

Dan10 - **Introducing The Antichrist – Dan 7:15-28**

It's time to play – ***NAME THAT ANTICHRIST . . .***
Who wants to PLAY . . . ?

When Pam & I got **saved in 1979**
NAMING the **Antichrist** was a big **pastime** for Christians

There are still **plenty of people** playing it – most of them
trying to get a **following** or make **some money**

We **could** name a **Top-Ten list** of people
who have been "**identified**" as the **Antichrist**

The POPE was **First Labeled** as the Antichrist in the **12th Century**
& **every pope** since has been . . .

Most **American Presidents** have **Made** on the list –
even tho **America** seems to play **NO ROLE** in the end-times

Still – ***NAME THAT ANTICHRIST*** is a game played **TOO OFTEN**
by Christians - & **TOO OFTEN** makes us look like **KOOKS**

So . . . **Let's NOT Do that** - - **INSTEAD** – Let's Allow **THE BIBLE**
to **Introduce US** – **TO** the **Antichrist** today

We DO NOT know **WHO** the Antichrist is;
But we know **WHAT kind** of a leader he is
We Know **HOW** he rises to Power
& **we** know **WHAT he DOES** when he gets there

& **Knowing** what the Bible **ACTUALLY** says about the **Antichrist**
is **FAR MORE** than **enough** to know

So . . . **let's get introduced** to the **Antichrist** – from **THE BIBLE**

Let's Pray

First - Let's review

In **Dan Ch 2** – we studied **Nebuchadnezzar's** dream of the **Statue of a MAN**

Which **Daniel interpreted** as **4 world-ruling empires** –

& then the **Kingdom of God** Finally **Destroyed ALL** of **MAN'S** Rule on earth & **set up** the **Kingdom of God** for Eternity

Remember?

Then – in the **1st half of Dan 7** (Last wk) – we saw the **SAME Prophetic** explanation – but from **GOD'S Perspective** this time

Daniel himself had a **Vision** that showed those **SAME** 4 **World-Ruling empires** as **BEASTS**

& in the **4th empire** was a specific mention of **TEN HORNS** & a **LITTLE HORN** appearing **among** them

Finally (1st wk) – we saw the **Judgment Courtroom** in Heaven & **God the Father** was on the **Judgment Throne**

Then the **Son of Man** comes **INTO** the **THRONE ROOM**

& **HE** is **GIVEN ALL AUTHORITY, HONOR, & SOVEREIGNTY** over **ALL the Nations** of the World

His **Rule is ETERNAL** - & **His Kingdom** will **NEVER END**

Remember ??

So **TWICE** now - **God** has **given** us the **Big Picture OVERVIEW** of the **History** of **Man's Rule** on the **Earth**

& now (today) God is **going to introduce** us to the **MANKIND'S FINAL World Ruler** – The one we call – The **ANTICHRIST**

It **starts** – with **Daniel** being kinda **FREAKED OUT** by all this **End-Of-The-World Talk** – Like **YOU** Might be today

So – **Hang On** – & we're going to **let God explain it**

Daniel 7:15 (nlt)

15 I, Daniel, was troubled by all I had seen, and my visions terrified me.

See? - Daniel was kinda **FREAKED OUT** –

He was **Still in** the vision – but he was **Troubled, & Terrified**

So **Daniel's** going to do - what is **ABSOLUTELY FOREIGN** to **Most MEN** - **He's going to ASK FOR DIRECTIONS**

Daniel 7:16-17 (nlt)

16 So I approached one of those standing beside the throne (Angel) and asked him what it all meant. (good job Daniel) He explained it to me like this:

17 "These four huge beasts represent four kingdoms that will arise from the earth.

Now, **Daniel SHOULD HAVE Known** that –

But **remember** – **this** Vision is from **GOD'S Perspective**

So **Asking for Direction** – helps **Daniel CONNECT** this Vision –
to **Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream** back in Ch 2

& so **now** - Daniel is like, ***“Oh, Ok, I get it now – same prophecy,
different perspective, right?”*** (that’s right Daniel)

& Daniel **ALSO** should’ve **known** it was the **SAME Prophecy** –
Because in **THIS One** – Just Like the **LAST One** - **GOD WINS !!!**

Can I **just tell you** one thing that is a **Consistent Guarantee**
in **ALL** Biblical **Prophecy**

ULTIMATELY - GOD WINS – EVERY TIME –
& ULTIMATELY - the PEOPLE of GOD WIN – EVERY TIME!

