



HE'S COMING

Rapture of the Church and Return of Jesus

3 Comings of Jesus Christ – 1 Past, 2 Future

Past

1. Jesus came the first time – born as the Christ child

Future

2. Jesus will come to get His bride, the Church (Rapture)

7 Years of Tribulation

3. Jesus will come with His bride (Second Coming)

What is the Rapture?

- Latin term *rapio*, which means to “snatch away” or “carry off,” is the source of the English word Rapture
- Greek *harpadzo* ἄρπάζω
- Hebrew *lakakh* לקַח
- English word “rapture” is not found in your Bible
- The rapture event is God’s taking the Church out of the world instantaneously.

When is The Rapture going to happen?

- Jesus said, “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.” Matthew 24:36
- Jesus said, “Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.” Matthew 24:42
- Jesus said, “Therefore, be on the alert—for you do not know when the master of the house is coming, whether in the evening, at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning— in case he should come suddenly and find you asleep. What I say to you I say to all, ‘Be on the alert!’” Mark 13:35-37

John 14:1-3



Rapture

1 Thess. 4:16-17
1 Cor. 15:51-58

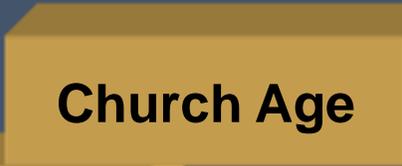


Glorious

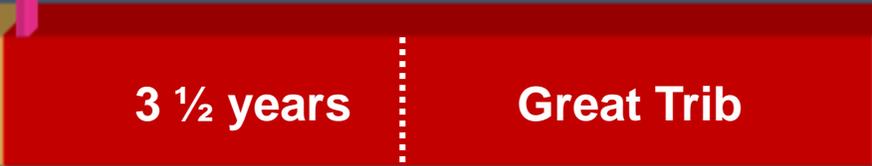
Appearing

Matt. 24:30

Rev. 19:11-21

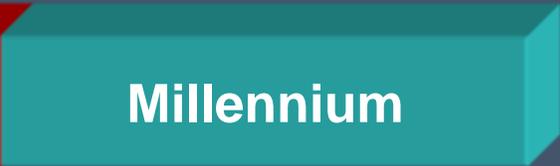


Church Age



3 1/2 years

Great Trib



Millennium

2 Thess. 2:6-10

Future
Ages

Pre-Tribulation Rapture View

Why is it called “Tribulation”?

Jesus said, “For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.” Matthew 24:21

θλίψις *thlipsis* - translated as “tribulation, affliction, trouble, anguish, persecution”

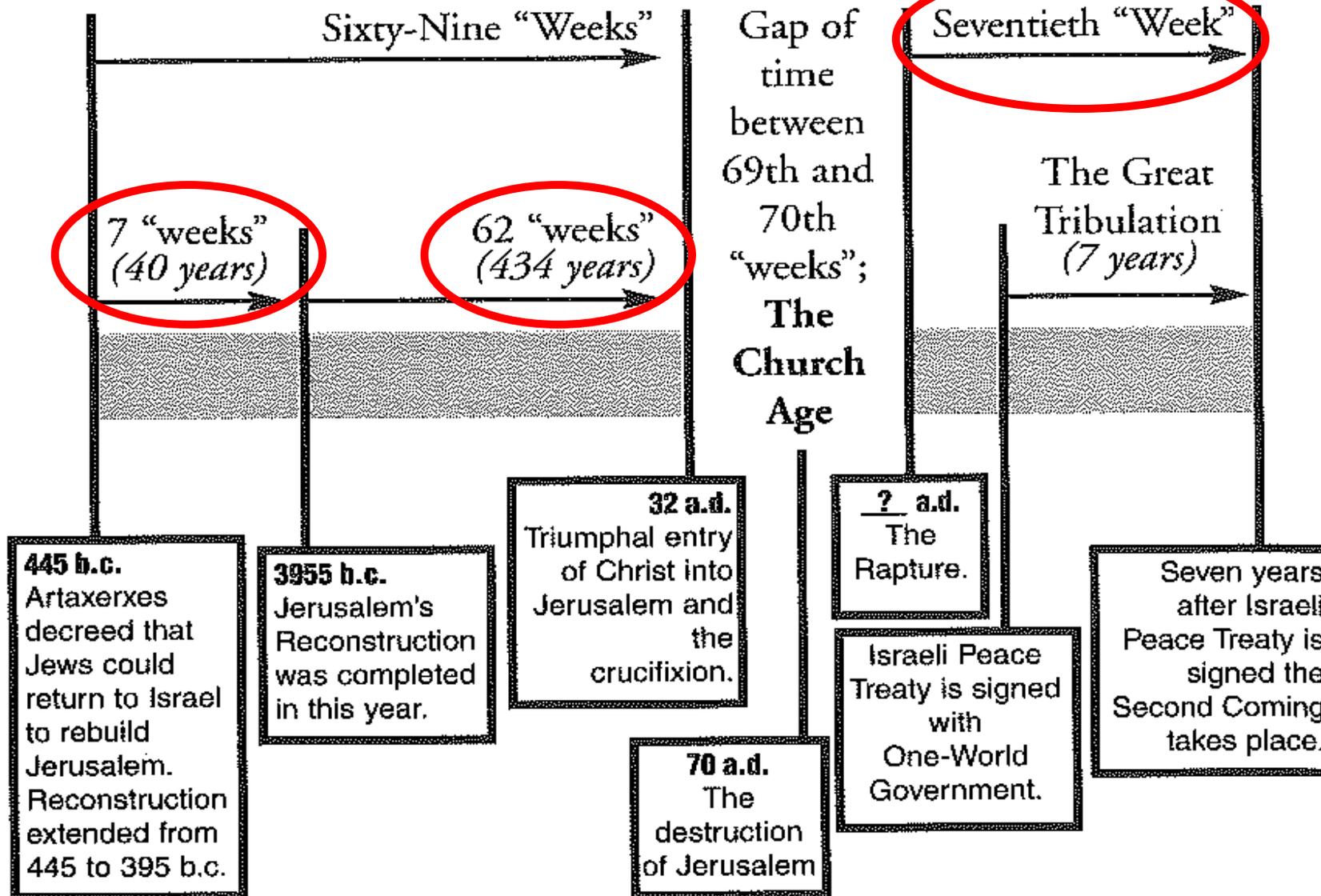
“So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks (sevens) and sixty-two weeks (sevens); it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress.”

