

**"Is the World Ready for the Anti-Christ?"**

**Revelation 6**

**Introduction:** This is a message which God placed upon my heart last week and it is a message that needs to be proclaimed. I want to answer the question, "Is the world ready for the Anti-Christ? And then I want to consider some of what is going to happen during his reign. I want to begin by looking at how the Bible defines the Anti-Christ.

Someone may ask, "Why do we need to look at prophecy?"

**Mark 13:34-37**

<sup>34</sup> *For the Son of Man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.*

<sup>35</sup> *Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:*

<sup>36</sup> *Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.*

<sup>37</sup> *And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.*

**I. Who is the Anti-Christ?**

**a. He will be given over to Satan.**

The Bible teaches us that the Anti-Christ will be a man who is completely given over to Satan's purposes. I want to show you an offer presented to Jesus by Satan when Jesus was tempted in the wilderness.

**Matthew 4:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> *Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;*

<sup>9</sup> *And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.*

Satan offered to Jesus the kingdoms of the world if He would fall down and worship him, but Jesus would not. This was an offer to bypass the cross. Now, while Jesus would not take this offer there is one coming who will. He will worship Satan and serve his purposes because he will be a power-hungry individual.

**Revelation 13:2**

<sup>2</sup> 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.

b. He will become a world ruler.

**Revelation 13:7-8**

<sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> 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.

Satan will use this man to gain control over the world and lead much of the world in rebellion against God. We can see this in Satan's first attempt.

**Genesis 10:8-10**

<sup>8</sup> And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.

<sup>9</sup> He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.

<sup>10</sup> And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

**Genesis 11:1-8**

And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

<sup>2</sup> And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.

<sup>3</sup> And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.

<sup>4</sup> And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

<sup>5</sup> And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

<sup>7</sup> Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.

<sup>8</sup> So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.

This was the first attempt at a global government run by a man controlled by Satan and it is a picture of what is to come. God stopped this from happening because the time was not right.

## II. The Conditions when He Rises to Power.

The first thing we need to know is the Anti-Christ cannot be crowned world ruler until the church is raptured away.

### 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8

<sup>3</sup> Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

<sup>4</sup> Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

<sup>5</sup> Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

<sup>6</sup> And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

<sup>7</sup> For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

<sup>8</sup> And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

Until the church is taken away the Anti-Christ cannot be revealed. He may be a political leader that we all know of today but we that are saved will never see him reach the pinnacle of his power.

Now I want us to notice a couple of verses that I believe reveal what the conditions will be like when he rises to power.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3

*But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.*

<sup>2</sup> *For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*

<sup>3</sup> *For when they shall say, **Peace and safety**; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.*

When the Anti-Christ comes to power the world will cry for PEACE and SAFETY. This means that the conditions of the world will be that of TURMOIL and DANGER.

This is exactly what we see today in our nation as well as across the world. There is much turmoil over the election and the restrictions which are attached to Covid.

- **There is also many living in constant fear because of Covid as well as fear because of lawlessness. On top of this there is the movement to defund the police. There is one barometer that shows the fear:**

**Illustration:**

*According to thefederalist.com website from January through October of 2020 there was 17 million guns purchased. 7 million people purchased a gun for the very first time.*

The gun sales are up because people are afraid.

- **Then, there are the calls for a global government.**

The elites and the powers of the world are calling for a global government.

- **People are tired and weary.**

I want you to think with me for a moment. Listen to the words of Vince Lombardi:

*"Fatigue makes cowards out of us all."*

Now let me explain how that plays into what we are seeing today.

*When people are exhausted, they are more likely to give in and not stand to courageously to fight and finish their mission. When people become exhausted, they become filled with fear and will then give up. History has shown that people will call on those who show great determination and strength to protect them and take care of their own failed attempts at accomplishing life's hard-to-reach goals.*

This combined with fear and anxiety provide a perfect stage for the entrance of the Anti-Christ.

Let me share something that happened in the past. Hitler was a type of the Anti-Christ. His slaughter of the Jewish people was a picture of what is coming. But have you ever wondered how a man like Hitler came into power? After World War I Germany was exhausted and weary. The war was followed by a depression and the people were looking for a savior. Enter strong man Adolf Hitler. He comes on the scene with a strong personality and promises to return peace and prosperity to Germany. The people bought into his deceptive promises.

**Application:**

I point all of this out because we are just about where Germany was at. People are tired and exhausted. The Coronavirus and all the restrictions have people exhausted. Many are afraid of because of the lawlessness. The world is looking for a savior, but they are not looking for the True Savior.

I point this all out to help you to see the world is more than ready for the Anti-Christ.

The church has always looked for the rapture and has lived in expectation of Jesus coming back in the clouds.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-17**

*<sup>13</sup> But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.*

*<sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.*

*<sup>15</sup> For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.*

*<sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:*

*<sup>17</sup> Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

Paul and the early church believed they would be alive when Jesus returned. This has been the case over the years. But never has the stage been set like it is now! The world is longing for a leader who can provide peace and safety.

Now let us assume the rapture happens this week and you are not saved. What does that mean for you?

### **III. Left Behind**

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

The Anti-Christ will come to power without firing a shot. He will come on the scene and he will present himself and the greatest peacemaker that ever lived. But it will not be long until the true side of him is exposed.

He will despise those who get saved and follow God and he will begin to slaughter them.

#### **Notice Revelation 6:9-10**

#### **Notice Revelation 7:9-14**

The Anti-Christ will slaughter those who follow the Lord, and the number will be far greater than Hitler slaughtered in his day.

The Germans had set out to kill 11 million Jews, but they only were able to kill 6 million. DO YOU KNOW HOW THEY WERE KILLED? They shot them and gassed them.

How will the Anti-Christ kill so many?

#### **Revelation 20:4**

*<sup>4</sup> And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.*

They will be beheaded. Many think the guillotine will be the means of accomplishing this. It could also be the sword. I believe it will be the guillotine because it would be far more frightening to the people who live under his reign.

**The Anti-Christ will make Adolf Hitler look like a Sunday School teacher.**

### **IV. The Escape**

Let me make you aware of the fact that if you are left behind you will not escape the terror and the devastation.

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:1-3**

*But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.*

<sup>2</sup> *For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*

<sup>3</sup> *For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; **and they shall not escape.***

There is only ONE WAY OF ESCAPE.

**1 Thessalonians 5:4-9**

<sup>4</sup> *But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*

<sup>6</sup> *Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.*

<sup>7</sup> *For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.*

<sup>8</sup> *But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*

<sup>9</sup> ***For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.***

Jesus Christ is the ONLY WAY of escape. You need to repent and turn to Him.

**Romans 10:13**

<sup>13</sup> *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*