



The king who exults himself

A Picture of the Antichrist *Daniel 11:36-12:1-3*

God's Word clearly predicts that in the very last days before Jesus comes back there will be an Antichrist. This man will be the final manifestation of many antichrists that have appeared throughout history. All of them were demon-possessed men.

Now we read in the book of Daniel that for 21 days the prince of the Persian Kingdom hindered the Answer to Daniel's prayer. (*Daniel 10:13*) The "prince" mentioned was not the physical king of Persia but the demonic principality behind the throne. In fact all of the ancient Pagan kings were under the influence of powerful principalities or spirits and at one time or another all these kings sought the destruction of Israel.

You see Satan has to try to destroy Jerusalem and the nation of Israel because he knows that the promises of Jesus return to set up His kingdom on earth depends on the fulfilment of His promises and prophetic purposes for Israel. This is why Satan is trying to destroy Israel today.

The same principality that controlled the king of Persia is controlling the political leader of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Of course Iran centuries ago was the Kingdom of Persia. The same principality that controlled the king of Babylon was the one who drove Saddam Hussein of Iraq. These things have been around for a long time and are very powerful spirits that can only be driven back by prayer and intercession. Ultimately of course they like all the demons will go into the Abyss forever. (*Matthew 8:29*)(*Luke 8:31*)

Since creation Satan's supreme ambition has been to set up an earthly ruler through whom he can receive the worship of the world and he has tried to do it with the rulers of every historic empire going all the way back to Nimrod. Through the final Antichrist Satan will achieve his goal namely to re-incarnate himself in a human body and to be worshipped as God by men.

In Daniel 11:1-35 the prophet described the historical battles that would occur between the kingdoms of Egypt and Syria leading up to the coming of the Seleucid Greek General Antiochus Epiphanies. Of course Antiochus was a major type of the Antichrist and Daniel was telling us that the Antichrist would come in the character of Antiochus. The Lord Jesus Himself said that this would be so when He spoke about "*the abomination of desolation*" that would occur at the end of this age. Jesus was saying that another in the character of Antiochus would repeat "*the abomination*" at the end of this age, namely, the desecration of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem (*Matthew 24:15*).

In Daniel chapter 11:21-35 the prophet described Antiochus and what the Holy Spirit is trying to tell us is that the Antichrist would be just like Antiochus. Now between verses 35 and 36 Daniel changes the time frame (a time leap) and begins to describe another character that will appear at the time of the end. (*Daniel 11:40*) (*Daniel 12:1-3*) This man will be the Antichrist himself.

When you look at what is happening today in the Middle East it is very clear that we are seeing Biblical prophecy literally

being fulfilled before our eyes. Of course Israel is centre stage and although there are other trouble spots in the world the situation in the Middle East surpasses them all. It is no accident that the whole world is being exposed to the events occurring in the Middle East today. The stage is now being set for the 'Antiochus' to come who will seek the desolation of Jerusalem and the destruction of Israel.

Today there is only one empire that is arising in the earth, a 'wild beast' bent on the subjugation of the entire world. Indeed the Babylonian empire is rising again! The beast '*wounded by the sword*' is alive again and striding through the earth! Very soon their leader will arrive from the region of Ancient Babylon itself and he indeed will be "the King who exults himself."

Now lets look at the text itself and the features of the Antichrist Daniel describes.

(Daniel 11:36-12:1-3)

1. He will be a wilful and rebellious king.

(Vs 36) "The king will do as he pleases.

The Antichrist will be a wilfully rebellious and wicked king who has his own agenda for the world, a man in the character of Nimrod. All past rulers of the ancient empires were this way. Whether they were the kings of Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia Greece or Rome they all did as they pleased and received worship as gods.

This will be the mark of the Antichrist. He will be a ruthless dictator who does not care for men or for God! Undoubtedly there have been many antichrists in history and they are still around today. Right now you have one in North Korea and one in Iran!

The Antichrist's empire will ultimately span the globe and his law will be the only law. Today there is an empire arising in the earth and it is more powerful than any western, European confederation. It is one whose

political, economical, military and religious power will surpass Europe and the west. Today it is the power of Islam!

