

Glad Tidings

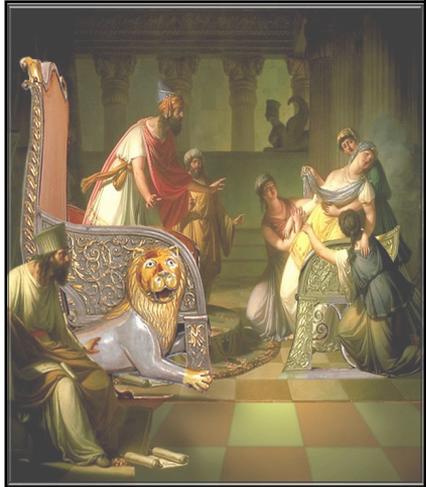
Romans 10:15

November 21, 2021

The Courage of Esther

“And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!” (Esther 4:16).

Esther's Uncle Mordecai asked her to go to the Persian King Ahasuerus to plead for her nation of Jews since Haman had plotted to destroy the Jews. Esther was the wife of King Ahasuerus, she was the Queen. However, any man or woman who went into the inner court to the king, who had not been called, was to be put to death (Persian law), unless the king held out the



golden scepter (Esther 4:11). Esther went before the king without being called at the risk of her life (If I perish, I perish). The king received her and she was able to save her nation. God's plan for salvation to come from the Jews would not be changed by men. Mordecai told her that if she did not do this, deliverance would come from another place. Who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this (Esther 4:14). Who knows how God may use you to accomplish His purpose? My prayer each day is that God may use me to serve Him. We are a kingdom of priests serving God (1 Pet 2:5, 9).

Keith Crews

Identifying the Antichrist

By Eddie Parrish

In a book entitled World War III, J. W. White wrote: “The prime mover in the events that will



march man into World War III will be the Anti-Christ...a terrible personification of evil who will work more wholesale havoc than any other human being in the history of the world.”

White, Hal Lindsey (author of *The Late Great Planet Earth*, *There's a New World Coming*, et al.) and other dispensational premillennialists have done their work well in convincing a religious, but biblically illiterate, “Christian” community that such a person as described above will indeed torment the world and hasten the start of the much-feared Battle of Armageddon. Let us examine these claims under the perfect light of God's word.

Following is every occurrence of “antichrist” in the Bible:

* “Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour” (I John 2:18).

* “Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son” (I John 2:22).

* “And every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was



coming, and is now already in the world” (I John 4:3).

* “For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist” (II John 7).

When most people discuss the antichrist they confine their discussions to wild misunderstandings of the imagery in the book of Revelation — a book that never uses the term! It is also interesting to note the glaring differences between the premillennialist’s description of the antichrist and the Bible’s description.

(1) According to the Bible there were many antichrists, not just one.

(2) Those antichrists already existed in John’s day, as opposed to being yet future to us.

(3) These antichrists were false teachers in the church, not political dictators.

(4) Anyone that denies that Jesus is the Christ, that He is the son of God, and/or that he came in the flesh can rightly be called “antichrist”.

The antichrist is not a political dictator that starts World War III. When John wrote of the antichrist, he was addressing something that his readers could and would recognize — something that was a threat to them. Anyone who denies that Jesus is God’s Son, or the Messiah, or that he came in the flesh could rightly be called an antichrist. Let us not be swayed or frightened by false teachers who “draw away disciples after themselves” (Acts 20:30) by “wresting the scriptures to their own destruction” (II Peter 3:16).



GLAD TIDINGS

Sermon Notes: _____ *Speaker:* _____

Topic: _____

Order of Worship November 21, 2021

Song Leader—AM	Steve Frazier
Song Leader—PM	Derek Steen
Lord's Table	Michael Young
Sermon—AM—Devin Barber	Sermon—PM—Devin Barber

Continue prayers for those on our list, and for the free course of the gospel.

1 John 5:14

Editor: Steve Frazier

Marietta church of Christ

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Jacksonville, FL 32220

Meeting times of the church

Sunday 09:00 am Bible Classes 10:00 am Worship 05:00 pm Evening Worship

Wednesday 7:00 pm Bible classes

Evangelist: Devin Barber

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Hebrews 10:24-25