The KING IS COMING

AN END TIMES CONFERENCE — NOV. 6–7, 2026

Session 4: Rise and Reign of The Antichrist

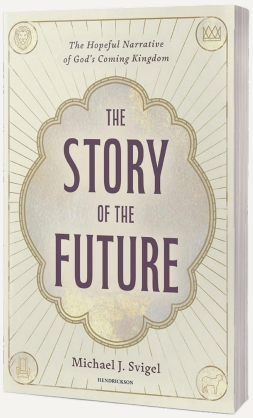
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NOTES

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COMING SOON...
FEBRUARY 2027



1. Introduction: Who or What is the Antichrist?

Common Questions:

- Is _____ the Antichrist?
- Is _____ the mark of the beast?
- Is _____ the great apostasy?
- Is _____ the False Prophet?

Historical Contenders:

- Nero
- The Pope(s)
- Muhammed
- Napolean
- Hitler
- Mussolini
- Stalin
- Gorbachev
- Kissinger
- Reagan
- Hussein
- Putin

2. Avoiding Two Extremes

- This man in the news is *definitely* the Antichrist.
- "Antichrist" *only* applies to some guy in the future.
- Obsess over and worry about the Antichrist.
- The term "antichrist" is just a symbol for an idea or force.
- The Antichrist was somebody in the past, like Nero.
- Ignore all forerunners of the Antichrist.

3. What Does "Antichrist" Mean?

- "Antichrist" ← Greek ἀντιχριστός (*antichristos*)

- Χριστὸς (*-christos*)
  > "anointed one," "Christ," "Messiah"

- ἀντι (*anti-*)
  > "instead of," "in place of"
  > "against," "in opposition to"

⇒ 1 John 2:22 (NASB95)
[22] Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son.

⇒ 1 John 4:3 (NASB95)
[3] and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the *spirit* of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.

⇒ 2 John 7 (NASB95)
[7] For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ *as* coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.

- **In its general sense, "antichrist" refers to any one or any thing that places himself of itself in place of Christ or against Christ.**

⇒ 1 John 2:18 (NASB95)
[18] Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.

- **In its technical sense, "Antichrist" refers to the one end-times figure who will reign over an antichristian empire, as if he is the world's Messiah but opposing God and his people.**

EXCERPT FROM *THE STORY OF THE FUTURE*

This present, partial manifestation of many antichrists is due to the 'spirit' of the antichrist currently at work in the world: Satan. This would correspond well to Paul's reference in 2 Thessalonians 2:3–11 to the ultimate 'lawless one.' That individual will be revealed only when God's restraining power is removed. Until then, the 'mystery of lawlessness is already at work' (2 Thess 2:7), manifested in all manner of devilish rulers and deceptive religions.

Michael J. Svigel, *The Story of the Future: The Hopeful Narrative of God's Coming Kingdom* (Hendrickson, 2027), 162.

4. Key Passages on the Antichrist

- Daniel 7—The Boastful Little Horn
- Daniel 9—The Coming Desolating Prince
- Daniel 11—The Self-Exalting King
- Matthew 24—The Abominator and Tribulator
- 2 Thessalonians 2—The Man of Lawlessness
- Revelation 13—The Beast with the Fale Prophet

Daniel 7—The Boastful Little Horn

⇒ Daniel 7:8 (NASB95)
[8] …behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great *boasts*.

⇒ Daniel 7:11 (NASB95)
[11] Then I kept looking because of the sound of the boastful words which the horn was speaking; I kept looking until the beast was slain, and its body was destroyed and given to the burning fire.

⇒ Daniel 7:25–26 (NASB95)
[25] He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time. [26] But the court will sit *for judgment*, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever.

Daniel 9—The Coming Desolating Prince

⇒ Daniel 9:26–27 (NASB95)
[26] "Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end *will come* with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. [27] And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations *will come* one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

Daniel 11—The Self-Exalting King

⇒ Daniel 11:36 (NASB95)
[36] "Then the king will do as he pleases, and he will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will speak monstrous things against the God of gods; and he will prosper until the indignation is finished."

⇒ Daniel 11:38 (NASB95)
[38] "But instead he will honor a god of fortresses, a god whom his fathers did not know; he will honor *him* with gold, silver, costly stones and treasures."

⇒ Daniel 11:39 (NASB95)
[39] "He will take action against the strongest of fortresses with *the help of* a foreign god; he will give great honor to those who acknowledge *him* and will cause them to rule over the many."

⇒ Daniel 11:41 (NASB95)
41 "He will also enter the Beautiful Land, and many *countries* will fall."

⇒ Daniel 11:44 (NASB95)
44 "…and he will go forth with great wrath to destroy and annihilate many."

⇒ Daniel 11:45 (NASB95)
45 "He will pitch the tents of his royal pavilion between the seas and the beautiful Holy Mountain; yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him."

Matthew 24—The Abominator and Tribulator

⇒ Matthew 24:15–16 (NASB95)
15 "Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), 16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains."