2. He will claim to be God Incarnate.

He will exult and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods."

The Antichrist will seek to be worshipped as God incarnate. All of the past rulers of the ancient empires sought to be deified in some way. This man will exult himself above every religion on earth especially Christianity and will make laws and proclamations that no ruler before him has made. Historically all of the other religions have denied the basic tenants of Christianity but this man with his religion will destroy all religion except his own. Ultimately he will be the only 'god.'

Today Islam has an agenda and that is to conquer the world and establish global Islamic law. This is clearly taught in the Koran and in other Islamic literature. The Koran clearly states that the two great enemies of Islam are "the people of the book" i.e., the Jews and the Christians who accept the Bible as God's only divinely inspired Word.

This attitude is clearly seen in the leader of Iran who is still calling for the total extermination of Israel. In fact in countries like Indonesia, the Sudan and in many other Islamic countries including Saudi Arabia Christians to this day are murdered and tortured in the name of Mohammad and Islam.

Ultimately this man Daniel describes will stand on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem to proclaim himself as God to the whole world. Paul the apostle tells us this in the New Testament when he said concerning this man of sin, "*He opposes and exults himself over everything that is called God or is worshipped, and even sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God*"(2 Thessalonians 2:4)

When the Antichrist is worshipped as

God on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem in some way he will also be worshipped in the professing Christian Church. The worship of this man will supersede the worship of the Pope.

This man will say, *“unheard of things against the God of gods”* and speak against the Lord in a way that none of his predecessors ever did. This man’s empire will sweep the globe.

Today Islam denies the Father and Son relationship in the Godhead and places a curse on all those who accept that God has begotten a Divine Son in the Lord Jesus Christ. Many down through the centuries have been saying that the final Pope will be the Antichrist, however, that is not possible because the Roman Catholic Church in its doctrines and dogmas, which cannot be changed, do not deny the virgin birth, the divinity of Jesus or deny the Trinity.

However Islam denies all of these things. While it can be said that the Popes sit in the seat of the Antichrist because of the titles given to them they, at least publicly, do not deny the divinity of Jesus or the Trinity. The spirit of antichrist denies the Father and the Son relationship in the Godhead and the Bible says that whoever does this is the Antichrist. The Apostle John himself said, *“Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist-He denies the Father and the Son” (1 John 2:22).*

However, God will have the final word! Daniel tells us concerning the Antichrist, *“He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place.”* God Himself has fixed a boundary for the Antichrist and there is an appointed time on God’s historical Calendar when this rebel and his entire empire will come to a fiery end. *“Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beat was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire” (Daniel 7:11).*

Now lets continue.

3. He will despise the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Vs 37) “He will show no regard for the god’s of his fathers or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exult himself above them all.”

This man will reject the many ‘gods’ of his ancestors and exult himself above them all. Even though he will come out from a Polytheistic culture he will deny them all. Already this has happened in history with Mohammad.

Traditionally before his time there were many pagan gods in Arabia but when Mohammad came along he wanted a Monotheistic God like the Jews and the Christians so he got rid of all of the gods of his fathers except Allah the Moon god of war. He then proclaimed that Allah was the only god and that he, Mohammad, was his prophet. Of course Allah was not the God of the Jews and the Christians but another ‘god,’ one invented by man himself. In fact both in the Old and New Testaments the Bible clearly tells us that other ‘gods’ are demons! *(Deuteronomy 32:16-17) (1 Corinthians 10:20)* When you see so called Christians indulging in Inter-faith worship they are in reality worshipping demons.

The Antichrist will make himself to be greater than the God of the Jews and the Christians. When you hear the Muslim’s call to prayer in the phrase, “Allah Wakbar” he is not saying, “God is Great” but “God is Greater.” You may ask “greater than who?” Well their ‘god’ is greater than the God of the Jews and the Christians. There is only one other who said that he was greater than God and that was Satan himself as recorded in the books of the prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel. *(Isaiah 14:12-15)(Ezekiel 28:11-15)*

In passing notice the phrase, *“the one desired by women.”* Every Jewish woman of Abraham’s descendents through Isaac’s line wanted to give birth to the Messiah. Daniel tells us that the Antichrist will have no regard at all for the Messiah of Israel. The Antichrist will despise the Messiah and because he cannot touch him he will go

after his family both the Jews and faithful Christians.

