

~ANTICHRIST (330)

.. Identification

- This word means against, or instead of Christ. It occurs a total of five times, singular and plural, all of them in two of John's epistles.
- The subject was not new among the Christians when John wrote his letters **circa 98 C.E.**
- Young children, it is the last hour, and, just as you have heard that **antichrist** is coming, even now there have **come to be many antichrists**, from which fact we gain the knowledge that it is the last hour. (**1 John 2:18**)
- Young children, it is the last hour, and, just as you have heard that **antichrist**, Greek, *an-ti'khri-stos*, is coming, even **now there have come to be many antichrists**, from which fact we gain the knowledge that it is the last hour. (**1 John 2:18**)
- John's statement shows that there **are many individual antichrists**, though all together they may form a composite person designated the **antichrist**.
- For many **deceivers** have gone forth into the world, **persons not confessing Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh**. This is the **deceiver and the antichrist**. (**2 John 1:7**)
- The use of the expression **hour** as referring to a period of time, either relatively brief or of undetermined length, is exemplified in other writings of John.
- But Jesus said to her; What have I to do with you, woman? My **hour** has not yet come. (**John 2:4**)
- Jesus said to her; Believe me, woman, the **hour** is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you people worship the Father. (**John 4:21**)
- You worship what you do not know. We worship what we know, because salvation originates with the Jews. (**John 4:22**)
- Nevertheless, the **hour** is coming, and it is **now**, when the true

worshippers will worship the Father with spirit and truth, for, indeed, the Father is looking for suchlike one's to worship him. (John 4:23)

- Most truly I say to you, the **hour** is coming, and it is now, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who have given heed will live. (John 5:25)
- Do not marvel at this, because the **hour** is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice (John 5:28)
- Hence they began seeking to get hold of him, but no one laid a hand upon him, because his **hour** had not yet come. (John 7:30)
- These sayings he spoke in the treasury as he was teaching in the temple. But no one laid hold of him, because his **hour** had not yet come. (John 8:20)
- But Jesus answered them, saying; The **hour** has come for the Son of man to be glorified. (John 12:23)
- Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say; Father, save me out of this **hour**. Nevertheless, this is why I have come to this hour. (John 12:27)
- He thus did not restrict the appearance, existence, and activity of such **antichrist** to some future time only, but showed that the **antichrist** was then present and would continue on.
- But every inspired expression that does not confess Jesus does not originate with God. Furthermore, this is the **antichrists** inspired expression which you have heard was coming, and now it is already in the world. (1 John 4:3)

.. Identification

- Although there has been much effort in the past to identify the **antichrist** with an individual, such as Pompey, Nero, or Muhammad, this latter person being suggested by Pope Innocent III in 1213 C.E, or with a specific organization, as in the Protestant view of the **antichrist** as applying to the papacy, John's inspired statements show the term to be broad in its application, embracing all those who deny that Jesus is the Christ, and who deny that Jesus is the Son of God who came in the flesh.

- Who is the **liar** if it is not the **one that denies that Jesus is the Christ?** This is the **antichrist**, the **one that denies the Father and the Son.** (**1 John 2:22**)
- You gain the knowledge of the inspired expression from God by this; Every inspired expression that confesses Jesus Christ as having come in the flesh originates with God. (**1 John 4:2**)
- But **every inspired expression that does not confess Jesus does not originate with God.** Furthermore, this is the **antichrists** inspired expression which you have heard was coming, and now it is already in the world. (**1 John 4:3**)
- For many **deceivers** have gone forth into the world, persons **not confessing Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh.** This is the **deceiver** and the **antichrist.** (**2 John 1:7**) **NE, NIV**, compare
- But those who heard this began going out, one by one, starting with the older men, and he was left alone, and the woman that was in their midst. (**John 8:9**)
- Jesus said to them; If God were your Father, you would love me, for from God I came forth and am here. Neither have I come of my own initiative at all, but that One sent me forth. (**John 8:42**)
- In answer the Jews said to him, Do we not rightly say; You are a Samaritan and have a demon? (**John 8:48**)
- For many **deceivers** have gone forth into the world, **persons not confessing Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh.** This is the deceiver and the **antichrist.** (**2 John 1:7**) **NE, NIV**, compare.
- His parents said these things because they were in fear of the Jews, for the Jews had already come to an agreement that, if **anyone confessed him as Christ**, he should get **expelled from the synagogue.** (**John 9:22**)
- Denial of Jesus as the Christ and as the Son of God of necessity embraces **the denial of any or all of the Scriptural teachings concerning him: his origin, his place in God's arrangement, his fulfillment of the prophecies in the Hebrew Scriptures as the promised Messiah, his ministry and teachings and prophecies, as well as any opposition to or**

efforts to replace him in his position as God's appointed High Priest and King.

