

THE DARK PRINCE

Revelation 13:1-18 Jeff Schreve

“Dear children, the last hour is here. You have heard that the Antichrist is coming, and already many such antichrists have appeared.” 1 John 2:18 NLT

What can we know about the coming Antichrist?

1. He comes after the rapture of the church.

A. He comes from the stormy sea of the Gentiles.

And he said to me, "The waters which you saw ... are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues." Revelation 17:15

B. He comes with ability, power, and deception.

When the end is near for those kingdoms, there will be a very bold and cruel king who will be very tricky. The king will be very powerful, but his power does not come from himself. Daniel 8:23-24 ESV

C. He comes as a willing vessel for Satan to indwell.

And another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns Revelation 12:3

And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority. Revelation 13:2

2. He comes to rule the entire world.

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast. Revelation 13:3

A. He will have a counterfeit resurrection to catapult him.

B. He will have a world-wide following.

C. He will have authority for forty-two months.

And there was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies; and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him. And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven. And it was given to him to make war with the

saints and to overcome them; and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him. Revelation 13:5-7

3. He comes to be worshiped.

... and they worshiped the dragon, because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?" And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain. If anyone has an ear, let him hear. Revelation 13:4, 8-9

A. He will declare himself to be the only God.

Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

B. He will have a teammate who enforces his worship.

*And I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon. And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. And he performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who *had the wound of the sword and has come to life. And there was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast might even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed. Revelation 13:11-15*

C. He will make everyone get the mark of the beast.

And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand, or on their forehead, and he provides that no one should be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six. Revelation 13:16-18

And another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or upon his hand, he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire

and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. Revelation 14:9-10

D. He will murder Tribulation saints by the millions.

And it was given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them ... And all who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.

Revelation 13:7-8

Is your name in the Lamb's book of life?