

The Coming World Ruler

Key Text: Daniel 7:8; 9:27; 11:36-45; Matthew 24:24; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12; 1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3; 2 John 7; Revelation 11:7; 13:1-10; 17:1-18; 19:19-21; 20:10.

Key Designations:

1. *The Little Horn* – Daniel 7:8
2. *The Prince (Ruler) who is to come* – Daniel 9:24-27
3. *The Man of Lawlessness (Sin)* – 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12
4. *The Antichrist* – 1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3; 2 John 7
5. *The Beast from the Sea* – Revelation 13:1-10

Key Description:

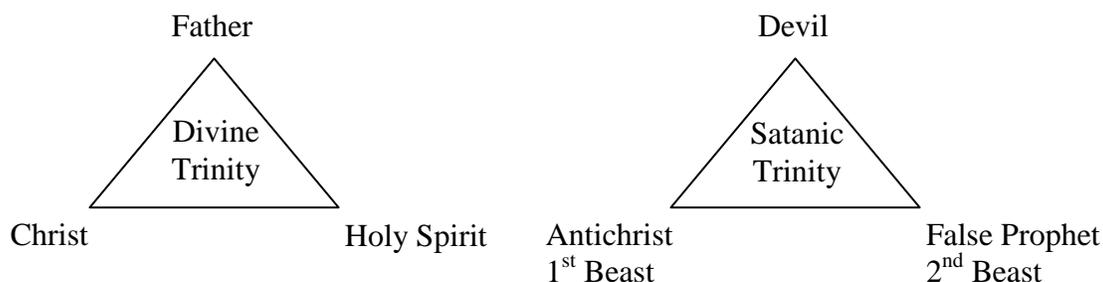
1. Antichrist is a present impersonal presence (force or spirit of the age).
1 John 4:3
2. Antichrist is a future literal person (the coming world ruler).
Matt 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12; Revelation 13:1-10
3. Antichrist is a future political power (a revived Roman empire?).
Revelation 13:10; 17:1-18

Antichrist: The Coming World Ruler
Revelation 13:1-10

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| I. <u>The Antichrist will be a wonder.</u> | 13:1-3 |
| 1. He will be a super power. | 13:1-2 |
| 2. He will be satanically promoted. | 13:2 |
| 3. He will be seductively presented. | 13:3 |
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| II. <u>The Antichrist will be worshiped.</u> | 13:4-6 |
| 1. People will bless the Antichrist. | 13:4 |
| 2. Antichrist will blaspheme God. | 13:5-6 |
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| III. <u>The Antichrist will make war.</u> | 13:7-10 |
| 1. He will defeat the saints. | 13:7 |
| 2. He will direct the world. | 13:7-10 |
| a) Acknowledgment of him will be demanded. | 13:7-8 |
| b) Allegiance to him will be decisive. | 13:8-10 |

Key Definition of the Term “Antichrist”

1. One who is against Christ.
2. One who is in the stead of (in place of) Christ.



While the Tribulation period from a divine viewpoint will be a period of judgment on the earth, it will also be a period in which the prince of the kingdom of darkness will be permitted for a short time to manifest his kingdom in that realm over which Christ will ultimately triumph and reign. Satan intends to present the world with his masterpiece of deception. He will offer the world a substitute for Jesus Christ who, by Satan’s power, will appear to give the world everything it wants, but that which only Jesus Christ will give when He assumes His rightful role as universal and cosmic King.

The instrument whom Satan will empower and through whom he will work to establish his kingdom here on earth is described in Revelation 13:1-10. This one referred to as “the beast,” whom we popularly call the Antichrist, will seek to imitate the reign of Christ and provide those in his kingdom with the benefits only Christ can truly provide. By Satan’s power (v. 2, cf. 11:7), Antichrist will be given political power over all the earth (v. 7). By establishing a one-world government, he will imitate the worldwide authority that will belong to Jesus Christ in His kingdom. Further, he will introduce a one-world religion which will be an imitation of authority which Jesus Christ will exercise as King-Priest when He reigns. In addition, he will introduce a one-world economy (cf. 13:16-17).