4. He will have a religion of the sword and great wealth at his disposal.

(Vs 38-39) Instead of them, he will honour a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his fathers he will honour with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honour those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price."

Notice several things about this man. *"He will honour a god of fortresses;"* i.e., his 'god' will be a war god. Of course Allah in reality is the Moon god of war. Islam is a religion of the sword. Then it says, *"...a god unknown to his fathers he will honour with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts."* If this man is a Muslim General then he will also be a descendent of Ishmael whose God was also the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, however, Ishmael's decedents have been at war with each other for centuries.

The Bible tells us that Ishmael *"died in the presence (face) of his brethren"* in other words he died fighting! God said that Ishmael's descendents would be fighting each other. *"He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers."* To this day the Sunni's and the Shiites are still fighting each other.

Now lets continue.

This man will not be a worshipper of the true and living God but honour *"a foreign god"* and have great wealth at his disposal. Today Islam has the wealth through its oil supplies to most of the nations of the world. Islam denies the Father and the Son relationship in the Godhead, worships a different 'god,' believes it has a global agenda to conquer the world with the sword and has a religion that is reaping the wealth of the western nations. Lets continue.

"He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honour those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price."

When this man and his vast army sweep down from the region of Babylon he will not only attack Israel and Jerusalem but will also attack other nations as well. Today Islam has a 'Trojan Horse' in the western nations. Already the Islamic terrorists have been at work in Europe, America, England, France, and Russia and in many other European countries. Even in Muslim countries like Indonesia the terrorists of Islam have been reaping havoc with their suicide bombings. When the Antichrist with his armies invades the Middle East it will trigger a global Jihad, an Islamic 'chain reaction.' The 'sleeper cells' predominantly in western countries will be activated unleashing terror on a scale far worse than we have seen already. When you look at the twentieth and the twenty first century the terrorists and suicide bombers have been Islamic extremists.

In 1972 at the Munich Olympics, athletes were kidnapped and massacred. Then in 1979, the U.S. Embassy in Iran was taken over. During the 1980's a number of Americans were kidnapped.

In 1983, the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut was blown up. Then in 1985 the cruise ship Achille Lauro was high jacked and a 70-year-old American passenger was murdered and thrown overboard in his wheel chair. In 1985 TWA flight was hijacked at Athens, and a U.S. navy diver trying to rescue the passengers was murdered.

Then in 1988, Pan Am Flight 103 was bombed. Then in 1993 The World Trade Centre was bombed the first time by Islamic extremists. Once again in 1998, the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania were bombed.

On the 11th of September 2001 four airliners were hijacked; two were used as mis-

siles to take out the twin towers of the World Trade Centre and of the remaining two, one crashed into the U.S. Pentagon and the other was diverted by the passengers only to crash. Thousands of people were killed, all done by Muslim suicide bombers.

In 2002 the United States fought a war in Afghanistan. Today that war continues unabated. Again in 2002 reporter Daniel Pearl was kidnapped and murdered. Once again in 2002 the Sari Nightclub in Kuta Beach, Bali, was blown up killing 189 mainly young tourists. Then in July 2004 three London Underground trains and one London bus was suicide bombed.

Even today the list continues as suicide bombers kill and maim innocent people around the world. Yes there is an Islamic 'Trojan horse' in the West! This is an undeniable fact!

Now lets continue with chapter eleven of Daniel.

