

America's Jesus Is Anti-Christ 06-19-11

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I want to greet you all this morning in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. This morning I want to talk about prophecy. I remember whenever I was growing up we had preachers that came and they were "prophecy experts." They would come and start in the book of Daniel or somewhere and they would take all these verses and somehow tie them up to the book of Revelation and they would come up with this plan of how everything was going to happen in the future. They'd talk about the anti-Christ coming, a temple being built in Jerusalem, the bear and how Russia is the bear that comes down, China is going to have a big two-million person army that will come across and there will be this big battle of Armageddon ... and they would explain all of these things and how they were all going to take place. People would come and listen for a week at time; they would hold week-long meetings about prophecy and everyone would go away just really in awe about how all of these things are going to happen. They were looking for all of these things to be fulfilled, but very seldom were any lives changed. They understood and learned to feel like they were really understanding the bible. I'm not saying that some of those things might not have happened, but that is not what a prophet did in the bible. A prophet in the bible was simply a seer. Someone who was able to SEE what was happening and react to it and try to warn the people of what was coming. So this morning I want us to just look and I want to show you some things that the bible says are going to happen so that you can prepare yourselves for them to happen. Not so that you can go away with an idea or a thought that you have the bible now figured out and you have an understanding of prophecy, but in such a way maybe that it ought to humble us to seek the Lord with all of our hearts.

Let's turn to 2 Corinthians 5.

*2 Corinthians 5:9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.*

Isn't that the goal? That we might be accepted of him?

*2 Corinthians 5:9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*

These people that are (supposed) prophets go around teaching prophecy; one of the only ways that their prophecy or teachings will fit together is that they have to divide the judgment into two judgments. One of the verses they use is, *We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ.* We'll come back to that later, but let's turn to Revelation 20.

*Revelation 20:11-15 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

We are told by these false prophets that these are two different judgments. One of them is for people who are saved and they will be judged about all the good they've done and just receive their rewards. The other is where the sinners will be judged. But in both of these verses, it talks about ALL men, both small and great, will stand before God and *every man* will be judged according to their works. There is not two different judgment seats, there is one, and we are all going to stand before the Lord Jesus Christ. The judgment seat of Christ, the great white throne, whatever you want to call it, we will all stand before it and give an account of everything that we've ever done. In fact, we are going to be judged. It's not going to be up to our opinion. It's not going to be up to what we thought. We are going to be judged, every man, according to our works.

*2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. 11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.*

You see, this judgment in 2 Corinthians 5 is what they call the 'bema' of Christ, and that is supposedly going to be different than the 'great white throne' judgment. But verse 10 says, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ." They would say, "Well, that is just talking about Christians." But verse 11 says, "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." That is talking about people we are trying to warn about the judgment seat of Christ. And then we go on with the white throne, talking about that and how they fit together – that in the book of life, that contains the things that men were doing according to life - how whoever was not found written in that was cast into the lake of fire. There is going to be a judgment. However you look at it, there is going to be a judgment, and I don't believe men are prepared for what that is going to be. I do not believe people are prepared for that.

We use a sign on the street, "America's Jesus Is Anti-Christ." People commonly say to us, "Where is the scripture for that?" Last night a man just threw a fit because we could not put that one little phrase into a scripture verse or a direct quote in the bible. There are going to be a lot of people quoting a lot of bible verses that are going to go straight to hell because they do not have enough vision to see what is happening. They have to have a bible verse for everything and they'll take one verse to prove what they are trying to say, but if you look at the bible and take it for what it says and you come up with a different Jesus than what this book is explaining, it's an anti-Christ. I don't care how many verses you can quote. If you do not compare them with the verses of who Jesus is, you have missed it.

In Jesus' time, people were looking for a king to return to set up his kingdom on the earth. They thought they would be set free from the Jews and he would set up this kingdom on the earth. They were all looking for this powerful king to rise up – maybe they thought it would be someone David who would get their armies together and they would rise up against the Roman empire and slay them. And then maybe put the Romans to a tax or maybe kill them all so the nation of Israel could rise again. But when Jesus came he wasn't like that, he came as a man ... and they all missed him. They missed him because the Jesus they were looking for was not the Jesus that the scriptures were telling them would come. The Jesus they were looking for and had imagined in their minds that would be coming, whenever he came and did not fit the Jesus of their own imagination, they rejected him. It didn't fit with what the Pharisees were telling them. It didn't fit with their thoughts of who they thought he was. So when he came, they missed him. He came teaching them, trying to warn them that the kingdom he was going to establish was not going to be the king of a nation that would kill all of those that did not believe. He taught that his kingdom was in men's hearts. That men would change. Men would learn to dwell and live in righteousness and doing what he wanted them to do. That men would turn from their way to his way. That men would seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and not their own. And they missed him because they were looking for a different Jesus than what appeared.