Daniel 9:25

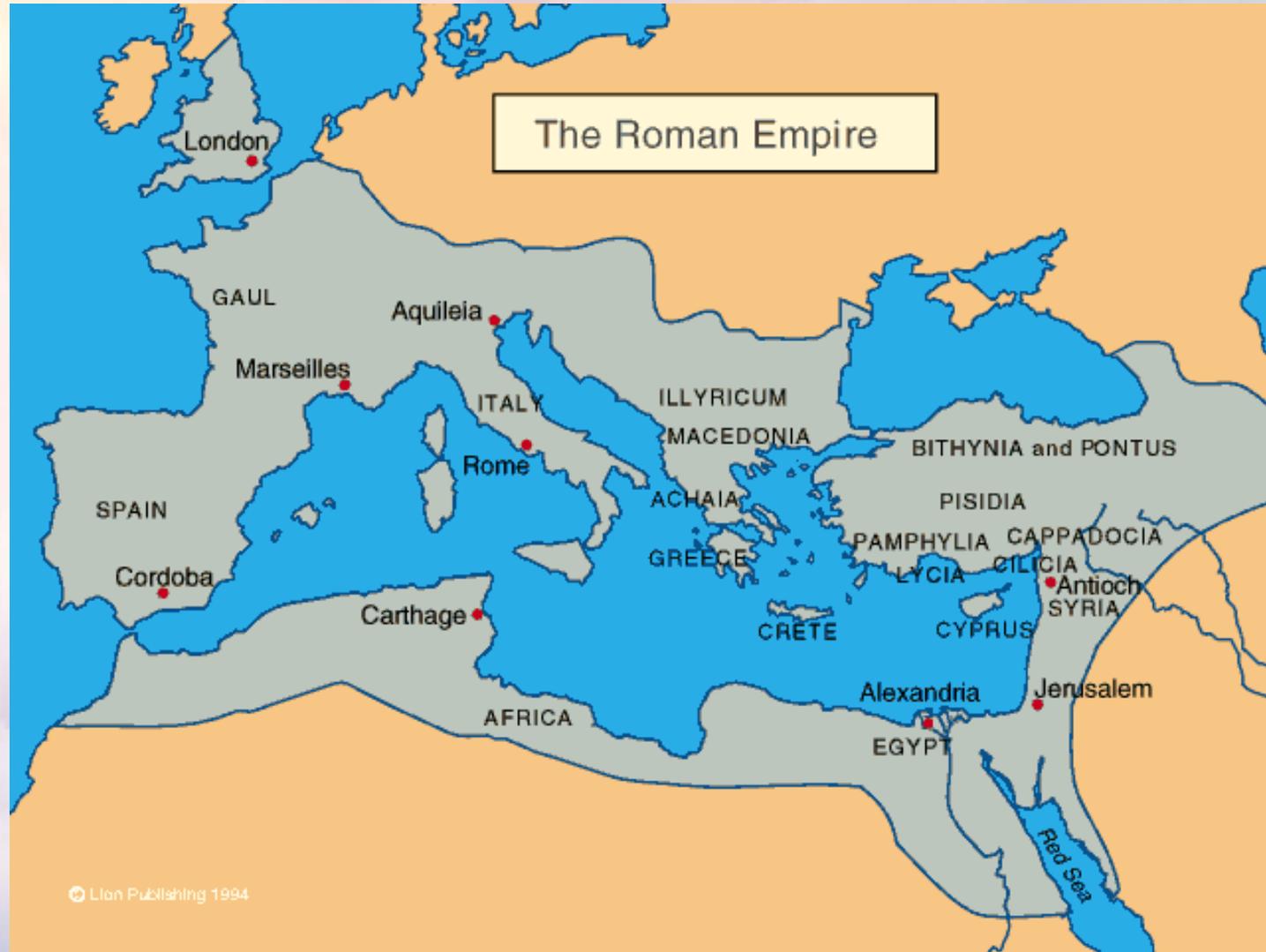
Start the clock...

