise out of the earth." (Daniel 7:17). Rising out of the sea and rising out of the earth are used in a synonymous manner in Daniel 7. Hence, we should not make too much distinction between coming from the sea or coming from the earth. The sea emphasizes nations and people. What comes from the sea has influence over nations and people. The earth represents what is natural, human and earthly. What comes from the earth does not have anything divine. Nothing in it is from God.

Consider Revelation 17 that speaks of the great harlot, Mystery Babylon, referring to the false religious system setup by the Antichrist and the false prophet. Here we see the typology of waters and mountains used. "...the great harlot who sits on many waters," (Revelation 17:1). ".....seven mountains on which the woman sits." (Revelation 17:9). "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues." (Revelation 17:15). "...the woman whom you saw is that great city which



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reigns over the kings of the earth." (Revelation 17:18). This false religion exerts its influence on "many waters" representing peoples and nations. This false religion exerts its influence on the "seven mountains" representing kingdoms and their kings. In fact, this false religion exerts its influence over "the kings of the earth", that is many leaders embrace it. Here again, waters and mountains are used to specify the influence of mystery Babylon.

**12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.**

The false prophet (second beast) works with the antichrist (first beast) and works to get people to worship the antichrist.

This is a global religion or religious system, getting people to worship the antichrist.

**13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.**

**14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth—by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.**

The false prophet works signs and wonders empowered by satan (2 Thessalonians 2:9). He deceives people. He gets people to practice idolatry, by setting up an image of the beast and worshipping it.

**15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.**

The image of the beast seems to be lifelike – able to speak and able to kill. This could be achieved with modern technology (e.g. lifelike robots), or demonically empowered with supernatural power. The image of the beast is part of this world/global religious system promoted by the false prophet.

**16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads,**

**17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.**





**18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.**

The false prophet working along with the antichrist also introduces a global currency system (or a global financial system). People must receive a mark on their right hand or forehead. Only with this ID they can transact. This affects all people. Everyone is obliged to use this system to transact financially.

Receiving the mark on the hand or forehead can be achieved using modern technology. Something that would not have been possible before the 2000's.

This kind of financial infrastructure to affect people globally can also be achieved today, through global financial systems. Again, something that would not have been possible before the 2000's.

The mark of the beast is something that we can calculate. The calculation is the number of his name. In Greek, the Greek alphabets were associated with numbers. So, the antichrist has a name, and the number equivalent of his name will give 666. However, we do not need to worry about this because as we learned, the antichrist will only be revealed after the Church has been taken out of the way. So, Revelation 13:16-18 has been written for the benefit of those who will be there during the Tribulation, to know and identify the antichrist so that they can refuse the mark of the beast.

We also see that the antichrist is a man, as stated in vs 18 it is the number of a man.

### **WHO IS THE ANTICHRIST?**

The antichrist is a man empowered by satan. The Bible reveals many things about the antichrist. Here is a brief: The antichrist emerges on the world political stage as a man of peace (rider on a white horse). He begins by setting up a 7-year peace treaty "covenant of peace" (Daniel 9:27) with Israel. He is recognized as a global leader and people around the world admire him.

However, in the middle of this 7-years, he changes and sets himself up as God in the Temple of God. He survives an assassination attempt, which makes him even more prominent and influential. He is supported by a false prophet who through deceiving signs and wonders get people to worship the antichrist or the image of the antichrist. In addition to controlling people through a global religious system, the antichrist along with the false prophet setup a global financially system using the number of his name,



to get people to use the number of his name as an identification to engage in financial transaction.

All these things are a possibility in our world today using available technology.

### **WHERE WILL THE ANTICHRIST COME FROM?**

We now turn to the book of Daniel, to whom God revealed many things about the near term and the long term, the End Times.

Daniel, whose name means "God is judge," ministered between 605 BC and 535 BC, from the time the Jews were deported to Babylon until Zerubbabel returned to Jerusalem to begin building the temple. He served in the courts of 3 empires the Babylonian, the Medes and the early part of the Persian empire.

