

35 – END TIMES: THE TRIBULATION - PART 3

I. The First Judgment (Revelation 6:1-2)

A. The First Seal is Opened (Revelation 6:1)

- The Lamb is the only one to open the seals.

B. The Rider on a White Horse (Revelation 6:2)

Biblical Note: The Four Riders of the Apocalypse

The first four seals on the scroll are four riders on horses. These riders are commonly known as the four riders of the apocalypse. The first rider on a white horse represents the Antichrist. The second rider on a red horse is war. The third rider on a black horse is famine and economic collapse. The fourth rider on a pale horse is death and Hades followed close behind him.

- The conqueror mentioned here is the future world ruler, also known as the Antichrist.
- The word “antichrist” means false messiah.

II. The Antichrist

A. The Importance of Understanding (Daniel 12:9-10)

- There is a common misconception that we will not know his identity because of the rapture.
- However, as we move closer to the Day of the Lord, the wise will understand.

Scripture Daniel 12:9-10 (ESV)

⁹ He said, “Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed until the time of the end. ¹⁰ Many shall purify themselves and make themselves white and be refined, but the wicked shall act wickedly. And none of the wicked shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand.

B. The Presence of Many Antichrists (1 John 2:18)

- The apostle John tells us that as we approach the Antichrist's coming, other antichrists will arise.

Scripture 1 John 2:18 (ESV)

Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.

C. The Names of the Antichrist

1. The Book of Daniel

- The Little Horn (Daniel 7:8)

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- The Prince that shall come (Daniel 9:26)
- The Vile Person (Daniel 11:21)
- The Willful King (Daniel 11:36)

2. 2 Thessalonians

- The Man of Sin (2 Thessalonians 2:3)
- The Son of Perdition (2 Thessalonians 2:3)
- The Lawless One (2 Thessalonians 2:9)

3. 1 John

- The Antichrist (1 John 2:18)

4. The Book of Revelation

- The conqueror on the white horse (Revelation 6:2)
- The Beast (Revelation 11:7)

III. The Character of the Antichrist

A. Liar and Deceiver

- The Antichrist is a liar and will speak lies.

Scripture 1 John 2:22 (ESV)

Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.

B. Boaster

- The Antichrist will speak haughty and prideful words about himself.

Scripture Daniel 7:8; Revelation 13:5

C. Blasphemer

- The Antichrist will blaspheme God and Jesus Christ.

Scripture Daniel 7:25; 11:36-37

D. Rebellious

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- The Antichrist will not answer to anyone and is accountable to no one.

Scripture Daniel 11:36

IV. The Power and Influence of the Antichrist

A. The Followers of the Antichrist (Revelation 13:8)

- His followers will worship the Antichrist.
- They will be deceived by the Antichrist.
- They will carry his mark on their heads and hands.

B. The Antichrist's Power

1. Empowered by Satan

- The Antichrist will be empowered and possessed by Satan.

Scripture Revelation 13:4

- The Antichrist will appear on the world scene accompanied by miracles, signs and wonders.

Scripture 2 Thessalonians 2:9

2. Survives a Death Wound

- The Antichrist will be healed of mortal wound and the world will be amazed.

Scripture Revelation 13:3

C. The Antichrist's Actions

1. Deceive the Elect

- Jesus points out that the Antichrist will deceive God's people.

Scripture Matthew 24:24 (ESV)

For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

2. Makes a Peace Treaty with Israel and Many

- The Antichrist will bring peace to Israel with a strong treaty.

Scripture Daniel 9:27

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3. Stops the Sacrifices in the Temple

- The Antichrist will put an end to the sacrifices in the future Jewish Temple.
- This will occur three and half years after the great peace was made with Israel.

Scripture Daniel 8:11-14; 9:27; Matthew 24:15

4. His War against God's People

- The Antichrist will make war against the people of God.

Scripture Daniel 7:25

5. Institutes His Own Laws

- The Antichrist will institute his own laws in place of previous laws.

Scripture Daniel 7:25

- This can be seen in the institution of the Mark of the Beast.

Scripture Revelation 13:16-18

6. Denies God and Jesus

- The Antichrist will deny God and Jesus Christ.

Scripture 1 John 2:22

7. Proclaims Himself to be God

- The Antichrist will take his seat in the Temple and proclaim that he is God.

Scripture 2 Thessalonians 2:4; Daniel 8:11

8. Worships Military Strength

- The Antichrist's focus and attention will be on his military, which he will honor.

Scripture Daniel 11:39-44

V. The Destruction of the Antichrist

A. His Sure Destruction

- The kingdom and dominion of the Antichrist will be taken away and destroyed in one day.

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Scripture Daniel 7:26; Revelation 17; 18

- When Jesus Christ returns, the Antichrist will be captured.

Scripture Revelation 19:20

B. The Lake of Fire

- The Antichrist and his False Prophet will be thrown into the Lake of Fire forever.

Scripture Revelation 19:20