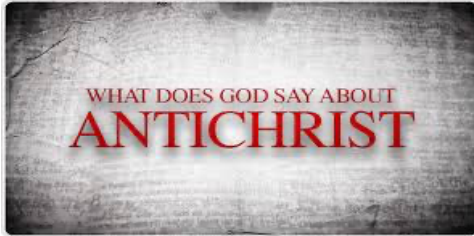


Daniel 7:15-28 Pt 4 The Antichrist (Cont) - The Person and The Program
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In this passage, Daniel saw the future from his own time period up until the time when Christ will reign on the earth with an everlasting kingdom. Today I'll give you a quick summary of what Daniel saw and I will draw on the Book of Revelation to help you understand the entirety of what you're hearing and seeing.

Please stand with me as we read God's Word:



27 'Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of *all* the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom *will be* an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.'

28 "At this point the revelation ended. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts were greatly alarming me and my face grew pale, but I kept the matter to myself."

Before we get into all of this I suppose some of you are out there asking, "Faber, why should we study prophecy?" "Why can't you just stick to the letters of Paul and the gospels and stick to easy passages.

➔ Principle 1: Well, I want you to realize that over 1/4 of the entire Bible is prophetic literature. There are 1,239 prophecies in the Old Testament and 578 prophecies in the New Testament. That is a total of 1,817. Together these make up 8,352 verses. There are a total of 31, 124 verses in the Bible.¹ So you can do the math.

87% of the prophecies have already come to pass, and that leaves only 13% that are left to be fulfilled. Almost all of those that remain will be fulfilled during the seven year tribulation.²

Apart from faith itself, no subject is more discussed in the Bible than the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ. For each time that the atonement is mentioned, the 2nd Coming is

¹ Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy; J. Barton Payne

² Ibid

mentioned twice. And over 50 times we are told to "be ready" for the coming of Jesus.³

As your pastor, I must not shy away from teaching prophecy. God put it into the Bible and here at Union Grove Baptist Church we will study it all. In the Jewish Scriptures, referred to as the Old Testament, the Book of Daniel foreshadows the Book of Revelation. And interestingly Revelation helps us to interpret Daniel. The two books go together like a hand in a glove.

We looked last week at characteristics of the Antichrist. Remember the time line we looked at last week. He will immediately precede the coming of Jesus.

➔ Principle 2: We learned Antichrist will have four distinct characteristics. He will be a man of charisma: and an orator, who will command the attention of the entire world. We also learned that he will be a clever leader who will manipulate people with ease as they are dazzled by his brilliance. We learned that he will be a cultic person who has a seemingly deep religious bent to him. His time of influence will be an approximate 7 year period.

He will blaspheme God and create a whole new religion that he himself will lead. We learned he will be cruel beyond imagination. He will bring the nations of the world together finding ingenious ways to help them settle their differences. He will then look to the Jews (who the world sees as perpetual trouble-makers) and he'll make a peace pact with them allowing them to rebuild their temple reinstating their sacrifices. Then Daniel 9:27 tells us that after 3.1/2 years he will break his covenant with them and he will enter the temple demanding that abominations and all forms of ungodliness take place in the Temple, and then he will demand to be worshipped in place of the God who is. Last week I told you that he will kill the 1/3 of the Jews and billions of Gentiles.

Let's now look at Revelation 13 where we can fill in the details concerning what he will do and how he'll do it. This is a commentary on what we studied last week.

➔ Remember Daniel 7:8, 20, and 24 Contain veiled references to the Antichrist. In Revelation Chapter 13 his persona is clarified. Principle 3: Remember he is called by different names in scripture:

In Daniel Chapter 7: "The little horn"

In Daniel Chapter 9 "Prince that shall come"

In Daniel Chapter 11 The "the willful king"

In Matthew calls him, the "Abomination of Desolation"

And, the apostle John calls him "Antichrist"

Then in Revelation chapter 13 he is given the title of "the beast"

➔ Rev 13:1-10

³ The Handwriting on the Wall; Dr. David Jeremiah

- 1 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore.
Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads,
and on his horns *were* ten diadems, and on his heads *were* blasphemous names.⁴

Politically Our text says he will come "up out of the Sea": which is a reference to not only the sea of people, but he will come out of the chaos that is present in the world.

