

# God's Plan for the Future

## Study Sheet

(Content herein based on the work of David Jeremiah, *The Book of Signs*; and from personal study notes)

### The Tribulation: Antichrist

#### Selected Scripture

Though the Antichrist is introduced and described in detail in the Scriptures, his identity is never disclosed. Paul tells us in the second chapter of 2Thessalonians that the identity of the Antichrist will not be known until after the Rapture of the church.

The Bible does not tell us *who* he will be, but it does tell us *what* he will be. The following gives us *a biblical preview* of the coming world leader:

#### The \_\_\_\_\_ of the coming world ruler

- Fierce king (Dan 8:23 – NLT)
- Master of intrigue (Dan 8:23 – NLT)
- The prince who is to come (Dan 9:26 - ESV)
- Despicable man (Dan 11:21 – NLT)
- The man of lawlessness (2Thes 2:3 - ESV)
- Son of destruction (2Thes 2:3 – ESV)
- The beast (Rev 13:1-10 – KJV)

#### The \_\_\_\_\_ of the coming world ruler

**Daniel 7:7-8, 25** – *After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet. It was different 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 horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots. And behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things. ... (25) He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.*

**Revelation 13:5** – *And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months.*

We see three things about his personality in these verses:

He'll be a \_\_\_\_\_ leader (Revelation 13:5)

With a charming personality and good speaking ability, this golden-tongued orator will talk boastfully against the one true God.

He'll be a \_\_\_\_\_ leader (Daniel 7:8)

Quoting from his commentary on this Bible verse, David Jeremiah says...

"The Antichrist subdues three other kings by plucking them out by their roots. This man will squeeze out the old to make room for the new. He will take over three kingdoms, one by one, not by making war but by clever political manipulation. He begins as a little horn, but then succeeds in uprooting three of the first horns and thus appropriates their power for himself."

He'll be a \_\_\_\_\_ leader (Daniel 7:23, 25)

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**Daniel 7:23, 25** – *As for the fourth beast, there shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all the kingdoms, and it shall devour the whole earth, and trample it down, and break it to pieces ... (25) He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.*

The Antichrist will be a cruel, blood-shedding leader who takes out his wrath on the saints who come to Christ under his regime. He'll be charismatic, cunning and cruel.

### The \_\_\_\_\_ of the coming world ruler

\_\_\_\_\_ inconspicuous (Daniel 7)

\_\_\_\_\_ blasphemous

**2 Thessalonians 2:4** – ... (The Antichrist) *opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.*

**Revelation 13:8** – ...*All who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.*

\_\_\_\_\_ limited

Antichrist can only do what he is allowed to do.

**Revelation 13:5, 7** – *And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. ... (7) Also, it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation. [Job 1 & 2]*

### The \_\_\_\_\_ of the coming world ruler

One of the first things the Antichrist will do is make peace with Israel. But only for a short time.

**Daniel 9:27** – *And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week [in Bible prophecy, 7 years], and for half of the week [3.5 years] he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering...*

One commentator asked this thoughtful question:

"Is the Antichrist lurking somewhere out there in the masses of humanity right now? Is his darkened mind already plotting the evils that he will inflict in the last days? It is entirely possible, if not highly probable." —David Jeremiah

Another commentator shared his thought on this topic:

"Somewhere at this moment there may be a young man growing to maturity. He is in all likelihood a brooding, thoughtful young man. Inside his heart, however, there is a hellish rage. It boils like a cauldron of molten lead. He hates God. He despises Jesus Christ. He detests the Church. In his mind there is taking shape the form of a dream of conquest. He will...present himself as a friend of Christ and the church. Yet... once empowered, he will pour out hell itself onto this world. Can the world produce such a prodigy? Hitler was once a little boy. Stalin was a lad. Nero was a child. The tenderness of childhood will be shaped by the devil into the terror of the Antichrist."

—Gary Frazier, *Signs of the Coming of Christ* (Arlington, TX: Discovery Ministries, 1998), 149.

Could the mentally ill shooters of our day be a lead-in to the ravages of the real Antichrist?

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**2 Thessalonians 2:7-12** – *For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only He who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. (8) And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. (9) The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, (10) and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. (11) Therefore, God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, (12) in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*

More important than the coming of the Antichrist is the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Titus 2:13** – *...Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ...*