Jews were allowed to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem after the decree of Artaxerxes, ruler of Persia, was issued in 444 BC (see Nehemiah chapters 1-3)

Where are we now?



“Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off (executed) and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come (Antichrist) will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.”
Daniel 9:26



Jewish Temple is destroyed in 70 AD

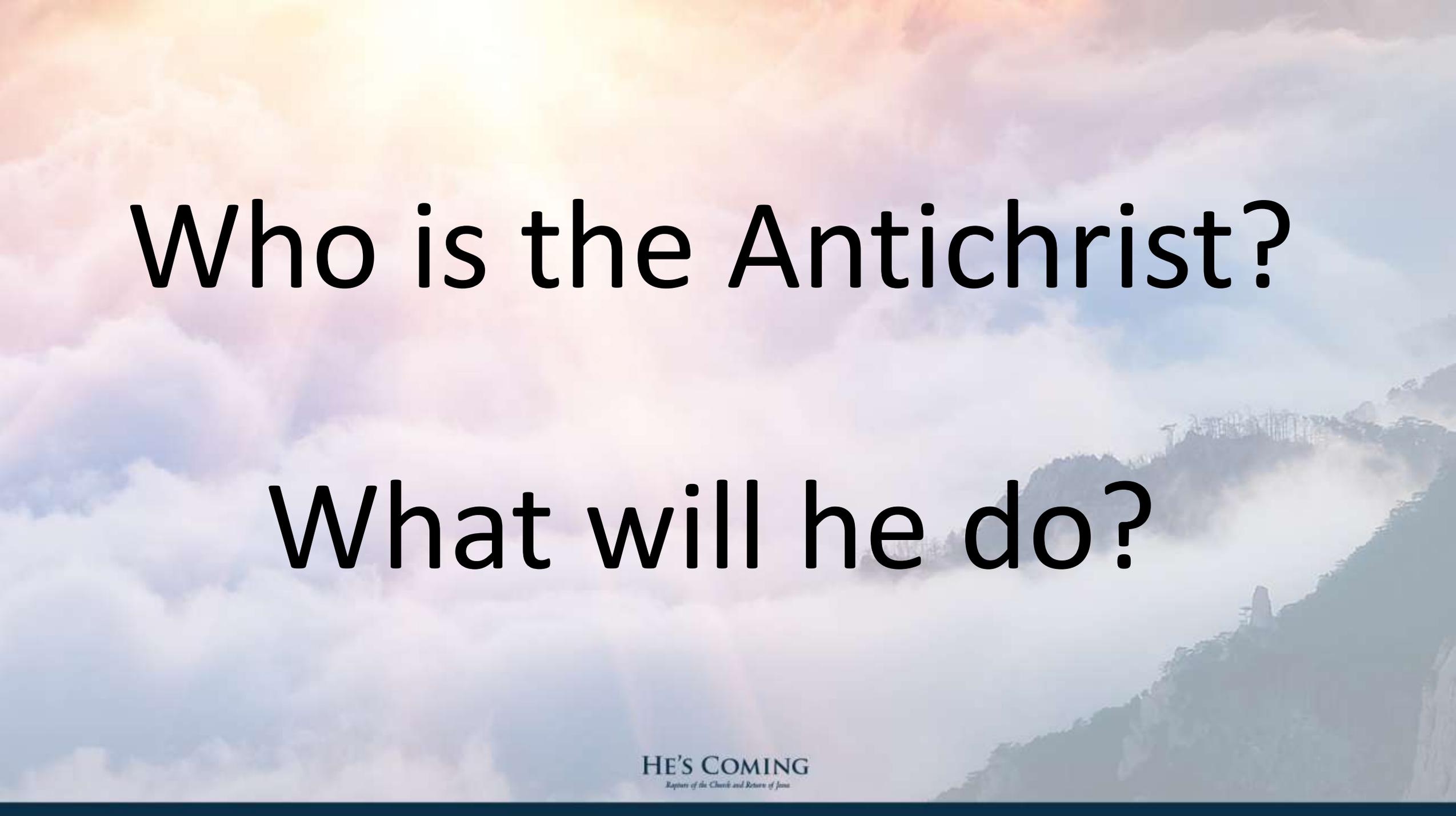
The Siege of Jerusalem in August 70 AD was the decisive event of the First Jewish–Roman War. **The Roman army**, led by the future Emperor Titus, with Tiberius Julius Alexander as his second-in-command, **besieged and conquered the city of Jerusalem**, which had been occupied by its Jewish defenders in 66 AD. The siege ended with the sacking of the city and **the destruction of the Second Jewish Temple**.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege_of_Jerusalem_\(AD_70\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege_of_Jerusalem_(AD_70)) <http://www.templemount.org/destruct2.html>

Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. And He said to them, “Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.” Matthew 24:1-2

“And he (Antichrist) will make a firm covenant with the many (peace treaty between Israel and other nations) for one week (7 year Tribulation), but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

Daniel 9:27



Who is the Antichrist?

What will he do?

Titles/Descriptions for Antichrist

- Antichrist – 1 John 2:18

Apostle John wrote, “Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.”

- The Little Horn – Daniel 7:8
- The Fierce King – Daniel 8:23
- A Master of Intrigue – Daniel 8:23
- Prince Who is to Come – Daniel 9:26
- The Despicable Person – Daniel 11:21
- The Willful King – Daniel 11:36
- Worthless Shepherd – Zechariah 11:17
- The Abomination – Matthew 24:15
- The Man of Lawlessness – 2 Thessalonians 2:3
- The One Who Brings Destruction – 2 Thessalonians 2:3
- The Beast – Revelation 13:11

Characteristics of the Antichrist

Description	Little Horn Daniel 7	Small Horn Daniel 8	Willful King Daniel 11	Man of Lawlessness 2 Thess. 2
Braggart / Egotist	✓	✓	✓	✓
Blasphemer of God	✓	✓	✓	✓
Contemptuous	✓	✓	✓	✓
Persecutor of Believers	✓	✓		
Insolent		✓		
Deceptive / Shrewd		✓		
Demonic		✓		✓
Destructive		✓		✓
Willful		✓	✓	
Sexually Perverted			✓	
Militarist			✓	
Materialist			✓	

- Author: Dr. David Reagan
- Source: <http://christinprophecy.org/articles/the-rise-and-fall-of-the-antichrist/>

Nationality

- “A ruler will arise whose armies will destroy the city and the Temple.” (Daniel 9:26)
He must come from among the people who were part of the Roman Empire of that time.
- In Daniel 8, the angel Gabriel explains Daniel’s vision of a Ram and Goat as events relating to the Greek Empire of Alexander the Great. In a claim verified by history, he states that following the death of Alexander, the empire will be divided into four parts. From one of those four parts, the Antichrist will arise.
- Daniel Chapter 11 provides an in-depth examination of the history of the breakup Alexander’s empire, describing historical events relating to the King of the North and the King of the South. The latter part of the chapter describes the Antichrist, identifying him with other historical figures who have held the title “King of the North.” This links the Antichrist to the Northern Kingdom of the divided Greek Empire. This kingdom was ruled by one of Alexander’s generals, Seleucus, who ruled the areas of Syria, Mesopotamia, and Persia. Source: <http://brittgillette.com/>

Arrogance

- “This little horn had eyes like human eyes and a mouth that was boasting arrogantly.” Daniel 7:8
- “The king will do as he pleases, exalting himself and claiming to be greater than every god there is, even blaspheming the God of gods.” Daniel 11:36
- The Antichrist will be so filled with self-love and arrogance that he will launch a rebellion against God Almighty. He will place himself above all others, and even set himself up in the Jewish Temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

