

The Condemnation of Following Antichrist. 2 Thessalonians 2:9–12

2 Thessalonians 2:9–12 (NKJV)

⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, ¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Introduction

Historically, the most tragic event in all of human history was the rejection of Jesus Christ at the climax of His ministry. He had fulfilled countless prophecies and proved Himself in the teaching he gave and the miracles He performed that he was the Son of God. He had healed the sick, cleanse the leper, gave sight to the blind, created legs for the crippled, gave new hands and feet to the maimed,

Cast out thousands of demons, raise the dead of the decayed. He calmed the waves and the wind created fish and bread for thousands. He taught the word of God unlike anyone who had ever been in Israel. He quoted no scribe or elder for authority, he referred to no tradition for support. He spoke as the God who spoke on Mount Sinai has one having authority. The profound nature and depth of his teaching astounded thousands. They were amazed that such a man could come out of Nazareth.

The Leaders of Israel had witnessed the miracles and heard all the teaching and concluded that he was of the devil that all of His work was done by Beelzebub the Lord of the flies. They had rejected the Messiah obvious real the Son of the living God in the face of the most profound evidence ever given to Man.

It is no less serious for all the men and women who heard and saw what Jesus did and then rejected him.

Hebrews 6:4–8 (NKJV)

⁴ For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵ and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the

age to come, ⁶ if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put *Him* to an open shame.

⁷ For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God; ⁸ but if it bears thorns and briers, *it is* rejected and near to being cursed, whose end *is* to be burned.

Hebrews 2:1–4 (NKJV)

2 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. ² For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard *Him*, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

These are incredible examples of what happens to a person who rejects Christ in the face of full light.

And it is important to note that there is a place that only God knows where the last and final rejection secures your fate. After having heard so many times and having been witness to the truth so many times, there is a final and full commitment over to condemnation by God for rejection of the truth of the Gospel.

Men and women play fast and loose with the opportunities they have today of the truth. They laugh at it, sneer at it, make fun of it, make light of it, falsely accuse it, and judge it as a lie. Yet it is the very truth they reject that will one day judge them. What they once laughed at will cause them severe anguish and pain and what they once called a lie will determine their fate for eternity.

There is a time of turning, a turning that is final, a turning that is determined, a turning that is eternal, and I'm not speaking of a time of you turning to God, but of a time of God turning away from you. There is a time when God repents of making man. When He is as in Genesis 6, is sorry that he ever made you.

Matthew 15:12–14 (NKJV)

¹² Then His disciples came and said to Him, “Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?”

¹⁴ **Let them alone.....**

Hosea 4:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ “Ephraim *is* joined to idols,
Let him alone.

Psalms 81:11–12 (NKJV)

¹¹ “But My people would not heed My voice,
And Israel would *have* none of Me.

¹² So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart,
To walk in their own counsels.

There is a final in full rejection coming at the end of the age. At the height of the great apostasy brought on by the revelation of antichrist there will be a great rejection of truth and not just any truth but the truth that saves, the only truth that saves, the gospel truth. Men and women who will follow the antichrist will be confirmed and confined in their unbelief.

There will be no way out. The eyes will no longer be opened. The heart will be stone. Lies will be believed as true. Truth will be believed as lies.

The man who rises on the scene who is identified in this passage as the lawless one. He is the antichrist

the final and full expression of evil personified and one man.

According to verse nine, he will come with the power and the energy of Satan. He will be able to work miracles signs and wonders that are real, that are powerful, and that are convincing. The Bible says that they are so convincing that if it were possible they would deceive the very elect of God. This is not the typical miracle claimed by the faith healers today. This is not the chicanery and fakery of Bethel church or Benny Hinn. This is not the mockery of miracles by Kenneth Copeland when he "blows Covid away".

And important note should be made here; the allurements and the desire of millions today in the charismatic Pentecostal circles to see miracles and to be so easily deceived by the fakery of the majority of the charlatans, I set the stage for a great apostasy. When someone does finally arrive who can really do miracles signs and wonders that are clearly supernatural, millions will run after him believing he is who he claims to be and denying what they once believed to be true.

