

## True and False Christ TS014

### – Part 1 – 4303

*Christ* = Messiah

#### I. Relevant Features of the Last Days

- A. Many antichrists (1 John 2:18 [Matt. 24])
  - 1. Anti = against – first *displace*
  - 2. Anti = in place of – then *replace*
- B. The wheat and the tares (Matt. 13:29–30)
  - 1. Wheat and tares grow together till harvest
  - 2. Only distinguished by fruit
  - 3. Same climatic condition ripens both: permissiveness
- C. The world (2 Tim. 3:1–5)
  - 1. A time of stress
  - 2. Root problem: degeneration of human character and conduct (18 aspects listed)
  - 3. Begins with love of self and love of money and ends with love of pleasure
  - 4. Having a form of godliness but denying its power (v. 5), i.e., professing to be Christians
  - 5. Summed up in the word: *selfishness*
  - 6. From such, *turn away*
  - 7. Corruption is *irreversible*
- D. Upsurge of the occult (v. 8–9, 13)
  - 1. “Impostors” are actually enchanters
  - 2. Magic, witchcraft, sorcery
- E. The parting of the ways: righteous/holy, still more righteous/holy—*but* unrighteous/wicked, still more unrighteous/wicked (Rev. 22:10–12)
- F. The Antichrist—culmination of transgressors (Dan. 8:23–24 [1 John 2:18–22; 4:14]) Manifested in three forms:
  - 1. *The* antichrist
  - 2. Many antichrists
  - 3. The spirit of antichrist
- G. Three distinctive marks of the spirit of antichrist
  - 1. Starts in association with the people of God, e.g. Islam = Perfection/completion (1 John 2:19)
  - 2. Denies that Jesus is the Messiah (1 John 2:22)
  - 3. Denies the Father and the Son (the Godhead) (1 John 2:22)
- H. Three titles of antichrist
  - 1. Man of (Sin) Lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:3)
  - 2. Son of Perdition (2 Thess. 2:3) compare to Judas Iscariot, an apostle
  - 3. Wild beast—contrast the Lamb (Rev. 13:1–4)
    - a. Barabbas or Jesus? – Beast or Lamb?

- b. The Dove (Holy Spirit) looks for the Lamb nature to rest upon
  - (1) Purity
  - (2) Meekness
  - (3) A life laid down

– Part 2 –  
4304

**I. Relevant Features of the Last Days (cont'd.)**

- A. *The* apostasy in the Church will open the way (2 Thess. 2:13)
  - 1. Three monotheistic religions: Judaism, Islam and Christianity
  - 2. World religion could incorporate all three

**II. Who Is Antichrist?**

- A. Regarding his name
  - 1. Jesus came in the name of the Father
  - 2. Name of antichrist imposed
    - a. A mark, a name, or the number of his name (666) (Rev. 13:16–18)
    - b. Jesus' name adds up to 888 (in Greek)
- B. A political federation (Rev. 14:1)
  - 1. A leopard—cannot change its spots
  - 2. The bear is associated with Russia
  - 3. The lion is associated with Britain
  - 4. Background of Europe: Imperialistic nations—essentially Catholic nations
- C. Claims resurrection from the dead (Rev. 13:14)
  - 1. They worshiped the Dragon—Satan (compare Rev. 12:9)
  - 2. They worshiped the Beast—Antichrist
  - 3. Satan offered Jesus dominion in return for worship (Luke 4:5–8)
    - a. The true Christ refused
    - b. The false Christ will accept and worship Satan
- D. Implacable enemy of God and God's people (Rev. 13:6–7 [Rev. 12:11])
- E. Satan: The great *deceiver* (Rev. 12:9)
  - 1. Many adversaries—but he who endures to the end will be saved (Matt. 24:8–14)
  - 2. Total commitment in the face of tremendous opposition
  - 3. Even the elect exposed to deception (Matt. 24:23–24)
  - 4. Zion = Divine revelation vs. Greece = philosophy — humanism — man becoming god (Zech. 9:13)
- F. Products of deception:
  - 1. Counterfeit Trinity (Rev. 16:13)
    - a. Dragon vs. God the Father
    - b. Beast vs. Lamb (Jesus)
    - c. False prophet vs. Holy Spirit
  - 2. Counterfeit church (the harlot) (Rev. 17:1)
- G. Only safeguard: Love of the truth (2 Thess. 2:9–12)