

***Christ in Prophecy***  
**Pre-Tribulation 13: “Q&A with Prophecy Experts: Part 3”**  
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## **Opening**

**Dr. Reagan:** There is a mysterious passage in Revelation chapter 13 that implies the Antichrist might be killed and resurrected from the dead in the middle of the Tribulation. Is this what the passage means, or does it mean something else? And what about the Antichrist today is there any possibility that he might be alive right now? For the answers to these intriguing questions from 11 Bible prophecy experts stay tuned.

## **Part 1**

**Dr. Reagan:** Greetings in the name of Jesus our blessed hope and welcome to Christ in Prophecy. During the past two weeks we have been showing you interviews that we made recently with 11 Bible prophecy experts about questions pertaining to the Antichrist. In our first program we talked with them about whether or not the Antichrist would be a Jew. And the consensus opinion was that he would be a Gentile. In our second program we asked the experts if the Antichrist could possibly be a Muslim, and the overwhelming consensus was that there was no possibility. In this program we will be asking two questions. First will the Antichrist be killed and resurrected from the dead? And second is there any possibility that the Antichrist might be alive today? Only 10 of our 11 experts responded to the first question: Will the Antichrist be killed and resurrected from the dead? Of those 10, 2 said yes, 1 said it was doubtful, and 7 gave a firm no. Let's take a look at all 10 answers.

**Arnold Fruchtenbaum:** I would have to say yes cause the very same term used of the Antichrist, Revelation 13 verse 1 and 2 is also used of the true son Revelation chapter 5 verse 6 as though he had been slain. In the case of Jesus He didn't appear to be dead, He really did die. Under normal experience He should have remained dead. And so He was alive because of resurrection. And the phrase though he had been slain is the Greek idiom for resurrected individual, was used of the true son in chapter 5 is used of the counterfeit son in chapter 13 you have to understand the same way. He will be killed

in this war against the 10 kings he will be raised back to life by Satan's power, he will continue the war kill 3 kings then several will submit to his authority. And therefore he will undergo as part of the counterfeit program a counterfeit death and resurrection.

**Mark Hitchcock:** Yeah I think in the Scriptures it seems clear to me from Revelation 13, Revelation 17 that the Antichrist is going to suffer a fatal wound and come back to life. Now some people take that, that it refers to the empire, that the Roman Empire is going to suffer this fatal wound and then the Empire will be revived or come back to life. But I think it is better to see this as the individual himself. The same language is used of the death and resurrection of the Beast or Antichrist in Revelation 13 that is used of the death and resurrection of Jesus, now back in Revelation chapter 5. Now some people will say now, how is it that Satan has the power to raise people, someone from the dead? Cause back in Mark chapter 2 you know Jesus raises this man up who is lame and it is sign that only God has the power to do that. But it seems to me like in Second Thessalonians 2:13 it says, "God will send a strong deluding influence upon people in the world so they will believe the lie." So I think that God will allow Satan to have the power to pull off this great miracle as part of that deluding influence, because obviously God is the only one that has the ultimate power to give life. But I think that He is going to allow Satan to do that as part of the great delusion that will take place in the end times.

**AI Gist:** Revelation chapter 13 speaks of an assassination attempt I believe on the Antichrist. In fact it even goes on to say that it will be from the use of a sword. But it uses some words there that indicate that it may not be successful to the extent that he actually literally dies. It uses the words as though he were dead, or something to that affect. So I don't believe that he will literally die. However this event will cause the world to wonder after him. So whether he dies literally or not the world will be amazed at this feat where he appears to die certainly and then is miraculously so to speak healed and able to resume his leadership of the world. So, whether he actually dies or not I think is questionable I tend to believe that he would not die but only appear to die that is my personal position.

**Daymond Duck:** No, I don't. And again there is a lot of different views on this issue and I think the controversy centers primarily around how you interpret Revelation 13:3 and Revelation 13:11-14. And if you go with 13:3 you come up with one way, if you go

