

A man in a dark suit is walking through a landscape of fire and lava. The ground is covered in flowing lava, and there are large, circular pits of fire. The background is dark and smoky, suggesting a hellish or apocalyptic scene.

What Does the Bible Teach About the Antichrist?

12/2/21 Thursday Indepth Bible Class
of the Trilacoochee Church of Christ

What Does the Bible Teach About the Antichrist?

- 1John 2:18-22 - “Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us. 20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. 21 I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth. 22 Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.”
- 2John 7 - “For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.”

What Does the Bible Teach About the Antichrist?

- 1John 4:1-6 - “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. 4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5 They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. 6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.”

What Does the Bible Teach About the Antichrist?

- The New Testament scriptures speak of the antichrist as one who opposes the Lord.
- The word “antichrist” appears only five times in the Bible, confined to two short letters by the same author, writing at the end of the first century.

What Does the Bible Teach About the Antichrist?

- Many are looking for a single personality to appear on the scene and fight openly against Christ.
- The meaning of anti - “opposed to” - 1John 2:18
- Note the singular and plural usage. There is not just one powerful person opposing Christ.

What Does the Bible Teach About the Antichrist?

- John wrote in the latter part of the first century. Gnosticism had arisen to become a problem to the church and claimed special knowledge.
- Two schools of thought developed, both of which denied an essential element in the nature of Jesus.
 - Docetists denied that Jesus was actually human, that He only appeared to be flesh and blood.
 - Cerinthians said Jesus was born as a man and that Deity descended on Jesus at His baptism and left Him at the cross.

Antichrists And Pseudochrists

- The term “anti-Christ” connotes a movement or sentiment that is detrimental to the cause of the Lord, either overtly or covertly; thus an antichrist is any force which works in opposition to the Lord
- A pseudo-Christ or false Christ is one who is pretending to be a substitute or current representative of Christ, a false Messiah
- When we discuss the antichrists, we are talking about any doctrine or man seeking to damage or discredit the truth

John's Revelation Of Antichrists

- Apostate in faith
 - 1John 2:18-19 - “Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. 19 **They went out from us**, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but **they went out that they might be made manifest**, that none of them were of us.”

John's Revelation Of Antichrists

- Apostate in doctrine
 - 1John 2:22-23 - “Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? **He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.** 23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.”

John's Revelation Of Antichrists

- The test for active apostates
 - 1John 4:1-3 - “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because *many false prophets have gone out into the world*. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, 3 and *every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God*. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and *is now already in the world*.”

John's Revelation Of Antichrists

- The apostates' power is deceit
 - 2John 7 - "For *many deceivers have gone* out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. *This is a deceiver and an antichrist.*"

Opposition To Christ

- The Devil's work
- Matt. 4:1-10 - The temptation of Jesus
 - 2Peter 2:18 - "For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error. 19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage."
- Matt. 13:37-39 - The parable of the tares

Opposition To Christ

- It is not the Devil doing these things by himself, but rather working through his agents in this world.
- He works not by demon possession, but by persuasion enticing men to corrupt the pure doctrine of Christ into something with more convenience and tolerance for sin
- 2Tim. 3:1-9 - Men of corrupt minds

Opposition To Christ

- 2Thes. 2:3-12 - The man of sin
 - 1Thes. 4:13-18 - The truth about the second coming
 - Rev. 2:10, 3:8 - The truth about Roman persecution
 - Col. 2:20-23 - The truth about Gnosticism
 - 1Tim. 4:1-3 - The truth about Catholicism
 - James 2:24 - The truth about wealth and power
 - Eph. 6:17 - The truth about God given defenses
- Rev. 12:3, 13:1, 11-18 - The man numbered 666

What Does the Bible Teach About the Antichrist?

- Antichrists are in the world today, troubling the progress of the church through deception and false doctrines.
- 2Cor. 11:14-15 - “For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.”