According to verse 10, He comeswith all

unrighteous deception

2 Thessalonians 2:10 (NASB95)

and with all the deception of **wickedness.**

ἀδικία, the doing contrary to right, (*wider in sense than No. 1,*) wrong, injustice; *as done to others it is injury*; any impropriety which is repugnant to δίκαιον, See 1 John 5:17.

Bullinger, E. W. (1908). In *A Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament* (Fifth Edition, Revised, p. 413). Longmans, Green, & Co.

The point is that evil and unrighteousness have particular drawing and deceiving power on the fallen human heart.

Men by nature love evil and are pulled that direction.
John 3:19–20 (NKJV)

¹⁹ **And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.**

Hebrews 3:12–13 (NKJV)

¹² Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; ¹³ but exhort one another daily, while it is called “*Today,*” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Proverbs 28:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ He who trusts in his own heart is a fool,

But whoever walks wisely will be delivered.

James 1:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

As a moth is drawn to a flame, our hearts are drawn to unrighteousness.

Our hearts are cold steel drawn by the magnetism of wickedness and sin.

The Antichrist is the antithesis of Christ, the opposite of holy, the blasphemer of all heaven, the hater of righteousness, the lover of evil.

He will lure, the fallen human heart not only by persuasive power but also plenty of perversion.

Lesson

The Recipients

The Rejection

The Revenge

Who are these that will be so no word by the deceptive unrighteousness of the antichrist?

The Recipients

The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception **among those who perish,**

those who perish, P. M/P.PT

apollumi: to destroy, destroy utterly

Original Word: ἀπόλλυμι

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: apollumi

Phonetic Spelling: (ap-ol'-loo-mee)

Definition: to destroy, destroy utterly

Usage: (a) I kill, destroy, (b) I lose, mid: I am perishing (the resultant death being viewed as certain).

622 apóllymi (from 575 /apó, "away from," which intensifies ollymi, "to destroy") – properly, fully destroy, cutting off entirely (note the force of the prefix, 575 /apó).622 /apóllymi ("violently/completely perish") implies permanent (absolute) destruction, i.e. to cancel out (remove); "to die, with the implication of ruin and destruction" (L & N, 1,

23.106); cause to be lost (utterly perish) by experiencing a miserable end.

P. M/P.PT the perishing ones

It could be understood as middle meaning that they are personally responsible for their perishing... they are the cause of their perishing. Or it could be understood passively in the sense that they are being caused to perish as an object of God's judgment.

It isn't that they just will perish in the future, it is that they are currently perishing and they are on their way to complete and utter destruction.

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

2 Corinthians 4:3–4 (NKJV)

³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the

gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

John 3:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

The perishing ones are those who have followed after the Antichrist. They are the deceived.

Revelation 13:3–4 (NKJV)

³..... all the world marveled and followed the beast.
⁴ So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast....

Revelation 13:8 (NKJV)

⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life

Revelation 13:12–14 (NKJV)

the false prophet ^{is} ¹⁴ he deceives those who dwell on the earth—by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast,

The Recipients

The Rejection

¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

A couple of things are important to note right at the beginning.

1. It does not say that they perish because the Antichrist showed up.
2. It does not say that they perish because the Antichrist made them follow him.
3. It does not say that God is arbitrarily causing them to perish because he just wants too.

The responsibility of the perishing Squarely lays in the lap of the ones who have rejected the truth. They are responsible for their own deception. They are responsible for their own deaths. They are responsible for their unwillingness to submit to the truth.

It says,

¹⁰ who perish, **because** they did not receive the love of the truth

¹²who did not believe the truth

You are saved only because God saved you. And you are condemned because you have rejected God. The Bible lays the responsibility of unbelief with the sinner, not God.

Notice what they rejected.

v.10 did not receive the love of the truth

v. 12 did not believe the truth

‘The love of the truth’ is unusual (found only here in the Greek Bible), and it is placed in an emphatic position.

