

## Doctrine of Anti-Christ

1. The biblical doctrine of Anti-Christ is found in the epistles of John, for the word only appears in the writings of this apostle.
2. Four verses set forth the biblical teaching. Anti-Christ is:
  - someone who denies that Jesus is the Christ. 1 John 2:22
  - someone who denies the Father and the Son. 1 John 2:23
  - every spirit that does not confess Jesus. 1 John 4:3
  - a reference to all those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh.  
This is the deceiver and the Anti-Christ. 2 John 7
3. What John describes as Anti-Christ is far different from the modern day concept illustrated by the fortune telling of Jean Dixon. On February 5, 1962, Mrs. Dixon claimed to have received a vision about a coming world religious and political leader. *"A child, born somewhere in the Middle East shortly before 7 A.M. (EST) on February 5, 1962, will revolutionize the world. Before the close of the century, he will bring together all mankind in one all embracing faith. This will be the foundation of a new Christianity, with every sect and creed united through this man who will walk among the people to spread the wisdom of the Almighty Power."*
4. To add to the confusion, some students of prophecy have combined the characteristics of Daniel's *"prince who is to come"* (Daniel 9:26; 7:7-8, 19-26; 8:23-25), the abomination of desolation (Matthew 24:15; Daniel 9:27), Paul's Man of Lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:3), John's Anti-Christ doctrine personified (1 John 2:18-22; 4:3; 2 John 7), and the *"Beast"* of Revelation 13:11-18).
5. According to one popular theory, Anti-Christ will have the personality of a John F. Kennedy, the eloquence of a Winston Churchill (Revelation 13:5), the raw crowd appeal of an Adolf Hitler (Daniel 7:20; 8:23), and the cunning wisdom of a Franklin Roosevelt (Daniel 8:25).
6. According to the popular theory Anti-Christ will come to prominence as part of a ten-nation confederation within the boundaries of the old Roman Empire.
7. The European Common Market has become a favorite subject of discussion for those longing to see a revived Roman Empire.
8. It is taught, without any foundation except speculation, that the coming Anti-Christ will gain control through force the nations of Europe, defeating at least three nations on the field of battle.
9. He will talk of peace (Daniel 8:25) which will attract an apostate Christianity (1 Thessalonians 5:5). Anti-Christ will then make a seven-year covenant with the Jews to protect their land and their security.

10. However, in the midst of the covenant period, Anti-Christ will break his word and turn hostile to the Jews. He will make war with Israel and defeat the nation (Revelation 13:17; Daniel 7:21).
11. Fortunately, the rule of Anti-Christ is scheduled to last only three and one half years (Daniel 7:25). Still, two thirds of the Jews living in Palestine during this period will be killed (Zech. 13:8-9).
12. Since he hates God, the Anti-Christ will blaspheme God and His tabernacle (Revelation 13:6). As a counterfeit Christ, the resurrection of Jesus will be attempted to be duplicated by the Anti-Christ who is to receive a mortal head wound. In November, 1963, John F. Kennedy became a prime suspect for Anti-Christ. At least for a few days.
13. Anti-Christ is to set himself up as God in the rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem (2 Thessalonians 2:4).
14. The False Prophet who is also to appear will erect an image of the Anti-Christ which will live and speak (Revelation 13:14-15).
15. The world will be made to wear on their foreheads or on their hands a dreaded sign of the Anti-Christ, six hundred and sixty six.

In order for such a fantastic theory as this to have become popular several things had to happen, and they did.

First, a wonderful messianic prophecy in Daniel 9 concerning the Lord had to be reinterpreted so that the Prince who should come is not Christ, as the Church has taught for 2000 years, but Anti-Christ!

Second, the entire historical context of Daniel, Matthew, and Revelation had to be ignored.

Finally, the time frame established by John for his vision had to be set aside. John informed his readers no less than ten times when the events he wrote about in Revelation were to be fulfilled.

◆ The events " <i>must shortly take place</i> "	Revelation 1:1
◆ " <i>For the time is near</i> "	Revelation 1:3
◆ " <i>I am coming to you quickly</i> "	Revelation 2:16
◆ " <i>I am coming quickly</i> "	Rev 3:11
◆ " <i>The third woe is coming quickly</i> "	Revelation 11:4
◆ " <i>The things which must shortly take place</i> "	Revelation 22:6
◆ " <i>Behold, I am coming quickly</i> "	Revelation 22:7
◆ " <i>Yes, I am coming quickly</i> "	Revelation 22:20
◆ " <i>For the time is near</i> "	Revelation 22:10
◆ " <i>Behold, I am coming quickly</i> "	Revelation 22:12

Based upon this scriptural language it is not reasonable to believe that the biblical passages anticipated 2000 years in the future before the fulfillment of the events of the prophecy of the *Revelation*.