Satan's Power

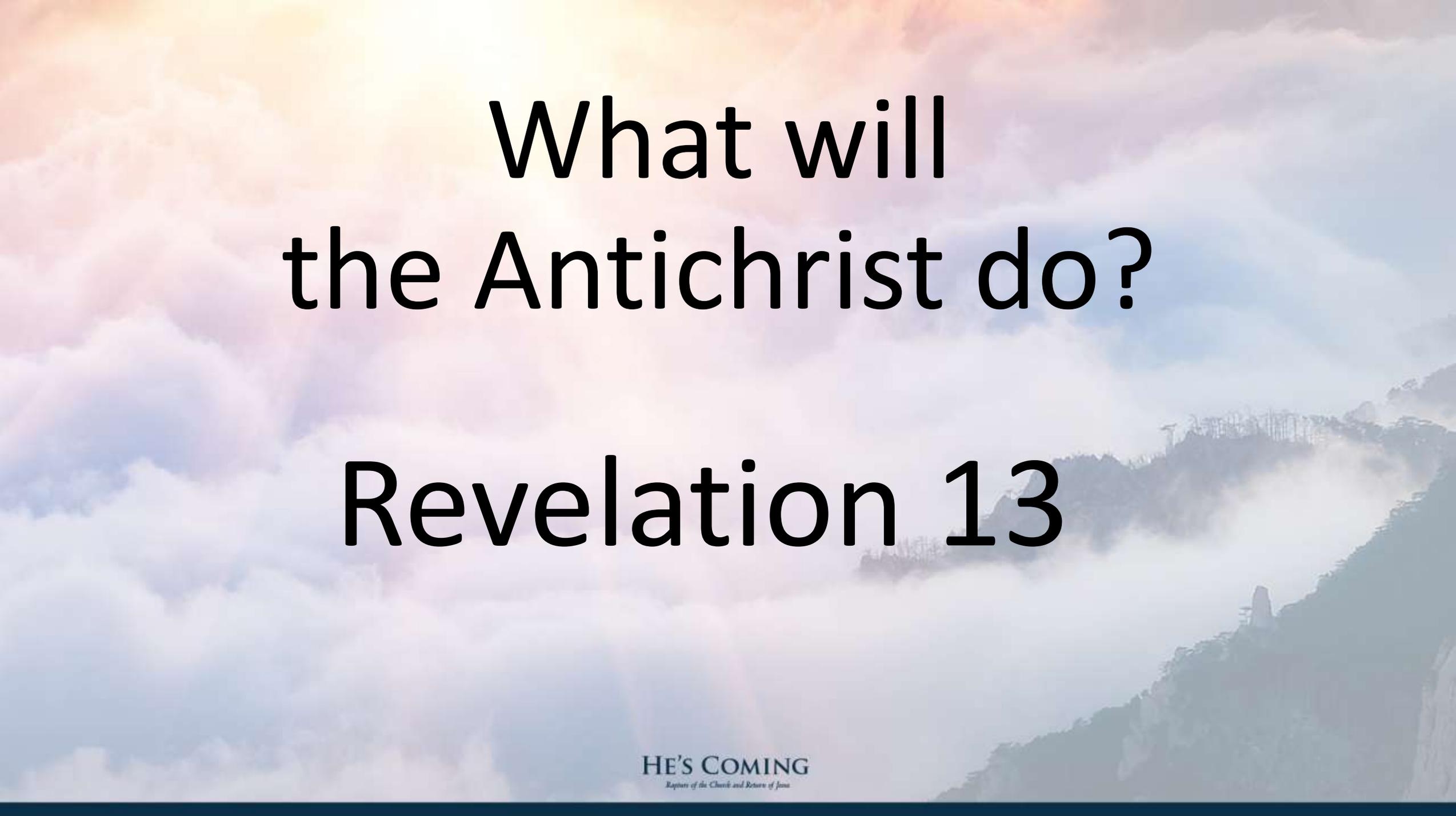
- The Antichrist will be empowered by Satan.
- “He will become very strong, but not by his own power.” Daniel 8:24
- “This evil man will come to do the work of Satan with counterfeit power and signs and miracles. He will use every kind of wicked deception to fool those who are on their way to destruction because they refuse to believe the truth that would save them.” 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10
- “And the dragon gave him his own power and throne and great authority.” Revelation 13:2
- Following the Devil's banishment from heaven (Revelation 12:9), he will indwell the Antichrist, making this man of lawlessness the literal embodiment of Satan.