⇒ Matthew 24:21–22 (NASB95)
21 "For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. 22 Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved."

⇒ Matthew 24:24 (NASB95)
24 "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect."

2 Thessalonians 2—The Man of Lawlessness

⇒ 2 Thessalonians 2:3–12 (NASB95)
3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God. 5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? 6 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way. 8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; 9 *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. 11 For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, 12 in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

EXCERPT FROM *THE STORY OF THE FUTURE*

The third "yeah, but" [regarding the pre-tribulation rapture] claims that Paul clearly teaches that the rapture can't happen until after the "lawless one" is revealed (2 Thess 2:1–3). That places it sometime after the midpoint of the Tribulation. But those who make this counterargument usually assume "day of the Lord" in 2 Thessalonians 2:2 refers to the "coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him" (2:1) — that is, to the rapture. But remember, "the day of the Lord" refers to a multiyear period of increasingly severe judgments on the earth; it's not a synonym for "the rapture."

There's another phrase in English translations of 2 Thessalonians 2:1–3 that some people misunderstand: "has come" in the phrase "that the day of the Lord has come" (2:2). After misdefining "day of the Lord" as the rapture, some understand "has come" in the sense of "has come and gone," implying that the Thessalonian Christians mistakenly believed they had missed the rapture. In that view, Paul appears to say they couldn't have missed the rapture, because the "rapture / day of the Lord" can't come until after the apostasy and revelation of the "man of lawlessness," events that take place during the future Tribulation (2:3).

That understanding of verse 2 is simply wrong. The Greek verb translated "has come" is *enistēmi*, and in the past tense it means "be present."5 The verb is assumed, not repeated, in verse 3. In some translations, Paul says, "*For that day will not come*, unless"; but all the words I've italicized are not in the original Greek text. Translators added them. What Paul actually said is that the Thessalonians had been misled into thinking they were living in the middle of the long period known as the Day of the Lord; thus, they had wrongly concluded that Paul's teaching concerning a pre-tribulation rapture was wrong (1 Thess 1:9–10; 4:16–5:11).

Paul urged the Thessalonians not to be alarmed by a spirit, message, or letter suggesting that the future Tribulation period (the Day of the Lord) had already begun. They should reject the false notion that they were in the middle of the Tribulation. Paul confirmed that the Day of the Lord couldn't possibly be happening at that time, because the apostasy hadn't happened and the lawless one hadn't been revealed. Therefore, the spirit, message, or letter saying that they were already in the Tribulation must be false.

Michael J. Svigel, *The Story of the Future: The Hopeful Narrative of God's Coming Kingdom* (Hendrickson, 2027), 200–201.

Revelation 13—The Beast with the False Prophet

⇒ Revelation 13:1–18 (NASB95)

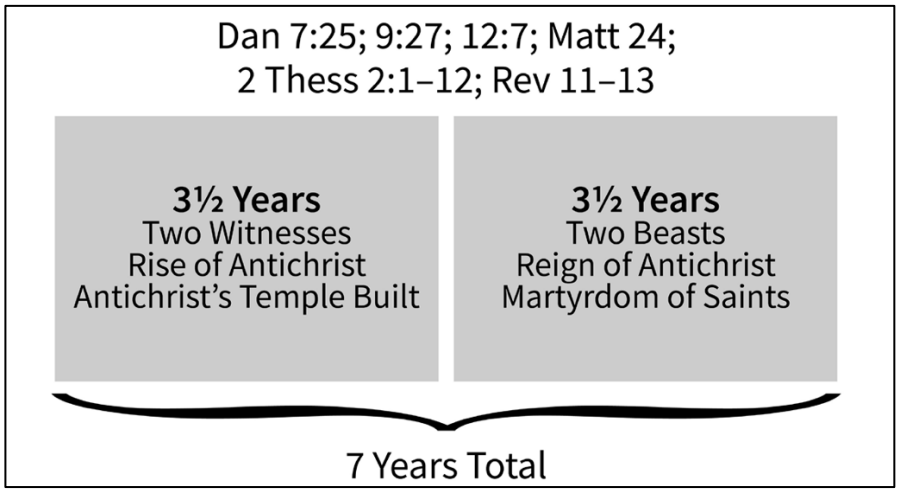
[1] Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns *were* ten diadems, and on his heads *were* blasphemous names. [2] And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority. [3] *I saw* one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed *and followed* after the beast; [4] they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?" [5] There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him. [6] And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, *that is*, those who dwell in heaven. [7] It was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him….

[11] Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon. [12] He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. [13] He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. [14] And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who

dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast…. [15] And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed. [16] And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, [17] and *he provides* that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, *either* the name of the beast or the number of his name. [18] Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.

Lingering Questions

- When will the Antichrist rise?
- When will the Antichrist reign?
- When will the Antichrist be revealed?
- What is the mark of the beast?
- Are there two antichrists or just one?
- Is the Antichrist alive today?