- This is evident from other texts, which, while not using the term **antichrist**, express essentially the same idea. Thus, Jesus stated; **He that is not on my side is against me**, and he that does not gather with me scatters.
- **He that is not on my side is against me**, and he that does not gather with me scatters. (Luke 11:23)
- For many **deceivers** have gone forth into the world, persons **not confessing Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh**. This is the **deceiver** and the **antichrist**. (2 John 1:7)
- This shows that such one's might act as **deceivers**, and hence the **antichrist** would include those who are **false Christ's** and **false prophets**, as well as those who **perform powerful** works in Jesus name and yet are classed by him as **workers of lawlessness**.
- For false Christ's and false prophets will arise and will give great signs and wonders so as to mislead, if possible, even the chosen ones. (Matthew 24:24)
- Be on the watch for the false prophets that come to you in sheep's covering, but inside they are ravenous wolves. (Matthew 7:15)
- Many will say to me in that day; Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and expel demons in your name, and perform many powerful works in your name? (Matthew 7:22)
- And yet then I will confess to them; I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness. (Matthew 7:23)
- In view of Jesus rule that what is done to his true followers is done to him.
- And in reply the king will say to them; Truly I say to you, to the extent that you **did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me**. (Matthew 25:40)
- Then he will answer them with the words; Truly I say to you, to the extent that you **did not do it to one of these least ones, you**

did not do it to me. (Matthew 25:45)

- He said; Who are you, Lord? He said; I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. (Acts of Apostles 9:5)
- The term must include those who persecute such ones, which means it would include the symbolic Babylon the Great and those described as the evil slave in Jesus parable.
- But before all these things people will lay their hands upon you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, you being haled before kings and governor's for the sake of my name. (Luke 21:12)
- And upon her forehead was written a name, a mystery. Babylon the Great, the mother of the harlots and of the disgusting things of the earth. (Revelation 17:5)
- And I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the holy one's and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. Well, on catching sight of her I wondered with great wonderment. (Revelation 17:6)
- But if ever that evil slave should say in his heart; My master is delaying. (Matthew 24:48)
- And should start to beat his fellow slaves and should eat and drink with the confirmed drunkards. (Matthew 24:49)
- The master of that slave will come on a day that he does not expect and in an hour that he does not know. (Matthew 24:50)
- And will punish him with the greatest severity and will assign him his part with the hypocrites. There is where his weeping and the gnashing of his teeth will be. (Matthew 24:51)
- John specifically mentions apostates as among those of the antichrist by referring to those who went out from us, abandoning the Christian congregation.
- Young children, it is the last hour, and, just as you have heard that antichrist is coming, even now there have come to be many antichrists, from which fact we gain the knowledge that it is the last hour. (1 John 2:18)

- They went out from us, but they were not of our sort, for if they had been of our sort, they would have remained with us. But they went out that it might be shown up that not all are of our sort. (1 John 2:19)
- It therefore includes the man of lawlessness or son of destruction described by Paul, as well as the false teachers Peter denounces for forming destructive sects and who disown even the owner that bought them.
- Let no one seduce you in any manner, because it will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness gets revealed, the son of destruction. (2 Thessalonians 2:3)
- He is set in opposition and lifts himself up over everyone who is called god or an object of reverence, so that he sits down in the temple of The God, publicly showing himself to be a god. (2 Thessalonians 2:4)
- Do you not remember that, while I was yet with you, I used to tell you these things? (2 Thessalonians 2:5)
- However, there also came to be false prophets among the people, as there will also be false teachers among you. These very one's will quietly bring in destructive sects and will disown even the owner that bought them, bringing speedy destruction upon themselves. (2 Peter 2:1)

See Also MAN OF LAWLESSNESS

- Kingdoms, nations, and organizations are similarly shown to be part of the antichrist in the symbolic description at;
- The wild beast that you saw was, but is not, and yet is about to ascend out of the abyss, and it is to go off into destruction. And when they see how the wild beast was, but is not, and yet will be present, those who dwell on the earth will wonder admiringly, but their names have not been written upon the scroll of life from the founding of the world. (Revelation 17:8)
- Here is where the intelligence that has wisdom comes in; The seven heads mean seven mountains, where the woman sits on top. (Revelation 17:9)

- And there are **seven kings**. **Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet arrived**, but when he does arrive he must remain a short while. (**Revelation 17:10**)
- And the wild beast that was but is not, it is also itself an eighth king, but springs from the seven, and it goes off into destruction. (**Revelation 17:11**)
- And the ten horns that you saw mean ten kings, who have not yet received a kingdom, but they do receive authority as kings one hour with the wild beast. (**Revelation 17:12**)
- These have one thought, and so they give their power and authority to the wild beast. (**Revelation 17:13**)
- These will **battle with the Lamb**, but, because he is Lord of lords and King of kings, **the Lamb will conquer them**. Also, those called and chosen and faithful with him will do so. (**Revelation 17:14**)
- And he says to me; The waters that you saw, where the harlot is sitting, mean **peoples and crowds and nations and tongues**. (**Revelation 17:15**)
- **Symbolic description found at;**
- And I saw the wild beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to wage the war with the one seated on the horse and with his army. (**Revelation 19:19**)
- And the **wild beast** was caught, and along with it the **false prophet** that performed in front of it the signs with which he misled those who received the mark of **the wild beast** and those who **render worship to its image**. While still alive, they both were hurled into the fiery lake that burns with sulphur. (**Revelation 19:20**)
- But the rest were killed off with the long sword of the one seated on the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth. And all the birds were filled from the fleshy parts of them. (**Revelation 19:21**)
- **Why have the nations been in tumult and the national groups**

themselves kept muttering an empty thing? (**Psalms 2:1**)

- The kings of earth **take their stand** and high officials themselves have massed together as one **against Yehowah and against his anointed one.** (**Psalms 2:2**)
- In all the above cases those composing the **antichrist** are shown to be **headed for eventual destruction as a recompense for their opposing course.**