What is amazing is that Daniel, while serving in the Babylonian empire prophesied about future world empires. The details continued as he served under the Medes. He prophesied ahead of time about the future of the Babylonian, the Medo-Persian the Greek, the Roman, the Messiah, the present-day region that were part the former Roman empire, and what would happen during the latter days, the time of the Antichrist, and beyond.

We highlight some of Daniel's prophecies and focus in on what Daniel said where the antichrist would come from.

#### **Daniel 2:36-44**

**36 "This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.**

**37 You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;**

**38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold.**

**39 But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.**

**40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.**

**41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.**



**42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.**

**43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.**

**44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.**

Daniel narrated and interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel chapter 2. This was during the second year of King Nebuchadnezzar's reign over the Babylonian Empire, which would have been about 603-602 BC. Although in chapter 2, Daniel does not mention the names, he foretold the coming empires. Chapter 2 serves as a framework upon which further information is given in chapters 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12.

The first kingdom (the head of gold) was identified as the Babylonian kingdom "you are this head of gold" (Daniel 2:38).

Using the information given in Daniel, we can draw the following parallel, as shown:



## Daniel 2



### BABYLONIAN EMPIRE

Head of gold (Lion)  
612 B.C. to 539 B.C.

### MEDO-PERSIAN EMPIRE

Breast & arms of silver  
(Bear, Ram)  
559 B.C. to 331 B.C.

### GRECIAN EMPIRE

Belly & thighs of brass  
(Leopard, Goat)  
331 B.C. to 323 B.C.

### ROMAN EMPIRE

Legs of iron (Beast)  
27 B.C. to 395 A.D.

Feet & toes part iron & clay  
10 toes = 10 horns = 10 leaders

## Daniel 7



## Daniel 8



### Daniel 7:17,23-25

17 'Those great beasts, which are four, **are four kings** which arise out of the earth.

23 "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be **A fourth kingdom on earth**, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces.

24 **The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings.**

25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand **For a time and times and half a time.**

Daniel had his vision recorded in Daniel 7 in the **year 553 BC.**

Daniel 7 reveals that there are 4 kingdoms. Daniel 2:38 we know that the **first kingdom** (head of gold, lion) is that of **Babylon**. In Daniel 8 he identifies **second kingdom** (breast



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of silver, bear, ram) (Daniel 8:20 kings or kingdom of **Mede and Persia**) and the **third kingdom**, (waist of brass, leopard, goat) as the kingdom of **Greece** (Danie 8:21).

The **fourth kingdom** (legs of iron, beast), which we know from history, and based on Revelation 17:10 “one is” the kingdom prevalent during the time of John the beloved, is the **Roman empire**.

The feet, which is iron mixed with clay (people of the Roman empire iron, mixed with races of people from all over the world). This is what we find in Europe – countries that were part of the former Roman empire.

From this region Daniel said there will be 10 leaders (ten toes, ten horns) who will emerge (Daniel 7:24). Then there will be another leader who will overpower 3 of these 10 leaders. This man will be the antichrist who will speak blasphemies against God for 3 and ½ half years (Daniel 7:24,25).

