

Dear Associates and Friends,

November 2011

“[Isaiah, Part 3](#)” is this month’s article, continuing Dr. Ernest L. Martin’s series on Isaiah from 1998. In preparing this article I noted something interesting about the Antichrist and his false teachings that will come before the return of Christ. Of course, the Antichrist will mimic and attempt to be like the true Christ as much as possible. This means he will energetically and deliberately “fulfill” passages in the Book of Isaiah and other prophecies that tell of future actions of the true Christ Jesus.

With that in mind, learn this fact: most of what the Antichrist and his false prophet will teach will be true and biblical. While this may seem surprising, understand that deception can be truly effective only if the deceiving message contains mostly truth. Among their true teachings will be a small but spiritually lethal dose of theological strychnine designed to poison mankind’s perceptions of God. We must learn to distinguish biblical truth from error.<sup>1</sup>

These deceivers will try to kill the body of Christ, His *ekklesia* on earth. Some of their teachings and their results can be found in the angelic messages to the *ekklesias* in Revelation chapters 2 and 3.<sup>2</sup> The apostle Paul also tells us what will be happening during this end-time period:

**“Now the Spirit speaks expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils. ...**

**Forbidding to marry, [and commanding] to abstain from meats, which God has created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.”**

• **1 Timothy 4:1, 3**

### **“Full of the knowledge of YHWH”**

A passage in Isaiah attracted my notice in regard to the Antichrist’s deception. After the millennial kingdom of Christ’s reign in Isaiah 11:1–8 is described, an intriguing statement is made: **“for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of YHWH, as the waters cover the sea”** (Isaiah 11:9). The Antichrist, the false prophet, and their other minions and ministers will attempt to duplicate this condition in the earth (along with other prophecies supposedly fulfilled). This will be part of the Antichrist’s legitimization process to prove that he is the Christ. People will expect the earth to **“be full of the knowledge of YHWH”** when the true Christ is on earth. The antichrist will fabricate fulfillment of that passage along with many others.

The message of the Antichrist will be 98% truth (including biblical truth) and 2% lies, more than enough to be deadly poisonous to most of the world’s spiritual well-being. This increasing deception and seduction will be so convincing that **“if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect [the chosen],”** as Jesus told His disciples in Matthew 24:23–25.

Before the Antichrist comes on the scene God will allow much information to be revealed about Himself, His son Jesus Christ, and His written word, the Bible, through several different avenues — all of which will confirm the authority of the Holy Scriptures. This will be the **“times of refreshing”** and **“restitution of all things”** that Peter said must occur before Christ returned (Acts 3:19–21).

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<sup>1</sup> Help discerning truth from error can be found in Dr. Martin’s article, [“What Is Truth?”](#)

<sup>2</sup> For additional information about the 7 *ekklesias* of Revelation, see Dr. Martin’s major 1994 article, [“The Seven Churches of Revelation Today”](#) and my September 1, 2007 Commentary [“Revelation’s Seven Churches and You.”](#)

The Antichrist will be a religious leader as well as a political leader. He will take full advantage of this situation and claim that he brought about the increase of knowledge. People will believe him especially when God allows mankind to believe **“the lie”** (2 Thessalonians 2:11, Greek). He will be a man of wisdom, perhaps a scholar accomplished in several scientific disciplines. He will understand **“dark sentences”**:

**“And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully [in surprising ways], and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.”**

• **Daniel 8:23–25**

Until Christ breaks him, he will be known as a “man of peace” who **“by peace shall destroy many.”** He will be a biblical scholar of the first rank, which is to be expected from the true Christ. He will claim to fulfill all the conditions that identify the true Christ, including this one:

**“Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.”**

• **Psalms 78:1–3**

King David wrote this about the true Christ who **“will utter dark sayings of old.”** The Antichrist will falsely claim to do this when he appears on the scene. The world will buy the lies he sells because they are wrapped in truth. Read all of 2 Thessalonians 2:8–12, which is dealt with in this month’s article. The apostle Paul was quoting Isaiah when he wrote this passage to the *ekklesia* in Thessalonica.

I do not think the Antichrist will teach the trinity even though it is an antichrist teaching. Nor will he teach a doctrine of eternal hell.<sup>3</sup> The doctrine of an immortal soul or spirit probably will be taught in some modified form. This is because evil spirits represent themselves as dead human beings.

## **Thank You**

Our job at ASK is to provide you with solid biblical teaching, primarily through the research of Dr. Ernest Martin. We do this so you and others who study this material will be unaffected by false teachings that exist now and in the future. It is our hope that ASK material should motivate you to further educate yourself through your own study of the Bible. By obeying the truth the Spirit of God will purify your soul, for the benefit of the brethren and all who come in contact with you:

**“Seeing you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that you love one another with a pure heart fervently.”**

• **1 Peter 1:22**

Thank you for helping us deliver this information to you and others. We ask for your prayers, just as you have asked for our prayers to God on behalf of you and your loved ones. We are humbled for your grace to us as we work to show the grace of God’s plan of salvation to others. Thank you again for your continual support through the years.

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<sup>3</sup> Will the Antichrist teach a form of universal salvation? I think he might do so. This would be the ultimate “salvation by works” requiring adherence to the Law of Moses. It would allow the Antichrist and his followers to kill opponents with impunity, particularly true Christians and Jews, because he can say, “They shall be saved later.” The Catholic Church is moving toward teaching universal salvation as I point out in my article [“Modern Recognition of Universal Salvation.”](#)