So - Daniel 7:18 (nlt)

***18 But in the end, the holy people of the Most High will be given
the kingdom, and they will rule forever and ever.”***

God WINS – God’s **People WIN**

But Notice - The Saints **DON’T WIN Themselves**
They are **GIVEN** the **Kingdom** to **RULE forever**

Jesus Christ WINS – On His **Own**, By **Himself** - & **then** he
SHARES the **Rule of the Kingdom** with the **Saints** – Forever

Maybe Daniel really should’ve **GOTTEN** that **stuff**

But **what really** was **gnawing** at **Daniel** - was this **FOURTH Beast**
& he **really wanted** to understand **that Part** of the **Vision**

Daniel 7:19 (nlt)

19 Then I wanted to know the true meaning of the fourth beast, the one so different from the others and so terrifying. It had devoured and crushed its victims with iron teeth and bronze claws, trampling their remains beneath its feet.

Daniel **KNEW** Now

the **4th Beast** was the **4th World-Ruling Empire**

But he **wanted** to **Know the TRUTH** about it

Why was it **SO DIFFERENT** - & **SO TERRIFYING** ??

We've already **made it clear** (twice) – The **4th Empire**
is the **Roman Empire** - in its **ancient FORM**

DEVOURING & **CRUSHING** it's victims –
& **TRAMPLING** the remains **beneath** it's feet

But it **seems** Daniel is **MOST INTERESTED** – in **What FOLLOWS**
& **today - so are we**

Daniel 7:20 (nlt)

20 I also asked about the ten horns on the fourth beast's head and the little horn that came up afterward and destroyed three of the other horns. This horn had seemed greater than the others, and it had human eyes and a mouth that was boasting arrogantly.

Daniel knew the **TEN HORNS** were **Significant** –

He **might've known** - **Horns** Symbolize "**Ruling Power**"

& he **SAW** a **LITTLE HORN** – **coming up** afterward –
& **Destroying THREE** of the other **Horns**

& at the END of V.20 – Is what WE are FOCUSING on TODAY

v.20(b) . . . This horn had seemed greater than the others, and it had human eyes and a mouth that was boasting arrogantly.

This Little Horn Seemed GREATER – It had HUMAN Characteristics
& it had a BIG MOUTH (*boasting arrogantly*)

But this LITTLE HORN was NOT - “*All Talk & No Action*”

He was Bringing the HEAT on God’s People -
& it seemed like he was WINNING

Daniel 7:21 (nlt)

21 As I watched, this horn was waging war against God’s holy people and was defeating them,

But remember what I said

WHO Ultimately WINS – in ALL Biblical Prophecy ??
GOD – AND God’s People

& so . . . *this horn was waging war against God’s holy people and was defeating them . . . UNTIL*

Daniel 7:22 (nlt)

22 until the Ancient One—the Most High—came and judged in favor of his holy people. Then the time arrived for the holy people to take over the kingdom.

THAT is the WIN I’m talking about . . .

The WIN comes – when God says ENOUGH!!

& the Time Arrives for God to **SNUFF OUT** this Little Horn
& **GIVE the Kingdom** - to The **SAINTS** !!

& now – The ANGEL that he's been asking DIRECTIONS From
takes over the explanation again

Daniel 7:23 (nlt)

23 Then he said to me, "This fourth beast is the fourth world power that will rule the earth. It will be different from all the others. It will devour the whole world, trampling and crushing everything in its path.

Again – that's the ancient Roman Empire
that we're already Familiar with

BUT THEN – The Angel's Explanation **SKIPS AHEAD**
to the REVIVED Roman Empire – that is forming today

Daniel 7:24 (nlt)

24 Its ten horns are ten kings who will rule that empire . . .

The Ancient Roman Empire Never Had 10 Kings

But remember the Dream in Dan Ch 2 – showed a Revived Empire
of IRON AND CLAY – Represented by TEN TOES

& this is a Parallel Vision
with TEN HORNS – that are Those TEN KINGS

Now – Our FOCUS Today is NOT ON
this Revived Roman Empire

EXCEPT to Say – **THIS is the Empire**
the **Antichrist** will **come out** of

But **let me just say** – **IF** this is **NOT** the **Federation**
of **European Nations** called the **European Union**

Then **I don't know** what else it could be – the signs seem **SO CLEAR**
that the **E.U. fits** - like a **hand in a glove** (& *I don't mean O.J.'s*)

But **our Focus** today is **INTRODUCING THE ANTICHRIST**
& so **Next** – we have his **INTRODUCTION** . . .

