ARISE BIBLE STUDY DOCTRINES

Study: The Antichrist (A)

Purpose: To identify the person and principle of antichrist.

<u>Center It:</u> <u>God is love</u>. Jesus is Christ, and anyone who turns people from Jesus or attempts to occupy the place of Jesus is putting his or her self in the place or stead of Christ and is, by definition, antichrist. Jesus only is our guide, and anything and everything that deviates from Him and His truth is antichrist.

Know It / Mark It:

- 1. 1 John 1
- 2. 1 John 2:18
- 3. 1 John 2:22
- 4. Matthew 12:30
- 5. Acts 20:30
- 6. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-7
- 7. Daniel 7:8
- 8. Daniel 7:22, 24
- 9. Daniel 7:25
- 10. Isaiah 14:12-14
- 11. 2 Corinthians 11:2-4, 13-15
- 12. 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12

Share it:

- 1. <u>1 John 1</u>: (summarize entire chapter). John heard, saw, and handled the love, forgiveness, and joy of the Word of life. He walked in fellowship with God and longed for others to experience the love and joy of Jesus Christ. This motivated and qualified him to identify the antichrist.
- 2. 2 John 2:18: There is an Antichrist that is a singular power or individual identified with capital letters as "the Antichrist." In addition to "The Antichrist", there are "many antichrists." Therefore, the word antichrist does not merely refer to a singular person or power it is also a spirit or experience that is held by "many" individual people. Biblical references to "frogs" refer to how proliferate the forces of evil or the antichrists are. The prefix "anti" doesn't merely mean "against", it means "in place or in stead of."
- **3.** <u>1 John 2:22</u>: If you turn away from Jesus / God and deny Him, you personally and individually take on the spirit of antichrist you are by definition antichrist because you oppose Jesus Christ.
- **4.** <u>Matthew 12:30</u>: If we are not with Christ, we are against Christ and we scatter away from Christ. This is antichrist a spirit in direct opposition to the humble character of Jesus Christ.
- **5.** Acts 20:30: Another way we scatter from Christ is by drawing people to ourselves instead of to Jesus. (Note that the immediate context of this verse is apostasy in the church).
- **6.** <u>2 Thessalonians 2:3-7</u>: The man of sin is the "the Antichrist" a person who scatters from Christ by deliberately putting himself in the stead of Christ in order to be worshipped as Christ. (Note

verse 7: the apostasy leading to "the antichrist" was already at work in Paul's day but was held back by the power of civil Rome). Like Judas, the "man of sin" is called the "son of perdition." He has a religious / follower of Jesus guise. (John 17:12).

7. <u>Daniel 7:8</u>: Antichrist / little horn in Daniel 7:1. *In this verse and the next two, there are eleven characteristics that distinguish this unscrupulous power*...

- a. (1) Rose after 476 A.D.
- b. (2) Small beginnings
- c. (3) Rose in Europe
- d. **(4) Rooted out three kingdoms**: Vandals, Ostrogoths, and Heruli. *Check out the Daniel Unsealed Bible study lessons*...
- e. (5) Man's wisdom is at the head or helm
- f. (6) Mouth speaking great things
- **8. Daniel 7:22, 24**: Mention verse 23 and the general context of these verses if need be . . .
 - a. (7) This power is to continue until Jesus returns.
 - b. **(8)** It is different from its predecessors as it was primarily religious rather than civil (#1 and #4 repeated)
- 9. Daniel 7:25:
 - a. (9) It would persecute God's people / true church
 - b. (10) Would attempt to change God's law
 - c. **(11) Would reign with civil authority for 1260 years** (#6 repeated). Biblically, a time refers to a year. (Daniel 4:23). Therefore, time, time, and half a time refers to two and a half years which, in Biblical context, equals 1260 years. The "day for a year" principle comes from Ezekiel 4:6: "I have laid on you a day for each year." There is another reference in Numbers 14:34: "Forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely forty years . . ."
- 10. Isaiah 14:12-14: Lucifer / Satan seeks to usurp the place of the Most High a megalomaniac
- **11.** <u>2 Corinthians 11:2-4, 13-15</u>: God has a yearning to have a personal relationship with His people, and Paul illustrates this with the example of holy matrimony. Satan's *modus operandi* (M.O., mode of operating) is to conceive counterfeits for every system of worship. Therefore, he uses a religious guise to deceive people and lead them away from Christ to worship him.
- **12.** <u>2 Thessalonians 2:8-12: Antichrist / Satan deceives those who</u> (Note: Only fellowship with Jesus can take antichrist out of our hearts and finally destroy it forever):
 - a. (1) Do not receive the love of the truth
 - b. (2) Believe a lie
 - c. (3) Have pleasure in unrighteousness

Appeal: Friends, why would Satan expend so much of his efforts on counterfeiting the Gospel and Jesus Christ? Why would he want to sit in the place of God? Why does he try to get as many human beings as he possibly can to scatter away from Christ? The reason is that Jesus Christ is so good, so true, so attractive, that all who behold Him will be drawn to Him. The love of Christ is pure, undiluted, selfless love for every person on Planet Earth. Satan knows this. He knows the power of the gospel. Only things of great value are worth counterfeiting. And Jesus is priceless. No person or system of religion can replace God's love for us. Embrace God's love for you and let go of the lie. Through antichrist, Satan is deceiving the world with counterfeit religion, but when you experience the real joy of Jesus, you will not be deceived. Amen!

Defend It:

The topic of the antichrist can be misunderstood because of the interpretation of the word "anti" which means both "against" and "instead of." In addition, it is not always realized that the Bible allows for personal individual "antichrist" identification in addition to a singular, exclusive "the antichrist" identification.

American Dictionary of the English Language

Noah Webster-1828

"Anti [Greek see ante] A preposition signifying against, opposite, contrary, or in place of."

Etymology-Wiktionary

Conversion of the prefix anti- to an adjective, from Latin anti, from Ancient Greek ἀντί (antí, "against, opposite, instead of"), from (ánta), from Proto-Indo-European *anti (compare Hittite hanza 'front', Latin ante 'before', Tocharian A ánt(e) 'forehead', Gothic and 'throughout', Lithuanian añt 'on, in order to', Ossetian ändä 'outside', Sanskrit ántas 'end, boundary').

The Free Dictionary by Farlex

anti-

prefix

- 1. against; opposing
- 2. opposite to
- 3. rival; false
- 4. counteracting, inhibiting, or neutralizing

ADVENTIST®
CHURCH