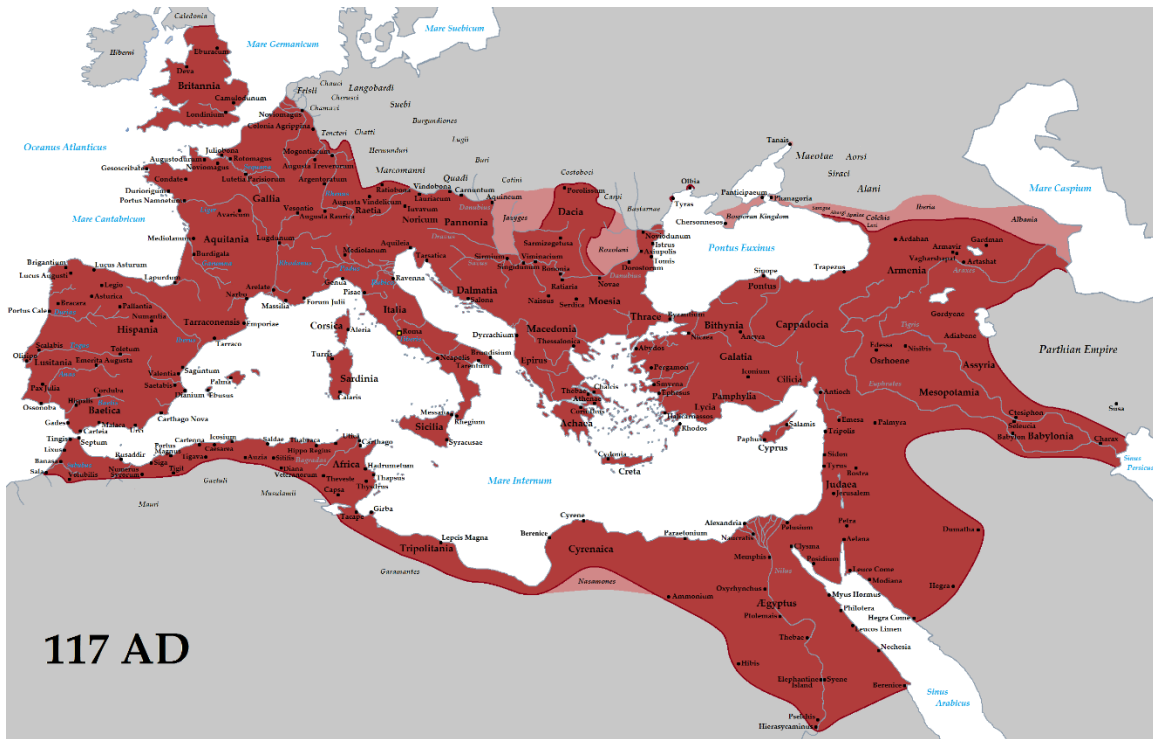
Note the phrase “a time, times and half a time” corresponds to  $1 + 2 + \frac{1}{2} = 3 \frac{1}{2}$

### **THE ROMAN EMPIRE AND MODERN EUROPE**

If we look at the Roman empire at its largest extent during AD 117 it covered many of the countries in Europe, western Asia and northern Africa.



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There are 45 modern-day countries that were part of the Roman Empire at its greatest extent. Present-Day Countries That Were Part of the Roman Empire at Its Largest Extent:

Europe: Spain, Portugal, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Germany (western parts), Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Liechtenstein, Greece, Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, North Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary (parts), Turkey (European and Asian parts), Cyprus, United Kingdom (England and Wales), Moldova (parts), Ukraine (southern coast)

Asia: Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia (northwestern part), Iraq (parts), Armenia (parts), Georgia (parts), Azerbaijan (parts)

Africa: Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Sudan (northern part), Mauritania (northern part)

Daniel 2 and Daniel 7 and 8 refer to 10 horns. So, we look for the 10 most influential and powerful countries among the modern-day countries that were part of the Roman Empire at its largest extent. These countries are considered influential based on their economic, military, political, and cultural power on the global stage. We are not stating



that the leaders of these 10 nations will be the ones who Daniel referred to as the 10 horns. However, we are making an intelligent study of which countries could potentially be among the 10 horns:

1. Germany
2. France
3. United Kingdom
4. Italy
5. Spain
6. Turkey
7. Egypt
8. Israel
9. Greece
10. Austria

Daniel provided additional details from where the antichrist would come from in Daniel 8.

**Daniel 8:5,8,9,11**

**5** And as I was considering, suddenly **a male goat came from the west**, across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat had **a notable horn** between his eyes.

**8** Therefore **the male goat** grew very great; but when he became strong, the large horn was broken, and **in place of it four notable ones** came up toward the four winds of heaven.

**9** And **out of one of them came a little horn** which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious Land.

**11** **He even exalted himself** as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down.

**Daniel 8:19-25**

**19** And he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be.

**20** **The ram** which you saw, having the two horns—they are **the kings of Media and Persia**.

**21** And **the male goat** is **the kingdom of Greece**. **The large horn that is between its eyes is the first king**.

**22** As for the broken horn and the four that stood up in its place, **four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation**, but not with its power.



23 "And in the latter time of their kingdom, When the transgressors have reached their fullness, **A king shall arise**, Having fierce features, Who understands sinister schemes.

24 His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people.

25 "Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; But he shall be broken without human means.