We should not understand *truth* as an abstract moral quality, but as ‘the truth of the gospel’ (Gal. 2:14), ‘the word of truth, the gospel’ (Col. 1:5), truth that is closely connected with Jesus (John 14:6; Eph. 4:21), and which is revealed by God and comes from God (cf. Rom. 1:25). Acceptance of this truth leads to salvation (as the end of the verse shows). These people received some knowledge of God’s way, but they would have none of it. They gave it no welcome; they gave it no love

Morris, L. (1984). [1 and 2 Thessalonians: An introduction and commentary](#) (Vol. 13, pp. 131–132). InterVarsity Press.

v.10 did not receive the love of the truth

This is a unique phrase that gives us an insight into the character of a believer. This is solely the love of the Christian. The love of the gospel the love of the truth of the Gospel. God not only awakens your mind to the truth as opposed to error but he also deposits within you a love for the truth.

This is what distinguishes the children of God from the children of the devil.

John 8:44–47 (NKJV)

⁴⁴ You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and *does not* stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it. ⁴⁵ But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. ⁴⁶ Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? ⁴⁷ He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.”

Acts 7:54–58 (NKJV)

⁵⁴ When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with *their* teeth. ⁵⁵ But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into

heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, ⁵⁶ and said, “Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!”

⁵⁷ Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; ⁵⁸ and they cast *him* out of the city and stoned *him*. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul.

2 Timothy 4:3–4 (NKJV)

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

3 John 3–4 (NKJV)

³ For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth *that is* in you, just as you walk in the truth. ⁴ I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they

did not receive the love of the truth, ***that they might be saved.***

The only way someone can be saved is to be willing to receive the love of the truth. Salvation starts with the acceptance of the facts of the gospel and then a full submission to the gospel and then an absolute loyalty and love of the gospel.

No one, absolutely no one can get saved apart from the truth of the Gospel. Everyone can be condemned without it but no one can so be saved without it.

Romans 10:13–17 (NKJV)

¹³ For “*whoever calls* on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent?..... ¹⁷ So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:23 (NKJV)

²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)

¹³ For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed *it* not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

Luke 16:27–31 (NKJV)

²⁷ “Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, ²⁸ for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ ³⁰ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹ But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’ ”

It is clear from this text that the word of God and the preaching of the truth of the gospel does not need any help from us. If someone rising from the dead would not be enough to convince someone of the truth, then don't be so naive and deceived as to think that you soft peddling the truth will help.

The power of the gospel is in the truth of the gospel not the sugar coating of it.

Our church culture has been deceived into thinking that we need to remove the offense of the gospel so more will believe.

They might believe. But what are they believing? It's not the whole truth and it is not the saving truth.

One more point needs to be made

¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness

but had pleasure in unrighteousness

The reason men do not believe is not

1. that it is too complicated to understand
2. It places too many demands on the sinner.
3. because there is not enough evidence.

It is very clear that the reason men don't believe is because they love their sin. They love unrighteousness.

had pleasure

eudokeó: to think well of, i.e. to be well-pleased

Original Word: εὐδοκέω

Part of Speech: Verb

2106 eudokéō (from 2095 /eú, "good, well" and dokeō, "to think, seem") – properly, what seems good (pleasingly acceptable).

to delight (take) v. — to take a high degree of pleasure or mental satisfaction in.

John 3:19 (NKJV)

¹, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Romans 1:32 (NKJV)

³²those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

Romans 2:8 (NKJV)

⁸ but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath,

The Recipients

The Rejection

The Revenge

11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

This is judgment. This is the Revenge of God
2 Thessalonians 1:8 (NKJV)

on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is God's full and final fury confining the unbeliever in his unbelief. This is the unrepentant being turned over to his lost condition

This turns the heart to stone and confirms condemnation.

It's horrific enough to reject the truth of the Gospel and the claims of Christ and to set yourself up as the judge of truth.

It is a wholly different thing and the most terrifying event to have God reject you.

