

A Biblical Profile of the Antichrist: PROFILE #8 – Worldwide Worship

Daniel's Seventieth Week will be a seven year period of time unlike anything previously experienced on earth; consisting of a significant transition at its mid-point, marking an intensification of the Antichrist's activity. The specific action taken by the beast, launching the second half of the Tribulation, is described for us in Daniel 9:27 –

And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”

The key elements in the Middle East peace treaty will involve both the recognition of Israel as a sovereign nation, as well as a corresponding opportunity for the long awaited Temple to be built. In the aftermath of the failed Magog invasion, the Antichrist will seize that event and turn it into a favorable circumstance of his own, resulting in the desecration of that newly built Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. How? The apostle Paul tells us precisely how in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 –

“Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.”

Up until this critical moment, the man of lawlessness was Israel's hero; not only due to the peace treaty, but for his supposed intervention on behalf of the nation against the invading forces of the Magog alliance. However, in the middle of Daniel's Seventieth Week, the rude awakening of Israel regarding the beast will arrive in the most appalling and disgraceful manner possible. The one whose efforts made it possible for the building of the Temple, will now take his seat in it and demand to be worshiped as God. This is when the warning of Israel's true Messiah in Matthew 24:15-16, will resonate and be heeded by the Jewish nation.

Ironically, Revelation 13:1-7 indicates that much of the worship offered from the rest of the world will be voluntary. But for the minority who are unwilling to worship the beast, the mid-point of the Tribulation and what follows, will be the worst time of persecution in all of human history, predicted by our Lord in Matthew 24:21-22 and confirmed in Revelation 20:4. Those forty-two months will become the most brutal and uncompromising reality individuals will ever encounter, with the Antichrist exercising complete and ultimate authority, granted by Satan, as dictator of the entire world.