



HOW TO IDENTIFY THE ANTI-CHRIST

Scripture has a great deal to say concerning the individual who will appear in the end time as the head of the Gentile powers in their ten kingdom federation. His person and work are presented in Ezekiel 28:1-10; Daniel 7:7-8, 20-26; 8:23-25; 9:26-27; 11:36-45; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-10; Revelation 13:1-10; 17:8-14. A synthesis of the truths in these passages will reveal the following facts about his activities:

- (1) He will appear on the scene in the "latter times" of Israel's history (Dan.8:23).
- (2) He will not appear until the Day of the Lord has begun (2 Thess. 2:2)
- (3) His manifestation is being hindered by the Restrainer (2 Thess. 2:6-7).
- (4) This appearance will be preceded by great apostasy (2 Thess. 2:3)
- (5) He is a Gentile. Since he arises from the sea (Rev. 13:1) and since the sea depicts the Gentile nations (Rev. 17:15), he must be of Gentile origin.
- (6) He rises from the Roman Empire, since he is a ruler of the people who destroyed Jerusalem (Dan. 9:26).
- (7) He is the head of the last form of Gentile world dominion, for he is like a leopard, a bear, and a lion (Rev. 13:1). (Cf. Dan. 7:7-8, 20, 24; Rev. 17:9-11.) As such he is a political leader. The seven heads and ten horns (Rev. 13:1; 17:12) are federated under his authority.
- (8) His influence is world wide, for he rules over all nations (Rev. 13:8). This influence comes through the alliance which he makes with other nations (Dan. 8:24; Rev. 17:12).
- (9) He has eliminated three rulers in his rise to power (Dan 7:8, 24).
- (10) His rise comes through his peace program (Dan 8:25).
- (11) He personally is marked by his intelligence and persuasiveness (Dan. 7:8, 20; 8:23) and also by his subtlety and craft (Ezek. 23:6), so that his position over the nations is by their own consent (Rev. 17:13).
- (12) He rules over the nations in his federation with absolute authority (Dan. 11:36), where he is depicted as doing his own will. This authority is manifested through the Change in laws and customs (Dan 7:25).
- (13) His chief interest is in might and power. (Dan. 11:36).
- (14) As the head of the federated empire he makes a seven year covenant with Israel (Dan. 9:27), which is broken after three and one-half years (Dan. 9:27).

(15) He introduces an idolatrous worship (Dan. 9:27) in which he sets himself up as god (Dan. 11:36-37; 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:5).

(16) He bears the characterization of a blasphemer because of the assumption of deity (Ezek. 20:2; Dan. 7:25; Rev. 13:1, 5-6).

(17) This one is energized by Satan (Ezek. 20:9-12; Rev. 13:4), receives his authority from him, and is controlled by the pride of the devil (Ezek. 28:2; Dan. 8: 25).

(18) He is the head of Satan's lawless system (2 Thess. 2:3) and his claim to power and to deity is proved by signs wrought through satanic power (2 Thess.2:9-19).

(19) He is received as God and as ruler because of the blindness of the people (2 Thess. 2:11).

(20) This ruler becomes the great adversary of Israel (Dan. 7:21,25; 8:24; Rev.13:7).

(21) There will come an alliance against him (Ezek. 28:7; Dan. 11:40, 42) which will contest his authority.

(22) In the ensuing conflict he will gain control over Palestine and adjacent territory (Dan. 11:42) and will make his headquarters in Jerusalem (Dan. 11:45).

(23) This ruler, at the time of his rise to power, is elevated through the instrumentality of the harlot, the corrupt religious system, which consequently seeks to dominate him (Rev. 17:3).

(24) This system is destroyed by the ruler so that he may rule unhindered (Rev.17:16-17).

(25) He becomes the special adversary of the Prince of Peace (Dan. 8:25), His program (2 Thess. 2:4; Rev.17:14), and His people (Dan. 7:21,25; 8:24; Rev.13:7).

(26) While he continues in power for seven years (Dan. 9:27), his satanic activity is confined to the last half of the tribulation period (Dan. 7:25; 9:27; 11:36; Rev. 13:5).

(27) His rule will be terminated by a direct judgment from God (Ezek. 28:6; Dan.7:22, 26; 8:25; 9:27; 11:45; Rev. 19:19-20). This judgment will take place as he is engaged in a military campaign in Palestine (Rev. 19:19), and, he will be cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 19:20; Ezek. 28:10).

(28) This judgment will take place at the second advent of Christ (2 Thess. 2:8; Dan. 7:22) and will constitute a manifestation of His Messianic authority (Rev. 11:15).

(29) The kingdom over which he ruled will pass to the authority of the Messiah and will become the kingdom of the saints (Dan. 7:27).