



Northside Proclaimer

Proclaiming The Word Of The Lord

1 Thessalonians 1:8

Northside Church Of Christ Welcomes You!

November 30, 2014

“The Antichrist Is Here!”

Bryan Garlock

We're in the middle of a series on Premillennialism. If you haven't read the previous articles, you are encouraged to do so.

We've study the kingdom and church of Christ. We also noticed that Christ is reigning on David's throne in heaven and that the kingdom of Christ has been established. We now turn our attention to another pertinent subject concerning Premillennialism.

At some point or time, we've all heard of the antichrist. In fact, many today are worried sick that he, or it, is coming soon, or is already here. If any talk about the rapture is mentioned, stay tuned; the antichrist will be brought up.

Usually the antichrist is considered to be some world leader(s) or a scary beast. Even more, the number "666" is attached as the "mark of the beast" as referenced in Rev. 13:18.

In his article on the number 666, Todd Strandberg writes, "I believe the mark or number of the beast will be a financial identification system that the Antichrist will establish during the tribulation. He will use the mark as a tool for controlling all aspects of society. The Antichrist will make it compulsory for everyone to have a tiny microchip implanted under the skin of the right hand or on the forehead. The microchip will hold various amounts of data pertaining to each person who receives the implant. Right now, the technology exists to fully implement this system. From here on out, the only changes will be in how much information those microchips will be able to hold. Everyone who receives the mark will also have to swear allegiance to the Antichrist and acknowledge him as the supreme authority. This is why all who take the mark of the beast will be condemned to hell. All who choose not to receive the mark will be unable to buy anything because cash, checks, and credit cards will all be replaced by the beast system's instant funds. As time has passed, we have lost the true meaning of the mark of the beast. Even though it is clearly defined as a mark that will be placed upon the right hand or forehead, a number of people throughout history have attached new and even weird meanings to the number 666." Strandberg, Todd. "666 - The Number of the Beast." 666 - The Number of the Beast. Web. 28 Nov. 2014. <<https://www.rapturereadv.com/rr-666.html>>. *Continued on back...*

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Announcements

- Sister Sharon lost her home to a fire. Please contact her to find out what she needs and pray for her family
- Remember John Blair
- Remember the shut in's.
- Pray for the church and one another.
- Men's Bible today, Dec. 14th 3:30 PM
- Teen's Bible study / Kid's drill canceled today
- Call or email me to add announcements, thanks.
- Bible study this Tuesday 7 PM
- Coming soon: Young family / couples' Bible study (1st of year)
- Remember the spiritual sick among us

He says people "have attached new and even weird meanings to the number 666" as if to say a financial identification system used by the antichrist to control us isn't new and weird enough. It certainly isn't biblical!

As you can see, people who believe a lie concerning religious error continue deeper and deeper down rabbit holes until, eventually, they are swallowed up and begin to imagine things as this man has clearly done.

There are only four scriptures that mention the antichrist and they are each found in the book of 1st and 2nd John.

1 John 2.18-19 "Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have arisen; from this we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, in order that it might be shown that they all are not of us."

1 John 2.22-23 "Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also."

1 John 4.2-3 "By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; and this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world."

2 John 1.7 "For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist."

After you have read these verses, notice how the word antichrist is defined per Scripture. John says any person who denies the Father and the Son, any person who does not confess Jesus is from God and any person who denies that Jesus Christ came in the flesh ***is the antichrist***.

Now, notice what a typical dictionary says, "...expected by early Christians to appear and reign over the world until overthrown at Christ's Second Coming" (dictionary.com). Did you see that in those four verses? What has happened is many people have taken this title "antichrist" and applied it to different characters in the book of Revelation; a book that is nothing more than symbols and signs that was going to be fulfilled shortly after its writing (cf. Rev. 1.1).

Notice too, that these verses contradict those who claim there will be "one antichrist that will come in the future." John says, "even now many antichrists have risen," "now it is already in the world" and "deceivers have gone out into the world." He contends that there are "many antichrists" and that anyone who opposes Christ is guilty! Many folks want to make a great mystery out of the word antichrist, but as Scripture reveals, it's anyone who is against Christ! BG