THE ANTICHRIST REVEALED

What did the New Testament writers say about Antichrist?

<u>I John 4:1-3</u> John counsels us to test the spirits of those who claim to speak for God because some are false prophets, and there is a "spirit of antichrist" that was already in the world in John's time. Antichrist means one who stands in the position or place of Christ.

Matthew 24:24 Jesus said false christs and prophets would come in the last days and deceive people. They were imposters. If they were open opposers of Christ, they would deceive no one.

<u>2 Thessalonians' 2:1-3</u> Paul taught there would be a falling away among the believers first, and then the man of sin, the Antichrist, would be revealed. He exalts himself above God and opposes God.

Acts 20:28-30 Here Paul taught that among church leaders false teachers would arise, drawing away disciples after themselves.

<u>2 Thessalonians' 2:4</u> The man of sin or Antichrist "sits in the temple of God, in other words he has his seat right within the church!

Revelation 13:1, 2 John also saw Antichrist as a leopard-like Beast.

Does the Old Testament prophecy talk about Antichrist?

<u>Daniel 7:1-7</u> In a dream, the prophet Daniel saw four beasts.

Daniel 7:23 These four beasts represent four great world kingdoms.

The fourth beast represents the fourth world kingdom, or Rome.

Daniel 7:7 The beast representing Rome has ten horns on its head.

Daniel 7:24 The ten horns represent ten divisions of Rome.

Daniel 7:8 Daniel saw a little horn come up among the ten horns. Bible scholars all agree that is Little Horn is the Antichrist.

What points of identification does Daniel give for the Antichrist?

#1 Antichrist is a little kingdom.

Daniel 7:8 It is described as a *Little* Horn.

<u>Daniel 7:24</u> Horns represent kings or kingdoms.

#2 Antichrist arises in Western Europe.

Daniel 7:8 The little horn comes up *among* the ten horns, that is, in the same part of the world. The area where the old Roman Empire was divided up into ten divisions is Western Europe.

#3 Antichrist arises after 476 AD.

<u>Daniel 7:24</u> The Little Horn arises *after* the ten horns. The ten divisions of Rome had all been formed by the year 476 AD, so Antichrist had to arise after that year.

#4 Antichrist destroys three of the ten divisions of Rome.

<u>Daniel 7: 8, 24</u> The Little Horn plucks up three horns by their roots.

#5 Antichrist is different from the other kingdoms that arose.

<u>Daniel 7:24</u> The Little Horn is *diverse* (different).

#6 Antichrist has a man that sees and speaks for it.

<u>Daniel 7:8, 20</u> The Little Horn has eyes like a man, a mouth speaking great things, and an appearance more imposing than the rest.

#7 Antichrist blasphemes against God.

<u>Daniel 7:25</u> Speaking great words against God is blasphemy.

John 10:33 It is blasphemy for a man to say he is God.

Mark 2:7 It is blasphemy for a man to claim to pardon sins.

#8 Antichrist persecutes God's people.

Daniel 7:21 The Little Horn *makes war* with the saints.

#9 Antichrist thinks to change times and laws.

<u>Daniel 7:25</u> The Little Horn thinks, or deliberately determines, to *change times and laws*.

#10 Antichrist rules for 1,260 years.

THE SEVEN BIBLICAL REFERENCES TO THE 1260 DAYS

- 1. Daniel 7:25 a time, two times, and a half a time.
- 2. Daniel 12:7 a time, times, and an half.
- 3. <u>Revelation 11:2</u> forty-two months.
- 4. Revelation 11:3 one thousand two hundred and 60 days.
- 5. Revelation 12:6 one thousand two hundred and 60 days.
- 6. Revelation 12:14 a time, and times, and a half time.
- 7. <u>Revelation 13:5</u> forty-two months.

One time equals one year. Equals 12 months equals (12x30) 360 days. Two times equals two years. Equals 24 months equals (24x30) 360 days. Half a time equals 6 months equals (6x30) 180 days.

