## A Biblical Profile of the Antichrist: PROFILE #2 – Supernatural Empowerment

To the extent that the Antichrist will be touted as the greatest world leader of all time, he will also be nothing more than a tool in the hands of the devil and his demon host. Although he may very well believe that he is carrying out his own agenda as Judas did, the reality behind his ability to rule will be the supernatural empowerment of Satan (Daniel 8:24). This is made clear in Revelation 13:3-4 —

"I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole world was amazed and followed after the beast; they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshipped the beast, saying, 'Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?'"

Any doubt as to the identity of "the dragon" is removed in Revelation 12:9 -

"And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him."

The rule and reign of the Antichrist during this seven year period of hell on earth known as the Tribulation, will be the devil's final attempt in establishing his kingdom on earth in a thorough, comprehensive and permanent manner. His first attempt occurred at the Tower of Babel through the agency of Nimrod. But now, this final all-out effort will take place by means of a counterfeit Messiah, who will present himself as the only solution to all the world's problems. And his campaign will be incredibly convincing, not only on a human level, but a spiritual one; having its source in "the world forces of this darkness," as well as "the spiritual forces of wickedness." The apostle Paul removes all doubt as to the evil origin of his supernatural empowerment, in 2 Thessalonians 2:8-9, where we read this —

"Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; that is the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders."

We will discover in profile #3 that the devil will employ the same formula during this climactic time on earth, as he has used throughout our tragic human history, that of **deception**; personified in his ultimate human instrument, the Antichrist.