In - Daniel 7:24(B) (nlt)

24 . . . Then another king will arise, different from the other ten, who will subdue three of them.

He's called **The Little Horn** – Here in **Dan 7**

He's called **The Man of Sin** & **The Son of Destruction** - in **2 Thes 2**

He's called **The Beast** – in **Rev 13** . . .

THIS is the **1st mention** in the Bible – of **THE ANTICHRIST**

& the **FIRST THING** we are told is
he will arise, different from the other ten

This word ARISE means

To come on the scene - or - **To arise from inaction**

Out of a **Ten-Nation Federation** of the **Revived Roman Empire**
a Leader will emerge on the scene

seemingly overnight – seemingly 'out-of-nowhere'

& He will be ***DIFFERENT from the other TEN*** (end of v.24)

He will **not** be **Ordinary** – he will be **Extraordinary**
He will be **Charismatic** - & he will be **Compelling**

**Listen to how that Great Illustrator
Chuck Swindoll describes him:**

He'll have the **Oratory Ability** of a **John Kennedy**

He'll have the **Inspirational Power & Persuasion**
of a **Winston Churchill**

He will have the **Determination** of a **Joseph Stalin**
& the **Vision** of a **Karl Marx**

He will have the **Stature & Respect** of a **GHANDI**

He will have the **Military Clout** of a **Douglas MacArthur**
& the **Charisma & Winsomeness** of a **Will Rogers**

He'll have the **Genius** of a **Solomon & Albert Einstein**
& **he** will have **the Respect** of an **Abraham Lincoln**

The Antichrist will **NOT** come
with a **pitchfork** & **666 tattooed** on his **forehead**

He will be **the BEST** of everything **MAN has EVER HAD** to **offer**

HOW ? – **How can** one man **embody** all these **“Positive Traits”**
in order to **rise** to become the **World's Single Ruler**

(turn over to) - Revelation 13:2(b) (nlt)

2 (2nd half) . . . And the dragon gave the beast his own power and throne and great authority.

The dragon is Satan himself - & He GIVES the Antichrist:

HIS **OWN POWER**

HIS **OWN THRONE**

HIS **OWN GREAT AUTHORITY** Over this Earth

& that **doesn't mean** the Antichrist **comes on** the scene looking like the **WORST Scary Demon Movie** you've ever seen

It **means** he **comes on** the scene **Looking PERFECT** in Man's Eyes & Having **Everything MANKIND WANTS**

Isn't that what Satan does **now** - to **LURE you** into **Destruction??**

2 Corinthians 11:14-15 (nlt)

14 . . . Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

15 . . . his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness . . .

& so – The **Antichrist** is **gonna come** on the scene with **the best** of every **“Win you Over” personality trait** possible

Turn BACK to Dan Ch 7 – but **KEEP a marker** in **Rev Ch 13** – cause we're **coming right BACK**

So the **Antichrist** will **rise up naturally** **thru** the **SINGLE World Power** of the day . . .

Which prophetically is described as a **Ten-Nation Federation** of the **Revived Roman Empire**

& a **# of places** say he will **come on the scene** by **making** what **seems like a Supernatural PEACE** (we'll talk about in a Minute)

But then – WHAT is his ultimate PURPOSE

Daniel 7:25 (nlt)

25 He will defy (speak against) the Most High and oppress the holy people of the Most High. He will try to change their sacred festivals and laws, and they will be placed under his control for a time, times, and half a time.

The Antichrist is going to DEFY God

& OPPRESS God's people on the Earth – *like never before*

& he will be ALLOWED to BRUTALIZE The Saints For 3 ½ Years

Notice - At the End of v.25 - *they* (God's people) *will be placed under his control for a time, times, and half a time*

A Time = 1

Times (simple Plural) = 2

HALF a Time = ½

Now – To Confirm this number means 3 ½ years

we have to Turn BACK to Rev Ch 13

Let's start first – with another HUGE REASON

the Antichrist is catapulted to WORSHIP-Level on the earth

& then we'll GET TO the 3 ½ Years

Let's start in Revelation 13:3-4 (NLT)

3 I saw that one of the heads of the beast seemed wounded beyond recovery (the Antichrist) - but the fatal wound was healed! The whole world marveled at this miracle and gave allegiance to the beast.