with Revelation 14, Revelation 13:11-14 you come up with another way at least some people do. Now those who go with Revelation 13:3 they say that it is one of the seven heads that has a deadly wound and it is healed. And they believe that is the not the Antichrist but that, that was Europe that, uh fell apart, was killed, or died and was healed and came back as the revived Roman Empire was raised from the dead. Uh, those that go down to Revelation 13:11-14 they look at those verses and they believe that those verses are saying that the Antichrist will receive a deadly wound and be healed and raised from the dead. Now when I look at Revelation 13:3 the way I read that it says this head looks like, or this head is as though, this head appears as, however you want to phrase that, as though it had a deadly wound that was healed. Now to me there is a little bit of difference in saying it looks like, or it as it were a wound, a deadly wound that was healed, and actually having a deadly wound that was healed. What I am getting at, when I get down to Revelation 13:11-14 we start reading about the false prophet, and we see the false prophet forces people to worship the Antichrist. And the false prophet uses, wonders, signs, and wonders to persuade people to believe that the Antichrist received a deadly wound that was healed and he was raised from the dead. In other words the way I interpret that passage it is saying the false prophet uses persecution, and force and phony miracles and deceit to cause people to believe that the Antichrist was killed and raised from the dead. Not that he actually was killed and raised from the dead but that he uses deceit and force and things like that to perpetrate that untruth if you want to, that false doctrine or that lie.

**Phillip Goodman:** No, I do not. I don't think the Bible teaches that. Uh, first of all we have to look at it from a theological standpoint that the evidence that Jesus himself is the Son of God is because of the Resurrection from the dead. That is unique in all of human history. As a matter of fact I want to read a passage out of Romans chapter 1 here in just a minute that speaks to that affect. Tells us in Romans chapter 1 verse 4 that, "Jesus was declared the Son of God with power by what, by the Resurrection of the dead." So we could not possibly have Jesus rising from the dead and saying, "I am the life and the resurrection." And Satan on the other hand coming up and saying, "So am I, I am the life and the resurrection also." And also the evidence in the Scriptures don't indicate that in Revelation chapter 2, let's just go over there, Revelation chapter 2 verse 18, and it tells us this, it tells us what it is like to rise, to raise from the dead, be raised from the dead. Jesus says this, He says, "I am the first and the last I was dead and I have come to life."

We never see that about the Antichrist. In Revelation chapter 13 he's got 7 heads which we have already talked about, 7 kingdoms, one of those is slain. The real commentary on what really happens with the Antichrist is Revelation chapter 17, it says, "He was, he is not and he will come." That is the language of reincarnation that is not the language of resurrection. And Satan has raised up, reincarnation as the chief antithesis of Resurrection all through history. Satan hates the doctrine of Resurrection because of the Resurrection of the Son of God. But when we look at I was, he was, he is not, and he will come, he was in past history, he is not during the time of John when John wrote that particular passage and he will come in the future. That is the most it says about the Antichrist and his origins. He will come up by the way out of the abyss that also is not the language of Resurrection. He will be indwelled by a spirit that comes up out of the abyss. So he is two persons in one, he is a man, and he is a spirit from the abyss. And, uh, he comes up from the past a spirit who controlled a kingdom in the past comes up and indwells the Antichrist, raises him up in the last days. And perhaps fakes a resurrection, uh, but Satan does not have the power to perform resurrection.

**Ray Gano:** No! Um, and actually I back that up with a couple points. First, first point is a lot of people point to and make an assumption that the Antichrist is being raised from the dead based on Revelation 13:3. You know John describes a beast with seven heads and that one of these seven heads has a mortal wound and is resurrected and everything. There is problems with this, I see in Revelation 13:1-3 that this is not the Antichrist this is actually, this represents the 7 Gentile nations. And in this I see it's, Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, and the final kingdom or empire that has the wounded head, and it is the one people totally disregard and forget about, the Ottoman Empire.

**Nathan Jones:** That's a tough one. That could be a reference to the Roman Empire being wounded and being broken up for so many hundreds of years and reviving as a European Union. God does seem to like a lot of symbolism though. I mean if you look at the 7 churches, the 7 churches of Revelation were 7 actually churches, they represent time periods, and they also could be representative of the 7 churches today. So the Antichrist could very well have something that seems like he died and then rose again. But Satan has no power over death so if it is a resurrection it's going to be another counterfeit resurrection, a counterfeit miracle.

**Todd Strandberg:** No. I was, in fact I was looking at this and I ran across an article written by David Reagan [laugh] who agrees with me on this, so great minds think alike. Is that the healing of that wound is the Roman Empire which it has two stages. And I believe when someone dies you are in God's hands, only God can resurrect someone. I don't think the false prophet can bring him back to life so.

**Don McGee:** I don't believe the Antichrist is going to be killed and resurrected from the dead because only the Lord Jesus Christ has the power over death. If you look at those passages that have to do with the slaying or the mortal wound of the Antichrist it says that John saw that he had a wound "as if" he had been slain. Not every mortal wound results in a fatality. People have been healed from wounds that would otherwise be mortal in nature, but for some reason they were not. And I believe this is going to be a resuscitation more than anything else. I believe that it is going to be fakery, I believe that it is going to be trickery, it's going to be one more thing in the arsenal of the Antichrist to convince the whole world that he is their Messiah.

