The Anti-Christ - Part 5

When Will He Appear

One of the most asked questions about the Anti-Christ is when will he appear or has he already arrived. The immediate theological response to this question can be simple or complex depending on who is answering the question. The level of difficulty in their answers will find its complexity from their belief in one of the four major views of Eschatology.

Major Views

1.) **Historic Premillennialism**
2.) **Dispensational Premillennialism**
3.) **Amillennialism**
4.) **Postmillennialism**

Amillennialism:

Main Thoughts:

- They believe that the **Anti-Christ** will appear at the end of the present **Church Age** prior to the **Second Coming of Christ**
- Believe the Church Age is when the Millennium will take place
  - Currently occurring
  - It has been approximately **1,995 years** since the first New Testament Day of Pentecost which is the start date of the Church Age!
  - During the Church Age Society will continue to grow evil
  - Believe that The Great Tribulation is now which it is longer than a 7 year period
- They believe that the Millennium and The Great Tribulation period are not literal but figurative
  - In heaven not on earth for it is Spiritual
  - Currently occurring
- After the 1000 years which symbolizes the perfection and completeness of God. Christ will return to the earth and judge the world and raises his dead
  - There is no future millennium
  - The millennium is over when Christ returns
- They believe that many Anti-Christ's have already been active throughout the Church Age
  - **1 John 2:18**
    - **18** Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

Antichrist Revealed

- 2 Thess 2:1-4
  - **1** Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

- 2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.
- 3 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;
- 4 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.

Saints will Be on earth

- **Revelation 13:1-7**
  - 1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.
  - 2 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.
  - 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.
  - 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?
  - 5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.
  - 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.
  - 7 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.

Dispensational Premillennialism

Main Thoughts:

- They believe the **millennium** is a literal 1000 year future event that will be experienced on earth
- They believe that the **Anti-Christ** will appear immediately after the **Rapture**, which will be the start of the **Great Tribulation** period of **7 years.**
  - The church will be removed from the earth during the Rapture
  - The Rapture will be the end of the Church Age
  - **1 Thessalonians 5:1-9**
- Believe that the Rapture comes before the Great Tribulations
- The Great Tribulation comes before the Millennium
- During the period of **Tribulation** the **Anti-Christ** will:
  - Rise to power and sign a peace covenant with Israel
  - They believes that this starts the 70 Weeks of Daniel (A time of tribulations described in a vision to Daniel by the angel Gabriel)
    - **Daniel 9:24-27**

Antichrist Revealed

- 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8

The Rapture

- 1 Thessalonians 4:13 - 18
  - 13 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.
  - 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.
  - 15 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.
  - 16 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:
  - 17 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.
  - 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.