This prophecy was given to Daniel in **551 BC**. The male goat as we saw which is the kingdom of Greece which overthrew the kingdom of the Medes-Persians. The large horn (Daniel 8:21) is the first king. This is Alexander the great. **Alexander the Great started ruling at the age of 20 (356-323 BC)** expanded the Greek Empire to its greatest extent. He conquered the Persian Empire and extended Greek influence as far as India. He accomplished this in about 10 years. He died in 323 BC at the age of 32. At its peak under Alexander the Great, the Greek Empire was one of the largest empires in the ancient world, stretching over three continents

## THE GREEK EMPIRE

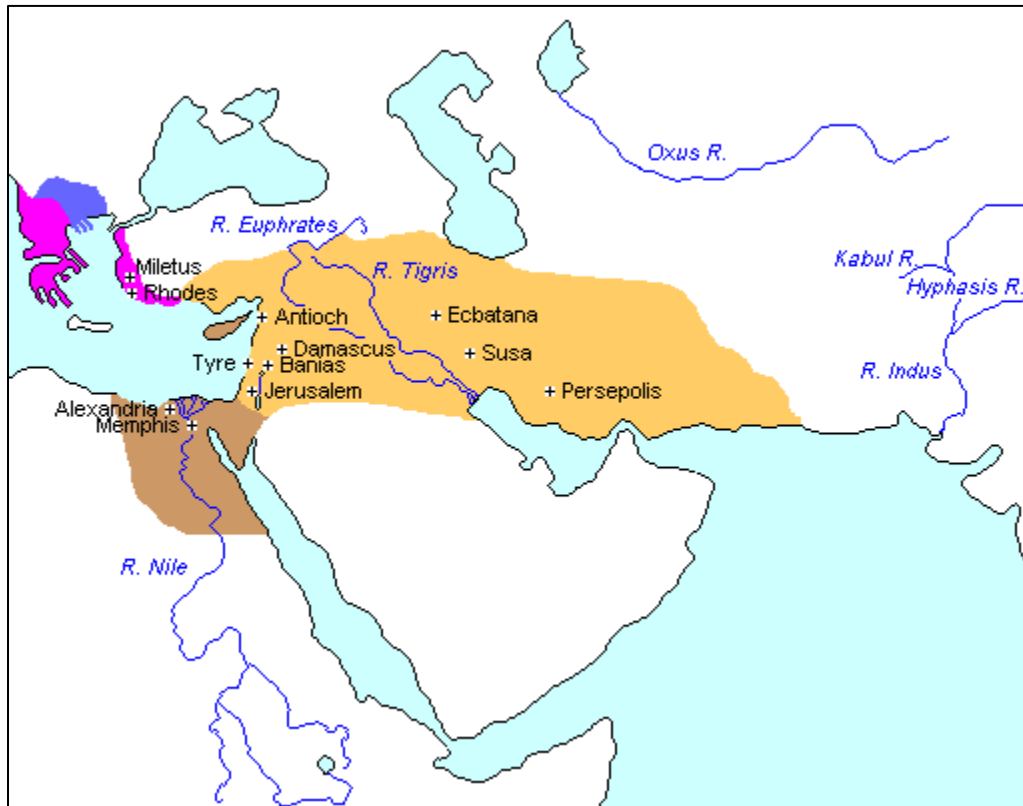


As Daniel prophesied in Daniel 8:22, after Alexander the great died, his four generals took major parts of his kingdom and ruled over time.





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**Ptolemaic Kingdom (dark brown area)** Ptolemy I Soter, took the **southern part** of the empire covering regions centered in Egypt, this kingdom also included parts of Libya, Israel, Lebanon, Cyprus, and southern Syria.

**Present day countries: Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Israel, Lebanon, Cyprus, Jordan, Syria**

**Seleucid Empire (light brown area)** Seleucus I Nicator, took all the **eastern part** of the empire, covering vast territories including modern-day Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and parts of Central Asia.

**Present day Countries: Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kuwait, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Bahrain, Qatar**

**Kingdom of Lysimachus (blue area)** Lysimachus, took the **northern part** of the empire, covering Thrace (modern Bulgaria and parts of Greece), and parts of western Asia Minor (modern Turkey).