In verse 39 the "foreign god" is not the God of the Bible but a vicious and cruel god who kills, steals and destroys everything. This man will use his religion to gain popularity and acknowledgement and set up an economic system that rewards all those who submit to his authority. Indeed this 'beast' empire will seek to subjugate the world and especially those who follow the God of the Bible. *"The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise his authority for forty-two months. He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander His name and His dwelling place and those who live in heaven. He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast-all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the lamb that was slain from the creation of the world."*

If you are reading this article and you know that your name is not yet written in the Lamb's Book of Life then you need to thoroughly repent of your unbelief in Jesus,

confess and turn away from all of your sin and rebellion towards God and run to the Lord Jesus Christ for mercy, pardon and cleansing through His precious blood. Unless you are under the protection of His blood by faith alone in Him you cannot be saved and you will worship the Antichrist and take the mark of his economic and religious system of government! You must turn from a Christ hating, Christ rejecting way of life to a Christ loving, Christ accepting way of life! This will lead you away from a life of sin and rebellion and lead you into a life of righteousness, joy and peace in the Holy Spirit and ultimately to heaven. Ultimately you will have only one of two choices to make Christ? or the Antichrist?

5. He will invade many countries and fight many nations.

(Vs 40) "At the time of the end the king of the South will engage him on battle, and the king of the North will storm out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships."

Whatever this man does will infuriate the other nations and they will attack his forces. The Kings of the North and the South may well be the armies of the western nations of Europe, America and Great Britain, all nations that have relied upon the Arab nations for their oil supplies. Also it may well be at this time "the Kings of the East," China and India, will also come across the Euphrates River and begin their march down the ancient trade route called the Silk Road to Jerusalem, a road that starts in China and ends in Israel.

According to other passages in the Bible ultimately all the nations will attack Jerusalem in the end. This will be such a devastating war that only the intervention of Jesus' second coming will prevent the world from total annihilation. *(Matthew 24:22)*

"He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood."

The Antichrist will invade many lands and his armies will sweep through them

much like the armies of Ancient Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome swept through nations and kingdoms. In fact this 'beast' empire will be the combined ferociousness of all of them put together and empowered by Satan himself. *"The beast (empire) I saw resembled a Leopard, (i.e., Ancient Greece) but had feet like those of a bear, (i.e., Ancient Persia) and a mouth like that of a lion. (i.e. Ancient Babylon). The dragon (Satan) gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority" (Revelation 13:2)*

Many today are looking to Europe and America but are not seeing the real picture. The fastest expanding empire today is Islam. It is rapidly gaining in political, economical and military power to challenge the West.

During the crusades the western armies may have turned back the tide of Islam in history, however, this last empire driven by Satan himself will turn back the tide of Western democracy and power. In the end the West will be hard pressed to stop the global expansion of Islam. In a very real sense God may well use Islam to judge the western nations because of their moral and spiritual decadence.

6. He will Invade Israel.

"He will also invade the Beautiful Land. (Israel)

In the book of Zechariah chapters 12-13 we see Israel invaded by the armies of the nations. Also in Ezekiel chapters 38-39 we see the same scenario described. In fact in Ezekiel chapter 38 these nations are specifically mentioned and correspond to the following geographical areas we see today.

"Rosh, Meshech, Tubal, Beth Togarmah." (Ezekiel 38:2-3,6 39:2) Today these ancient nations would be located geographically with Russia. former Soviet Republics of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and possibly northern parts of Afghanistan. Then *"Persia" (38:5)* is mentioned. This is modern day Iran. Then *"Cush" (38:5)* is mentioned. Geographically this area today would be The Sudan. Then there is *"Put" (38:5)* geographi-

cally these nations today would be Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya. Then there is *"Gomer" (38:6)* This area geographically would include Turkey Germany and possibly Spain and France. The predominant invading force will be made up of Islamic nations.

It is interesting that all of these countries at one time or other were part of the Roman Empire as the empire had two capitals. Rome was the capital of the western leg of the empire covering Europe and Great Britain while Constantinople was the capital of the eastern leg of the empire covering vast sections of the Middle East.

When Daniel described the statue symbolizing successive 'beast' empires in Daniel chapter two he mentioned the two legs of Iron, which historically was the Roman Empire, divided between the East and the West. Between the legs and the feet there is a 'time leap' and when Daniel described the *"10 toes"* he was describing a confederation of nations that will rule along with the empire of The Beast just before Jesus comes back. These *"10 toes"* mentioned in Daniel correspond to the *"10 kings"* mentioned in Revelation chapter thirteen. *(Revelation 13:12)*

Also when Daniel described the statue he said that the feet would be a mixture of Iron and clay denoting a mix of nations. Five of the toes come from the Eastern leg of the Ancient Roman Empire and five come from the Western leg of the same Ancient Empire. The final confederation of *"10 kings,"* who ever they might be, will be a combination of western and Middle Eastern nations combined. Of course Iron and clay do not mix and every attempt by man for unity will ultimately fail! The Tower of Babel is a prime example.

