

# **THE ANTICHRIST'S WAR ON THE SAINTS —**

## **PART 7**

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#### **20.1.24**

We've been reviewing end-time prophecies about the Antichrist. There are strong indications that he'll come from the Islamic realm.

Islamic prophecy (for what it's worth! Satanically-inspired corruption of true prophecy!) ... shows 1.8 billion Muslims are expecting a great leader — their Mahdi — and his right-hand man — an Enforcer ... Isa Al-Masih — the False Prophet.

The view that Islam — and an Islamic Antichrist — are strong candidates is borne out **IF** Islam is consistent with other prophetic passages.

Last week we looked at the Seals of Revelation Chapter 6.

**THE WHITE HORSE: GREAT DECEPTION** — of billions? Perhaps Islamic Mahdi? (Often pictured on a White Horse).



**THE RED HORSE: WARS** — perhaps motivated by Islam as it seeks to spread its beliefs and Sharia Law WORLDWIDE — by violence if necessary.

Islam has a 1400 year track record of religious killing. Estimated to be about 270 million!

**THE BLACK HORSE: ECONOMIC TURMOIL ... SHORTAGES ... FAMINE.** A pair of scales (GREEK:ZUGOS) ... can imply subjugation — the historic, position of non-Muslims when under Muslim rule.

**THE GREEN HORSE: THE RIDER'S NAME IS DEATH!** Sounds ominous? Has power over a quarter of the earth. To kill — with the sword ... with hunger ... with pestilence ... by or under authority of the end-time Beast(s). Islamic peoples — and their territories — represent a quarter of the earth. This may imply that the Green Horse's jurisdiction is limited to these regions?



Let's have another look at the 5<sup>th</sup> Seal and what it implies.

#### **Revelation 6:9-11**

9 When He opened **the fifth seal**, **I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held.**

10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "**How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?**"

11 Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, **until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were**, was completed.

#### **MARTYRDOM!**

For the Word of God and Testimony.

**It appears to be targeted at Christians? Because of their beliefs and testimonies?**

Revelation Chapter 13 reveals that it is the Beast — the Antichrist (Mahdi?) ... who is behind this — "making war on the saints".

It's a dangerous time to be a Christian!

I suspect the reason is that many Christians are in active opposition to the Antichrist (and Islam?). End-time believers may choose to stand against the Antichrist — refuse to worship the Image or receive the Mark — and seek to warn the world of the great deception.

The fact that the saints are a serious problem to his plans is what triggers the persecution and killings.

**Apart from violence from the Antichrist — there may be problems among Christians?**

### **Matthew 24:9-14**

9 “**Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake.**

10 And then **many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.**

11 Then **many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.**

12 And **because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.**

13 But **he who endures to the end shall be saved.**

14 And **this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.**

In context ... this is end-time.

**BETRAYAL! BETRAYERS!**

### **Matthew 24:12 (NIV)**

12 ... **the love of most will grow cold,** (*GREEK: AGAPE — Christian love*)

**Note: the Gospel is being PREACHED IN ALL OF THE WORLD AT THIS TIME. This will greatly provoke the Beast/Antichrist.**

**Jesus warned of the dangers!**

### **Matthew 10:19-22**

19 But **when they deliver you up**, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;

20 for **it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.**

21 “Now **brother will deliver up brother to death**, and **a father his child**; and **children will rise up against parents** and cause them to be put to death.

22 And **you will be hated by all for My name’s sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.**

### **Matthew 10:23-28**

23 **When they persecute you** in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

24 “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

25 **It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master.** If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household!

26 **Therefore do not fear them.** For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.

27 “Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops.

28 And **do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.**

### **Matthew 10:31-33**

31 **Do not fear** therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

32 “**Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.**

33 But **whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.**

**DON'T FEAR FOR YOUR PHYSICAL LIFE!**

**The end-time may be very “adventurous” for believers!**

### **Daniel 11:31-35**

31 And forces shall be mustered by him (*The King of The North/The Antichrist*), and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; **then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.**

32 Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; **but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.** (*Take action!*)

33 And **those of the people who understand shall instruct many;** (*about the Antichrist and the False Prophet — and teach The Truth and the True Christ*) yet for many days they shall fall by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering.

34 **Now when they fall, they shall be aided with a little help;** but many shall join with them by intrigue. (*Intrigue — deceivers/false brethren*)

35 And **some of those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify them, and make them white,** until the time of the end; **because it is still for the appointed time.**

The time period of the Abomination of Desolation.

The saints will be “instructing many” — perhaps about the Antichrist? Hence the backlash — some will “fall by the sword and flame”. And some false brethren in the mix too!

### **Daniel 7:19-22**

19 “Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, **exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces,** (*DEQAQ— utterly destroy*) **and trampled the residue with its feet;**

20 and **the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up,** before which three fell, namely, **that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.**

21 “I was watching; and **the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them,**

22 until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.