11 And for this reason—- the reason of unbelief of the truth.

1. God has given 24hr witness of Himself through the creation...so that all of humanity is without excuse.

2. Then He gives special witness with the Revelation of His Son.

And for men to reject both, puts you in a special place of judgement.

It is in this context that God will move heaven and earth to kill you.

He will open up the earth to swallow you.

He will send down fire out of heaven to consume you.

He will send lying prophets to you to deceive you..

He send a lawless man and antichrist with real miracles signs and wonders and all evil and deception of sin to lead you to hell.

Do you think I'm making this up?
There are examples in the old and the new
testament of God doing exactly this.

1 Kings 22:23 (NKJV)

²³ Therefore look! The Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the Lord has declared disaster against you.”

Ezekiel 14:7–9 (NKJV)

⁷ For anyone of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell in Israel, who separates himself from Me and sets up his idols in his heart and puts before him what causes him to stumble into iniquity, then comes to a prophet to inquire of him concerning Me, I the Lord will answer him by Myself. ⁸ I will set My face against that man and make him a sign and a proverb, and I will cut him off from the midst of My people. Then you shall know that I *am* the Lord.

⁹ “And if the prophet is induced to speak anything, I the Lord have induced that prophet, and I will stretch out My hand against him and destroy him from among My people Israel.

1 Chronicles 21:1 (NKJV)

Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel.

2 Samuel 24:1 (NKJV)

Again the anger of the Lord was aroused against Israel, and He moved David against them to say, “Go, number Israel and Judah.”

In Hebrew thought the powers of evil have no independent existence, but always depend on God. He makes the wrath of man to praise him (Ps. 76:10, see rsv), and he works his purposes out even in the evil that people (or Satan) do. In particular

Morris, L. (1984). [1 and 2 Thessalonians: An introduction and commentary](#) (Vol. 13, p. 132). InterVarsity Press.

11 And for this reason God **will send** them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

Earlier manuscripts have a present tense. later have a future.

The present tense (*sends*) referring to future action is the prophetic present, giving a note of greater certainty

Morris, L. (1984). [1 and 2 Thessalonians: An introduction and commentary](#) (Vol. 13, p. 132). InterVarsity Press.

strong delusion,

energeian planēs (a powerful delusion). As we saw on verse 9, *energeia* means power in action, so that the expression signifies not merely a passive acquiescence in wrong-doing, but an active forwarding of evil

Morris, L. (1984). [1 and 2 Thessalonians: An introduction and commentary](#) (Vol. 13, pp. 132–133). InterVarsity Press.

Psalm 81:11–12 (NKJV)

¹¹ “But My people would not heed My voice,
And Israel would *have* none of Me.

¹² So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart,
To walk in their own counsels.

Psalm 109:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ As he loved cursing, so let it come to him;
As he did not delight in blessing, so let it be far
from him.

Acts 7:41–42 (NKJV)

⁴¹ And they made a calf in those days, offered sacrifices to the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands. ⁴² Then God turned and gave them up to worship the host of heaven,.....

Exodus 11:9–10 (NKJV)

⁹ But the Lord said to Moses, “Pharaoh will not heed you, so that My wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.” ¹⁰ So Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh; and the Lord hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he did not let the children of Israel go out of his land.

John 12:35–41 (NKJV)

³⁵ Then Jesus said to them, “A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶ While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.

³⁷ But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, ³⁸ that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:

*“Lord, who has believed our report?
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been
revealed?”*

³⁹ Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again:

⁴⁰ *“He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts,*

*Lest they should see with their eyes,
Lest they should understand with their hearts and
turn,
So that I should heal them.”*

⁴¹ These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.

11 And for this reason God **will send** them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie,

believe the lie,
not a lie but the lie.
What is the lie?

Romans 1:24–25 (NKJV)

²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who exchanged **the truth of God for the lie**, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

οιτινες μετηλλαξαν την αληθειαν του Θεου εν τω ψευδει και εσεβασθησαν και ελατρευσαν τη κτισει παρα τον κτισαντα ος εστιν ευλογητος εις τους αιωνας αμην

What is the lie?

the lie is the lie of the ages.