5. The Antichrist and the Early Church

- Didache 16 (c. 50–70)
- Epistle of Barnabas (c. 80 or 135)
- Justin Martyr (c. 160)
- Irenaeus of Lyons (c. 180)
- Hippolytus of Rome (c. 205)

Didache 16.4–5
And then the deceiver of the world shall appear as a son of God and he will perform signs and wonders, and the earth will be handed over into his hands, and he will do incessantly vile things which have never happened before since time began. Then the creation of mankind shall come to the burning ordeal of testing. And many will be led astray and will be destroyed.

Barnabas 15.5
Upon coming his Son will abolish the time of the lawless one and will judge the ungodly.

Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho* 32
And he whom Daniel foretold would reign for a time, times, and a half."

Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies* 1.13.1
A certain member of their company, Marcus by name, who boasts of correcting his teacher, is also very skilled in magical imposture. By this means he deceived many men and not a few women, and converted them to himself as to one most learned and most perfect, possessed of the greatest power from invisible and unnamable regions. In truth, he was the forerunner of the Antichrist…. As a result those who have no sense and have lost their mind think he is working wonders.

Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies* 5.25.1
For this one [the Antichrist] will take on the Devil's power and will come not as a just king, nor as a law-abiding subject of God, but as wicked and lawless, as a rebel, and unjust and murderous, as a thief, recapitulating in himself the diabolical rebellion. He will depose idols to persuade men that he himself is God; but thus he will exalt himself as the only idol, having in himself the multiple error of all the rest of the idols, in order that those who worship the Devil by means of many idols may serve him by means of this one idol.

Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies* 5.25.2
In this temple the Adversary will sit and attempt to show that he is the Christ.

Irenaeus of Lyons, *Against Heresies* 5.25.4
And then he points out the time that his tyranny shall last, during which the saints shall be put to flight, they who offer a pure sacrifice unto God: "And in the midst of the week," he says, "the sacrifice and the libation shall be taken away, and the abomination of desolation [shall be brought] into the temple: even unto the consummation of the time shall the desolation be complete." Now three years and six months constitute the half-week.

Hippolytus of Rome, *On Daniel* 2.39
Thus, then, does the prophet set forth these things concerning the Antichrist, who shall be shameless, a war-maker, and despot, who, exalting himself above all kings and above every god, shall build the city of Jerusalem, and restore the sanctuary. Him the impious will worship as God, and will bend to him the knee, thinking him to be the Christ. He shall cut off the two witnesses and forerunners of Christ, who proclaim His glorious kingdom from heaven, as it is said: "And I will give (power) unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth." As also it was announced to Daniel: "And one week shall

confirm a covenant with many; and in the midst of the week it shall be that the sacrifice and oblation shall be removed" — that the one week might be shown to be divided into two. The two witnesses, then, shall preach three years and a half; and Antichrist shall make war upon the saints during the rest of the week, and desolate the world, that what is written may be fulfilled: "And they shall make the abomination of desolation for a thousand two hundred and ninety days."

6. Summary: The Antichrist's Résumé

- He is a false messiah with a "god complex" who opposes the true Messiah (1 John 2:18; 2 Thess 2:4)
- Boastful, arrogant, willful, and abusive (Dan 7:8, 11, 25–26; 11:36; 2 Thess 2:4; Rev 13:5)
- He will persecute, prosecute, and execute believers (Dan 7:25; Rev 13:7)
- He will bring empty promises, abominations, tribulation, and devastation (Dan 9:26–27; 11:44; Matt 24:14–16, 21–22; Rev 13:4)
- He will be endowed with vast dominion, power, and wealth (Dan 11:36, 38; Rev 13:2, 7)
- His reign will climax in the holy land, centered in Jerusalem and its temple (Dan 9:26–27; 11:41, 45; Matt 24:15; 2 Thess 2:4)
- He is presently prevented from arriving on the scene by a restraining power (2 Thess 2:6–7)
- He will be manifested and revealed during the period known as the Day of the Lord (2 Thess 2:6–7)
- He will be associated with great apostasy and rebellion (2 Thess 2:3)
- He will be a lawless one who changes laws to suit himself (Dan 7:25; 2 Thess 2:3, 8)
- He will be empowered by Satan to perform astonishing signs and wonders to deceive the world (Matt 24:24; 2 Thess 2:9–10; Rev 13:3, 13–14)
- His reign will last 42 months (Dan 7:25; 9:27; Rev 13:5)
- He will be destroyed by Christ at his coming (Dan 7:26; 9:27; 11:45; 2 Thess 2:8)

6. Practical Lessons of Antichristology

- Signs, wonders, and miracles aren't clear proof of divine power.
  Be discerning!

- Satan deceptively uses both religion and politics to advance his agenda.
  Be *careful!*

- Pride, arrogance, and boasting aren't Christian virtues but antichristian vices.
  Be like Christ!

- The church in action restrains the spirit of antichrist in the present age.
  Be the church!