



THE BOOK OF REVELATION

THE TRIBULATION BEGINS – THE ANTICHRIST ARRIVES

Introduction: The figure of the Antichrist has captured the imagination of commentators and Bible prophecy enthusiasts for centuries. While many claims abound, a careful examination of the Apostle John's description in Revelation 6 provides a clear biblical foundation for understanding this enigmatic figure. Through this study, believers can discern the truth behind the Antichrist's identity, his agenda, and the historical context of his references. By unraveling the biblical clues, we can gain a deeper understanding of this pivotal figure in end-times prophecy.

THE TRIBULATION PERIOD WAS PROPHESED TO COME

- **Both the Old Testament and the New Testament referenced the tribulation.**
 - *"...time of Jacob's trouble..."* (Jer. 30:7).
 - *"...a time of trouble, such as never was..."* (Dan. 12:1)
 - *"...great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning..."* (Matt. 24:21)
 - *"...that great and notable day of the Lord..."* (Acts 2:20) (Joel 2:11, 31)

THE FIRST SEAL ~ ANTICHRIST IS REVEALED

- **The timing of his revealing...**
 - His identity is revealed after the rapture of Rev. 4:1; II Thess. 2:7-8.
 - His identity is revealed when the first seal is opened. (Rev. 6:1)
- **The manner of his revealing...**
 - He enters riding a white horse (Rev. 6:2)
 - He rides in promising peace, safety, and stability but instead delivers **"sudden destruction."** (I Thess. 5:3)
 - He possesses a bow... a weapon of warfare.
 - **NOTE:** No arrows are mentioned. The bow represents a symbol of the Antichrist's power and authority, and its absence of arrows likely signifies that his methods of conquest and destruction are still to be revealed.
 - He was given and wears a crown. (Rev. 6:2)
 - At the outset, the Antichrist will have his power in the countries of the fourth kingdom of Daniel 7:7-8, 23-25; Rev. 17:8-9, 18.
 - The Antichrist will extend his power by irresistible conquest and brute force. (Dan. 7:7-8; 23-25; 11:36, 40; Rev. 14:3).
 - The Antichrist will attain universal dominion. (Dan. 7:23; Rev. 13:1, 7-8, 15).
 - The Antichrist will exercise a political, economic, and religious dictatorship
 - Political (Rev. 13:3-4, 7)
 - Economical (Rev. 13:16-17)

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- NOTE: No one will be able to buy or sell without having the mark of the beast or the number of his name.
 - That number is “in” their hand or forehead (Rev. 13:16).
 - That number is the number of a man (Rev. 13:18).
 - That is the number 666 (Rev. 13:18).
- Religious (II Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:8, 15)

THE NAMES OF ANTICHRIST IN SCRIPTURE

- **Names are important, especially when given in scripture. We can infer much about a person by his name. Here are a few names/titles given to Antichrist...**

Bloody and deceitful man (Ps. 5:6); The wicked one (Ps. 10:2-4); Man of the earth (Ps. 10:18); Mighty man (Ps. 52:1); The adversary (Ps. 74:8-10); Head of many countries (Ps. 111:6); Violent man (Ps. 140:1); The Assyrian (Is. 10:5-12); The king of Babylon (Is. 14:2); Son of the morning (Is. 14:12); The spoiler (Is. 16:4-5); The branch of the terrible ones (Is. 25:5); Profane, wicked prince of Israel (Ez 21:25-27); Little horn (Dan. 7:8); King of fierce countenance (Dan. 8:23); Prince that shall come (Dan. 9:26); Vile person (Dan 11:21); Willful king (Dan. 11:36); Idol shepherd (Zech. 11:16-17); One coming in his own name (John 5:43); Abomination of desolation (Matt 24:15); Desolator (Dan. 9: 27); Man of sin (II Thess. 2:3); Lawless one (II Thess. 2:8); Antichrist (I John 2:22); Angel of the bottomless pit (Rev. 9:11); Beast (Rev. 11:7; 13:1); Great dragon, old serpent, the Devil, Satan (Rev. 12:9).

Lesson Conclusion: Scripture foretells the coming of the Antichrist, and we are witnessing the fulfillment of these prophecies. Time is short. The Antichrist's emergence is imminent. Before he is revealed to the world, Jesus will return to rapture His children. Are you prepared to meet Him?