“The God is not the only and true God and that He is not due your worship or Allegiance He is not who He says He is and He is a Liar”

Luke 4:8 (NKJV)

⁸ .Jesus . said .., *‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’* ”

Satans says NO not true. that is the Lie.

This was in Heaven when Lucifer said He would be God

It was in the Garden of Eden, when the devil told Adam and Eve that God was lying and that they could be gods

It was constantly in Israel when the false prophets seduced them into following false gods and idols

It was in the wilderness temptation of Christ, when the devil tempted Jesus to worship Him as god.

It is in all of church history and the world when the devil seduces the world to worship something other than the one True God.

It is in the Antichrist, when he opposes all that is called god and takes his seat in the temple of God usurping the place of God.

One of the greatest attempts of the Devil to persuade millions to believe the lie, is the seductive and deceptive and religiously pervasive religion of Islam.

And as I told you last week, Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world, dwarfing evangelical Christianity and in a couple of decades, pending no great revival of Christianity throughout the world,... Islam will be the largest religion in the world.

Over 80 percent of these American converts to Islam were raised in Christian churches.⁹ If the higher figures of conversion are accurate, that would mean that as many as sixty thousand Americans raised in Christian homes convert to Islam annually.

that 85 percent of American converts to Islam are African American. White Christian America has not

been as impacted by this phenomenon nearly as much as black Christian America has. Islam is absolutely sweeping through the inner cities,now, as Islam spreads in the West, many are realizing that Christianity is not the only monotheistic option available to them. Sadly, many are choosing Islam instead of Christianity.

Islam—the religion that prides itself on resisting any form of idolatry—

Richardson, Joel. *Islamic Antichrist* (p. 11). WinePress Media. Kindle Edition.

Most people think of Islam as an utterly distinct religion from Christianity, with no connection to Christianity. We would think if someone is a Muslim, they have absolutely no connection to Christianity. And there are many religions that have no connection to Christianity, Hinduism has no connection to Christianity, Buddhism has no connection to Christianity, many others have no connection. It's amazing how many do connect because Satan wants to counterfeit and deceive and get as close to the truth as he can.

There are actually confessed evangelical people who think that. Muslims not only believe in God because

they are monotheist, believing in one God, but who think that Muslims are okay because they actually believe in Jesus. And by the way, they do. Brian McClaren an Emerging Church heretic writer in his book *The Secret Message of Jesus* says, and I quote, “All Muslims regard Jesus as a great prophet. A shared reappraisal of Jesus’ message could provide a common ground for urgently needed religious dialogue. This reappraisal of Jesus may be our own way of saving a number of religions, including Christianity,” end quote.

So if we want to save Christianity and save other religions, we need to all get together and that should be easy for us to do because we can start with the Muslims because they already believe in Jesus. A popular speaker and author, Tony Campolo, says, quote: “When we listen to the Muslim mystics as they talk about Jesus and their love for Jesus, I must say it’s a lot closer to New Testament Christianity than a lot of Christians.” Really! So you think that the Muslim Jesus is the same Jesus?

I can help you with that because they describe Jesus. The Muslim Jesus plays a crucial role in Islamic eschatology. Now you do know that the Muslims have an eschatology. In other words they have a theology of

the end. They know where they're going, according to their writings. They know where they're going.

Let me describe the Muslim Jesus to you. This is out of their own writings, the Koran and the Sunnah. The Koran is supposedly the word of Allah, actually the word of Satan, but they think it's the word of Allah. The Sunnah...the Sunnah are the words of and the works of Mohammed. The Koran then constitutes their holy Scripture and the Sunnah, sometimes called the Hadith constitutes their holy tradition. Their theology comes out of the Koran and the Sunnah, just as Roman Catholic theology comes out of the Bible and Tradition, or Judaism comes out of the Old Testament and rabbinic tradition...the Muslims have two sources of authoritative truth.

