

Section Three: The Kingdom of God on Earth (Future)
Category A: Tribulation – Kingdom Intelligence Report #5
Topic: The Pretense

The invitation to “Come” is taken full advantage of by the rider on the white horse, depicted in Revelation 6:2. He is the Antichrist, the beast from the sea in Revelation 13:1. He will successfully propagate his pretense upon the whole world by means of a peace treaty in the first half of the Tribulation period. This will set the stage for his reign of terror in the second half, referred to by our Lord in Matthew 24:21-22, as well as the prophet Daniel in Daniel 9:27 –

“For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.”

“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 Antichrist’s deception will, at first, involve voluntary participation. The covenant with the many will cause the whole world to declare, “Peace and safety!” as indicated in 1 Thessalonians 5:3. But this will not last. God’s judgments will be poured out, bringing upon our world a sudden destruction; which will compel the Antichrist to intensify his charade by not only resorting to demonic delusion, but violence and coercion. In the forefront of this intensification, the one hailed as the hero of Israel, will make that nation his first victim by breaking the covenant of peace established with “the many.” The covenant that allowed for the building of the Jewish Temple will now become the platform for the abomination of desolation, predicted by our Lord in Matthew 24:15-16 and confirmed by the apostle Paul in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 –

“Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.”

“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.”

The hero turned demagogue will extend his counterfeit empire, by means of a false prophet, through violence and coercion, by requiring a mark on the right hand or forehead. This will designate those who receive the mark as worshippers of the beast, with the freedom to buy and sell (Revelation 13:11-18). Those who refuse the mark will do so at their own peril, being labelled as enemies of the beast, ear-marked for execution (Revelation 20:4). Yet those who receive the mark, will do so at a far greater peril, in becoming victims of an ultimate pretense.