Source: <http://brittgillette.com/>

Beholden to Power

- The Antichrist will be consumed with power, and power alone will he worship.
- “He will have no regard for the god of his ancestors, or for the god beloved of women, or for any other god, for he will boast that he is greater than them all. Instead of these, he will worship the god of fortresses – a god his ancestors never knew – and lavish on him gold, silver, precious stones, and costly gifts.” Daniel 11:37-38
- “They worshiped the dragon for giving the beast such power, and they worshiped the beast. ‘Is there anyone as great as the beast?’ they exclaimed. ‘Who is able to fight against him?’” Revelation 13:4

Source: <http://brittgillette.com/>



What will
the Antichrist do?

Revelation 13

Satanic/Unholy/Evil Trinity during the End Times

- Satan (dragon) – imitates the Father
- Antichrist (first beast) – imitates the Son
- False Prophet (second beast) – imitates the Holy Spirit, spokesman for Antichrist

“Satan’s heart is revealed at last. God acts in love, giving people freedom to choose to follow Him; but Satan acts in hatred, forcing people to surrender their freedom to Him.” – Teacher’s Commentary

“And the dragon (*Satan*) stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names. And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.”

Revelation 13:1-2

“After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth uttering great boasts.”

Daniel 7:7-8

“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; 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?’”

Revelation 13:3-4

“the whole earth was amazed/astonished” (Rev. 13:3)

- The funeral of Princess Diana was watched by an estimated 2.5 billion people in September 1997.
- The rescue of the Chilean miners in August 2010 was watched by more than 1 billion people on TV or internet.
- The 2008 Olympics opening ceremony in Beijing, China was watched by over 2 billion people on TV or internet.
- It is estimated by Nielsen Media Research that between 4.7 and 5 billion individual viewers (or about 70% of the world’s 7 billion human population) watched some part of the coverage of the 2008 Olympics.
- 2016 estimated population of the world = 7.4 billion people
 - Internet users on December 31, 2000 = 361 million (5.2% of population)
 - Internet users on March 31, 2009 = 1.59 billion (23.8% of population)
 - Internet users in May 2016 = 3.36 billion (45.4% of population)
- YouTube was launched in November 2005 and now has more than 1 billion users.



Paul Henri-Spaak, president of the United Nations General Assembly (1946-1947) and Secretary General of NATO (1957-1961), prime minister of Belgium and a proponent of socialism and one-world government.

How will antichrist come to power?

“There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.”

Revelation 13:5

Henri-Spaak said this in a General Session of the UN in 1957: “We do not want another committee. We have too many already. What we want is a man of sufficient stature to hold the allegiance of all people, and to lift us out of the economic morass in which we are sinking. Send us such a man and, be he God or the devil, we will receive him.”

“And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven. It was also 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 13:6-7

“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. If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.”

Revelation 13:8-10

“Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon. 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 (*religious power*). 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.”

Revelation 13:11-14

“And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.”

Revelation 13:15

Worldwide Economic Power

“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 will 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.”

Revelation 13:16-17

Mark of the beast?

FDA approves injecting ID chips in patients

- Applied Digital, maker of the implantable VeriChip for humans, announced Wednesday the FDA's approval of its technology for use in hospitals following a yearlong review by the agency. The computer chips, which are about the size of a grain of rice, are designed to be injected into the fatty tissue of the arm. Using a special scanner, doctors and other hospital staff can fetch information from the chips, such as the patient's identity, their blood type and the details of their condition, in order to speed treatment. The company is targeting the devices at patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and other conditions requiring complex treatment.
- Medical data is not stored on the devices, also known as radio frequency identification chips. Rather, it's stored in a database that links the chips' unique serial numbers with patient data. In its review, the FDA carefully studied the privacy issues around the technology, specifically the risk that medical records could be improperly disclosed, according to Applied Digital.

Source: CNET, November 1, 2004 <http://www.cnet.com/news/fda-approves-injecting-id-chips-in-patients/>

Mark of the beast?

Lost your keys? Just inject a chip into your hand

Is melding man and machine the future? That's what founder and chief executive Amal Graafstra's company Dangerous Things has imagined by offering people the chance to never have to worry about forgetting their keys or passwords again -- as long as you inject a microchip into your body. Graafstra's idea was to make life easier through technology by implanting the chips into human flesh. He himself has a RFID chip in each of his hands, between his index and thumb. "I use these chips on a daily basis to access my home, get into my car, start my car, log into the computer, start my motorcycle, those kind of things. I just walk up to the car, there's a little sensor in the window, I place my hand there, car opens, get in and I go," he explained. Dangerous Things sells a body hacking kit for \$40 online which includes NFC chips, RFID chips and biomagnets and a sterilized injection needle to insert the device. "These are not medical devices, they're not used in treatment of diseases. They don't require FDA approval in the U.S.," said Graafstra, adding that the devices are not illegal.