Today, what do you think is happening? What do you think is going on today? The same thing. People are looking for a Jesus that is a Jesus of their own imagination. People are looking for a Jesus that is full of love. People are looking for a Jesus that loves everyone. They are looking for a Jesus that is coming back and will be full of healing. So full of compassion that he would not hurt a flea and all he cares about is how bad you are suffering. And all the prophets are teaching and preaching: "Don't be so harsh. That is not what Jesus did. Don't be a judge. Don't say what people are doing is wrong because that is not what Jesus did." And everyone is going to be looking for this Jesus that never says anything bad about what anyone is doing. He is only love.

Well, let's look at what kind of Jesus is coming back.

The bible says, "*Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men.*" Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men. All of these people that are supposed evangelists going around trying to teach people that God just loves them ... whenever Paul was going around trying to teach people: Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord. Is that the same Jesus? Is that the Jesus that is going to come back? Is that the Jesus you are looking for? There is going to be a lot of people surprised.

*2 Thessalonians 1:6 Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day. 11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:*

When Jesus returns, it will be *In flaming fire taking vengeance on all them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.* “Oh, but God is love! God is love!” He is, but it isn’t the kind of love you are looking for. When he returns, all of those poor, hurting sinners are going to receive vengeance because they knew not God and they obeyed not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. What is America’s Christ? He is one that forgives. He is one that loves everybody. They say, “Well Jesus loves the person but hates the sin.” I’m going to tell you something right now. Sin is not something like a cancer that just attacks a person. Sin is a choice that people make. It is who you are. If you love sin, you have chosen that sin because you love that sin. The reason people don’t have victory in most cases is because they haven’t learned to hate that sin and avoid it and run from it – because they still like it. The reason they are called sinners is because they are the ones doing the sin. They are the sinners and they are still sinners because they choose to be.

When Jesus returns, it’s going to be with vengeance on those who obey not the gospel and have chosen to continue to walk in their own stubborn, rebellious ways. They make a big distinction, “Oh we are just all sinners. I’m just a saved sinner.” Well that’s just an anti-Christ sinner! The bible says he came to cleanse us from our sins. He calls us to repent and turn from our evil ways and back to his ways. The anti-Christ Jesus says, “Oh, you are all right; you are forgiven.” Like the stupid bumper sticker that says, “Christians are just forgiven sinners.” How ignorant. How shallow. Right here the bible says:

*2 Thessalonians 1:10 When he shall come to be glorified in his ...*

forgiven sinners? No! It says when he shall come to be glorified in his:

*... saints ...*

If you are still a forgiven sinner, you are part of the anti-Christ system. If you are a saint, it’s because you are part of the kingdom of God. If we could just keep in mind how simple this is. You either love this world or you have given your heart to follow Jesus. Sinners are the world. Saints are of the kingdom of God. Will you ever stumble? Sure. We are still tempted, but we are not bound. We have been set free. We still will be tempted just like everyone else, but we can get right back up again. I am not going to bow down to the excuse that “Oh you are just a sinner and you are just going to have to live with it.” That is not the way of the saint. The saint is to rise up and overcome those things. When Jesus comes back it will be in flaming fire taking vengeance on all who know not God. That is a complete different image of the picture you would get if you would listen to the Jesus of this America. It doesn’t fit because they are not the same, and one of them is going to prevail. You can follow the Jesus of the image of humanity, the one they like to concoct, or the Jesus of the word of God.

In all the places I see in the bible when it talks of when Jesus comes back, there will be death and destruction everywhere. And it is going to be against rebellious mankind. Against them. There is going to be a war, and it isn’t going to be a ‘tip toing around’ war where we are afraid to shoot an enemy. If you are an enemy, you are going to die. The bible says that out of His mouth comes a two edged sword, and it is going to slay those who are not following him. Not going to be afraid to shoot; it’s going to be a war. The bible mentions about that, the battle of Armageddon, and I don’t know all about it but it says that blood is going to run as tall as to the horses’ bridles. They are talking right now about the Mississippi flooding right now – it got out of its banks and the water might be 5 or 6 feet deep on the streets. Can you imagine streets with blood running 5 or 6 feet deep because of all the dead people? That is the kind of Jesus that is coming back, and you better be on the right side of that fence.

Don’t be overcome by this world. Don’t be content with thinking that you have got it all figured out. There is not one of us that is safe right now. None of us. We have our own hands full to fight the battle that we are in. If you fall asleep or get content living the way you are right now, you are going to wake up on the wrong side of that battle. If your Jesus has left you all comfortable feeling and all content, it’s not the Jesus that the word of God talks about. The bible says it’s a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. A fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Why do I say America’s Jesus is anti-Christ? Because they teach you that, “Oh, don’t make people afraid of God!” Well people you better be afraid of God because whenever he splits those skies and you get a glimpse of him, you are going to be afraid. Why? Because you are a simple little piece of clay that he made, and you are going to see the glory of God revealed, and everyone that ever saw that fell on their face and thought they were going to die. The angels, when they see that, fall on their face and worship him.

