

Revelation 22:10 - And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near."

**What do we know about the BIBLICAL antichrists (lowercase 'a' + plural 's') from the four times the word is mentioned in the Bible (none of which are in the book of Revelation)?**

1 John 2:18-23 - Children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come. Therefore we know that it is the last hour.<sup>19</sup> They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.<sup>20</sup> But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.<sup>21</sup> I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.<sup>22</sup> Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.<sup>23</sup> No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.

**According to the Bible, an antichrist is...**

- Anyone "who denies that Jesus is the Christ" (1 John 2:22)
- Anyone who "denies the Father and Son" (1 John 2:23)
- "Every spirit that does not confess Jesus" (1 John 4:3)
- "Those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist" (2 John 7)

**What's SUPER CLEAR? Antichrists were already around in the first century and relevant to John's 1st century audience**

1 John 4:3 - and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

2 John 7 - For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist.

**What's the most important takeaway for our series? Jesus has overcome and is seated as the victorious conquering King NOW...**

John 12:31 - Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

John 16:33 - "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

**...and He's inviting us to join Him in invading the darkness with His life-restoring Gospel**

Revelation 2:7 - "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God."

Revelation 3:21 - "The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne."



## WEEK 8: THE ANTICHRIST AND THE BEAST

November 7, 2021

## WELCOME TO GOD'S BEAUTIFUL ALTERNATIVE

If you've had enough of the heartache, hardship, and hatred of a world at war with God, and you're ready to absolutely THRIVE in the life-giving, eternity-changing calling your Designer has designed you to fulfill, then you are right where God wants you to be! We are a community of sincere people imperfectly pursuing God's absolute best for ourselves and everyone around us. That means if there is anything we can do to help you take your next step in following Christ and discovering His calling on your one and only life, we are right next to you at whatever cost. If you've got questions, or want to speak to a pastor, or would like to ask for prayer, grab that pen you got with this handout and fill out one of those CONNECT CARDS and drop it in the basket on your way out. Other than that, we sincerely hope you have an incredible morning marked by a life-changing encounter with the risen and reigning King Jesus Christ.

## EVERYONE WANTS TO BUILD SOMETHING GREAT

The problem is finding the right opportunity. Fortunately, we've got a gaggle of life-changing, eternity-shaping options for you. When you serve with One Missoula Church, you help other people rise to become all that God made them to be. If you're eager to lock arms to change eternity and make the world a better place, let us know via the serving categories on the Connect Card in today's handout.

## COMMUNITY LIKE NO OTHER

God never intended us to live life flying solo. At One Missoula Church we know we are better together, so we are beginning to build incredible groups for community, encouragement, and strengthening. While serving alongside others is an easy way to build friendships (see above), we highly recommend joining a bi-weekly life group or a Discovery Bible Study depending on where you are on your journey with God. Just let us know about your interest on the connect card and we'll get in touch to get you squared away.

## BEARDED BLADES AXE-OFF

Gentlemen, it's time to channel that flannel! In honor of no-shave November, we will meet up at Lookout Throwing Company to hurl some hatchets from 7-9pm on November 30<sup>th</sup>. While there, the few, the hairy, the bearded will compete in a variety of categories for beard awards and bragging rights (you're welcome, ladies.) We will see what the men of IMSO are made of, both in their flourishing follicles as well as their axe-throwing accuracy. Can't grow a competition-grade beard? No worries! You're still in for a grand ole' evening of moderately safe masculinity. Judging categories in this unforgettable evening of testosterone, will be "ZZ Top Meets Their Match", "Goat of Grandeur", "Most likely to get randomly searched by the TSA", "Strongest 'Stache", and more. Be sure to mark it on your calendars and watch for further details as the end of November draws near.

## WANT TO GO FARTHER DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE?

Here are some additional resources for the doctrine of last things which we've introduced in this series:

- Podcast: Revelation Project – Phil Kayser
- Book: "Last Days Madness" & "10 prophecy Myths" –Gary Demar
- YouTube series: Last Days According to Jesus – RC Sproul
- Fictional Series: "Chronicles of the Apocalypse" – Brian Godawa



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**"He's alive somewhere now. But he's not going to become this awesome figure that we nickname the Anti-Christ until Satan possesses him, and I don't believe that will occur until there is this 'mortal wound' from which he's raised up." - Hal Lindsey, 1977**

**"There is no doubt that the antichrist has already been born. Firmly established already in his early years, he will, after reaching maturity, achieve supreme power." - Saint Martin of Tours, (who died in AD 397)**

**The embarrassing modern-day hysteria around the idea of the Antichrist comes from taking biblical references as if they all refer to the same person and creating a composite figure that is not found in Scripture. Who are those references?**

- Daniel's "prince who is to come" ([Daniel 9:26](#))
- Daniel's and Matthew's "abomination of desolation" ([Matthew 24:15](#); [Daniel 9:27](#))
- Paul's "man of lawlessness" ([2 Thessalonians 2:3](#))
- John's "antichrist" ([1 John 2:18](#); [2:22](#); [4:3](#); [2 John 7](#))
- John's "beast" ([Revelation 13:11-18](#))

**Let's calculate the number of the Beast to see if it's Bill Gates... Or Vladimir Putin... or one of your in-laws**

*Revelation 13:18* - This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.

### In many languages, letters have numeric values

- The common Greek version of "Nero Caesar" is "Neron Kesar". When you convert that to Hebrew, it's "nrwn qsr"
- Now let's do some math!  $n=50 + r=200 + w=6 + n=50 + q=100 + s=60 + r=200 = 666$

### But wait! there's more math fun to be had...

- There's a variant number of 616 which comes from using the Latin version of "Nero Caesar" is "nrw qsr", which doesn't have the 'n' (a value of 50)
- $666-50 = 616$

**What's SUPER CLEAR? The BEAST was around in the first century and relevant to John's 1st century audience**

*Revelation 1:1-3* - The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, <sup>2</sup> who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. <sup>3</sup> Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.