Source: CNBC, March 15, 2016 <http://www.cnbc.com/2016/03/15/lost-your-keys-just-inject-a-chip-into-your-hand.html>

Mark of the beast?

In Sweden, a Cash-Free Future Nears

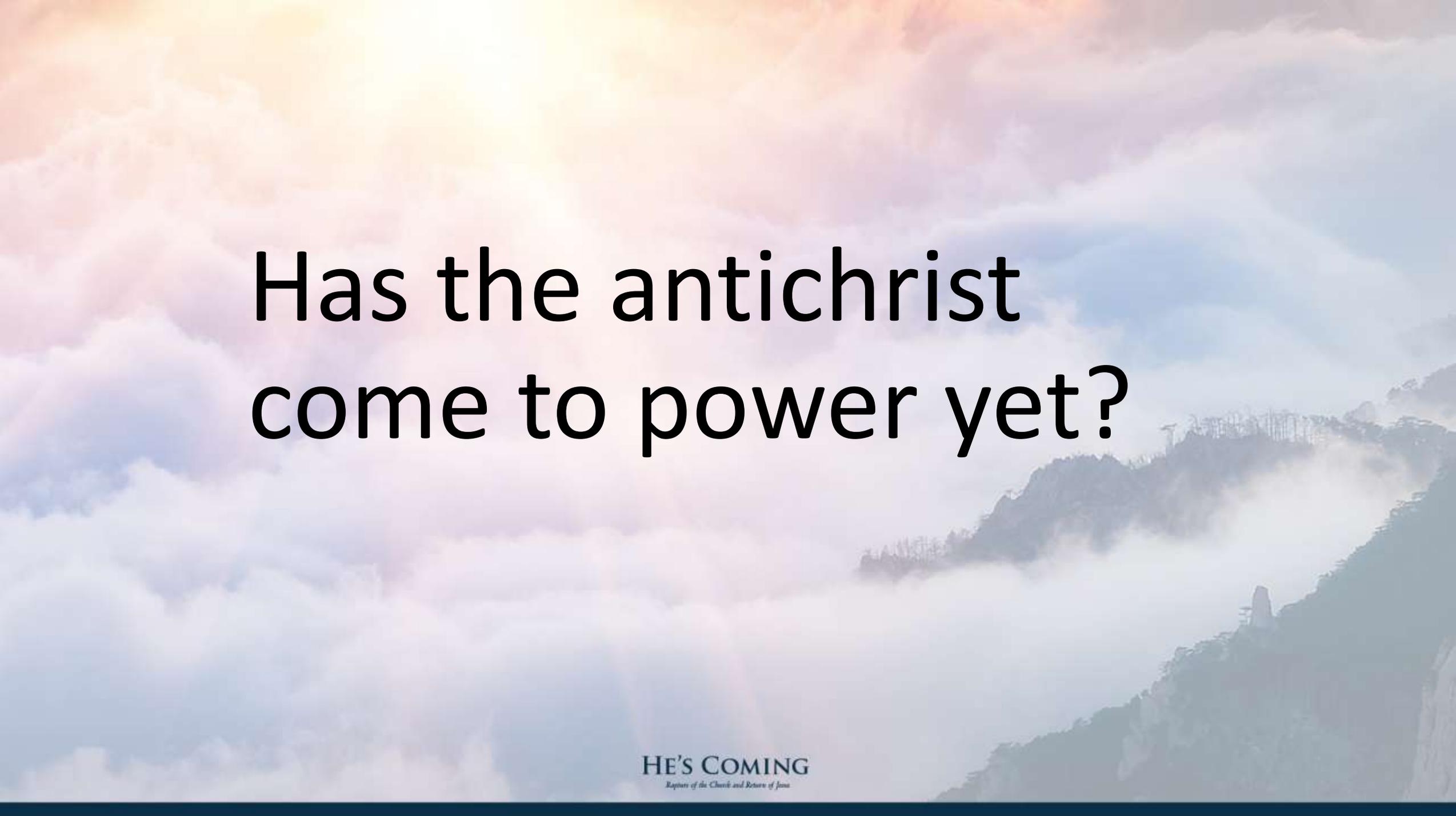
- Bills and coins now represent just 2 percent of Sweden's economy, compared with 7.7 percent in the United States and 10 percent in the euro area. This year, only about 20 percent of all consumer payments in Sweden have been made in cash, compared with an average of 75 percent in the rest of the world, according to Euromonitor International.
- At more than half of the branches of the country's biggest banks, including SEB, Swedbank, Nordea Bank and others, no cash is kept on hand, nor are cash deposits accepted. They say they are saving a significant amount on security by removing the incentive for bank robberies.
- For an increasing number of consumers, cash is no longer a habit. At the University of Gothenburg, students said they almost exclusively used cards and electronic payments. "No one uses cash," said Hannah Ek, 23. "I think our generation can live without it."