**Present day Countries: Turkey, Thrace, Anatolia, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Macedonia, Moldova**



**Antigonid Kingdom (pink/magenta area)** Antigonus I Monophthalmus and later taken over by others, took the **western part** of the empire, centered in Macedonia and Greece, with influence in parts of Asia Minor (modern Turkey).

**Present day Countries: Greece, North Macedonia, Albania, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia**

These kingdoms emerged as the most powerful states following the fragmentation of Alexander's empire, and they played crucial roles in the Hellenistic world until they were gradually absorbed by the Roman Republic.

Note these shaded areas are not exact and are approximate. During the reign of these generals, there were numerous wars that were fought, and hence their domains expanded/shrunk/overlapped due to various battles.

The reason these areas are of interest is because Daniel prophesied that after the big horn representing Alexander the great, **"...and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven. And out of one of them came a little horn ..."** (Daniel 8:8-9). This means that the Antichrist comes out of one of the countries that lie in the regions occupied by the four kingdoms.

Hence these 34 countries are of interest to us to see what is happening in this part of the world. The "little horn" is likely to come from one of these countries: **Egypt**, Libya, Sudan, Israel, Lebanon, Cyprus, Jordan, **Syria, Turkey**, Iraq, **Iran, Kuwait**, Bahrain, Qatar, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Thrace, Anatolia, Bulgaria, **Greece**, Romania, Macedonia, Moldova, North Macedonia, Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia.

The *"little horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious Land."* (Daniel 8:9). The antichrist extends his influence toward the south (nations lying south of his land), towards the east (nations lying east of his land) and toward the Glorious land (the land of Israel).



## End Times Bible Prophecy – Antichrist, False Prophet, Mark of the Beast Sermon Notes, Sermon Outline and Small Group Study Guide



### WHO IS THE FALSE PROPHET?

The false prophet is a man who comes as a religious leader (like a lamb) but speaks like a dragon – deceiving people. His goal is to deceive people with signs and wonders and get them to worship the antichrist or an image of the antichrist.

### WHAT WILL THE ANTICHRIST AND FALSE PROPHET DO?

We observe from Revelation 13, that the antichrist and the false prophet, working together, empowered by satan have and put in place: **Global Leadership Influence, Global Religious System, Global Financial System**

### GLOBAL LEADERSHIP INFLUENCE

As we observed in Scripture (Revelation 6:1-2) the antichrist gains influence through political power so that leaders and others around the world yield to him. He is initially supported by 10 leaders from the region that belong to the former Roman empire. He overpowers 3 of these 10 leaders and is eventually supported by all 10 of them.

### GLOBAL RELIGIOUS SYSTEM THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST



The global religious system is where people worship the image of the antichrist, and in effect worship satan.

## **GLOBAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM THE MARK OF THE BEAST**

There will be three forms of Id: the mark of the beast, the name of the beast or the number of his name.

The number of the beast, which can be calculated as the number of the name of the antichrist (which adds up to 666) becomes one the identifications for a global financial system. People are required to have the mark, name or number of the beast to transact.

What is interesting is that we are living in a time when all these things can be fulfilled. The technology and the means for these things to actually happen is in place.

## **THE TWO WITNESSES**

We also note that in the second half of the Tribulation, for three and half years, there will be two witnesses. Elijah (Malachai 4:4-5) and possibly Enoch. They will prophesy and minister during the second half of the Tribulation turning people to the Lord.

The antichrist will succeed in killing them. Note what the Scripture records:

### **Revelation 11:7-11**

**7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.**

**8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.**

**9 Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves.**

**10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.**

**11 Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.**

The whole world will see the bodies of these two witnesses lie in the streets of Jerusalem for three and half days. And then, as the world is watching, God will raise them up and take them into heaven.



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We are living in a time, where through technology, this can actually happen. The whole world can see in real time what is happening in another part of the world. Perhaps, before the 2000's this would not have been possible. But today, this is possible.

