

## **A Biblical Profile of the Antichrist: PROFILE #5 – Lawlessness**

There are many who find it difficult to accept the end-time Biblical scenario of a single individual ruling over the entire world. That attitude of incredulity is often the result of ignoring the psychological and moral environment which will exist at the end of the age. This is why Jesus, immediately after warning about false prophets arising in order to mislead many, says this in Matthew 24:12 –

**“Because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.”**

The last days of human history as we know it, will be a time of comprehensive lawlessness on earth. It will no doubt be similar to the time preceding the Flood of Noah’s day, where we read the following indictment in Genesis 6:5 –

**“Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”**

The apostle Paul also gives us an extensive and detailed picture of the last-days culture of lawlessness on earth in 2 Timothy 3:1-5 –

**“But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; avoid such men as these.”**

This is the context into which Antichrist will enter and flourish! The man of lawlessness, described as such by the apostle Paul in 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 8; will not be viewed as a villain but a hero. Instead of finding his behavior appalling, it will be admired. The Antichrist will appear at exactly the time when lawlessness will have been normalized, confirmed by Paul in 2 Thessalonians 2:7. When he claims to be above the law, and acts accordingly, he will be applauded by the lawless individuals surrounding and supporting him.

Nevertheless, the lawless chaos existing in our world in the last days, will create so much instability and insecurity, that many will long for peace and safety. No one will be better qualified to take advantage of such conditions than this utterly lawless man, groomed by Satan for that prophetically significant moment.