**Ed Hindson:** I do not. I differ here from some other prophecy preachers. I think that passage that says in Revelation one of his heads was wounded unto death represents the multi-headed facets of the kingdom of the Antichrist in the last days. I don't think that it is an individual that is attacked I think that you have serious problems with saying Satan will have the power to resurrect the Antichrist. That is a power given only to God in Scripture. Now it may appear to be a resurrection if it is an individual attack, but not a real resurrection. It is a pseudo miracle at best. I think that it actually represents the fact that part of his kingdom will be devastated and that part of the kingdom will be revived. Could that apply to a nation for an example like Germany that was totally destroyed and has now come back to power as a major leader in Europe as part of the kingdom of the Antichrist of the end times I think that is certainly a very real possibility.

## **Part 2**

**Dr. Reagan:** Well I hope you found those answers as fascinating as I did, and I hope the discussion will drive you into the Scriptures to judge for yourself the meaning of Revelation 13 verse 3. Incidentally I side with those who believe the Antichrist will not be

killed and resurrected from the dead. I think the passage is speaking of the Roman Empire rising from the dead and not the Antichrist. But if it is speaking of the Antichrist I do not believe he will be resurrected from the dead instead I believe his death and resurrection will be a deception using modern technology. That brings us to the second question, could the Antichrist be alive today? All 11 Bible prophecies responded to this question but we have time to show you only 9 of the answers. The first is Ray Gano who said yes, he believes the Antichrist is alive today he then proceeds with his reason for believing that.

**Ray Gano:** The reason that I believe this is because no other time in history are we seeing Bible prophecy come to pass that what we've seen. Over and over again we are seeing Israel as nation, Israel blossoming, Israel coming together her people returning Alliah. On May 14<sup>th</sup> 1948 I imagine, I just can see it in my mind eye, God taking a big ole huge hour-glass and just going wa-pump, turning it over and we are seeing the sands of time run out. And uh, I believe strongly that the age of the Gentile is slowly coming to a close. And in fact in TV vernacular you guys have what's called a cross-fade transition. I believe the Church is here and I see Israel here in a cross-fade at one point both scenes come together one scene is fading out and one scene is fading in. At one point they both occupy the same time and space and that is called the cross-fade. The Church and Israel right now, I strongly believe we are standing in the cross-fade both Israel and the Church are occupying the same time and space. We are coming off stage, Israel is coming on. And uh, so yes with all these things taking place today, I believe the man of perdition is on, is around we don't know him I don't know he even knows himself. But I believe he is at least alive and well today.

**Ed Hindson:** Not necessarily it all depends on how close we really are to the time of the end. Could the Antichrist be alive today? Yes, certainly. Does he know he is the Antichrist? No. Is he moving in power to try to take over the world right now? No. Now I have been in the ministry for 40 years I have heard it all. That Hitler was the Antichrist, and Mussolini was the Antichrist and Stalin and Gorbachev cause he had a mark on his forehead it was the mark of the beast. And before that people said it was Khrushchev and people even said it was John Kennedy, it was Ronald Wilson Reagan he had six letters in each of his three names. Uh, it is George Bush and he doesn't know any better, it is Bill Clinton and Hillary is the false prophet. And of course now everybody wants to

say it is Obama he came out of no where doesn't even have a birth certificate nobody knows where he came from, he has a Muslim connection in his background, he is going to take over the world one day, etc. It is certainly possible that any individual could potentially become the Antichrist once he is indwelt by Satan. But I am convinced that Second Thessalonians chapter 2 makes it clear that until the restrainer is removed, until the Church is raptured out and the spirit baptized, spirit empowered Church of the Lord Jesus Christ is no longer here to restrain evil in the world, only then will Satan have the power to indwell someone to become the Antichrist. Uh, the Bible says in the words of Jesus, "That nobody knows the day or the hour of my coming, not even the angels of Heaven." Satan is a fallen angel therefore Satan doesn't know the date of the Rapture. Satan can read the Bible, Satan can read the newspaper like anybody else he can sense a crisis is coming in the world and perhaps this is the big one. He may even feel that he has to get a candidate ready potentially to be the Antichrist in every generation but his hands are tied by the sovereignty of God and he can not move on someone to indwell them and empower them to be the Antichrist until after the Rapture of the Church. So I am not looking for the Antichrist, I am looking for Jesus Christ.