In their system they have Jesus. Jesus was a man, he was not God. He did not die, he went to heaven like Elijah. He did not die, therefore he did not rise. He did not rise, therefore he did not provide an atonement for anyone because no one can provide an atonement for anyone else. He is a man. He is a prophet. He is nothing more. He went to heaven like Elijah. And he's in heaven right now, standing alongside Allah, waiting for Allah to send him back. In their system, this man,

this prophet Jesus who is now in heaven, never having died, plays a key role in the end times because he will return from heaven without dying, he will come back when Allah sends him back.

Now the question to ask, is why would Allah want to send Jesus back? He has a lot of prophets to pick from, why does he send Jesus back?

Answer...so that when he shows up he can correct all the Christians who have misunderstood who he is. The sources for this, again, are the Koran and the Sunnah. The great event of the coming of Christ, or coming of Jesus, is so that this prophet, this man who comes back can straighten out the misdirected, misguided, misconceiving Christians who think He was God who died and rose again and provided atonement...he'll come back and straighten it out. And by the way, after he gets here, he'll get married, have children and die and be buried next to Mohammed. That's the Muslim Jesus.

a. *The Mahdi*

In Islamic eschatology, there are three great signs of the end of history...three great signs. There are some lesser signs, or some minor signs, or some major signs. In their eschatology, again quoting their sources exclusively, there are three great signs of the end of history. And each of them is a man. Let me tell you about those three men.

First of all, the first man that will come in the end of history is the Mahdi...M-a-h-d-i. Sometimes he's called the Twelfth Imam. Every time Ahmajinedad over in Iran gives a speech, he gives glory to the Mahdi, glory to the Twelfth Imam, every time. He's waiting for the coming of the Mahdi.

What is he coming to do? He's coming, listen carefully, to slaughter all who will not worship Allah, convert to Islam. They are identified in their writings as pigs and dogs. And to establish the everlasting world dominating kingdom of Islam. That's what he will do.

The Mahdi, or the Twelfth Imam, that means the guided one, is the long-awaited savior. He is the establisher of the final Caliphate. The world must follow him as he takes over or he will destroy all enemies of Islam. He will come and he will carry on holy war and either you convert or you're killed by the

Mahdi. He will have an army. His army will be a massive army and his army will go from nation to nation to punish the unbelievers. The holy writings of Islam say that this army will carry black flags. And on those black flags there will be one word and that one word will be the word Punishment. By the way, the Iranian army today carries black flags. They want to be ready for the coming of the Mahdi.

He will lead the army of black flags first to Israel, slaughter all the Jews, and then he will establish his rule in Jerusalem on the temple mount. That's what their literature says. Slaughter the Jews, establish his rule on the temple mount.

According to their holy writings, the Mahdi will bring rain and wind and crops and wealth and happiness so that all will love him and no one will speak of anyone but him. Their writings say the Mahdi will come and make, at first, a peace agreement with the Jews and the west for seven years. The reign of Mahdi will last seven years in which he establishes Islam on the earth.

Their holy writings say this, the Mahdi will come riding on a white horse, and it even says in their writings, "As it says in [Revelation 6:1](#) and [2](#). Saddam Hussein, by the way, painted murals of this Mahdi on a

white horse all over Baghdad. And he comes carrying a sword to kill the infidels.

When the Mahdi arrives, he will discover hidden scriptures, he will discover them, interestingly enough, somewhere near the Sea of Galilee and there will be there hidden scriptures, hidden gospels and a hidden Torah and they will be the true scriptures which will be used by the Mahdi to show the Jews and the Christians they were wrong, that their scriptures were the false scriptures.

Let me summarize. The Mahdi will be a messianic figure. He will be a descendant of Mohammed. He will be an unparalleled, unequaled leader. He will come out of a crisis of turmoil. He will take control of the world. He will establish a new world order. He will destroy all who resist him. He will invade many nations. He will make a seven-year peace treaty with the Jews. He will conquer Israel and massacre the Jews. He will establish Islamic world headquarters at Jerusalem. He will rule for seven years, establish Islam as the only religion. He will come on a white horse with supernatural power. He will be loved by all people on earth.

