

An aerial photograph of a zebra crossing on a city street. The crossing consists of alternating black and white horizontal stripes. Several pedestrians are walking across the crossing. In the top left, the lower legs and feet of two people are visible. In the top right, a man in a striped shirt and khaki pants is walking, looking down at his phone. In the middle left, a person in a light green shirt and dark pants is walking, carrying a white bag. In the middle right, a person in a black t-shirt and dark shorts is walking, carrying a brown bag. In the bottom left, a person in a white t-shirt and dark shorts is walking. In the bottom middle, a person in a plaid shirt and light pants is walking, carrying a bag. In the bottom right, a person is walking, holding a blue and white checkered umbrella. The shadows of the pedestrians are cast onto the white stripes of the crossing, indicating a bright, sunny day.

LAST DAYS LIVING

A STUDY IN I & II THESSALONIANS

**“Signs of the Times”
Part II**

II THESSALONIANS 2:3-5

KEY POINT:

God has not left us in ignorance about what to look for in the end and how to live as we wait for it.

I. Has the Day of the Lord Already Come?

(vs. 1-3a)

A. No, but be calm (vs. 1-2).

B. No, but be discerning (vs. 3a).

II. Why Not? (vs. 3b-12)

A. We are still awaiting a great apostasy (vs. 3b).

B. We are still awaiting a great Antichrist (vs. 3c-9).

- A desolating sacrilege (Mark 13:14)
- The beast (Rev 6:2-4; 11:7; 13:1-14:1)
- Another horn (Dan 7:8, 20-21, 24)
- A king of bold face (Dan 8:23)
- Son of perdition (II Thess 2:8-9)
- A wicked prince (Dan 9:26)
- The abomination of desolation (Dan 9:27; 12:11)

Names for the Antichrist

- The Prince of Tyre (Ezek 28:1-2)
- Wicked one (Ps 9:17)
- Adversary (Ps 74:10)
- The head over many countries (Ps 110:6)
- Vile person (Dan 11:21)
- Willful king (Dan 11:36)

Names for the Antichrist

1. The Man of Lawlessness

- Means “without law”
- Highlights failure to adhere to God’s law (I John 3:4)
- An antinomian.

2. Son of Destruction

- The very opposite of salvation
- a name for Judas Iscariot

Paul’s 2 Words for the Antichrist

*Children, it is the last hour,
and as you have heard that antichrist is
coming, so **now many antichrists have come.**
Therefore we know that it is the last hour.*

I John 2:18

*and every spirit that does not confess Jesus
is not from God.*

*This is **the spirit of the antichrist**,
which you heard was coming and now is in
the world already.*

I John 4:3

*I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between **your offspring** and her offspring.”*

Genesis 3:15

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream



KINGDOMS REPRESENTED

Head of fine gold
Babylonian Empire

Breast and arms of silver
Mede and Persian Empires

Belly and thighs of brass
Macedonian Empire

Feet and toes of clay
Kingdoms that arose after
the fall of the Roman Empire

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5 Arguments for an Islamic Caliphate as the 4th Kingdom

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5. This 4th kingdom is described as mixed (vs. 43), which is an Aramaic word that means “arab.”

5 Arguments for an Islamic Caliphate as the 4th Kingdom

*12 “How you are fallen from heaven,
O Day Star, son of Dawn!
How you are cut down to the ground,
you who laid the nations low!*

*13 You said in your heart,
‘I will ascend to heaven;
above the stars of God
I will set my throne on high; ...*

The Antichrist's Arrogance - Isaiah 14:12-13

*... I will sit on the mount of assembly
in the far reaches of the north;*

*¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High.'*

The Antichrist's Arrogance - Isaiah 14:13-14

Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, Thus says the Lord GOD:

*“Because your heart is proud,
and you have said, ‘I am a god,
I sit in the seat of the gods,
in the heart of the seas,’
yet you are but a man, and no god,
though you make your heart like the heart of a god—*

The Antichrist's Arrogance - Ezekiel 28:2

*therefore thus says the Lord GOD:
Because you make your heart
like the heart of a god,*

The Antichrist's Arrogance - Ezekiel 28:6

*Will you still say, 'I am a god,'
in the presence of those who kill you,
though you are but a man, and no god,
in the hands of those who slay you?*

The Antichrist's Arrogance - Ezekiel 28:9

It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven.

The Antichrist's Arrogance - Revelation 13:6

*For the wicked boasts of the
desires of his soul,
and the one greedy for gain curses
and renounces the LORD.*

The Antichrist's Arrogance - Psalm 10:3

The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts.

A Practical Atheist - Psalm 10:4

*⁵ His ways prosper at all times;
your judgments are on high, out of his sight;
as for all his foes, he puffs at them.*

*⁶ He says in his heart, "I shall not be moved;
throughout all generations
I shall not meet adversity."*

The Antichrist is Adversarial - Psalm 10:5-6

*His mouth is filled with cursing and
deceit and oppression;
under his tongue are mischief and iniquity.*

The Antichrist's Deceit - Psalm 10:7

*and about the ten horns that were on its head,
and the other horn that came up and before
which three of them fell,
the horn that had eyes and **a mouth that spoke
great things**, and that seemed greater than
its companions.*

Daniel 7:20

*He shall pay no attention to the gods of his fathers, **or to the one beloved by women.** He shall not pay attention to any other god, for he shall magnify himself above all.*

The Antichrist's Sexuality - Daniel 11:37

1. The leader of a powerful nation (Dan 7; Rev 6:2)
2. Universal worship (Rev 13:3, 12-14)
3. Peacemaker (Dan 9:27)
4. The battle against Christ at Armageddon (Rev 19:11-21)

4 Stages of the Antichrist's Life

KEY POINT:

God has not left us in ignorance about what to look for in the end and how to live as we wait for it.

*¹⁶ Also it causes all, both small and great,
both rich and poor, both free and slave,
to be marked on the right hand or the forehead,
¹⁷ so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the
mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of
its name. ¹⁸ This calls for wisdom: let the one who has
understanding calculate the number of the beast,
for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.*

Revelation 13:16-18

*13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, **were sealed** with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is **the guarantee** of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.*

Ephesians 1:13-14

1. A one-time event
2. An official mark of identification placed on important documents or transactions
3. Security
4. Authenticity
5. Ownership

Notes About the Spirit's Sealing

*21 And it is God who establishes us with you in
Christ, and has anointed us,
22 and who has also put his seal on us and
given us his Spirit in our hearts
as a guarantee.*

II Corinthians 1:21-22