Their attack on Jerusalem will draw in the other nations of the world and then all of the nations will go up against Jerusalem and there on the mountains of Israel be destroyed by the fiery judgement coming out of the mouth of the Rider on the White Horse, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS" Amen!

Not only will fire reign down on these armies but also on, *“those who live in security in the coastlands”* (Ezekiel 39:6) These nations will not be directly involved in the attack and so because of their indifference to what is happening to Israel God will also send fire upon them. These nations would have to be other nations not directly involved with the attack on Israel. It could well be they would include Europe, China, India, America, Great Britain and possibly even Australia and the Pacific nations.

Again I am persuaded as I write these things that the nations of Europe are only a part and not the main centralized power of the Antichrist. Europe, England and America and the other nations of the world all predominantly rely on the oil supplies of the Middle Eastern countries and those countries are all Muslim ones. Also the western nations have been selling weapons to these countries for years.

Is it possible that the last great *“beast”* empire ruled over by the Antichrist will be the empire of Islam and the final image of the beast the Koran? In the world today, 1.2 billion Muslims proudly mark themselves with the number 666. For Islam this number proves the perfection of the Koran and the proof for them that Mohammed was the prophet of Allah. There is no doubt that Islam will use the media especially television broadcasts to spread the Koran and Islam out to the nations of the world.

Now lets continue. In Revelation the number 666 does not stand for a specific man but for a man made global confederation that opposes the Lord Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God.

“Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand.”

In the Bible these nations were enemies of Israel and Satan’s tools in trying to destroy the Israelites. In these areas for centuries there have been principalities in the heavenly realms arrayed against God’s purposes for Israel and they are still around today.

For centuries the Edomites, Moabites and the Ammonites opposed the Israelites and many wars were fought between these nations and Israel. They have always been hostile to Israel.

The countries of *“Edom, Moab and Ammon”* correspond to what the British called the Trans Jordan or what we call the Jordan area today. Millions of Arabs and a bastion of Islamic fanaticism occupy this geographical area. These people are spared by the armies of the Antichrist as in some way they will have already submitted themselves to his rule. From ancient times they have always fought against Israel and at the time of the Antichrist’s invasion will support him against Israel.

“The king who exults himself” will subjugate the whole Middle Eastern region. In the middle of this vast Arab empire is Israel. At the time of this invasion and its duration for three and a half years only the Second Coming of Jesus will save the nation of Israel and the world itself from total annihilation. (Matthew 24:22)

7. He will invade Many Countries.

(Vs42-43) “He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape. He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Nubians in submission.”

In the Bible Egypt has always been a type of the world and the Pharaohs as a type of the devil. The Antichrist will subjugate Egypt. To some degree it will be a judgement on Egypt at that time as they have been supported by the western democracies.

Radical Islam or those in Islam committed to Jihad hate the west and are hell bent on destroying our freedom of speech and democratic way of life. Many Muslims see the spiritual and moral decadence of the western nations and fervently believe that their agenda is to purge the west from this corruption.

Also when they see the effects of western culture and the philosophies of the Greco Roman way of thinking drawing multitudes of philosophical Muslims away from Islamic Law and the strict teachings of the Koran you can understand why those committed to Jihad hate the west.

(Vs 44) "But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in great rage to destroy and annihilate many."

The reports from the east in all probability would be the armies of the kings of the east preparing to march against the Land of Israel. This could well be China and India getting ready to cross the Euphrates River to advance down the ancient trade route called the Silk Road, a road that starts in China and ends in the Land of Israel! The Antichrist, Enraged by this possible assault against his armies, will vent his anger on everyone and everything that seeks to oppose him. At this time the whole world will be in an advanced state of fear and anxiety not knowing the way out. It will be just like Jesus said, *"There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and the tossing of the sea (the nations in turmoil) Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken"*(Luke 21:25-26)

Can you imagine thermonuclear exchanges resulting in fallout, sickness and death on a scale unequalled in history? Can you imagine millions around the globe dying from earthquakes, diseases, famines and radiation sickness? Can you imagine polluted rivers and contaminated food?