**AI Gist:** Well I believe that he is alive today Dave, because we are so close to the return of Christ. And, uh, you know he is not, he probably will not be an elderly man when he comes to power, but he will be a adult and probably will already achieved some political prowess in the international community. And because I believe we are so close to the Return of Christ and the beginning of the Tribulation I just believe that he is alive today waiting for his appointment with his political debut.

**Nathan Jones:** Most definitely! We are so close to Jesus' soon return. He has to be out there somewhere. He may be a minor politician, or religious leader, or something like that. But, as the signs of the times show and Israel struggling so hard to survive - big things are happening right on the horizon. And, he has to be ready to take the reigns and be the savior of the fallen world at the time. So, yes, I believe the Antichrist is alive.

**Daymond Duck:** Absolutely I do, course that is just speculation, that is just opinion. Sometimes I tell people opinions are like noses everybody got one, so I have one. I would say to you that the Antichrist can not appear for two reasons. First of all he can not appear because the Church is still here. I believe he rises to power after the Rapture

of the Church. And the second reason I believe that he can not appear, I believe in Daniel it teaches that there will be 11 kings, 10 kings will rise first, 10 horns, and then an 11<sup>th</sup> the little horn which is the Antichrist he will appear. So we don't have these 10 kings yet.

**Don McGee:** Yes. I believe the Antichrist is alive today. The reason I believe that is because of the days in which we live. I believe that he is living somewhere probably as a minor official of some kind. Who knows he might not be known even as a minor official today. The critical thing about Antichrist is that events are going to propel him into a situation where the world will demand him and his services. He is somebody, much like Adolf Hitler was someone people will ask for. If you think about it, Hitler did not impose himself upon the German people as much as the German people demanded his services as the results of the post WWI depredation they were experiencing.

**Don Perkins:** I do believe the Antichrist is alive today. And one reason why I believe that is because of the signs of the time that we see. First of all the nation of Israel is back in the land we are witnessing them rebuilding the third temple, or they have plans for rebuilding it. We see so many indicators that are indicators for the last days. As a result of that I believe that it is so close. I believe that the Rapture again could happen at anytime as a result of that I believe that when Antichrist comes on the scene it will be a turn key situation. So because what we are witnessing today the preparation for the Great Tribulation I do believe the Antichrist could very well be alive today.

**Phillip Goodman:** I believe the Antichrist could be alive today but Second Thessalonians chapter 2 tells us that he is being restrained he will be revealed in his time, and his time will not come that revelation of who the Antichrist actually is will not come until after the Rapture happens. Now the reason, as a matter of fact I will go a little stronger than that. I think that he probably is alive today, because I think the Rapture is so close. The Rapture of course has always been imminent but the signs of the times are pointing to the Second Coming of Jesus if that is true how much closer is the Rapture? The Rapture is what, is the curtain that has to be raised before the Antichrist will be revealed. So if the Rapture occurred today, which it very well could then the Antichrist is certainly on the scene because he would be revealed very shortly thereafter.

**Mark Hitchcock:** That is a question that is one of the main questions that gets asked at prophecy conference you know, “Is the Antichrist alive today?” Obviously if we say anyone says for sure that he is alive then that means that the Lord would have to come back within 30 or 40 years because the Antichrist won’t live forever. So what I would say about that question is that no one knows for sure. But if someone where to ask me, “Do I think he is alive?” I do, I do believe that he is alive somewhere on the Earth today, because of the convergence that we see of the signs of the times and the acceleration of these signs. So I personally if someone where to ask me I do believe that, but you can’t state it categorically I think that he is alive today. No one knows that for sure, but that is my own view of it.

**Dr. Reagan:** Our tally for our question, “Is the Antichrist alive today?” Came to 8 yes’, 1 could be, 1 not necessarily, and 1 I don’t know. My answer to the question is yes, I believe the Antichrist is alive today. But I must add I think that he has always been alive. Let me explain what I mean by that. Satan knows Bible prophecy but he does not know its timing so I believe Satan has always had an Antichrist candidate ready to anoint with his power. And I think he has one ready today one who is very likely to become the actual Antichrist. But please don’t waste your time trying to guess who that person might be, the book of Revelation teaches that the Antichrist will not be revealed until the great tribulation. And do not live looking for the Antichrist, live looking instead for Jesus Christ. He is coming soon and the crucial question is, are you ready? I hope so. If not then reach out to Him today, repent of your sins and accept Him as your Lord and Savior. Salvation is a free gift of God by grace through faith in Jesus. Well that is our program for this week. Until next week at this same time, this is Dave Reagan speaking for Lamb and Lion Ministries saying, “Look up, be watchful for our redemption is drawing near.”