If that sounds familiar, that is a precise description of the biblical Antichrist...absolutely step-by-step-by-step-

by-step. The Bible's Antichrist is their Mahdi. We know that the rider on the white horse in Revelation 6 is the Antichrist. They use that verse to describe their Mahdi.

Why am I giving you all this? Because the description of the Mahdi is exactly the description of the biblical Antichrist, the beast of Revelation 13, and you go into any kind of a study of that and you will find that all the details match up perfectly. The Bible's Antichrist is Islam's Savior and world conqueror who establishes a universal Islamic kingdom.

b. *The Prophet*

And there's a second sign, a second person, and it is Jesus. The Mahdi is not Jesus. The Mahdi is greater than Jesus, and that's important to their system because if you have somebody greater than Jesus then the Christians were wrong. So Jesus will return. Yes, Muslims believe that Jesus will come again. They believe in the return of Jesus, not the true Jesus, the Jesus of Islam, not God, didn't die, didn't rise, didn't provide a sacrifice for sin, but he does return. He's a prophet and he comes back and he has one purpose

when he comes back and that is to assist and aid the Mahdi. He returns, listen to this, as a radical Muslim. He comes back as a radical Muslim. He will arrive, by the way, at a minaret near Damascus. And he will come back holding the wings of two angels who flew him down to meet the gathering army of the Mahdi in the east, the army of the black flags.

Jesus when he comes back will pray to the Mahdi who is greater than he. He will acknowledge the Mahdi as his lord. He will make a pilgrimage to Mecca. He will worship Allah and thus he will lead all Christians who will follow him to reject their notion of Jesus and accept the real Jesus who is nothing but a prophet and a man. He will establish worldwide Sharia law. He will become the greatest Muslim evangelist and he will be the final witness on the day of judgment against non-Muslims. Christians everywhere will affirm that they were wrong, that the gospel is wrong, the New Testament is wrong, He didn't die, He didn't rise, He isn't God, He isn't the Son of God. He Himself will come back and point out how wrong we've been. He will correct all misinterpretations and all misrepresentations.

Let me quote what their literature says. “He will shatter crosses.” That’s metaphoric for the destruction of the church, a symbol of Christianity being placed in the church. He will kill pigs. He will abolish the tax on non-Muslims because there won’t be any living non-Muslims, can’t tax dead people. And then he will do one more thing. He will kill the Islamic Antichrist. He will kill the Islamic Antichrist. Then he will die and be buried by Mohammed, but not until he has destroyed Christianity by revealing who he really is.

Who is this? You compare what he does to the false prophet in the book of Revelation, chapter 13, 16, 19, 20 refer to the beast coming out of the earth, the false prophet, who aids and abets the Antichrist. He is as the Mahdi is the exact replica of the Antichrist, the Jesus prophet in Islam is the exact parallel to the false prophet who aids and abets the Antichrist. One of their writings says he espouses the cause of the Mahdi. He is the Mahdi’s executioner. He is the Mahdi’s enforcer. He is the Mahdi’s prophet. And it is he who kills the Antichrist.

c. *The Antichrist*

That leads me to the third person. The Antichrist will show up. The Muslims call him Dajjal, he is the great deceiver. He comes to earth on a mule and he's blind in one eye. He is an infidel. He is a false miracle worker, this Antichrist, this Islamic Antichrist. But you know who he claims to be? He claims to be Jesus, the son of God. He claims to be deity. He will attempt to stop the Mahdi and the true Jesus but the true Jesus will slaughter him.

This is their view of the true Christ. Our Jesus is their Antichrist. Our Antichrist is their redeemer. It is a satanic counterfeit that is in complete reverse. The army...this is a quote... "The army of Satan will be led by a person who will claim to be Jesus Christ." There will be a battle. The Muslim Jesus will fight the false Jesus and kill him and establish Islam forever. The truth is, the true Jesus will destroy the Antichrist and the false prophet and establish His Kingdom forever. This is Satan's complete counterfeit, Muslim world **domination**.(adapted from John MacArthur sermon Mark 13, Grim Reality of the Last Days)

