

## *The Antichrist's Control*

*Revelation 12:13-17:10*

*“Satan’s final rebellion will be waged relentlessly. To fight this great battle against God and his people, he parodies the Holy Trinity and establishes his own false trinity: the dragon (himself), the beast from the sea (the Antichrist), and the beast from the earth or false prophet (the religious leader of the movement). The dragon uses these creatures to gain control of both the governmental and religious apparatus, creating both a one-world government (with the Antichrist as ‘king of kings’) and a one-world religion (with the Antichrist as the idol of the world). This combination of political and religious control is the core of the absolute power of the false trinity over the nations. This has always been Satan’s method, from the Egyptians in Moses’ time to the Babylonians and Persians of Daniel’s day to the Romans of John’s day to the Nazis and Stalin in the twentieth century. The people of God have always been both persecuted and led astray into idolatry and immorality by the same evil forces (Rev. 2:14, 20). In other words, the material here about the final Antichrist also fits the many ‘antichrists’ that have preceded, of both the political and religious variety.” Osborne*

- I. To understand why Israel and the Jewish people play such a prominent role in the end times is to understand God’s faithfulness in keeping His unconditional, unilateral covenant promises to both Abraham and King David. He promised Abraham that the Messiah would be born through his seed. He also promised him that a great nation would come from him, i.e., Israel, a nation that would exist forever. He promised King David that his throne would be established forever, and that the Messiah would one day sit on his throne. That is why Satan has been hell-bent on doing everything in his power to keep God from honoring His word. He’ll stop at nothing to destroy what the Lord holds dear to his heart out of spite toward Him.

Rev. 12:13-17

Matt. 24:22

Matt. 24:15-20

Dan. 9:27

**Gen. 12:2-3** *“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*

**Gen. 13:15** *for the land that you see I will give to your offspring forever.*

**Gal. 3:16** *The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ.*

**2 Sam. 7:16** *Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.”*

- II. The **Beast** is the coming world leader known as "The" **Antichrist**. The word "antichrist" does not mean "opposite of Christ." It's used with the meaning of "instead of" or "in place of." The Antichrist is "in place of Christ" to the world. He is the one the world will choose as their savior in place of Jesus. Satan gives the Antichrist everything necessary to fulfill his role as the most powerful leader the world has ever known. His power, authority and leadership provide him with a hypnotic gripping control over all mankind. The dragon gives the beast three essential attributes: (1.) **Authority** (influence, clout) Throughout Revelation God is the one who gives authority to do things. Here it's a usurpation of God's divine authority but only because God allows it. (2.) **Power** He is given supernatural strength to accomplish his miracles and perform mighty deeds in the eyes of the world. (3.) **A throne** He receives sovereign control over the world from the "god of this world."

Rev 13:1-7

1 Jn 2:18

Jn 4:43

Dan 7:8

Dan 8:23b-25

2 Thess. 2:3

Rev. 17:12-13

Dan. 7:15-25

2 Thess. 2:9

Exodus 15:11

Dan. 7:1

**θηρίον thērion** = metaph. a brutal, bestial man, savage, ferocious

*"The Antichrist will... be more of an "instead of Jesus." He will look wonderful. Be charming and successful. He will be the ultimate winner, and appear as an angel of light. In this sense the Antichrist will be a satanic messiah... Guzik*

- III. The most significant statement made about those who dwell on the earth is not that they follow the beast and worship him, but that their names are not written in the book of life, not one of them. God makes it clear that there is, and always will be, an eternal distinction between the saved and unsaved. The book of life belongs to the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the of the world. Our names in it gives us a place of honor and recognition by Christ himself that we are his. That is why he calls us to patient endurance and faithfulness as we set our minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Rev. 13:8

Col. 3:1-4

**hypomonē** = a patient enduring, sustaining, perseverance