### **THE CRASH OF THE GLOBAL RELIGIOUS AND GLOBAL FINANCIAL SYSTEMS Revelation 17 & 18**

Toward the end of the Tribulation, the global religious system and the global financial system set up by the antichrist and the false prophet come crashing down. The ten leaders who supported the antichrist reject the false prophet (Revelation 17:16-18) and tear it down.

The global financial system will come crashing down in one hour and the wealth of the nations will disappear (Revelation 18:17,19). Great riches came to nothing, in one hour! This again can happen in our day and time.

### **THE ANTICHRIST AND FALSE PROPHET MEET THEIR END AT THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON**

#### **Revelation 19:19-20**

**19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army.**

**20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.**

At the battle of Armageddon, when Christ Himself returns to deliver Israel, the antichrist and the false prophet will be captured and cast alive into the lake of fire.

### **SUMMARY**

#### **GOD HAS SPOKEN**

When we study the prophecies of Daniel and details in the book of Revelation, we stand amazed at what God has spoken and how these were fulfilled.

#### **FORETOLD 2000 YEARS AGO, READY TO BE FULFILLED IN OUR DAY**

Knowing Bible prophecy and understanding the times in which we live, what should our focus be? How should we live our lives? What should our priorities be?



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**GOSPEL AND SALVATION CALL**

**SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY TIME**

**Minister as the Spirit leads**



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**LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE**

**End Times Bible Prophecy – Antichrist, False Prophet, Mark of the Beast  
Part-2  
Sunday September 08, 2024**

This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

**Preparation**

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full-length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at our [sermons page](#). Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

**Welcome**

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship, and a fun activity.

**LISTEN to God's Word**

Read the following Scripture references: *see below*.

**INVESTIGATE God's Word Together**

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

*Read Revelation 13. We observe the dragon (satan), the beast (antichrist) and the second beast (false prophet).*

*1, What observations can we make about the antichrist and the false prophet that are an imitation of the Lord Jesus Christ, who He is and what He did in His life and ministry?*



*2, What observations can we make about details that were given to John the beloved around AD 95, which can only be fulfilled in our day and time, specifically after the year 2000?*

*3, John wrote that the mark, name and number of the beast would be used as identifications to participate in “buying and selling”, doing financial transactions. Why do you think God revealed the calculation of the number of the name of the antichrist, that it would be 666?*

If time permits, each one can take a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

**FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey**

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

**ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another**

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow, bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

*1, families to be protected and strengthened*

*2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.*

*3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for all details to go well as we plan and build our Bible college and church facilities to serve the Lord and people.*

Close by thanking God together.





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### USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

**DAILY DEVOTIONALS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

**BIBLE COLLEGE:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

**E-LEARNING:** <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

**WEEKEND SCHOOLS:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

**COUNSELING:** <https://chrysalislife.org>

**MUSIC:** <https://apcmusic.org>

**MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP:** <https://pamfi.org>

**CHURCH APP:** <https://apcwo.org/app>

**CHURCHES:** <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

**WORLD MISSIONS:** <https://apcworldmissions.org>

### SERMON OUTLINE

Bible prophecy is history written in advance. In this sermon series on End Times Bible Prophecy, we consider topics such as: The Middle East Conflict where we addressed the land of Israel, the city of Jerusalem and the Temple (Third Temple). The Antichrist, False Prophet, and the Mark of the Beast. Russia, Iran, Turkey and the kings of the East. The Battle of Armageddon and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. In this sermon we focus on the Antichrist, the False Prophet and the Mark of the Beast. Who is the Antichrist? Where will he come from? When Will The Antichrist Be Revealed? What are his objectives? Who is the False Prophet? What will the Antichrist and False Prophet work at? Infrastructure for Global Leadership, a Global Financial System and a Global Religious System. What is the Mark of the Beast? What is the image of the Beast? The Two Witnesses of Revelation 11. We also cover Daniel's prophecy of world empires.

### KEYWORDS

end times, bible prophecy, middle east conflict, Antichrist, False Prophet, Mark of the Beast, Image of the Beast, kings of the East, 666, Armageddon, Second Coming, Third Temple, Millennial Temple, Daniel, Revelation, Two Witnesses, sermons, sermon notes, sermon outline, free sermon notes, free sermon outlines, Bible study resources



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### REFERENCES/CITATIONS

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