A time, two times, and a half Equals 42 months equals (42x30) 1260 days A day equals 1 year in Bible Prophetic time; Ezek. 4:6, and Numbers 14:34

Vatican City is the only nation that fulfills all ten of these points.

How have these ten points been filled by the Vatican?

#1. A little kingdom

Vatican City is indeed a small nation; on February 11, 1929, it was re-instated as a nation with the Lateran Concordat. It was given 108 acres. But it is a nation nevertheless.

#2. Arises in Western Europe.

The Vatican arose in the city of Rome, in Western Europe.

#3. Arises after 476 AD.

The Vatican came into unrivaled power in 538 AD, after the divisions of Rome was completed in 476 AD.

#4. Destroys three horns.

Three divisions of Rome – the Heruli, the Vandals, and the Ostrogoths – were destroyed because of their opposition to the Papacy. The last of the these three tribes was uprooted in 538 AD. Then the saints were given into the hand of the Papacy.

#5. Different from the other horns.

All the other ten horns were just political kingdoms. The Vatican is a church and state, both a religious and a political kingdom.

#6. A man at its head that sees and speaks for it.

The Pope, a man, is the *head* of the Vatican.

#7. Speaks blasphemy against God.

The Vatican claims the right and power to pardon sins. "To pardon a single sin requires all the omnipotence of God. But what only God can do by his omnipotence the priest can also do by saying the words, 'Ego te absolvo'... indeed it is not too much to say, in view of the solemnity of their offices, that they are so many gods." Dignity and Duties of the Priest, by Liguori, p. 34, 36. It also claims that the Pope is God. 'The Pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but he is JESUS Christ Himself hidden under the veil of the flesh. Does the Pope speak? It is Jesus Christ who speaks. "The Archbishop of Venice, prior to becoming Pope Pius X. "We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty." The Great Encyclical Letters of Leo, XIII, p. 304.

#8. Persecutes God's people.

"From the birth of popery to the present time, it is estimated by careful and credible historians, that more than fifty million of the human family have been slaughtered for the crime of heresy by popish persecutors ..." John Dowling, <u>The History of Romanism</u>, pp. 541-542.

"That the Church of Rome has shed more innocent blood than any other institution that has ever existed among mankind, will be questioned by no Protestant who has a competent knowledge of history." <u>History of the Rise and Influence of Rationalism in Europe</u>, Vol. 2, p. 32, W.E.H. Lecky, Author.

#9. Thinks to change times and laws.

"The Pope is so great authority and power that he can modify, explain, or interpret even divine laws." Translated from Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Bibliotheca, art. "Papa" II, Vol. VI, pp. 26-29.

The Vatican has changed the law of God, as can be seen in their catechism reguarding the second commandment. But that's not all !!

"Question--- Which is the Sabbath day?

"Answer--- Saturday is the Sabbath day.

"Question--- Why do we observe Sunday instead Saturday?

"Answer--- We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." Peter Geiermann, C.S.S.R., <u>The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine</u>, p. 50, 1957 edition.

The Bible predicted that the little horn, the Antichrist, would think to change the law of God. History confirms that the little horn did rise and did attempt to change God's Law, and the Little Horn itself claims that the change was its doing.

#10. Rules for 1260 years.

The Vatican began its rule in 538 AD. 1260 years later, in February of 1798, the French general Berthier took Pope Pius VI captive and the Papacy lost its ruling power. Pope Pius VI died a year later in prison in Versailles, France. The Vatican ruled for 1260 years, just as the Bible prophecy predicted.

The Vatican is the Antichrist, the Little Horn.

Founders of leading Protestant denominations understood this biblical teaching. **Roger Williams**, the first Baptist preacher in America, **John Wesley**, founder of the Methodist Church, the great reformers **Martin Luther**, **John Knox**, and **John Calvin ---** and I could list many more reformers. Even **King James I**, knew it. In addition, did you know <u>Sir Isaac Newton</u> called the papacy "The Antichrist" p. 75. It is in his book of prophecy.

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