4 They worshiped the dragon for giving the beast such power, and they also worshiped the beast. “Who is as great as the beast?” they exclaimed. “Who is able to fight against him?”

So – **Not only** will the **Antichrist** bring a **Seemingly Supernatural PEACE** when he comes on the scene . . .

But he **will also survive** what **SEEMS LIKE** a Fatal Wound but will **PORTRAY IT** as a **RESURRECTION** from **the DEAD**

& because of this - the people on earth will

WORSHIP the **DRAGON** (Satan)

& WORSHIP the **BEAST** (Antichrist)

Remember – **ALL Satan** wants – is to **BE LIKE GOD**
& he **wants** his **Antichrist** – to be **LIKE JESUS CHRIST**

That’s **all** he’s **EVER Wanted**

& it **seems like** he **gets** it – for **3 ½ years** of the **Tribulation**

Revelation 13:5 (NLT)

5 Then the beast was allowed to speak great blasphemies against God. And he was given authority to do whatever he wanted for forty-two months.

THAT’S how we **know** the **3 ½** in **Dan 7:25** - is **speaking** of **years**

The Antichrist is allowed to speak **great blasphemies** against **GOD**
& **commit great atrocities** against **God’s People**

for 42 mo’s (or 3 ½ yrs)

& it **gets WORSE** → →

Let's read - Revelation 13:7–8 (NLT)

7 And the beast was allowed to wage war against God's holy people and to conquer them. And he was given authority to rule over every tribe and people and language and nation.

8 And all the people who belong to this world worshiped the beast. They are the ones whose names were not written in the Book of Life before the world was made—the Book that belongs to the Lamb who was slaughtered.

**Before Jesus Christ is Given The RULE
over every TRIBE & PEOPLE and LANGUAGE and NATION**

**God ALLOWS MANKIND to give that RULE – to the Antichrist
& The Antichrist loves it - & believe me – he abuses it**

The UNSAVED WORLD Worships him
Those whose Names are NOT written in the Book of Like

But He is AT WAR with the Saints on the Earth

& Rev 20 says MANY of those Saints
will be MARTYRED For their Faith – DURING the Tribulation

Now – before we close – Can I just Comment on these
SAINTS who are IN the Tribulation

We believe, firmly, that all believers today – will be RAPTURED
BEFORE the Tribulation (in fact 3 ½ yrs before this time)

To get our full view on the RAPTURE –
Just Ask W-B-M for the Msg – RAPTURE!

So – Who ARE those Saints the Antichrist is making WAR with
during the last half of the Tribulation

We believe they are **those** who **come to FAITH** in Jesus Christ **DURING** the Tribulation – **BOTH JEWS & GENTILES**

& **Those Saints** - who **come to faith** during the **Tribulation** – are going to **experience persecution** like **never before**

& So - **if that's you** - & if **YOU** (out there somewhere) – Are **somehow listening** to this message **DURING** the **Tribulation**

HOLD ON – STAY FAITHFUL

God wants to **USE YOU** for **GOOD** – **IN the Tribulation**

& **God** has your **Eternal Inheritance Reserved** for you in Heaven
& He **WILL take you** there to be **WITH Him** . . .

The MOMENT the **Anti-Christ** has you **BEHEADED** !!

So **TAKE HOPE** & **Serve God faithfully** until the **Very End!**

& **be encouraged** by **God's Word** –

INCLD'G the **Next 2 Vs's** in Rev 13 - *written especially for you*

Revelation 13:9-10 (nlt)

9 Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.

10 Anyone who is destined for prison will be taken to prison.

Anyone destined to die by the sword will die by the sword. This means that God's holy people must endure persecution patiently and remain faithful.

If you are listening - & the **Rapture** has **HAPPENED** –

& **you** are **IN the Tribulation** . . .

REMAIN Faithful to God – **Until** the **Very End**

& **God** will **REWARD you** with the **Crown of LIFE**

If you are listening - & the RAPTURE has NOT Happened YET

My **STRONG Encouragement** is that you **Commit your life**
to **Jesus** Christ **BEFORE** the **Rapture** occurs

Because some Scholars believe

if **you REJECT** Jesus Christ **BEFORE** the Rapture –
you will **NOT BE ABLE** to **Receive** Him **AFTER** the Rapture

I **don't know** for **sure** about that –

But **the Consequences** are **ETERNAL** - Pls **DON'T RISK IT**

Let's **go back** to **Dan Ch 7** - & **Close** with the **GOOD NEWS**

The Tribulation Period is **7 Years**

The **Antichrist's WAR** w/ the Saints **occurs** during the **2nd HALF**

But in the End – WHO WINS ??