That is the Jesus that is returning. It’s not going to be some buddy-buddy that you make pals with and hang around with; it’s going to be a fearful thing. The children of Israel, they didn’t even want to hear his voice shaking from the mountain. They said, ‘Moses, you go up there, we don’t even want to hear that!’ because they were scared to death of it. What kind of Jesus are you worshipping? If

it's not this one, it's an anti-Christ Jesus. They used to sing a song, I don't know if I can remember it but they took it from here in Revelation 14.

*Revelation 14:10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. 12 Here is the patience of the ...*

forgiven sinners? No.

*12 Here is the patience of the SAINTS: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. 13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. 14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.*

Do you know what a sharp sickle is? We have mowers hay binders ... they used to have sickles. You've seen the picture of the man with the hooked knife attached to the poll. We used to have one outside and dad would send me out to the bull or the dog pen and say, "Cut all the weeds in it." I was a little runt until I was about 16 or 18 and here I was looking at all those big, tall weeds (10 foot tall or so) and I would go out there with this big sickle and he'd tell me to cut the weeds. You take the sickle and swing it hard and the weeds fall over. You cut them down. This sickle:

*14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.*

Does the Jesus that you have imagined, that you have a relationship with, that you have a personal relationship with ... who just wants to be your buddy ... is your buddy carrying a sharp sickle? Is your buddy the American Jesus? The anti-Christ Jesus? The world's Jesus? Or is he the Jesus that is the son of God? Is he the Jesus with a sharp sickle?

*15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.*

It reminds me of that song, "For my eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord. He is trampling out the vineyards where the grapes of wrath are stored." This is the Jesus of the bible. Whenever he is trampling out a vineyard that means he has the grapes in a big vat and he is stomping on them, mashing them. That is how they make wine or juice in some places. They stomp those grapes till the juices flow out of there and then they have their grape juice. There is a hole in the bottom of the vat and the juice comes draining out of there, and God aligns that with what is going to happen on the judgment day, except those little grapes will be little men. Not a pretty picture. It's no wonder people don't like to think that way! But whether you like it or not, that is the way it's going to be. And all the pretending and all of our own imaginations and thoughts are all going to vanish away, and THIS is what is going to happen. You can have whatever you want figured out in your own mind; you can deceive yourself if you want to, but you are only deceiving yourself. You better line up with the God of the bible and forget your own imagination. Forget about whatever Jesus you would LIKE to have. And that is all the anti-Christ Jesus is – he is a god that men would like to have, made to please them. Made to comfort them. And he is gaining power in this world. And though all the world line up and say "this is the Jesus we want to serve us," when THE Jesus, THE Christ returns, they will all be gathered together in that great vat and he will stomp out the vengeance of the wrath of God upon them.

*15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. 16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. 17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. 18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.*

You think the earth is getting bad? You know why? Because it's getting ripe. We are living in a time that the earth is getting ripe. You say, "Well I've heard that all of my life." But you know, one of these days it will get to the point where it is just ripe enough. "I heard

that 50 years ago!" Well, it wasn't quite ripe enough, but it's getting there, and a little more every day. We've been watching for the raspberries, the blackberries and the mulberries to start to ripen so we can go pick them. They find one here and there that is ripe enough, but all of them are not ripe enough. One day they will be ripe enough and after they are, what will they do? Fall to the ground and rot. When this earth is ripe enough, the Lord is going to thrust in his sickle and it's time for the judgment day.

*19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.*

I don't know how long that is [Jeff spoke up and told us] 600 feet is a furlong, so 181 miles; blood flowing as high as the bridle of a horse, about 5 feet deep and 181 miles long. Smile! God loves you! [but still they say] "Don't worry about that, you might drive someone away from God. Go be their buddy. Don't tell them about that kind of a God." All you are doing is making them a little riper and it's liable to be that somebody, including your own, that helped make up part of that river because they were taught about a false Christ, and when the Christ came of whom the bible speak about will come, they missed it. Just like the Pharisees missed it because they were looking for a different Jesus.

About four different groups came up to us again last night all saying, "Your message is all wrong. You are scaring people away. You are making it hard for us to be Christians and to lead them to the Lord." We are trying to warn men about the wrath of God to come and to tell them to flee from that wrath. We are trying to tell them that we know about the terror of the Lord and to run from it. And they are telling them, "Oh, don't worry, the Jesus we serve would never do that." Group after group, "You are doing it all wrong. You need to be talking about the love." They are getting a wrong picture of who Jesus is. Yes, he is love. He already gave himself once. He already gave us the opportunity to repent. That is mercy. That is love. When he returns again it will be in flaming fire taking vengeance on all those who know not and who obey not. Don't get smug. Don't get content. Don't think that we are the only ones. Think: The Lord is coming and I better prepare myself! I better walk worthy so that I might be counted worthy by God to escape this wrath.

America's Jesus is Anti-Christ because it is painting a different picture of who Christ is, the one the bible is talking about that is going to return.