The “Little Horn” — the Antichrist — is making war on the saints — and will prevail — UNTIL JESUS COMES!

#### **Daniel 7:23-25**

23 “Thus he said:

‘The fourth beast shall be  
A fourth kingdom on earth,  
Which shall be different from all other kingdoms,  
And shall devour the whole earth,  
Trample it and break it in pieces.

24 The ten horns are ten kings  
Who shall arise from this kingdom.

And another shall rise after them;

He shall be different from the first ones,

And shall subdue three kings. (*Libya, Ethiopia and Sudan*)

25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High,  
Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, (*harasses the saints*)

And shall intend to change times and law.

Then the saints shall be given into his hand  
For a time and times and half a time.

The Little Horn persecutes and harasses the saints.

I don’t think this is just random hostility. I believe that the saints are in active opposition to the Antichrist! Hence his aggressive response.

#### **Acts 2:14-21**

14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.

15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.

16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17 'And **it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,**

**That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh;**

**Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,**

**Your young men shall see visions,**

**Your old men shall dream dreams.**

18 **And on My menservants and on My maidservants**

**I will pour out My Spirit in those days;**

**And they shall prophesy.**

19 I will show wonders in heaven above

**And signs in the earth beneath:**

Blood and fire and vapour of smoke.

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness,

And the moon into blood,

**Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the**

**LORD.**

21 And it shall come to pass

That **whoever calls on the name of the LORD**

**Shall be saved.'**

**IN THE LAST DAYS — MANY WILL PROPHECY! JUST BEFORE THE HEAVENLY SIGNS!**

**So: whilst the Antichrist and False Prophet will be active — and many millions are being killed — they don't have it all their own way!**

**The saints appear to be very active. Also the Two Witnesses are preaching at this time.**

We might wonder why "only" Four Horsemen — rather than 5 or 6 ... etc?

**SPECULATION: The 4 Horsemen seem to describe Satan and the Antichrist as they seek to dominate the world? At the 4<sup>th</sup> Horseman (death!) ... they're "maxed out".**



**As of the 5<sup>th</sup> and subsequent Seals — God starts to intervene.** First ... the saints push back — proclaim the Word of God ... give their testimonies — prophesying by the Spirit of God.

Then **the 6<sup>th</sup> Seal is Heavenly Signs.** (God's doing!!). Then **the 7<sup>th</sup> Seal introduces God's Wrath on the world.** **The Day of The Lord — The Trumpet Plagues!**

### **Revelation 6:12-17**

12 I looked when He opened **the sixth seal**, and behold, there was **a great earthquake**; and **the sun became black as sackcloth of hair**, and **the moon became like blood.**

13 And **the stars of heaven fell to the earth**, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.

14 Then **the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up**, and **every mountain and island was moved out of its place.**

15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, **every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,**

16 and said to the mountains and rocks, **"Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!**

17 **For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"**

**"Great Earthquake" is "Great Shaking" (GREEK: SEISMOS).**

The natural world is in chaos. Unconverted — Beast Empires — all are terrified.

**But the most surprising thing is that the people know what is about to happen!**

**They know that terrible destruction is imminent. And they know who is bringing it — JESUS ... THE LAMB!**

Who has warned them? The Two Witnesses? But also very probably the end-time saints?

The saints have been resisting the Antichrist. Perhaps warning anyone who would listen. Not to take The Mark of The Beast. Many saints will have lost their lives.

**The fact that millions of people will know about the Wrath — and seek to hide — is evidence of a powerful end-time warning.**

In the 5<sup>th</sup> Seal ... the saints are martyred for their faith ... they cry for judgment and vengeance. That's what happens at the 7<sup>th</sup> Seal — God's Wrath!

### **2 Thessalonians 2:1-4**

1 Now, brethren, **concerning the coming (PAROUSIA) of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him**, we ask you,  
2 **not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter**, as if from us, **as though the day of Christ had come**.

3 **Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition**, (*until the Antichrist appears*)

4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, **so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God**.

Paul is talking of Jesus' return and the time of the Antichrist.

### **2 Thessalonians 1:3-10**

3 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other,

4 so that **we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure**,

5 which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, **that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer**;

6 **since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble/tribulate you**,

7 **and to give you who are troubled/tribulated rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,**

8 **in flaming fire taking vengeance** on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 **These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,**

10 **when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.**

Paul encourages the brethren to endure patiently — for God's vengeance is coming! The wicked (the Antichrist and his followers) will perish.

**IN FLAMING FIRE!** (The First Trumpet is flaming fire — which burns up one third of the earth).

The doom of the wicked is upon them.

The saints will be now be glorified.

**So: Exciting —albeit at times intimidating — days lie ahead for the saints.**

**DON'T FEAR! BE ENCOURAGED!**

**BUCKLE UP AND BE PREPARED!**

The rewards will be great!