Isaiah chapter 57:20 says "But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt." There will wars and rumors of wars. There will be lack of direction on planet earth ... in short there will be chaos.

Nationally Some say he must be a Jew, but that isn't true. There's evidence to the contrary. Often "the sea" in the Bible refers to the Mediterranean Sea and that is the petrie dish left behind in the residue of the Roman Empire. He will probably be racially and ethnically one of us. Daniel 9 says he will come "out of that great empire in that last kingdom". So he'll most likely be a European descending from one of those residual countries that made the Roman Empire. He'll be out of the final form of the final empire, and

Spiritually

Rev 11:7 says, "He arises out of the abyss" He is nothing less than Satan incarnate. Satan is the great imitator so we will see Satan embodied in the Antichrist. Have you ever noticed how Satan imitates things that God creates?

Providentially

Mozie told Tim last week that this all seemed a little scary. Well it all IS a little scary, but in Rev 13 you will see that the text says "and it was given unto him".... that means that Satan controls the Antichrist, but the Sovereign hand of God allows it even though he doesn't cause it. God is sovereign and He is providentially in control.

➔ **Rev 13 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.

That final kingdom will have all of those qualities found in those earlier empires.
Principle 4: This will be Satan's masterpiece. He will be the culmination of all evil.

➔ **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.

This is a further manifestation of Satan's imitation of God the Son going to the cross. He will be wounded in the head and his resurrection will leave the entire world in wonder. When John Kennedy died, people thought he was going to come back to life. Just

⁴ *New American Standard Bible: 1995 update.* (1995). (Re 13:1). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

imagine if you had been watching, and Kennedy had been revived and then he then started giving solutions to the problems of his day. People would have listened.

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?

The people of the earth will worship him because of this miracle and they will worship him because of his military prowess. People will say, "Let's worship him who has solved our problems and met our needs"

Sadly, our nation is totally focused on what will fill our pockets and our bellies. Think about how incredible it would be if someone could come in and straighten out the schools, raise our GNP, end crime, solve the immigration problem, etc. that person would have the total support and following of the American people.

How much worse would it have to get before the worlds' ready for such a character. I believe the world is ready for such a problem solver RIGHT NOW!

Principle 5: You see, he will be a great controller. He will control the religion of the world. He will control the economics of the world, and he will control the politics of the world.

Verses 7-8 tell us about his authority **7** And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. **8** And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

➔ ***** And then we see that beautiful Verse 9 "If any many have an ear to hear let him hear". Whenever you see this in the Bible, you should listen up.

➔ **10** He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

What in the world could this mean? It means though he'll rule the whole world, but his end is in sight. He will be placed into captivity and he will be killed. This means HE HAS AN END.

Revelation 17:14 tells us, "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."

Rev 19:19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. **20** And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that

worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Principle 6: The beast and the false prophet are the first two to go to hell.

20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

So what's the last chapter? How do you fit into all of this? Why is this in the Bible?

➔What should be your response today? Principle 7: We won't be here if we are Christians.

Friend, you may be reading this today saying this stuff is just too wild and too crazy to comprehend. Let me tell you what it means. It is wild and it is crazy and it is awful and it will be horrific, but you and I don't have to be involved in it.

God will not judge his faithful people. If you don't know God and haven't accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, TODAY is your day of salvation. Put your confidence and hope in Him and in nothing else.

In the Apostle Paul's letter to the Romans in Chapter 10 Paul says it so simply,

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. **11** For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." **12** For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. **13** For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Today my friend is your day of salvation. Come forward as we sing.

Note: The "➔" symbol included in your text represents slides that are shown in the service which contain a summary of the subject matter being discussed

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