The False Prophet
Revelation 13:11-18

- I. He has a deceptive appearance. 13:11**
1. He looks like a friend.
 2. He speaks like an enemy.
- II. He has delegated authority. 13:12**
1. He works for the Antichrist.
 2. He brings worship to the Antichrist.
- III. He has diabolical ability. 13:13-15**
1. He uses miracles. 13:13-14
 2. He promotes idolatry. 13:14-15
- IV. He has a deadly assignment. 13:15-17**
1. He will massacre those who refuse him. 13:15
 2. He will mark those who follow him. 13:16-17
- V. He has a defining ascription. 13:18**
1. He is amazing: he has a 666.
 2. He is only a man: he is still a six.

The False Prophet and World Religious System

Key Text: Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:4; Revelation 13:11-18; 16:13; 17:1-18; 19:20; 20:10

Key Designations:

1. The Beast (from the earth) – Rev. 13:11-18
2. The False Prophet – Rev 16:13; 19:20; 20:10

Key Description:

It will be through the instrumentality of a second person empowered by Satan that this one-world government, one-world religion, and one-world economy will be introduced and men will willingly submit to it. This individual, called in Revelation 19:20 the false prophet, will be given power by Satan to perform miracles (13:12-15). He will apparently duplicate the miracles of that one who comes in the spirit of Elijah (v. 13, cf. 11:5-6), perhaps to deceive the world into believing that he is the one who is fulfill the prophecy of Malachi 4:5. Further, he apparently will cause some type of lifeless image of the beast to come alive and to speak. Exactly what this means no one really knows!

Paul pointed out that God shall send them a powerful delusion so that they should believe the lie (2 Thess 2:11). The lie is that this individual who will have instituted a one-world government, one-world religion, and one-world economy is actually the world's messiah, the world's god.

In close association then with the sea beast (the antichrist), the head of the worldwide federated empire, will be this land beast ("false prophet"). In Revelation 13:11-18, his fullest description is given. In that passage we find some important factors concerning this spiritual deceiver, including:

1. He will arise out of the earth or land (v. 11).
2. He will be influential in religious affairs (v. 12).

3. He will be motivated by Satan, just like the first beast (v. 11).
4. He will have delegated authority (v. 12).
5. He will promote the worship of the first beast and compel the earth to worship the first beast as god (v. 12).
6. His ministry will be authenticated by the signs and miracles he will do (vv. 13-14).
7. He will be successful in deceiving the unbelieving world (v. 14).
8. The worship he will promote will be an idolatrous worship (vv. 14-15).
9. He will have the power of death in order to compel men to worship the beast (v. 15).
10. He will have authority in the economic realm to control all commerce (vv. 16-17).
11. He will have a mark that will establish his identity for those who live in that day (v. 18).

Finally, we can observe that the Book of Revelation, in relating the second beast to the first, presents him as subservant to the first. He is called “the false prophet” (16:13; 19:20; 20:10), who ministers in connection with the first beast as his prophet or spokesman.

What we are faced with, then, is a “satanic trinity,” an unholy trinity compromising the dragon (Satan), the beast (Antichrist), and the false prophet (16:13). The place occupied by God in His program is assumed by Satan; the place of Christ is assumed by the sea beast; and the ministry of the Holy Spirit is occupied by the false prophet.

Thus through this system of deception and through this deceiver, Satan will realize his ages-long purpose to bring this world under his authority and to institute his kingdom here on the earth. However, it will be short-lived. His kingdom (Rev 17-18) will begin to unravel and fall apart. It will then be completely destroyed with the glorious appearing and coming of King Jesus in Revelation 19:11-21. It is at that time that He will establish His millennial kingdom reign for 1000 years

(Rev 20:1-6). This will be followed by Satan's final rebellion (Rev 20:7-10), the Great White Throne Judgment of Unbelievers (Rev 20:11-15), and the inauguration of the New Heavens and the New Earth (Rev 21-22).