



THE PRE-WRATH RAPTURE

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THE
ANTICHRIST'S
GREAT
TRIBULATION

The Term “Antichrist”

- ◆ “Children, it is the last hour, and just as you heard that the antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have appeared. We know from this that it is the last hour.”

—1 John 2:18

- ◆ “Who is the liar but the person who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This one is the antichrist: the person who denies the Father and the Son.”

—1 John 2:22

- ◆ “but every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God, and this is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming, and now is already in the world.”

—1 John 4:3

Other New Testament Epithets

Jesus

“the abomination of desolation...standing”

—Matt 24:15

Paul

“the man of lawlessness”

—2 Thess 2:3

John

“beast coming up out of the sea”

—Rev 13:1

The Olivet Discourse

“Now as Jesus was going out of the temple courts and walking away, his disciples came to show him the temple buildings. And he said to them, “Do you see all these things? I tell you the truth, not one stone will be left on another. All will be torn down!” As he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, his disciples came to him privately and said, “Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign of your coming [parousía] and of the end of the age?””

—Matt 24:1-3

Excursus on PAROUSIA

- ◆ The Greek term “parousía” used in the New Testament in non-Second Coming contexts means “presence”: e.g., “So then, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence but even more in my absence” —Phil 2:12.
- ◆ In secular Greek, the term was commonly used for a king’s royal visit to another land. And given throughout the book of Matthew the motif that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Davidic King, it is befitting that he use this term 4 times in the context of Christ coming back as KING!

PAROUSIA Cont....

- ◆ The Greek term is “parousía” is used 24 times total with 17 of those times prophetically (4 times in Matthew 24). Most instances emphasize the arrival, but the continuing presence is implied. Exhortation to Sanctify: “Now may the God of peace himself make you completely holy and may your spirit and soul and body be kept entirely blameless at the [parousía] of our Lord Jesus Christ.” —1 Thess 5:23
- ◆ The term is a noun, not a verb. It is always in the singular, not the plural. The Lord's coming (parousía) is a comprehensive whole. In other words, it is not an instantaneous event, such as the rapture will be. Rather, it will cover a duration of complex events, which God will fulfill his Divine purposes. The First Coming is Analogous.

“Jesus answered them, “Watch out that no one misleads you. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will mislead many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. Make sure that you are not alarmed, for this must happen, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise up in arms against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these things are the beginning of birth pains.”

—Matt 24:4-8

“Then they will hand you over to be persecuted and will kill you. You will be hated by all the nations because of my name. Then many will be led into sin, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will appear and deceive many, and because lawlessness will increase so much, the love of many will grow cold. But the person who endures to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the whole inhabited earth as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

—Matt 24:9-14

“So [oun] when you see the abomination of desolation—spoken about by Daniel the prophet—standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the mountains. The one on the roof must not come down to take anything out of his house, and the one in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing their babies in those days! Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath.”

—Matt 24:15-20

“...spoken about by Daniel the prophet”

- ◆ “He [Antichrist] will confirm a covenant with many for one week [7 years]. But in the middle of that week [3 1/2 years] he will bring sacrifices and offerings to a halt. On the wing of abominations will come one who destroys, until the decreed end is poured out on the one who destroys.” —Dan 9:27
- ◆ “From the time that the daily sacrifice is removed and the abomination that causes desolation is set in place, there are 1,290 days (i.e. 3 1/2 + years).” —Dan 12:11

John's Vision in Revelation

“The beast was given a mouth speaking proud words and blasphemies, and he was permitted to exercise ruling authority for forty-two months [3 1/2 years]. So the beast opened his mouth to blaspheme against God—to blaspheme both his name and his dwelling place, that is, those who dwell in heaven. The beast was permitted to go to war against the saints and conquer them.”

—Rev 13:5-7a

What Does Paul Say About This?

“Now regarding the arrival of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to be with him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, not to be easily shaken from your composure or disturbed by any kind of spirit or message or letter allegedly from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not arrive until the rebellion comes and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, and as a result he takes his seat in God’s temple, displaying himself as God.”

—2 Thess 2:1-4

“Great Tribulation”

“For then [tote] there will be great tribulation [thlipsis megale] unlike anything that has happened from the beginning of the world until now, or ever will happen. And if those days had not been cut short, no one would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There he is!’ do not believe him. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. Remember, I have told you ahead of time. So then, if someone says to you, ‘Look, he is in the wilderness,’ do not go out, or ‘Look, he is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe him. For just like the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so the coming of the Son of Man will be.”

—Matt 24:21-27

Global-Satanic Deception

“The arrival of the lawless one will be by Satan’s working with all kinds of miracles and signs and false wonders, and with every kind of evil deception...” —2 Thess 2:9-10a

“One of the beast’s heads appeared to have been killed, but the lethal wound had been healed. And the whole world followed the beast in amazement;” —Rev 13:3

“He performed momentous signs, even making fire come down from heaven in front of people and, by the signs he was permitted to perform on behalf of the beast, he deceived those who live on the earth.” —Rev 13:13-14a

The Antichrist's Goal: Worship

“they worshiped the dragon because he had given ruling authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast too, saying: “Who is like the beast?” and “Who is able to make war against him?”” —Rev 13:4

“He was given ruling authority over every tribe, people, language, and nation, and all those who live on the earth will worship the beast, everyone whose name has not been written since the foundation of the world in the book of life belonging to the Lamb who was killed.” —Rev 13:7b-8

The Image and Mark of the Beast

“He told those who live on the earth to make an **image to the beast** who had been wounded by the sword, but still lived. The second beast was empowered to give life to the **image of the first beast** so that it could speak, and could cause all those who did not worship the **image of the beast** to be killed. He also caused everyone (small and great, rich and poor, free and slave) to obtain a **mark** on their right hand or on their forehead. Thus no one was allowed to buy or sell things unless he bore the **mark of the beast**—that is, **his name or his number**. This calls for wisdom: Let the one who has insight calculate the **beast’s number**, for it is man’s number, and his number is **666**.”

—Rev 13:14b-18

“If anyone is meant for captivity,
into captivity he will go. If anyone
is to be killed by the sword, then
by the sword he must be killed.
This requires steadfast endurance
and faith from the saints.”

—Rev 13:10

Antichrist
Revealed
**Abomination
of Desolation**

Cosmic Sign
Joel 2:31
Sixth Seal

First 3 1/2 years

Great
Tribulation

The Day
of the Lord



Mt 24:36



Rapture
Same Day
Wrath Begins