

Some thoughts on Antichrist

By Micheal Druey

Antichrist is a compound word (anti and Christos in Greek). It appears 5 times in the New Testament. Strongs Concordance defines “antichristos” as “an opponent of the Messiah:-- antichrist.” The word “antichristos” in the Greek New Testament never has a definite article in front of it to designate antichrist as a singular person. The King James Version adds the indefinite article “an” in 2John 1:7, the other 4 verses where “antichrist” appears have no articles either definite or indefinite. Kahn Academy’s definition of definite and indefinite articles is as follows: 'A' and 'an' are the indefinite articles of English; 'the' is the definite article. Modern translations insert the definite article “the” in front of “antichristos” 3 times and in front of “liar” in 1John 2:22. This addition changes the meaning of both words. John tells us what “antichristos” means, that is, anyone who denies the Father and the Son. John states that even spirits that deny that Jesus has come in the flesh are not of God but are spirits of antichrist, and those spirits were in the world at that time.

The use of the word “Antichrist” as a future person who persecutes the Church is not supported by Scripture. Antichrist is any teaching that denies the Father and The Son. It would include any false doctrine. John speaks of many false doctrines in Revelation, but never uses the word “antichristos”. It is the false teaching that is antichrist in nature not a specific person but anyone who teaches heresy that is false doctrine. The devil and his angels are antichrist, so are any who believe the devils lies and oppose the Gospel.

I have listed the Scripture where the word “antichristos” appears. I have included the Greek text for 1John 2:22. The translations used are, King James (KJV), New American Standard (NASB) and The New International (NIV).

1John 2:18 ¶ Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist **<antichristos>** shall come, even now are there many antichrists **<antichristos>**; whereby we know that it is the last time. (KJV)

1John 2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist **<antichristos>**, that denieth the Father and the Son. (KJV)

Greek in **<>**.

1John 2:22 Who is **the liar** but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is **the antichrist**, the one who denies the Father and the Son. (NASB)

1John 2:22 Who is **the liar**? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is **the antichrist**-- he denies the Father and the Son. (NIV)

1John 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist<antichristos>, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. (KJV)

1John 4:3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; and this is the [spirit] of **the antichrist**, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world. (NASB)

2John 1:7 ¶ For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist<antichristos>.(KJV)

2John 1:7 ¶ For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ [as] coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and **the antichrist**. (NASB)

The addition of the definite article to the word “antichrist” has led to much confusion in current day theology. John defines “antichrist” as any person or spirit that denies that Jesus’ coming in the flesh was from God. John does not announce the coming of a future singular figure who will take over the world and persecute the Church. John also quoted Jesus concerning tribulation in John’s gospel.

John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Will there be the teaching and the spirit of “antichrist”? Yes, but Jesus has overcome that spirit and given us authority over it as well.

Luke 10:19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Our commission It to resist the spirit of antichrist and occupy the kingdom Jesus established at Calvary.