Remember that the empire of the Antichrist is a 'wild beast.' Today the mentality of a Muslim who is waging Jihad is that if he dies with his finger on the button of a thermonuclear weapon according to Islam he will go straight to paradise to be with beautiful virgins. What does he care about anyone? The Muslims kill their own people! It really does not matter to the Jihad minded Muslim who he kills!

8. He will desecrate the Temple Mount inaugurating

"The Time of Jacob's Trouble."

(Vs 45) "He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him."

When the Antichrist pitches his tent in Jerusalem it will bring about, *"The Time of Jacob's Trouble,"* a time of distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world and never to be equalled again." (Matthew 24:22) At the end of this period of time the Antichrist will come to his end! Lets continue.

(Chapter 12:1-2) "At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people-everyone whose name is found written in the book-will be delivered. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt."

"At that time" is the time when the Antichrist will pitch his tent in Jerusalem proclaiming to be God. Israel will be centre stage and this event will unleash the last three and a half years of this present age, *"a time of distress such as not happened from the beginning of nations."* This is the same period of time Jesus mentioned. (Matthew 24:22) At this time Michael the Archangel will move to protect Israel from total destruction at the hands of the Antichrist. At the end of this time Jesus will return to resurrect and rescue faithful believers. These will rise to, *"everlasting life."* At the end of the Millennium the unbelieving dead will also rise to, *"everlasting contempt"* before the Great White Throne. (Revelation 20:11-15)

(Vs 3) "Those who are wise (impart wisdom) will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever."

The last thing God showed Daniel was a faithful remnant at the end who will be preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom and

like Noah, warning people to live right before God and to flee from the wrath to come. Stars in the Bible are symbolic of faithful believers in both Testaments. (*Genesis 15:5*) (*Philippians 2:15-16*)

The Lord Jesus Himself also said that the last great sign that would occur just before He came back would be the global proclamation of the Gospel of the Kingdom. (*Matthew 24:14*)

Preaching righteousness and holiness will be the distinguishing mark of faithful believers in the last days. Preaching the Gospel that includes the Second Coming of Christ will lead many to righteousness in these last days. Remember that Noah himself was a preacher of righteousness and righteousness was his message to the people of his day. They had one of two choices. Go into the ark to be saved or to stay in the world and to perish.

In the end all of us will have to choose Christ? or the Antichrist? No one will be left in a vacuum. Indeed Joel the prophet put it this way when he said concerning the last days, "*Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision*" (*Joel 3:14*)

Yes, the Antichrist is coming. Yes, there will be a "Time of Jacob's Trouble." Yes, there will ultimately be a global spiritual seduction in the Church, a denial of God's Word. Yes, there will be ever-increasing tension in the Middle East and violence in the world. Yes, there will be war, famine and disease that will continue to the end of this age. Yes, there will be a global persecution of faithful Christians. However, the Lord Jesus told his faithful followers that when they see these things, not to be shaken or alarmed but to look up because their deliverance will be at hand. In the end God's Word will prevail!

(*Luke 21:28, 33-36*) "*When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away. "Be careful of your hearts*

will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap. For it will come upon all those who live upon the earth. Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

9. He will come to his end with no one to help him.

We need to remember that this king who exults himself will come to a fiery end! His kingdom will not stand in the judgement!

(*Isaiah 14:13-17*) "*You said in your heart, "I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of the assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the most high." But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit. Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: "Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble, the man who made the world a desert, who overthrew its cities and would not let the captives go home?"*

(*Revelation 19:21*) "*But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshipped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulphur. The rest of them (the armies) were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh."*

(*Revelation 20:10*) "*And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulphur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever."*

(*Isaiah 66:24*) "*And they (the redeemed) will go out and look upon the dead bodies of those who rebelled against Me; their worm will not die, nor will their fire be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind."*