Daniel 7:26-27 (nlt)

26 "But then (after the 3 ½ yrs) the court will pass judgment, and all his (the Antichrist) power will be taken away and completely destroyed.

27 Then the sovereignty, power, and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be given to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will last forever, and all rulers will serve and obey him."

GOD Wins in the End !!

& **Jesus** Christ **TAKES** what is **rightfully HIS**

He **TAKES BACK** - ALL **Sovereignty**, **Power**, and **Greatness** -
of **ALL the kingdoms** under **heaven**

& those who belong to Christ BY Faith – Will SHARE
in the Inheritance (&the Rule) of His ETERNAL Kingdom

MAKE SURE – You are on the **RIGHT SIDE** – **Before** this day **comes**

Now – Because of HOW Daniel ends Ch 7 –

I think we'll come back & talk about the Antichrist One more Wk

Daniel 7:28 (nlt)

28 That was the end of the vision. I, Daniel, was terrified by my thoughts and my face was pale with fear, but I kept these things to myself.

You may FEEL the SAME WAY as Daniel . . .

terrified by your thoughts and your face pale with fear, but keeping these things to yourself . . .

So – We'll do another message on the Antichrist

But I don't know about NEXT Sunday (Thanksgiving)

For TODAY – Can we just BOW in PRAYER

While I READ a FINAL SCRIPTURE . . .

1 Thes 4:16-17 – **Describes** what we call – **the RAPTURE**

The "**Snatching Away**" of all believers **BEFORE** the **Tribulation**

1 Thessalonians 4:16–18 (nlt)

16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the

trumpet call of God. First, the Christians who have died will rise from their graves.

17 Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.

18 So encourage each other with these words.

Can I ask you - *Are you going?*

When the Lord CRACKS the SKY –

& SHOUTS for us to come MEET HIM in the AIR - *Are you going?*

If you DON'T KNOW – you CAN KNOW – ***Right NOW***

John 3:16 (ESV)

16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Pray this Prayer with me

EXTRA'S

initially with all the answers, & with the apparent answer to WORLD PEACE - & the world will be RIPE to accept him – even clamoring to accept him – very possibly because of how well he manages himself, and the world, immediately after the Rapture

He will be ANTI Christ – meaning the Opposite (or standing Against) Jesus Christ – & his ultimate desire – is to be looked to INSTEAD of Christ

Rapture? – to CLOSE 1Thes 4:15-18 – if the rapture happened right here, right now – some of us would be taken - & some will be left – If you are not connected to Jesus Christ by your faith in Him – You will be left

& if you are alive & Left when the rapture occurs – you will personally WITNESS what Daniel sees in his vision in the 2nd half of Dan Ch 7

He will be perfectly positioned to first bring Peace (false peace) – but then, things start to change – really change

2Thes 2:1-4 – Not ONLY a Political leader – but ALSO a World Religion leader – One who is able to ultimately declare himself as God – (Abomination of Desolation)

Rev 13:1 – This is the AntiChrist – v.3 is what catapults him to be worshipped – a false resurrection – v.4 Satan will get (for a short time) what he has always wanted – worship for him and his “son” the AntiChrist – v.14 the statue of the AntiChrist is brought to life

& then . . . the MARK - Rev 13:16-18

Rev 19:20 – his end

(build up) – (from Dic of Biblical Imagery) Empowered by the dragon (Satan, cf. Rev 12:9), the sea beast (see Monster) is Christ’s negative image: he mimics Jesus’ crowns (Rev 13:1; 19:12), his honorable titles (Rev 13:1; 19:11–16), his exercise of divine power (Rev 13:2; 12:5, 10), his promotion of divine worship (Rev 13:4; 1:6) and his death and resurrection (Rev 13:3; 1:18; 5:6). The beast is a counterfeit christ, who through his flashy signs competes with Christ for allegiance and worship (cf. Mk 13:22; 2 Thess 2:3–4; Rev 13:13–14). Importantly, his

power is limited and will be overcome by Christ (2 Thess 2:3; 1 Jn 4:4; Rev 19:20)