Source: New York Times, December 26, 2015 http://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/27/business/international/in-sweden-a-cash-free-future-nears.html?_r=0

“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 13:18

What does “666” mean?

The background of the slide is a scenic landscape. The upper portion is dominated by a bright, hazy sky with soft, pastel-colored clouds in shades of pink, orange, and light blue. Below the sky, there are dark, silhouetted mountains. A thick layer of white mist or fog fills the valleys between the mountains, creating a sense of depth and atmosphere. The overall tone is ethereal and somewhat somber.

Has the antichrist
come to power yet?

“Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. 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. Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed.”

2 Thessalonians 2:1-6

“For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way (*rapture of the Church*). Then that lawless one (*antichrist*) will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.”

2 Thessalonians 2:7-10

Is the antichrist alive today?

- Dr. Gary Frazier: “I believe he is, and that he is standing by in the wings awaiting his moment to step onto the world stage! Is it possible for us to know who this satanic possessed ruler will be? The answer is no! Those who know Jesus Christ as Savior will never know who the antichrist is because he cannot be revealed until after the Rapture takes place.”
- Dr. Chuck Missler: “The more one studies the numerous references to this Man of Destiny in the Scriptures, and the more one examines the many details of the scenario that surrounds his career, the more it appears that the world is plunging into the period in which he will become the man of the hour. Many of the most knowledgeable commentators believe he may be alive today.”

What finally happens to the antichrist?

“His power will be mighty, but not by his own power, and he will destroy to an extraordinary degree and prosper and perform his will; he will destroy mighty men and the holy people. And through his shrewdness he will cause deceit to succeed by his influence; and he will magnify himself in his heart, and he will destroy many while they are at ease. He will even oppose the Prince of princes (*Armageddon*), but he will be broken without human agency.” Daniel 8:24-25

What finally happens to the antichrist?

- “But the court will sit for judgment, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever.” Daniel 7:26
- “And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.” Revelation 19:20

Next Sunday...

What are the signs of the
Second Coming of Jesus?

Are the antichrist and Jesus equal?

A CONTRAST TO JESUS CHRIST

In his masterful book *Dispensational Truth*, Dr. Clarence Larkin has listed the following fourteen contrasts between the Antichrist and the Lord Jesus Christ.²⁵

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Christ came from above
—John 6:38 | Antichrist will ascend from the pit
—Rev. 11:7 |
| 2. Christ came in His Father's name—John 5:43 | Antichrist will come in his own name—John 5:43 |
| 3. Christ humbled Himself
—Phil. 2:8 | Antichrist will exalt himself
—2 Thess. 2:4 |
| 4. Christ was despised
—Isa. 53:3; Luke 23:18 | Antichrist will be admired
—Rev. 13:3-4 |
| 5. Christ will be exalted
—Phil. 2:9 | Antichrist will be cast down to hell
—Isa. 14:14-15; Rev. 19:20 |
| 6. Christ came to do His Father's will—John 6:38 | Antichrist will come to do his own will—Dan. 11:36 |
| 7. Christ came to save
—Luke 19:10 | Antichrist will come to destroy
—Dan. 8:24 |
| 8. Christ is the good shepherd
—John 10:1-15 | Antichrist is the "idol [evil] shepherd"—Zech. 11:16-17 |
| 9. Christ is the "true vine"
—John 15:1 | Antichrist is the "vine of the earth"
—Rev. 14:18 |
| 10. Christ is the "truth"
—John 14:6 | Antichrist is the "lie"
—2 Thess. 2:11 (ASV) |
| 11. Christ is the "holy one"
—Mark 1:24 | Antichrist is the "lawless one"
—2 Thess. 2:8 (ASV) |
| 12. Christ is the "man of sorrows"
—Isa. 53:3 | Antichrist is the "man of sin"
—2 Thess. 2:3 |
| 13. Christ is the "Son of God"
—Luke 1:35 | Antichrist is the "son of perdition"
—2 Thess. 2:3 |
| 14. Christ is "the mystery of godliness: God . . . manifest in the flesh"—1 Tim. 3:16 | Antichrist will be "the mystery of iniquity," Satan manifest in the flesh—2 Thess. 2:7 |

What should the disciples of Jesus do now?

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, **looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus**, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds. Titus 2:11-14